

# MO Dist. NYI Ministry Handbook



2018-2019

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# District NYI Purpose and Goals

## MO District NYI Purpose

- MO District NYI exists to connect youth to God and others while equipping and empowering leaders to be the Church.
- In all we do, we are committed to the goals of...
  - Being authentic and intentional.
  - Helping youth encounter the Living God who is Holy!
  - Helping youth move beyond encounter to daily presence!
  - Inviting youth to willfully engage in the practices of the faith.
  - Challenging youth to grow in spiritual maturity.
  - Empowering youth to build relationships that will help them on their journey toward wholeness in Christ.
  - Empowering and equipping youth and youth leaders in the local church be successful in ministry.
  - Walking with youth and spurring them on in holiness.
- We accomplish these goals by...
  - Making prayer a priority in all facets of planning.
  - Creating a unified team mentality among all leaders on the district.
  - Intentionally calling youth to a lifestyle of discipleship at every event.
  - Teaching youth habits of confession, prayer, scripture reading, timekeeping, fellowship, holy conversation, and purposefully living them out in front of them.
  - Being real/honest with youth and presenting God's ideals for them.
  - Intentionally creating opportunities for youth to bond as friends.
  - Making communication a priority throughout the year.
  - Building genuine relationships with youth and maintaining them beyond the various district events.

MO District NYI adheres to the polity of the Church of the Nazarene and is specifically governed by the Charter of Nazarene Youth International that is found in the Manual of the Church of the Nazarene. It is our recommendation that each local youth ministry leader obtain a copy of the manual from your local church leadership, or go to <http://2017.manual.nazarene.org/> and go to section 810 and become familiar with our charter. The MO NYI Council is elected/appointed according to said charter to best meet the purpose and goals of the District NYI.

# 2018-2019 MO NYI Council/Leadership

- **President** – Pastor Richard Stout
  - Sikeston First Church of the Nazarene  
[pastorrichard@hotmail.com](mailto:pastorrichard@hotmail.com); 863-307-6782
- **Vice-President** – Stephanie Denbow
  - House Springs Living Word Church of the Nazarene  
[sdenbow@express-scripts.com](mailto:sdenbow@express-scripts.com);
- **Secretary** – Pastor Andy Barnette
  - St. Claire Parkway Church of the Nazarene  
[pastorandybarnette@gmail.com](mailto:pastorandybarnette@gmail.com); 941-716-2361
- **Treasurer** – Pastor Kevin Muttschall
  - Fenton Church of the Nazarene  
[kdmutt@monaz.org](mailto:kdmutt@monaz.org); 314-602-5293
- **Sr. High Representatives**
  - Keri Hinsen  
Webster Groves Church of the Nazarene; [keriohs2019@charter.net](mailto:keriohs2019@charter.net)
  - Kaci Rowden  
Arnold Church of the Nazarene; [kacijeanne@yahoo.com](mailto:kacijeanne@yahoo.com)
- **Jr. High Representatives**
  - David Denbow  
Living Word Church of the Nazarene; [danielcdenbow@gmail.com](mailto:danielcdenbow@gmail.com)
  - Chrissy Gilkey  
Wright City Church of the Nazarene; [lizzie.kitty2@gmail.com](mailto:lizzie.kitty2@gmail.com)
- **College/Career Representatives**
  - Elizabeth Griggs  
Project II Church of the Nazarene; [bitzygriggs@gmail.com](mailto:bitzygriggs@gmail.com)
  - Brendan Lake  
Ferguson Church of the Nazarene; [blake2@mnu.edu](mailto:blake2@mnu.edu)
- **MNU Liaison**
  - Rebecca Hopke  
Bowling Green Church of the Nazarene; [rlhopke@mnu.edu](mailto:rlhopke@mnu.edu)
- **MNU Scholarship Coordinator**
  - Kristin Attig  
Trinity Church of the Nazarene; [kristin.attig@gmail.com](mailto:kristin.attig@gmail.com)

