

Parkside Nazarene Church

23600 Hilliard Blvd
Westlake, Ohio 44145
www.parknaz.org



JULY MESSENGER

Phone: 440-333-3998

Fax: 440-333-3149

Email: dlain1058@gmail.com

Mobile Phone: 740-502-5852

By Pastor Don

I was 16 years old at the time, living in a Boarding School in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. The boarding school was housed in a former hotel and so our rooms were hotel rooms. There was a large dining room that used to be a restaurant area, and a pretty nice pool. Even though it meant being away from my parents beginning in ninth grade, I loved my life in Port-au-Prince.

One of the things I loved was taking off in the afternoons after school or on a Saturday and riding my motorcycle. It was a Honda XL175, great for both on and off-road riding, making it perfect for the rough roads of Haiti...or where there were no roads at all. Behind the boarding school was a pretty sizable hill and it was fun riding up the twisting and turning road into the hills. The road wasn't finished yet and there was a group of men working on completing the road, work that was all being done by hand.

When I would arrive at where the men were working, I would sit for a while and watch them and often they would stop working and we would talk. We talked about all kinds of things. The Haitians thought it funny that there was a white man from the United States who could, as the expression goes, "speak Creole like a rat" – speak it well.

I'll never forget the day when I felt strongly that God wanted me to say something to the men about Him. Timidly I finally got around to it and simply asked, "have any of you ever heard of Jesus?" In our polished ways of presenting the gospel these days, that wasn't the best of lines to lead with, but it was the line that God gave me, and so it was perfect. They had not heard about Jesus, but they wanted to know who He was.

We talked for a while about Jesus and I told them that when I came back I'd tell them more. As I rode away, there was so much joy in my heart – I was telling someone about Jesus. I don't remember how many other times we talked about Jesus, but one day God whispered to me, "ask them if they want to ask Me into their hearts." With my heart racing, taking quite a while leading up to it, I finally did what God

asked, and to my utter surprise, one of the men said yes. Words cannot describe how wonderful it was to lead this man in the sinners prayer. After we prayed I asked if he could read and he said yes, I told him I would get him a Bible, and I did. And in the weeks to follow, it was so much fun to talk with this man about his new relationship with Christ.

Dare I say that on that day my life changed forever. It could be that this was the moment when the notion of becoming a pastor was birthed. I so loved seeing someone find Jesus and helping him in his new walk. New life entered into that man, but I must tell you, new life entered into me as well. I was never the same!!

How did that happen? In my mind it began all the way back at Pentecost. It was on that day that the promise of a Holy Spirit who would empower believers to share the Good News of salvation with the world was fulfilled. It was a promise for all generations to come, including our generation. Included in the promise was an indwelling Holy Spirit who would say things like, "why don't you ask these men if they've ever heard about Jesus?" and "why don't you ask them if they want to ask Jesus into their hearts?" Pentecost changed believers from being Kingdom of God participants into Kingdom of God Builders. The Holy Spirit was and is the key.

ParkNaz, we need Pentecost. And if we are willing to seek and find and be filled with the Holy Spirit, great joy awaits us. In the days ahead the Holy Spirit will lead each of us to ask a seeker a question followed by another, and someone will find Jesus. And we'll never be the same. Come Holy Spirit, come!

Weekly Services: (services are in person and online)

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Go to: www.facebook.com/parknaz/ or
www.youtube.com Parkside Nazarene Church

Wednesday Prayer Meetings at 6:00 p.m.

(in person only)

The July Messenger Continued..

SIGNIFICANT JULY DATES :

- 04: Independence Day
- 10: Finance Committee Meeting
- 12: Church Board Meeting
- 13-16: NCO Family Camp
- 23-25: Primary Camp
- 26-30: Preteen Camp
- 31: Dinner Out



July Birthdays

Bella Rivera	01
Bill St. John	03
Mark Bishop	11
Kevin Cash	17
Vivian Kizzee	21
Mike Murphy	23
Eli Ward	24
Rev Wendell Brown	28
Wanda Murphy	30
Barb MacPherson	31

Anniversaries

Emily & James Laker	03
Pat & Randy Whitney	07
Barbara & David Flack	09

Nazarene Youth Conference

NYC is coming to Tampa July 2023.
Watch for Teen Fundraisers & opportunities to help interested teens!

PARKSIDE CHILD CARE CENTER



"Live in the sunshine. Swim in the Sea. Drink in the wild air." -Ralph Waldo Emerson

Summer is officially here and we are ready for the hot weather! Water play days have begun for each classroom and the kids are all geared up in their swimsuits and sunscreen. This month is also filled with lots of families taking vacations! We hope everyone travels safe and has the best time!!! PreK Graduation was a huge success. We are so proud of each of our graduates. Although we are sad to see them go, we can't wait to hear all about their adventures in Kindergarten! We continue to search for a part time PreK Assistant Teacher. If you know anyone interested in working with children, ages 4-5, please contact Cheryl at administrator@westlakenaz.org.

Please note - we are closed Monday, July 4. Welcome Summer!

If you have any questions regarding the Child Care Center, please feel free to contact Cheryl or Pastor Marcella: 440-333-6643.

SUMMER BLAST- JULY 4

Join us on the church lawn on Monday, July 4! We will be handing out hot dogs, water and chips to the community! We will also enjoy the Fireworks at dusk, shot off from right across the street at Clague Park! Please contact the Church Office, office@parknaz.org, if you can donate hot dogs, buns, chips, water, ice, loan a cooler, or volunteer your time and talents! There is also a sign up sheet in the foyer.

NCO FAMILY CAMP & DISTRICT ASSEMBLY



Family Camp is back at MVNU July 13-15 and all are welcome to attend! Registration begins Wednesday at 1:00, there is a Food Truck Rally from 4-6 and the Family Camp Service from 7-8:30 pm, followed by ice cream in the cafeteria! And that's just day one! Thursday is the Prime Time Luncheon, Amazing Naza Race and S'mores by the Bonfire following the evening service, just to name a few! The Convention Kick-Off is Friday at 9:00 am. Conventions on Friday include NYI, NMI, & NDI (SDMI). District Assembly begins Saturday, July 16 at 9:00 am. For more information, go to: <https://www.ncodistrict.org/familycamp>. Contact Pastor Don if you are interested in attending.