



Medina Naz Newsletter

‘I Hope ...’ - *Pastor Pete Ryder*

Hope is sometimes just a wish.

There's kind of a weird, superstitious practice some people do around the holidays... After devouring the turkey for Thanksgiving or Christmas, some people save out the 'wishbone.' Once it's dried out and brittle, two people make wishes and then compete in a tug-of-war match to break that bone. Whoever comes away with a bigger piece is supposed to have their wish granted (by the bird-gods I guess).

I think we'd agree that's a pretty weird custom! I've discovered that it actually



comes from ancient Etruscan society and the worship of chickens, but I don't want to get sidetracked going into all of that...

These days it's become a fun little activity, and although as we make our wish, we're hoping something good happens, it's pretty much understood that those wishes won't come true. Breaking a bird's clavicle won't bring good luck or guide your life. I don't know if there's anyone in need of something who waits all year, anticipating the holidays just so they can get their hands on that wishbone in order to have their wish come true. We know it's

probably not going to happen and if, by chance, what we wished for does come to pass, that turkey bone didn't have anything to do with it! We do the same thing before blowing out or birthday candles or finding a bright star on a dark night... We can hope for something to happen, but those wishes won't determine the outcome. Hope can seem a lot like wishing.

But in our life with God hope is so much more than wishing! The hope that we talk about at Christmas is so much more than superstition

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6901 Wooster Pike
Medina, Ohio 44256

(330) 722-7683
office@medinanazarene.org
Medinanazarene.org

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or wishing good things will happen. Our hope is founded in the promises of God...and we can trust God's promises! Just as He was faithful to send Jesus, at just the right time, to our needy world on that first Christmas, He continues to be faithful and able to provide just what we need, when we need it. As Romans 5:5 says, "*Hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts...*"



Earthly hope disappoints is regularly - it's just a wish without any thing to back it up. But with God, our hope rests in the One who loves us and has promised to work His will and His way in the world and in our lives. Especially this month, we

hope in wonder and expectation that the same Jesus who was born in a manger so many years ago wants to be born fresh and new in our hearts.

That's thrilling! The anticipation of God's

presence in your life and in our world should be almost more than we can bear! Let the thrill of hope characterize your life this Advent season!

Adult Christmas Party

Saturday, December 8 at 6 p.m.

This is always a fun evening of celebration and laughter! Be

there, and invite someone to join you.

Bring some great food to share and a gag gift to

exchange - the wackier the better!



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.

Christmas Gifts for the Families of Oasis of Hope



We will be providing gifts for some of the families of Oasis of Hope again this year! Grab a card (or 3) off the tree in the foyer, purchase the gift(s), wrap them with the card attached to the outside, and place them under the tree. Then we'll deliver the gifts to the Oasis and they'll deliver to the families before Christmas! Thank you for being a blessing to others this Christmas!



Proverbs 11:25 *"A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."*

How Am I Doing, Spiritually?

5 questions to ask everyday

- HAVE I MET WITH GOD TODAY?
- AM I TRUSTING & OBEYING GOD IN EVERYTHING?
- DO I SEE JESUS IN THE MIRROR?
- WHO HAVE I SERVED TODAY?
- AM I CLOSE TO SOMEONE FAR FROM GOD?



Sunday School Classes at 9:30 am

Nursery (Birth to age 3) and also at 10:30 a.m.

Pre-School (ages 3-5)

Grades 1-5 - Karen Walder & Claudia Skidmore, co teachers

Middle School (grades 6-8) - Tim Dentler, teacher

High School class (grades 9-12)- Tim Dentler, teacher

Adult classes - David Applegate, teacher



**Thursdays
at 9:30 a.m.**

Last session in December: 12/20/18. First session in January: 1/3/18.

Deliver Food to Kids in Need

Friday, December 21 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



Volunteer at the Medina Personal Care Pantry



Saturday, December 1 at Living Hope Church (6288 Wooster Pike). 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Questions? Contact Pastor Pete or Jackie Tiffe.

A Thrill of Hope on Christmas Eve

Monday, Dec. 24th at 6:00 p.m. – Experience the hope and joy of Jesus at the Medina Naz Christmas Eve service! There will be Christmas carols, candles, video, a message from the Bible – it'll be a meaningful family experience! Get close to God this Christmas as we worship and celebrate together.

A Thrill of
HOPE

We Need Church Cleaners!



The Church gets dirty ... You can help! Sign up to clean the Church 6x per year and keep our space ready for ministry.

To find out more, shoot an email to:

office@medinanazarene.org

Youth Group!

Wednesdays at 7:03 p.m.

A place for Middle School and High School students to:

LEARN! PLAY! CONNECT! GROW!

Find out more at:

www.Facebook.com/MedNazYouthGroup



Pictures



If you catch Jon Walder trying to take your picture at church in the near future, let him! We're putting together some new church marketing materials and Jon is our photographer. So smile! You're on Candid Camera!

Teen Christmas Party

Friday Dec. 21st – 6:00 p.m. At the Dentler's Home (477 Woodlake Dr.) Fun, Games, Pizza... all the things!!!

Bring a 2-liter of pop and a gag gift to exchange!

Hey Kids!

Come celebrate Jesus' Birthday! Birthday Party for Jesus - Sunday,



Love Inc presents... 1st Annual Christmas Celebration Concert

Friday, Dec 14 at 7:00 pm at Northside Christian Church in Wadsworth. There is a suggested donation of \$10 per adult, \$15 per family. Refreshments provided. All proceeds benefit LoveINC Medina.



Featuring - GloryWay Quartet

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!

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WAYS TO GIVE



in person
offering plate
during church



automated
set up payments
thru your bank



online
MedinaNazarene.
org/Donate

December 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1 Personal Care Pantry, 7:30 am Rebecca R. BD Ryan B. BD
2 Prayer, 9 a.m. Sunday School, 9:30 am Worship Service, 10:30 am	3	4	5 Youth Group, 7:02 pm	6 Ladies Bible Study, 9:30 am	7	8 Adult Christmas Party, 6:00 pm
9 Prayer, 9 a.m. Sunday School, 9:30 am Worship Service, 10:30 am	10 Church Board Meeting, 6:30 pm	11	12 Youth Group, 7:02 pm	13 Ladies Bible Study, 9:30 am	14 Love Inc Concert 7:00 pm	15
16 Prayer, 9 a.m. Sunday School, 9:30 am Worship Service, 10:30 am	17	18	19 Youth Group, 7:02 pm	20 Ladies Bible Study, 9:30 am Zoey S. BD	21 Teen Christmas Party at 6:00 pm	22 Claudia S. BD Nick R. BD
23 Prayer, 9 a.m. Sunday School, 9:30 am Worship Service, 10:30 am	24 Christmas Eve Service @ 6 pm	25 Christmas Day	26 Youth Group, 7:02 pm	27 Ladies Bible Study, 9:30 am	28 Sandra B. BD	29
30 Prayer, 9 a.m. Sunday School, 9:30 am Worship Service, 10:30 am Marilyn T. BD	31					

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

LEAD PASTOR: Peter Ryder - ryder@medinanazarene.
DISCIPLESHIP DIRECTOR: Beth Dentler - bdentler@medinacounty.org
MISSIONS DIRECTOR: Jackie Tiffe - jackietiffe@hotmail.com
CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR: Nikki Campbell- onikki@hotmail.com
CHURCH BOARD MEMBERS: Tim Dentler, Faith Sobocinski, Teresa Morris, Renea Hladky,
 Martha Abram, Holden Leblanc

CHURCH OF  THE NAZARENE