



LJ Faith*news*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF LA JUNTA FIRST
CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

APRIL 2017

The Pastor's Heart

By Gordon Smith

We have all heard and sung “Amazing Grace,” illuminating “I once was blind, but now I see.” Perhaps we have heard it so many times that we have become inoculated and numb to the picture it paints. Many are afforded the opportunity to be mended by the grace of God – to find healing that goes beyond that of physical restoration. The parents of the man born blind in John 9 were afforded that opportunity, the Pharisees, and even the man born blind was given the opportunity to believe. “For God so loved the world...” not just the man born blind, but even the Pharisees, and yes... even us. Unfortunately, not all choose to believe in the testimony of the man born blind who now sees. Do you believe that his testimony is true? Do you believe that Jesus is telling the truth? Sing the words afresh, like a springtime breeze, because the window of your heart has seen once again the loveliness that “I once was blind, but now I see.”

Church Events

Apr 7th
Lenten Service & Soup Supper

Apr 14th
Good Friday Service

Apr 15th
Kids Easter Saturday Party

Apr 16th
SonRise & Easter Services

Apr 17th
Church Office Closed



Dominican Republic Work & Witness Trip

April 30th Meeting following the morning service to discuss the possibility of doing a Work and Witness Trip in 2018 sponsored by our church. This is an intergenerational group, and we are seeking a minimum of 12-15 people of interest. Chelsea Fry (the DR missionary coordinator) is willing to do a Skype face-to-face with us to tell us a little bit about the potential project and answer some preliminary questions.

When: Late May, early June, or early October 2018 (This will be tentatively discussed at the meeting); The trip will be 7 to 10 days and will extend from one weekend to the next.

Who is Invited: All generations. One must be 11 years or older, and any person who is 17 years or younger must be accompanied by an adult or have an approved Adult Sponsor / Guardian.

Cost: The preliminary cost will be addressed at this meeting.

Sponsorship: A \$500 scholarship will be granted to the first 15 people to "officially" sign up. In order to receive this scholarship, the person must be a member of this local church, or become a member of this local church within the next year.

Contact: If you are interested in participating in this Work & Witness Trip, please sign up in the foyer and attend the April 30th meeting. Any further questions, please contact Elaine Schmucker.

~~~~~

## Walk For Life

The 23rd Annual Walk for Life Event will be held here at our church on Saturday, April 29th. This is one of two of their yearly fundraisers for the Arkansas Valley Pregnancy Center. AVPC offers multiple services to our community to include positive alternatives to abortion. Please come and help raise funds for this great cause. There will be a 5K Run, One Mile Walk, and a Kids Obstacle Course. There will be great prizes, as well as free activities and snacks. For more information, contact the pregnancy center at 384-5561 or visit [www.myavpc.com](http://www.myavpc.com). You can also contact Judy Tilton at 384-2833.



~ A GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE ~  
Friday, April 14, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

If you enjoyed our Christmas Eve service, you will certainly appreciate this special service. You will cherish the beauty of what Christ has done for you, experience the immensity of God's love, and it will set your heart to appreciate the splendor that Jesus rose again from the dead. Make this a part of your Easter experience - you will not regret it! Child care will be provided for ages 5 and below.

## Women's Ministries

The knitting and crocheting group is still meeting on the second Friday of each month to make prayer shawls and other gifts for Missions. This month's meeting is on Friday, April 14th from 1:00 - 2:30pm at Carol Eveatt's home. If you have any questions, please contact Carol at 384-8458.

## Shopping Trip

The ladies are going shopping on Saturday, May 6th and would love for you to join them! This shopping trip is to Dee's Design in McClave. The church van will leave at 8:30am to take you there. RSVP to Carol Eveatt.



# Main Event 2017

Everyone had a blast at Main Event this year. Pastor Isaac said it was a great time of having fun and growing closer to each other as well!



# A Special Baptism

Pastor Gordon had the privilege of baptizing Irma Entenman on Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. It was very special and touching! We love you Irma and were honored to be present for your baptism!



Pastor Isaac recognizing our Main Event kids and coaches.



## Youth Group

Every Sunday evening, there is youth group at 6pm at the church. Come and join Pastor Isaac for a devotion, snacks, and games.

## College Age Small Group

The College Age Small Group meets every Thursday at 5:30pm at Pastor Isaac's house. Come and join the fun!

~~~~~

Easter Events Schedule

Apr 9

Palm Sunday
Choir Practice @ 5pm
Good Friday Service Practice @ 6pm

Apr 14

Nursing Home Good Friday Service @ 2pm
Good Friday Service Here @ 6:30pm

Apr 15

Kid's Resurrection Saturday Party @ 2pm

Apr 16

SonRise Service @ 6:15am with the
SonRise Breakfast following
Morning Service @ 10am
(No Sunday School)
No Youth Group

La Junta First Church
Of The Nazarene
1111 W. 10th Street
La Junta, CO 81050
719/384-4723

lajuntanazarene@lajuntanazarene.org
www.lajuntanazarene.org



H. Gordon Smith III, Senior Pastor
pastorgordonsmith@gmail.com
719/469-0569

Isaac Gilmore, Associate Pastor
pastorisaacgilmore@gmail.com

Gary Addington, Minister of Visitation
gbaddington@hotmail.com
719/469-0503

Church Office Hours
Monday-Thursday
9:00am-2:00pm

Happy Birthday

April 2017

4	Tom McFtridge	16	Jaedyn Gronemeyer
5	Megan Jacquart	17	Adam Bickel
6	JoAnne Brusuelas		Acynn Good-Coates
	Doris Mills	19	Donna Davis
7	Kim Webb	20	Lalo Crawford
8	Dean Jones	21	Pam Mills
	John Evans	25	Cashley Jacquart
9	Bryan Bryant	26	Donna Davis
11	Edith Miller	27	Lindsey Cochran
12	Chance Oquist		Nickolias Frazier

