



FEBRUARY 2018

Medina Naz Newsletter

‘#blessed’ - *Pastor Pete Ryder*

Have you ever used the term, “#blessed” on social media? If so, you’re not alone. Over the past few years it’s become very popular. A quick scroll through Facebook and Instagram shows over 100 million posts tagged with “#blessed.” These posts cover a variety of things, from pictures and news of prized possessions and luxurious holiday destinations, to news of friends and family. Many people also use it with an image of an inspiring quote or Scripture reference.

But anymore, “#blessed” is used just as much ironically



by people who see it as being arrogant, selfish, or ‘humble bragging.’ For instance, if I bought a new car, I could post a picture of it on Facebook, write, “#blessed” so that it appears that I’m grateful for the car, when actually it’s just a way for me to boast about my new wheels.

I’m not denigrating using “#blessed” - I’ve used it myself more than once. I think it’s a great way to acknowledge that there is Someone, God, who is providing good things in my life. We all want to be blessed, right? I mean, I

certainly don’t want to be cursed!

But I’m not sure that we completely understand the concept of God’s blessing. Most of the time we use the term when we get what we want, or when life is great. That’s when we feel like we’re blessed. There are certainly times in the Bible when that was exactly what the blessing of God looked like. God’s people knew God was blessing if they were experiencing prosperity and peace.

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‘#blessed’

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But God’s blessing doesn’t always look like that, does it? This winter, on the Sundays leading up to Easter, we’ll be looking closely at a list Jesus made of people who are blessed. It’s at the start of what we call “*The Sermon on the Mount*,” in Matthew 5:1-12. This list has come to be known as, “*The Beatitudes*,” stemming from the Latin word ‘*beati*’ which starts each phrase and means ‘happy,’ or ‘blessed.’ This is a list, from the mouth of Jesus Himself, of the people who are truly “#blessed.”

But Jesus’ “#blessed” list isn’t quite what we’d probably post on Facebook or Instagram. Jesus includes people who mourn, who are meek, poor in spirit... Peacemakers are on the list as are those who are pure and who ‘hunger and thirst after righteousness.’ He even says that if you are persecuted you are #blessed!



This list turns our idea of blessing on its ear, because instead of describing people who have it all together, Jesus’ list describes those who don’t, but who are doing their best to follow Him closely. From this short list we see that there are great blessing in store for followers of Jesus!

I know that I want to experience God’s blessing. This amazing list can guide us in how to live so that we

will. Get ready to dig deep into the *Beatitudes* on Sundays, and be “#blessed”!

Volunteer at the Medina Personal Care Pantry



Saturday, February 3 at Living Hope Church (6288 Wooster Pike). 7:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Questions? Contact Pastor Pete or Jackie Tiffe.



Donate to the mission of the Church, above & beyond your regular offerings ...

A special offering will be received on all fifth Sundays” to help fund the ministries listed below ... but you can give anytime by designating your giving, “A&B.”

- Good Samaritan Fund
- Oasis of Hope
- NCO District Outreach
- Love in the Name of Christ

Next Above & Beyond Sunday – April 29.

Life Groups!

We believe in the power of Groups to help you live abundant life! Groups are listed below and meet every other week through the winter and spring. You'll learn more from God's word, develop closer relationships—leading to a closer relationship with God!



GROUP OPTIONS:

Sundays @ 6:00 p.m.
Hosts: Dave & Karen Walder

[4553 Poe Road](mailto:likealmonds@gmail.com)
likealmonds@gmail.com

Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m.
Hosts: Pete & Rebecca Ryder
[4025 E. Smith Rd.](mailto:Ryder@medinanazarene.org)
Ryder@medinanazarene.org

Medinanazarene.org/ministry/groups

Oasis of Hope Concert - *Celebrating Life & Love*

This fundraising concert, featuring Matt Hammitt (*former lead singer of Sanctus Real*) will be held on Friday, February 9 at 7 p.m.

This concert will be held at [Grace Baptist Church, 3480](http://GraceBaptistChurch.com)

[Laurel Road, Brunswick OH.](http://LaurelRoadBrunswickOH.com)

Tickets cost \$20-35.

Pre-Concert Dessert Bar, 6-8 p.m. For tickets and info, visit :

www.bit.ly/OasisConcert



Winterjam!

Friday, February 9. Cost: \$15 + supper. Meet at Church at 4:00 p.m. Performers include Skillet, Kari Jobe, comedian Jon Crist, and more!

Forms & flyers are available in the Teen Room. See Pastor Pete to sign up!



Deliver Food to Kids in Need



Friday, February 16 at 3:00 p.m.