- **Website/Social Media Coordinator**
  - Kayhla McGee  
Gateway Church of the Nazarene; [kaylha\\_martin@hotmail.com](mailto:kaylha_martin@hotmail.com)
- **District Zonal Area Coordinators (In Development)**
  - North/North Central –  
Bowling Green, Hannibal First, Hannibal Riverview, Mexico Cristo Viene, Mexico First, Montgomery City, Brookfield, Clarence, Hurdland, Kirksville, Macon
  - Capital –  
Columbia First, Eldon, Fulton Heartland, Hallsville New Horizons, Iberia, Jefferson City, Meta Ricker Memorial
  - St. Louis North –  
Harvester, O'Fallon New Life, Anchored Hope, SL Bridge of Hope, SL Ferguson, SL Gateway, SL New Hope, SL North County Community Fellowship, SL Trinity, Wentzville Project II, Wright City
  - St. Louis South –  
Arnold, Fenton, House Springs Living Word, SL Grace Korean, SL South County, SL Southwest, SL Webster Groves
  - Missouri Valley/Ozark –  
Rolla, St. Clair Parkway, Union Word of Life, Waynesville, Mountain View, West Plains Cornerstone
  - Cotton Belt/Southeast –  
Bernie, Dexter First, Dexter Southwest, Poplar Bluff Northpoint, Cape Girardeau, Sikeston Eastside, Sikeston First, Wardell
  - Clearwater/Lead Belt –  
Annapolis, Piedmont, Redford, DeSoto, Farmington, Festus, Frankclay, Fredericktown, Irondale, Ironton, Park Hills
- **2018-2019 Ministry/Event Leadership**
  - Quizzing – 10/13, 11/10, 12/8, 1/12, 2/16, 3/9,
    - Director: Jon Griggs  
Wentzville Project II COTN; [jon.griggs@outlook.com](mailto:jon.griggs@outlook.com)
  - Camp (New Name) – June 10-14, 2019
    - Co-Director: Pastor Richard Stout  
Sikeston First Church of the Nazarene; 863-307-6782 Cell;  
[pastorrichard@hotmail.com](mailto:pastorrichard@hotmail.com)
    - Co-Director: Pastor Div Tosingilo  
Harvester Church of the Nazarene; [div@harvesternaz.com](mailto:div@harvesternaz.com)

- Family Camp – June 24-30
  - Director of Youth Events: Stephanie Denbow  
House Springs Living Word COTN;  
[sdenbow@express-scripts.com](mailto:sdenbow@express-scripts.com)
  - Assistant Director:
- School Year's Eve – July/Aug 2019 (TBD)
  - Director: Kayhla McGee  
Gateway Church of the Nazarene; [kaylha\\_martin@hotmail.com](mailto:kaylha_martin@hotmail.com);
  - Assistant Director:
- COG – November 2-3, 2018
  - Director: Pastor Jeff Roever  
Farmington Church of the Nazarene; [jeffroever@yahoo.com](mailto:jeffroever@yahoo.com)
  - Assistant Director:
- BLAST – March 16, 2019
  - Director: Jon Griggs  
Wentzville Project II COTN; [jon.griggs@outlook.com](mailto:jon.griggs@outlook.com)
  - Assistant Director:
- MAX@MNU – April 25-27, 2019
  - Director: Pastor Jeff Roever  
Farmington Church of the Nazarene; [jeffroever@yahoo.com](mailto:jeffroever@yahoo.com)
  - Assistant Director:
- PK Retreat – February 8-9, 2019
  - Director: Kevin Muttschall  
Fenton Church of the Nazarene; [kdmutt@monaz.org](mailto:kdmutt@monaz.org)
  - Assistant Director:
- YES Conference – January 2020
  - Director:
  - Assistant Director
- NYC 2019 – July 10-13, 2019
  - Director: Pastor Andy Barnette  
St. Clair Parkway Church of the Nazarene;  
[pastorandybarnette@gmail.com](mailto:pastorandybarnette@gmail.com)

# MO NYI Guidelines and Expectations for All Events

The District NYI Council and Leadership Team have developed a list of guidelines and expectations that are in place to eliminate distractions as we do our best to help students glorify God, have fun and remain safe while participating in all of our district sponsored events. Though we know that the local church may have more strict or more lenient guidelines, we ask that everyone adhere to those listed below for district event to avoid confusion and create a sense of unity, with an understanding that there may be “event specific” guidelines and expectations as well.

