



Kansas City District

ZOOM Ministry Conversation
March 26, 2020



Welcome to ZOOM



- Please mute your computer (lower left corner) to eliminate background noise, then “unmute” when you want to speak
- The Chat button (lower center) will allow written communication
- Whitney is monitoring, if you need help

Present Situation

- KC Metro is under a “Stay-at-Home” order for 30 days (until April 24)
- KS and MO Governors: “No gatherings to exceed 10 persons”
- “THIS is not the crisis... The crisis is coming.”
- You are shepherds/pastors/leaders, and you are showing yourselves to be responsive, resourceful, and resilient
- Every pastor has just become a missionary in a new context and culture. Let’s innovate, experiment, and remember Esther: “You have come to this position for such a time as this.”
- This opportunity for ministry may be unparalleled in our lifetime



Self-Care

- Take care of yourself and your family
- Develop Good Rituals
 - Feed yourself well (good nutrition for body and soul)
 - Exercise well (get a daily endorphin boost)
 - Sleep well (target 8 hours)
- Redeem the time. Consider how best to steward this opportunity.
(Take a class. Take a nap. Learn a language. Do household projects.
Play games.)
- Don't drown yourself in news and social media
- Practice self-awareness and don't be afraid to reach out for help if you feel overwhelmed
- God is going to see us through this



Pastoral Care



- We are shepherds. We care for our flock.
- The worst thing we can do...is to do nothing
- The second worst thing we can do...is to try to do everything
- Identify people in your congregation that have the shepherding gift and empower them to begin to extend that care in creative ways
- Make decisions in conjunction with the church board / leadership team
- Help your people think of creative ways they can love and bless their neighbors
- Preach Jesus. Speak hope, grace, and peace.
- They might not remember your words, but they will never forget your care

Pastoral Care

Pray well. Let's pray together for the following:

- People who are affected by this virus
- Medical professionals who are treating the ill
- Researchers working on vaccines and cures
- People who are scared and anxious
- Government leaders making tough decisions to keep us safe
- Each other





What you should be concerned about: Connectivity. Connectivity. Connectivity.

What you are probably concerned about: Finances. Finances. Finances.

Local Church Finances

Nazarenes are generous people. Let's give them opportunities to show it:

- Online giving options
- PayPal
- “Bill Pay” options with local banks
- Mail checks to the church address
- Drop off checks at the church
- If your church does not currently provide an online giving option, please feel free to recommend the district office giving portal (kcdistrict.org/allocations). We will then send a check to the church.



Local Church Finances



- Frame the giving conversation with gratitude and generosity: “Thank you for your generosity”
- Consider establishing a COVID-19 assistance fund
- Look at ways to reduce expenses through the next couple of months
- If you have a mortgage, talk with your bank or lender before you face an issue. Our DAB has taken this action:

Approval is granted to any Kansas City District church having a mortgage with Wesleyan Investment Foundation to make interest only payments on their loan for the next 90 days, effective March 24, 2020. (Each church needs to reach out directly to WIF to request this)

How can the district office help?

- **Prayer, encouragement, and counsel**
- **Pastors' COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Fund**

The KC District Advisory Board has set aside \$50,000 to help pastors who find themselves in a financial crisis related to COVID-19. If you have a personal need, let us know. Primary needs would include food, shelter, and medical.



District Updates



- We are “Pushing Pause” on Pastoral Transitions (board meetings, church votes, installations, etc.) and Church/Pastoral Relationship Reviews
- Local Church Annual Meetings/Elections – we have time and options (113.7), no provision for absentee or electronic voting
- District Assembly (July 21-23) – we have time and at least 4 options...
Decision made by May 19 (by DAB/DS/JGS)

District Updates



- Ministry Team Retreat – trying to reschedule for October
- Reporting
Monthly reports will continue, but not attendance #s (March-?)
We are asking you to report each month by responding to these questions:
 - Are you meeting online? (can you measure your impact?)
 - What praise would you like to report?
 - How can we help?

Resources

Ed Stetzer, “Leading through the COVID-19 Crisis”:

<https://coronavirusandthechurch.com>

Here’s a link that describes the best online giving platforms: <https://outreach.com/blog/best-church-online-giving-platforms/>

Improving a church’s presence on line:

<https://faithcommunitiestoday.org/improving-virtual-presence-of-congregations/>



Resources

The Foundry Publishing is providing churches with three free weeks of discipleship curriculum for children, youth, and adults:

<https://www.thefoundrycommunity.com/3-weeks-of-free-faith-connections-adult-curriculum/>

<https://www.thefoundrycommunity.com/3-weeks-of-free-faith-for-life-youth-curriculum/>

<https://www.thefoundrycommunity.com/3-weeks-of-free-eureka-curriculum/>



Moving Forward



Important Communications:

- Weekly District Newsletter (Monday e-mail subscription or www.kcdistrict.org)
- Communications from the BGS
- Weekly Nazarene News (Friday e-mail subscription or www.nazarene.org)
- District Senior Pastors' ZOOM meetings next Thursday at 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. (6:00 p.m. translated into Spanish)

Moving Forward



Contact Information

District Office: 913.381.4466; kcdistrict@kcdistrict.org

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Whitney: 913.381.4466; kcdistrict@kcdistrict.org (District Director of Connections)

(All this information is on the district website: www.kcdistrict.org)

KCD Pastors Facebook Group: to share ideas, wins, etc.



Philippians 4:11-13 New International Version (NIV)

¹¹ I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do all this through him who gives me strength.