

Fowlerville Church of the Nazarene

Newsletter

December 2019



Lead Pastor Craig Weihman



Fowlerville Church of the Nazarene

9:45 am Sunday School all ages

10:40 am Fellowship Time

11:00 am Worship

Wednesday 7:00 pm Youth Group

Thursday 6:30-7:30pm

DEEPER Discipleship Group

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Our Touchable God

I remember as a young child, going to my Grandma Lenac's house for the Holidays. Like most families, we would eat lots, play games and just sit around and visit. However, besides the food, what I enjoyed most about being at her house, was looking at all her fancy collectibles she had on display. My Grandma loved to decorate! She would hang things on the walls, place things on shelves and wherever else she could find to show them off. Being five or six years old, I wanted to pick them up and play with them. However, there was one rule at Grandma's house, and that was **'just look, don't touch'**! What, don't touch? This seemed to make no sense to me! Her things were shiny and odd shaped, and right there in front of me, on display. So why couldn't I touch them? This was plain torture to a young child, having something so beautiful right there, in arms reach and not being able to touch. Furthermore, this rule made me feel, like I wasn't good enough!

Well, this is exactly the perception Israel had towards God – that He was 'Untouchable'! I can understand why they would come to this conclusion. In Exodus 19, the nation of Israel is still traveling through the desert to the promised land, when God tells Moses that He will soon show up before His people. God instructs Moses what he is to do and what he is tell the people to do in order to get ready for His arrival: *"Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow. Have them wash their clothes and be ready by the third day, because on that day the Lord will come down on Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. Put limits on the people around the mountain and tell them, 'Be careful that you do not approach the mountain or touch the foot of it. Whoever touches the mountain or touch the foot is to be put to death."*

Wow! This sounds like my Grandma's rule of **'just look, don't touch!'** If I were an Israelite, I would come to the same conclusion that *'our God is untouchable!'* However, this was NOT the message God was trying to convey to His people. God was just beginning to establish a new covenant with Israel. This covenant would show Israel, that they were a special, unique and chosen people, handpicked by the Creator of the universe. This covenant would also reveal that their lives would no longer be their own, but would be a people belonging to God Himself, resulting in experiencing a more fulfilled life through the trusting and obeying of God's ways above their own. For this to work, Israel had to be convinced of their sinfulness as well as God's holiness. They needed to understand, that sin and God are opposites and cannot associate together. This is also the reason why God would establish the sacrificial system, where a priest would make animal sacrifices to God for the forgiveness of sins.

All of this was done, to one day point all of mankind to the ultimate gesture of love on God's behalf -the day when God Himself, would physically come to us, in the form of a babe whose name would be 'Jesus' – meaning **'IMMANUEL, GOD WITH US'**! God could have given up on His creation, thinking we were a lost cause! Praise God He didn't!!! God is a **TOUCHABLE GOD!** God wants us to know Him! Let's not just look at God, admiring who He is from afar. Let's come close to Him, desiring to know Him and experience life from Him, giving our hearts completely over to Him!!

HIS Best

PC 😊

Upcoming Events

December 2019



December 1st – 5:30 pm **Hanging of the Greens**. It's time to get into the Christmas Spirit. Come help us decorate our facility for the Christmas season, followed with a time of fellowship. Please bring finger foods to share.



December 7th - *Christmas in the Ville REACH Event*. This year we will have a vender spot at our Community's Christmas in the Ville. We will share Jesus' love and be handing out (free) "Goody Bags" filled with candy (chocolate) and with a few special gift items. We are looking for people to either help donate the following items for this event and or sign-up to work a shift. (sign-up sheet in lobby) The items needed are: Candy (good chocolate), Gallon Jugs of Water and Candy Canes (not mini size). Please place donations in tub located in the lobby. We will be there from 2pm-8pm. Thank you!



December 14th –Men's Fellowship Breakfast at 8am at the Great Lakes Family Restaurant in Fowlerville. Great time of faith, food and fellowship. Invite someone! We meet the 2nd Saturday each month!



