

ADVANCE 2023: A CALL

By Pastor Don Lain

The turning of a calendar marks a time in our lives when we can turn our focus toward a new future. Before doing so, let me offer to you a brief glance backwards. As we made our way through 2022, the goal of the year, as is the goal every year, was to go deeper in our understanding of God and to go deeper in our spiritual walks. Perhaps the most significant time was the thirteen weeks we spent learning about who the Holy Spirit is, what the Holy Spirit can do, and what we must do to discover the Spirit-filled life. My prayer is that we will build upon what has only just begun as we move into 2023.

As I've thought and prayed about the year to come, let me share with you some goals that I would like us to strive to achieve in 2023:

1. That each of us will grow deeper in our walk with God and become more consistent in our spiritual disciplines: prayer, time in the word, time together in corporate worship, and more time sharing our faith with those who do not yet know Jesus.
2. That every person will become a part of a small group that will meet on a regular basis for encouragement, challenge, growth, and outreach. (Our goal is to launch small groups in 2023 as our preferred method of Discipleship/ Sunday School.)
3. That we will see a minimum of 5 new converts.
4. That we will increase the number of children in attendance from our current five, to a minimum of ten to fifteen.
5. That we will increase the number of teens in attendance from our current two, to a

minimum of ten to fifteen.

6. That we will be able to begin new ministries for young families because of our growth in both children and teenagers.
7. That we would successfully launch a minimum of two Micro-churches.
8. That we will find ways to effectively minister to the families in our Childcare Center and see families beginning to attend our Sunday gatherings or one of our Micro-churches.
9. That we would continue to be fervent in prayer, and as a consequence, see miracles happen in the lives of our current attenders and those who will come. This will require a call to deeper faith.
10. That there will be a growing hunger in all of us to be filled with the Holy Spirit and, consequently, that we will more deliberately be led by the Spirit and walk in the Spirit.
11. That our times of worship and preaching will be anointed like never before.

As I read through this list of eleven goals, the list seems ambitious. However, I have seen God make big moves before and believe with all my heart that He can help us achieve these eleven goals with His help. I want to invite each of you to make a copy of these eleven goals and put it where you can see it and pray. There's a simple chorus from years ago that begins like this: "God can do anything, anything, anything. God can do anything but fail." Together with the God who never fails, let's **ADVANCE** in 2023. Our faith word for 2023 is **ADVANCE!!**

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](https://www.youtube.com/ParksideNazareneChurch)

Wednesday Prayer Meetings at 6:00 p.m. (in person only)

The January Messenger Continued..

SIGNIFICANT JANUARY DATES :

- 01: New Year's Day
- 08: Finance Committee Mtg
- 10: Church Board Meeting
- 16: Martin Luther King Jr Day
- 22: NYI Winter Rally



January Birthdays

Ernest Szczepanski	01
Cynthia Lopez	05
Pat Whitney	15
Brianna St. John	21
Frances Cooney	26
Israel Grimm	26

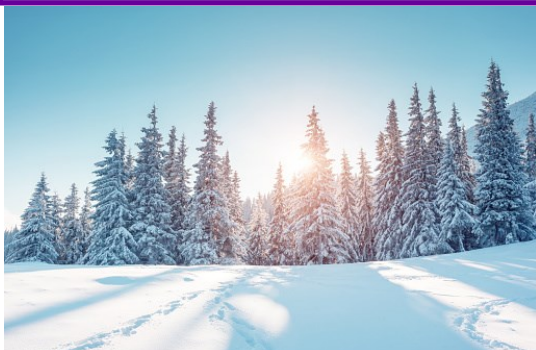
CHURCH WORK MONTH

We are looking for people with skills in the following areas to help with some projects inside the church:

- Clean/Organize/Purge
- Paint Walls/Ceilings
- Refinish Furniture



If this is you, please contact Joanne Murphy in the church office:
office@parknaz.org



PARKSIDE CHILD CARE CENTER

"Christmas will always be as we stand heart to heart and hand to hand." -Dr. Seuss



December has brought much laughter and joy throughout the program, along with so many festive decorations! We are all in the holiday spirit!!

Our Christmas Concert was recorded this month and will be posted online for viewing beginning Friday, December 23-Monday, January 2, 2023!!! A great big THANK YOU to Miss Joanne for recording the classrooms and Andy for piecing together the concert! We hope you enjoy listening to the songs, and seeing all the cuteness, of our children!

Parkside will be CLOSED December 23, 26, 30 and January 2 for the holidays.

Merry Christmas! Merry day after day after day!!!

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

NCO WINTER RALLY

Teens in grades 6-12, plan to join other District Teens at Wooster Naz on Sunday, January 22 for NCO Winter Rally featuring speaker Chad Varga, former professional basketball player. The doors open at 5:00 p.m., activities at 5:30 p.m. and the Service at 6:30 p.m. See Joanne Murphy for more information.



NYC FUNDRAISER

Watch for Flyers and Slides pertaining to the next Fundraiser for NYC. We are working to coordinate a Dine-to-Donate with a local fast food restaurant. Please see Joanne Murphy with any questions. Thank you for supporting our teens!



PROGRESSIVE DINNER!!

Saturday, February at 5:00 p.m. is the return of the Progressive Dinner! For this night to be a success, we need hosts for: salads/appetizers (this can be one or two houses depending on # of hosts), the main course, and desserts. Contact Joanne Murphy in the church office with questions and to volunteer.