## **Student Section:**

- Youth covenant to...
  - Respect/obey all adult sponsors, leaders, staff, etc. (Not limited to your local church)
  - Treat other youth with kindness and consideration and avoid behaviors that will be a distraction to God’s work.
  - Abide by all guidelines set in place by this handbook.
  - Abide by all event specific guidelines and boundaries set by event leadership
  - Adhere to the schedule of activities (be where you’re supposed to be when you’re supposed to be there.
  - To keep displays of affection limited to holding hands.
  - Avoid inappropriate behavior at ALL times that might cause those around you to feel uncomfortable or threatened.
  - To ensure all medical/liability releases are filled out completely for all events. Failure to do so will negate participation in district events.
  - Leave all pets at home.
- The following is our dress code. If a student violates this code, he/she will be asked to change into appropriate attire. Please refrain from...
  - Baggy pants/low cut pants that show underwear.
  - Revealing swimsuits (ie. Bikinis, speedos, etc.)
  - Sleepwear outside of your sleeping quarters.
  - Tank tops that are less than 2 fingers width on the strap (hide the straps)

- Shorts and skirts that are shorter than fingertip length
- Strapless anything.
- (Avoid the 5 B's. No boobs, butts, backs, bellies or bra straps)
- Bare chested guys outside of sleeping quarters or swim areas.
- It is understood that repeated failure to adhere to these guidelines will result in consequences that may include a trip home early at the parent/guardian expense. However, there are certain offenses that will expedite the trip...
  - Possession of any of the following
    - Illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia
    - Alcohol
    - Tobacco or paraphernalia
    - Fire arms
    - Fireworks
  - Sneaking out after set curfews
  - Having a member of the opposite sex in sleeping quarters.
  - Participating in immoral conduct
  - Destroying property or destructive pranks
- Electronic Devices...
  - The reality of today's world is that phones are difficult to eliminate from events. However, we encourage every leader to discourage the use of these while at events as much as possible except in emergencies to contact parents. They are proven distractions to what God might like to say or do in the life of our youth. But please note that all other electronics should be left at home. (ie. Gaming, computers, etc.)

### **Adult Section:**

- Adult leaders covenant to...
  - love youth!
  - love youth!!
  - love youth till it hurts!!!
  - be in a vibrant, active relationship with Christ. If we don't, the students will know it.
  - be the adults. Be empowered to hold students accountable to schedules and guidelines, but lead by example.
  - be flexible. There may be an area where we need your help due to unforeseen circumstances. Please be ready to step up!



- be patient. We are dealing with students who bring “baggage” with them to our events, with pre-conceived notions of what is acceptable and what is not. Also, our events are led by people who are no more perfect than you, so...
- be humble and transparent. We are not perfect and are not expected to be. Students need to know that we, too, are human and therefore struggle.
- be in prayer. This is vital before, during and after every event. Praying with and for our students and leaders is vital!
- be filled. As much as our events are geared toward reaching students, we have seen how God works in the lives of our adults at our events as well.
- be safe. Students tend to have an “I’m invincible” mentality. Be watchful at events and discourage “invincible” activities that they may try to participate in.
- refrain from being alone with a student. We know one-on-ones are part of ministry, but always be in a highly visible location with them.
- communicate. At the many events we have, it is vital that we communicate with each other about the where’s, the when’s, the how’s, and the why’s to avoid the pitfalls that can break down the team.
- be conscious of God’s direction when dealing with students. Our sensitivity to the Spirit may make the difference in how receptive a student is to God’s voice.
- ensure that you have a current background check on file with the district when participating in district events. They are only good for two years!
- be current on your NazSafe ministry safe haven training. Don’t assume you know. Know!
- be a participating member in good standing with a local Nazarene church.

