



May 2006

Congratulations to our SF Florida Graduates from TNU!

Baccalaureate and Commencement is set for this Friday and Saturday, May 5 & 6 at Trevecca Nazarene University. I will have the privilege of representing you at these important proceedings.

Our Annual Family Reunion will soon be here!

Plans are in the final preparation stages for three annual gatherings of our diverse Southern Florida family:

- **NYI Convention:** May 12 & 13
- **NMI Convention:** May 19 & 20
- **District Assembly:** May 21-23

All events are scheduled to be held at the Pompano Beach Church. Visit our website at www.sfnazarene.org for directions or for copies of the *Flame* with more details.

Seven ordinands and two elders are to be recommended to the Assembly for ordination. There are some very exciting happenings planned for each service of our conventions and assembly and even a few surprises. Don't miss any of it. Pray for a mighty outpouring of God's Spirit upon these gatherings.

Pastor's Notes on District Assembly

1. You should have received important information on your **Centennial Faith Projections** for October 2009. Hint: you need to be prepared because Dr. Porter, our RGS, will be asking each pastor to deliver these at this assembly. Be ready.
2. I gave you important information on the length and substance of your **Pastor's Report**. One half-page single-spaced or 2 minutes. No preaching allowed—we'll leave that to our guest, Dr. Porter. Positive, succinct, hopeful—no whining!
3. **Ordination Service:** your presence is expected. Whether you have a good voice or not, plan to sing in the Minister's Choir.

4. **Attendance is required:** leaving assembly early is strongly discouraged. Out of respect for those who are last to report, we all need to stay until adjournment.
5. **The TNU Luncheon** will be different this year. **Only Senior Pastors were sent invitations by TNU and they have included their spouse.** In years past the luncheon has been for pastors while the spouses had their own Parsonette's Luncheon. This year the "Parsonettes" have been included in the TNU Luncheon. Please make sure all ministers in your congregations are aware of this change. It is very important that you **contact the district office if you will not be attending!**

News Notes

- By unanimous vote of the Advisory Board, **Fort Lauderdale First** church has been declared not in crisis. This ended on April 20th when the DS appointed a church board from local members.
- At LPCC, the **Youth Village** (Buildings A & B) are now completed. The new **couples motel** (Building A) should be completed mid-May. This has added new housing for 160 people, plus spacious meeting spaces. (To pay for the costs of these buildings, valued at \$1 million, the Advisory Board approved LPCC's request to borrow \$300,000 to cover the costs of these additions since donations did not cover costs.
- **LPCC** hosted the Lake Placid community Easter Sunrise Service with close to 200 residents present.
- **South Miami Heights** church participated in a well-attended Covenant Service with the DS to install **Dr. Hugh Connor** as their pastor on April 23rd.
- **Goulds** church will receive their new pastor, **Terry Williams**, this Sunday, May 7th in a special Covenant Service conducted by the DS.

- **Sarasota First** church has called a new pastor, **Kirk Zahniser**. With the approval of the District Advisory Board (Manual para. 115), and a two-thirds vote of the congregation, Bro. Kirk will be installed in a special Covenant Service May 14th.
- **Naples First** church interviews a potential pastoral candidate this weekend. Continue to pray for them as they seek God's direction in the call of a new pastor.

SFNazarene.org Website

If you do not acquaint yourself with our new, expanded website, you are missing great tools as close as the click of a mouse. For example, there is a **Pastor's login**. Information for pastors only will be posted there. To establish your connection please log in.

Everyone now has access to the **District Calendar** via the website. How it works is for upcoming events, anyone can click on the date for directions to the event, and much more.

This **Heartbeat** and **The Flame**, current and archived, are available. More will be added as we go along. Thanks to the work of our Webmaster, **John Weller**, breaking news from the Conventions and Assembly will be posted as it happens. Welcome to the 21st Century.

Six Reasons People Select a Church

1. The doctrines of the church—what a church believes.
2. How much people seem to care about each other—the quality of relationships within a congregation.
3. The quality of sermons—how good is the preacher.
4. How friendly the people are.
5. How much the church is involved in helping the poor and disadvantaged—how involved is your church in Compassionate Ministries?
6. The quality of programs for children and youth—family is so important to people who are looking for a church.

How much the pastor is liked, denominational affiliation, and quality of Sunday School classes were also seen as very important, but not ranked in top six.

Goulds Needs to Be Heard!

Our church at Goulds is in desperate need of a PA system. If anyone has one not being used that you would like to donate or if anyone would like to purchase one for the church, please contact the church at 305-258-0775 or call the district office at 863-531-0181.

Children's Camp Has Been Revived

Many have been wondering what we will do without Nancy Dodd to direct our Children's Camp. While we will miss Nancy tremendously, we now have two willing volunteers who have accepted the challenge. Please remember to pray for **Gloria Coffin (North Fort Myers) and Kathy Polk (Venice)** as they work together on this very important project! You or your Sunday School Superintendent should be receiving an informational packet within the next few days. If you do not receive the packet, contact Gloria Coffin at 239-573-8794 or glorie@swfla.rr.com.

Are Your Staff and Department Heads Reading the Heartbeat?

One attribute of a good leader is that he/she shares pertinent information with their people. From Heartbeat to Heartbeat you will find information that is relevant to different departments in your church. Please remember to share that information with your key persons, send us their snail or email address, or make copies of the Heartbeat for each of those people. Do whatever it takes to empower them to do their job more effectively!

*See you at District Assembly.
Come prayed up, believing and
expecting great things from
God as we worship Him to-
gether and hear from Him
through His servants.*