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MATTHEW 4:10

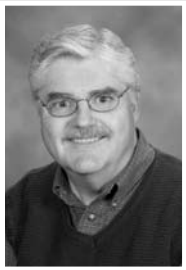
PrimeTime

CONNECTION

Churches are encouraged to copy and distribute this publication to all adults 55 and older in their congregation.

Welcome to *The Prime Time Connection!*

The Prime Time Connection is a quarterly resource newsletter for mature adults in the prime of life and strives to connect members and friends age 55 and above to the ministries, activities, and programs of the local, district and general Church of the Nazarene. Your comments, ideas and thoughts are always welcome.



Rev. Derl Keefer
Prime Time
Coordinator

(816) 333-7000
ext. 2362
primetime@nazarene.org

New Delivery Schedule for Prime Time Connection Newsletter

During its long history, the Prime Time newsletter has arrived at your home or office as four printed issues: Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter. Starting with this issue of Prime Time Connection, there will be only two printed issues per year: Spring and Winter.

All four issues will continue to be accessible on the Adult Ministries Connection web site at amc.nazarene.org. If you are not able to access the AMC web site, encourage your local church office to download the pdf files, print copies, and make them available to the Prime Time adults in your congregation.

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Senior Adult and Single

by Linda Hardin

Recently, I adapted a profile for single adults from the book *Now and Not Yet: Making Sense of Single Life in the Twenty-First Century* by Jennifer Marshall. I want to share the following information from this book that can help us as we prepare for life as senior single adults.

- Single Adults live deliberately. They make choices and decisions from a wide perspective,

knowing that decisions made now will affect all of life. *As senior adults, we'll have a foundation to build on as we make the decisions related to senior adulthood.*

- Single Adults are reflective about their experiences. They use life to learn about their strengths, weaknesses, and rough edges in the personality. *Some of us will continue to work on this all of our life. We'll also continue to face*

life's disappointments and live in the tension of reality and hope.

- Single Adults seek balance in life. They learn the importance of relationships—both with family and friends. They understand the need for work and play and seek to balance them. *We've learned the importance of friendships and will continue to develop them, wherever retirement takes us.*

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Prime Time Retreat Kansas City

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

September 30-October 3, 2008
Hyatt Regency at Crown Center

Prime Time Ministries in partnership with the Association of Retired Ministers and Missionaries is excited to announce the 2008 Prime Time retreat planned in beautiful Kansas City.

This retreat will celebrate the centennial of the Church of the Nazarene. We have great days planned that include inspirational speakers and musicians that include Dr. Jim Diehl, Dr. Stan Toler, Dr. Dan Copp, the Toler Brothers Trio, and the Mid-American University choir.



**On Thursday the group will travel to the new
Global Ministries Center
for a tour and worship service
lead by Dr. Jim Diehl.**

Kansas City offers many interesting and historic sites to visit:

- Liberty Memorial (the only World War I memorial in the US)
- Nazarene Publishing House
- Union Station
- Cabelas
- Bass Pro Shop
- Harry Truman Library and Home
- The Plaza
- Steamboat Arabia (largest collection of pre-Civil War artifacts in the US)

Come and join hundreds of other Prime Time Nazarenes as we gather to celebrate this once in a life time centennial event. It will be a great time of fellowship, fun, and inspiration.

For more information or to request a brochure:

Web site: amc.nazarene.org
E-mail: primetime@nazarene.org
Telephone: 800-221-6317 x2343

Olivet Nazarene University Upcoming Events

Prime Time Elder Hostel

Prime Time Ministries and Olivet Nazarene University are teaming up to present an Elder Hostel style experience on the beautiful campus of Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais, Illinois, just outside Chicago.

If you have ever thought about going back to school just for FUN or just for the great LEARNING experience—this is your opportunity. Are you interested in taking a class in religion, art, history, or computer? This event will fit your need!

For more information about this exciting event, contact Lynn Nixon at Olivet Nazarene University:

Telephone: 815-939-5255

E-mail: lnixon@olivet.edu

Ladies Day 2008 Olivet Nazarene University

Date: March 1, 2008

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Cost: \$25.00 (includes continental breakfast, lunch, and an Olivet CD)

Enjoy a day of Christian entertainment and inspiration with other Christian ladies. Featuring author and speaker, Danae Dobson, and comedian, Paul Aldrich. The day will feature inspirational music by vocalist, Jennie Till, world-renowned concert pianist, Ovid Young, Olivet's Orpheus Choir, and the ONU Jazz Band.

For more information, call 800-648-1463.

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Legacy Corner

Estate & Gift Planning Matters

The Top Six Estate Planning Mistakes

By Bob Crew

It seems like I see someone's Top 10 or Top 20 list for something (diets, vacation spots, investments, TV shows, etc.) almost every day. Well, not to be outdone, I have created a Top 6 list of my own. Here are the first 3 in no particular order:

1. Having No Plan. Actually probate laws provide an estate plan for everyone, but 60 percent of people die each year without a valid estate plan of their own. Don't leave important issues such as guardianship of your children, executor of your estate, and special needs planning up to a probate court judge who does not know you, your family, your values, your concerns, or your life priorities.