Help us deliver food to kids who may not have enough to eat on weekends. If you would like to know more about this ministry opportunity in our community, email Pastor Pete today!
Ryder@medinanazarene.org

Philippians 4:8: *Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.*

Ash Wednesday Service

**Wednesday, February 14
at 7:00 p.m.**

Begin the season of Lent by drawing near to God as you contemplate your need for God's Grace.

Ash Wednesday and Lent lead us on a journey to celebrating Easter.



Church Rummage Sale



**Saturday, February 17 at
10:00 a.m.**

This rummage sale will benefit our 2018 Summer Mission Trip!

Start setting aside items for the sale!

You can bring items to the Church on Friday, February 16 all day.

Please price items; this saves volunteers loads of time.

Baked goods are also needed for the bake sale. See Jackie Tiffe, or email or phone her.

Jackietiffe@hotmail.com
(216) 509-0535

Summer Mission Trip 2018

June 24-29, 2018

Lower Lights Ministries in Columbus, Ohio

Cost: \$275 (before fundraising)

Fliers & Registration Forms are available at:

Medinanazarene.org/ministries/outreach-ministries



Pray

- **Prayer Guides** – Available on the table in the foyer.
- **Pastor's Prayer Team** – Receive a monthly prayer letter from Pastor Pete.*

- **Prayer Chain** – Receive a call when special needs arise.*

*to sign up email:
ryder@medinanazarene.org.

Work as Worship Retreat



Friday, February 23

Imagine spending a day interacting with, praying with, and encouraging fellow business leaders. The Work as Worship Retreat is a chance to interact with other Christian men and women in

the workforce in our community. You'll also hear rich content with biblical teaching and practical advice from seasoned, nationally known Christian speakers like Patrick Lencioni, Matt Chandler, Anne Beiler, and more.

(Visit: www.workasworshipretreat.org for a full list of speakers)

Medina Naz is one of a couple thousand livestream locations across the country for this retreat. Visit www.workasworshipretreat.org/local to register by plugging in the Medina zip code and clicking on your location. The \$25 registration fee will include lunch in addition to all the great content. Register soon to reserve your place. Hope to see you for an inspiring day!

North Central Ohio District Sunday School & Discipleship Ministries Appreciation Dinner

Friday, March 2. Cost: \$20

Featuring Max Winfrey, Stunt Comedian!

We'll pay for all teachers to attend. Register by February 11 with Beth Dentler bdentler@medinacounty.org



RightNow Media

Your church believes in you, and connecting you with great resources to help you GROW closer to God! That's why we provide you with "RightNow Media." It's an online resource that links you up with video lessons taught by great Christian teachers and leaders on a variety of topics.

Need help with your finances? There's a whole section to guide you. Want to work on your marriage? That's there too. There are great



studies for teens too, and a whole channel dedicated to amazing videos for kids!

If you haven't checked out RightNow Media yet, send a quick email to Pastor Pete at ryder@medinanazarene.org, requesting an invitation. Or if you have an account but haven't used it in awhile, get back on there at www.rightnowmedia.org. It's your customizable, online Christian resource library!

February 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1 Ladies Bible Study 9:30 a.m.	2 Mindy L. BD	3 Vision Team Meeting 9:00 a.m.
4 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m.	5	6	7 Youth Group - 7:02 p.m.	8 Ladies Bible Study 9:30 a.m.	9	10 Ruth E. BD
11 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m.	12	13	14 Ash Wednesday Service, 7 p.m.	15 Ladies Bible Study 9:30 a.m.	16 Martha A. BD Food Delivery	17 Annual Rummage Sale
18 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m.	19 President's Day Eric & Gretchen B. Anniv. Board Meeting	20	21 Youth Group - 7:02 p.m.	22 Ladies Bible Study 9:30 a.m.	23 Work as Worship Retreat, 8:30 a.m.	24 Phyllis T. BD
25 Eric B. BD Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m.	26 John S. BD	27	28 Youth Group - 7:02 p.m.			

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

LEAD PASTOR: Peter Ryder - ryder@medinanazarene.
DISCIPLESHIP DIRECTOR: Beth Dentler - bdentler@medinacounty.org
MISSIONS DIRECTOR: Jackie Tiffe - jackietiffe@hotmail.com
YOUTH DIRECTOR: Jon Walder - jon.walder@elkinsearthworks.com
CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR: Nikki Campbell- onikki@hotmail.com
CHURCH BOARD MEMBERS: Tim Dentler, Kim Norton, Christine Barnes, Diana Combs, Jeff Combs, Eric Brisker

CHURCH OF  THE NAZARENE

3 WAYS TO GIVE



in person
offering plate
during church



automated
set up payments
thru your bank



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