# District Event Descriptions

## NYI Convention/Values Conference

NYI Convention is held each year in conjunction with the District Values Conference, which also includes SDMI Convention and NMI Convention. As with any event we are a part of on the district level, this is a great opportunity to connect with our district family. But the primary goal of Values Conference is to equip leaders and volunteers of all ages to carry out the district values of worship, discipleship, leadership development, community connection and multiplication.

Included in this time together, we take time to elect the members of the MO District NYI Council. All of this is done according to the District Ministry Plan found in the Manual. The elected officers include the President, Vice-President and Secretary. (Our treasurer is appointed.) We also elect age level representatives (2 Jr. High, 2 Sr. High and 2 College/Career), whose responsibility is to participate in council meetings to be a voice for students across the district. Each of the names on the ballot are nominated yearly by a committee of officers and representatives selected by the NYI Council.

Now, this may seem like boring “business” that no one wants to have to sit through. However, there is so much more to this event than that. It is a time for us to work together to accomplish the goals NYI has set forth to “connect youth to God and others while equipping and empowering leaders to be the Church”.

We hope you will make plans each year to join us for Values Conference. It is a very worthwhile use of our time as we grow together as the MO District Church of the Nazarene.

For more information regarding the NYI Charter, please check with your local church for a current copy of the Nazarene Manual, or go to the link below for a digital copy.

<http://2017.manual.nazarene.org/>

## “Young and Free” (Teen Camp)

"Young & Free" is the new name of the week long summer camp for students on the Missouri District. It's name is derived from 2 Cor. 3:17.

"Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom."  
(NIV)

Though we have an amazing week of fun, our primary focus to help Jr. High and Sr. High students recognize the presence of the Holy Spirit in their lives, and that true freedom in Christ can be experienced and lived out in all facets of their lives. We do this through prayerful intentionality in creating a distraction free environment for student to encounter the living God.

"Young & Free" is held annually at Pinecrest Camp and Conference Center in Fredericktown, MO. Pinecrest is a beautiful property with numerous amenities that lend to a great experience for all.

It is our desire that "Young & Free" will always be a life changing event for students of the Missouri District and that God's kingdom will grow as a result.

## School Year's Eve

School Year's Eve is a youth event hosted at Gateway Church of the Nazarene each summer right before the beginning of the new school year. Jr. High and Sr. High students from across the MO District are invited to gather together to worship, fellowship, play and receive a charge to carry into their school year. There is ALWAYS plenty of food, lots of friends to connect and re-connect with, and a whole lot of fun! Don't miss out on this amazing event coming up and be watching for more info to come!

## COG (Centering On God)

COG is an event that has been going on for years on the MO District, that is designed to create a retreat environment where students can "Center On God" and truly experience Him through:

- Intimate Praise and Worship
- Dynamic & Truthful preaching of God's word
- Times of prayer and personal reflection
- Connection in small group interaction
- Taking a break from the regular schedule of life
- The beautiful scenery and peace of Pinecrest Campground

This event is for Jr. High and High School students and adult sponsors age 21 and older.

## BLAST

# MAX@MNU

MAX@MNU is our annual North Central NYI Field event held each year at MidAmerica Nazarene University in Olathe, KS. Large numbers of participants from Iowa, Joplin, Kansas, Kansas City, Missouri, Nebraska and Prairie Lakes district converge on MNU for three days of spiritual challenge, exciting competition, and excellent talents. Competitions include sports, fine arts and quizzing.