2. Your Plan Is Outdated. Even if you have a written a valid estate plan, based on experience, I will guess that it has been at least 15 years since you reviewed it. I don't need to remind you that our lives change. Does your current plan reflect your present needs and circumstances? Has your estate grown or shrunk? Are you children more capable or less capable of handling their inheritance? What about grandchildren? Have you remarried or have your children divorced and/or remarried?

3. No Coordination With Beneficiary Assets. Your estate plan may go to great lengths to determine how and when your beneficiaries will receive their inheritance. But beneficiary assets (i.e. life insurance, annuities, IRA's, pension plans) are not affected by your estate plan documents. Be sure that your beneficiary assets fit into your estate plan goals and objectives.

I'm only half-way through the list. Watch for the rest of my Top 6 in the next issue. **PT**

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Church of the Nazarene Foundation
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– **Senior Adult and Single**

- Single Adults view life as an adventure, not a pity party. They understand that life as a single people is different, not worse (or better) than married life. *We understand there could still be some pity parties but we'll keep them short since no one comes anyway!*
- Single Adults take reality in stride. Unexpected things happen like illness, family crisis, job changes, and so on. They learn to deal with these challenges and use them as growing experiences. *We've learned to depend on friends as well as family to get through these times. This will serve us well as senior single adults.*
- Single Adults are encouraged by God at work in their lives. They see how God is using

them during the season of singleness, recognizing they have opportunities for ministry they might not be able to pursue if they were married. *We know from experience that God is faithful. We'll share our stories and continue to search for ministry opportunities. Singleness may continue to offer unique opportunities, too.*

- Single Adults have a support and accountability network. They realize the importance of community, whether married or single. *Should we move to a new location as part of retirement, we'll develop a network. We know we need others and the importance of community.*
- Single Adults are anchored in God. They have "decided to follow Jesus" with "no turning back." Even when life is challenging, they find hope and security in their relationship with God and trust the future to His guidance. *We know this life stage will have its set of challenges. While change is rarely easy, God is unchangeable. So wherever life takes us, God is already there.*

I wasn't sure how I felt about the next stage of life. As I wrote this, I realized it's not quite as frightening as I thought. In fact, I feel a sense of anticipation. It's a journey we can take together, whether we're married or single.

Editor's Note: *Linda Hardin is coordinator for Women and Single Adult Ministries for the International Church of the Nazarene. She has worked at Nazarene Headquarters for twenty years and is an expert in her field.* **PT**

Where Prime Timers Live!

By Kenneth Crow

Editor's Note: *Prime Time adults are the fastest growing age group in our church. Dr. Kenneth Crow, Research Department at International Headquarters, has gathered data showing the distribution of Prime Time Nazarenes (i.e. where they live, work, attend church, and minister).*

Prime Time Nazarenes are not evenly distributed throughout the US and Canada. The following graph shows

we are more likely to be in churches on the Central (Olivet Nazarene University) Region than anywhere else. Three of the nine US and Canada regions of the Church of the Nazarene had more than 20,000 of the 163,957 (a gain over 2006 statistics of over 1,000) Prime Timers reported in 2007. Another four regions had more than 15,000 each.

Many Nazarenes who are 55 years

old or older are attending churches large enough to schedule special Prime Time events, like musicals, revivals, dinners, tours, seminars, or summits, within the congregation. However, as the tables show, more of us are in small churches than in either the intermediate or larger sizes. Therefore, many of us need strategies that help us get together on zones, districts, or regionally for fellowship, education, and ministry.

Distribution of Prime Time (55 years and older) Nazarenes by Region and Church Size

| Region | Prime Timers Regional Totals | Prime Timers in Church Size 1-99 | Prime Timers in Church Size 100-249 | Prime Timers in Church Size 250 or more |
|---------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Central-ONU | 26,981 | 10,490 | 7,247 | 9,244 |
| Southeast-TNU | 26,379 | 11,022 | 8,471 | 6,886 |
| East Central-MVNU | 21,584 | 8,054 | 7,702 | 5,828 |
| South Central - SNU | 19,423 | 8,638 | 6,098 | 4,687 |
| Southwest - PLUN | 18,214 | 5,359 | 5,897 | 6,958 |
| Northwest - NNU | 17,655 | 4,777 | 4,223 | 8,655 |
| Eastern - ENC | 16,723 | 6,951 | 4,401 | 5,371 |
| North Central - MNU | 14,052 | 5,847 | 4,451 | 3,754 |
| Canada - CNUC | 2,946 | 1,219 | 1,389 | 338 |

Source: USA & Canada Pastors' Reports for 2007

We live in a culture and era where it is easy to believe that bigger is better. Sometimes this carries over into the church and tempts us to believe the size of our congregation is somehow inferior or perhaps superior dependent on its size. We need to nurture a godly respect and appreciation for all size churches. This data shows, Nazarenes churches come in all different sizes. Together this network of churches makes up the Church of the Nazarene. And together we can make a difference as we strive to meet the mission: "To make disciples in all the nations".

Please let us know when you are moving. This will save us much-needed funds for ministry.

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