December 15th – Is our Christmas Program which will include our children, teens & Adults. Please mark this date on your calendar! You don't want to miss it.



December 18th – REACH EVENT All church, kids, teens & adults, Christmas Caroling at Medilodge in Howell. More details to come.



December 24th – 6pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. Come and join us as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Thank You

December 2019

TO ALL,

Joy and I want to thank ALL our church family for the wonderful trip we took at the beginning of October and the beginning of our retirement. We spent seven great days in the heat of Gatlinburg, TN. The hottest day was 96 degrees. Our cabin was at the entrance to Gatlinburg and just 5 miles from Pigeon Forge.

We enjoyed a very relaxing week of doing one big event on four days, sitting on the porch of the cabin rocking and reading, and I enjoyed the hot tub every day even when it was in the mid 90's. The best part of the week was that there was no schedule to fulfill. We took advantage of doing nothing at all.

Thank you once again for a week we will long remember and something we would have never done on our own. Time is flying by and two months have already passed. See you sooner than you think. We miss you and will likely be coming back to worship with you again.

Have a wonderful Christmas and a joyous New Year.

Gary and Joy



REACH

December 2019

Purpose: To Reach into our Community with acts of service to demonstrate the love of Jesus!

“let us not merely say that we love; let us show the truth by our actions.” (1 John 3:18)

“Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.” (1 John 4:7-8)

Helping Hartland Community Chapel with their Truck or Treat Event!



Leaves of Love... Serving our community





Missionary Updates: Prayer Needs and Fun Facts

Nancy Hardyman follows Nazarene missionaries on Facebook, many of whom have visited us at FNC. The following are recent highlights:



David and Sylvia Potter are our LINKS missionaries to Vanuatu, an island in the Asia Pacific region. This summer they visited churches in Michigan. A number of us from FNC heard them speak at Argentine Nazarene Church

In October, they posted these messages: Happy to be moving forward in purchasing materials to create/construct a conference room/classroom and district office at Vanuatu District Center. On Oct. 7, the couple celebrated 42 years since their first date. They made French silk pies.



On Oct. 20, they shared many photos and two videos of an Asia Pacific gathering. They are also asking for prayer for their son Joel, who works at the University of Alaska. He may need to find other employment.



Scott and Emily Armstrong, missionaries to Dominican Republic, need prayers on behalf of their son. Elijah broke his arm and after surgery in DR, it did not heal correctly. On consulting another surgeon, he connected them with a surgeon in the states who believes he can realign the arm again so it will heal. Elijah has already missed a semester of school and playing soccer. Pray for the upcoming surgery and full use of his arm.



Vicki Nichols
NMI President

NMI Council Members: Sherri Evans, Katherine Chapman, Gary Griffin, Joy Griffin, Nancy Hardyman, Alice Miller, Joan Smith



Gavin and Jill Fothergill and their children Macy (7th grade) and Conner (5th grade) are missionaries in the Republic of Congo. In September, they posted that their children will be homeschooling with the Alpha Omega Academy online for the school year. They also returned to Congo after home assignment here in the United States. Traveling back to their home in Africa took 32 hours. On Sept. 30, they enjoyed the District Assembly for Congo where they heard a total of 22 churches reporting with a total membership of 817. This is an increase of 450 from the previous year.

In October, they posted several videos of their travel from home to the church on a typical Sunday as well as photos of District Assembly. They posted a photo of a Dr. Pepper beverage on the store shelf which is a rare find! This is Gavin's favorite pop so they purchased 4 cans at \$2.00 each! The children also began tennis lessons.



December 2019

Ablaze Youth Ministry



Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our "God is a consuming fire."

Hebrews 12:28-29

**COME JOIN
THE FUN!
YOUTH GROUP
WEDNESDAY
NIGHTS!**

Meeting at the church from 6:30 – 8:30 pm



Youth outing at Parshallville Cider Mill



**Collecting cans for
Family Impact Center**

**Family Impact Center "Food Fight"
WE WON!**