It's always an exciting time to see talents and abilities being developed and on display for God's glory. MAX@MNU encourages the development of these talents and is also geared to develop student leadership, friendships and discipleship. And it is also a time to get connected with our Nazarene University so they can continue this excellence beyond High School at MNU.

This event is also a follow-up to our MO District BLAST event, which is designed to help prepare students for the larger event at MNU.

## PK Retreat

MO District and MidAmerica Nazarene University love Pastors' kids! PKs are a unique group of students who find themselves sharing ministry with their God-called parents in the local church setting. The journey of a PK has its perks...and disadvantages. PK Retreat is an opportunity for us to love on them and help them find balance in the midst of what can be a challenging existence.

All Jr. High and Sr. High PK's are invited to join with other PK's from across the MNU field in solidarity, hearing from a guest speaker, who is also a PK, and an opportunity to just be yourself.

# YES Conference

YES Conference is hosted every other years at MNU and is for any high school student who is willing to step into the adventure of discovering who God has created them to be and all He has created them to do. YES Conference will lead a conversation on listening, discerning, and responding to the call of God through diverse speakers, creative sessions, breakout groups, and times of worship.

# NYC (Nazarene Youth Conference)

Nazarene Youth Conference (NYC) is a vibrant, life-changing youth event held every four years in different locations across the US and Canada. High School students from all over North America belonging to the Church of the Nazarene gather together in a time of worship, teaching, and community outreach, united by a common belief in Jesus Christ.

It is a 4 day event that includes ministry opportunities in the host city, amazing speakers, creative arts presentations, moving worship services, live concerts, and access to resources they can take back home to help them on their journey with Christ. Oh...and there's a boatload of fun involved along with new relationship to be made with a host of new people!

The theme this year is Love God · Love Others. Simple, but challenging. Sometimes described as two pillars of following Jesus, we will explore the connective nature of our relationship with God and others while learning what it means to live out His love in our world. We find these words in Matthew 22:37-40...

*Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."*

This event is for all students who have completed grades 8th through 12th by the summer of 2019 and will be held on

July 10-14, 2019 in Phoenix, AZ

# Ministry Resources

Listed below are various websites we recommend for information on the District, Regional, and General Church. We've also listed some sites that may assist you in ministering to and with the students in your local church. This is not an exhaustive list, but hopefully they will help you moving forward in discipling your students and leaders.

[www.nazarene.org](http://www.nazarene.org) – Website for the General Church of the Nazarene

[www.monaz.org](http://www.monaz.org) – Website for the Missouri District Church of the Nazarene

[www.monyi.org](http://www.monyi.org) – Website for the Missouri District NYI

[www.mnu.edu](http://www.mnu.edu) – Website for our regional university, MidAmerica Nazarene University

[www.youthministry.com/ymresources](http://www.youthministry.com/ymresources) - Free Youth Ministry Resources

[www.rightnowmedia.com](http://www.rightnowmedia.com) – Video Curriculum

[www.leadsmall.org/app](http://www.leadsmall.org/app) - Small Group App and Resources

[www.youthministry360.com/collections/free-stuff](http://www.youthministry360.com/collections/free-stuff) - Free Youth Ministry Resources

[www.thesource4ym.com](http://www.thesource4ym.com) – Youth Ministry Resources (Free and Paid)

[www.youthleaderstash.com](http://www.youthleaderstash.com) – Youth Ministry Resources (Games!)

[www.averageyouthministry.com](http://www.averageyouthministry.com) – Youth Ministry Blog

[www.downloadyouthministry.com](http://www.downloadyouthministry.com) – Youth Ministry Resources

[www.youthministrymedia.ca](http://www.youthministrymedia.ca) – Youth Ministry Resources

[www.unsplash.com](http://www.unsplash.com) – Free High Quality Stock Photos

[www.picjumbo.com](http://www.picjumbo.com) – Free High Quality Stock Photos

Got any resources you'd like to share for next year? Submit it to us and we'll get it added!