

2024 NAZARENE FAST FACTS

NMI is the global missions advocate in every local church, nurturing a spirit of missions, and mobilizing into action, impacting people around the world.



WE ADVOCATE

Each local NMI president is a member of their local church board who actively participates in the efforts of their local church to ensure that our neighbors know that Jesus loves them.

The local NMI president also serves as the advocate to encourage their church to participate in ensuring that everyone, living in every place and speaking every language, also knows that Jesus loves them.

- The Church of the Nazarene ministers in **165 world areas** with Belgium on the Eurasia Region recognized in 2024.
- The number of Nazarene churches increased to **30,747 churches**, with over **2.72 million members**, an increase of 2.69% from last year.
- In 2023, there were **472 districts** and **30 pioneer areas** around the world, with **31,354 credentialed clergy**.*



WE NURTURE

NMI nurtures a spirit of missions in the local church, working hand in hand with pastors to ensure that every person in each local church has a deep passion to share Jesus with others in our communities and around the world.

This spirit of missions is so alive it fuels all that we do. We will not stop until everyone, everywhere, has heard the Good News.



WE MOBILIZE

NMI mobilizes into action by focusing on five key areas of impact:



Prayer for the lost

- We encourage people to pray for all missions efforts of the Church of the Nazarene.
- Each week, NMI Central shares prayer requests and praises for a country where the Lord is working through the Church of the Nazarene. [NAZARENE.ORG/NMI-CENTRAL](https://www.nazarene.org/nmi-central)

- Since 1996, during the week that includes the first Friday in March, NMI has called the church to prayer through the **Global Week of Prayer**, with resources for adults and children in multiple languages. [NAZARENE.ORG/NMIGWP](https://www.nazarene.org/nmigwp)



Engaging children and youth

- We engage children and youth in learning about and participating in the mission of God. We collaborate with NDI and NYI to ensure that all children and youth have a spirit of missions within them.
- NMI provides **Kids Kaleidoscope** as part of NMI Central to help nurture a spirit of missions in children. Kids Kaleidoscope connects to the focus story in NMI Central the first Wednesday of each month. [NAZARENE.ORG/NMI-CENTRAL](https://www.nazarene.org/nmi-central)
- **International Student Scholarship Fund** (NMI 80th Anniversary project) provided **85 scholarships** for students outside the USA/Canada to attend Nazarene theological institutions.



Providing Care and Connection to Nazarene missionaries

- NMI provides care and connection between missionaries and local Churches of the Nazarene.
- All six regions participate in providing Care and Connection between districts and Nazarene missionaries through Links.
- In 2023, there were **482 missionaries** originating from **59 world areas**, serving in **83 countries**. Of these missionaries, **319 served as global deployed** and **163 were sponsored deployed**. Last year, there were **41 new missionary deployments**. Within these missionary families, there are **257 missionary kids**.
- Nazarenes gave **US \$4.7 million in deputation and missionary support** offerings for missionaries.**
- **Missionary Health Care provided US \$353,677** in medical assistance for Nazarene missionaries, through offerings, Memorial Roll gifts, and Distinguished Service Award gifts.**
- **372 retired missionaries** received benefits through the Global Missions Pension Plan for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.*



Giving to World Evangelism Fund

- We inform our churches of the world's need and how the Church of the Nazarene is responding through the World Evangelism Fund. We encourage every church to faithfully participate in giving to the World Evangelism Fund.
- **50 educational institutions**, including seven graduate seminaries/theological colleges, **14 liberal arts colleges/universities** (13 with graduate programs), **18 undergraduate seminaries/theological colleges**, eight certificate and diploma Bible colleges, two nurses training colleges, one teacher training college, and **1,059 education centers** (approved extension centers) had a 2023 combined **enrollment of 43,339 students** globally.*

- Persons in need were treated at **community-based clinics and health care centers** all over the world with concentrated efforts in India, Papua New Guinea, and Eswatini (formerly known as Swaziland).*
- **JESUS Film Harvest Partners (JFHP), raising \$3.7 million**, reports that World Evangelism Fund (WEF) helped provide infrastructure for **1,109 JFHP teams** to share God's love through the story of Jesus. In 2023, teams reported over **2.3 million evangelistic contacts**. Of these contacts, **699,029 indicated decisions for Christ** with **404,511 new believers receiving initial discipleship follow-up**. Teams started **11,675 Preaching Points** in 2023.
- NMI and others partnered with local churches to help raise **US \$37.2 million through the World Evangelism Fund** during the 2022-2023 fiscal year.**
- Churches globally gave **US \$24.6 million for Nazarene Approved Missions Projects**.**
- In 2023, **92 districts gave 5.5 percent or above of their income to the World Evangelism Fund (56 of which were from regions other than the USA/Canada Region)**. WEF giving beyond 5.5 percent helps open new work, sustains works opened in recent years, and helps send new missionaries that God calls.¹
- Nazarenes gave **US \$210,290 to World Mission Broadcast (WMB)**, providing radio, television, and Internet programs to share the gospel globally.**
- NMI partnered with **Nazarene Compassionate Ministries** to **give more than US \$5 million** for disaster response and compassion projects around the world and to support **10,559 children** through Child Development Centers and Pastor's Kids programs.**



Giving to Alabaster

- Churches lay the foundation through Alabaster offerings for places where people worship, heal, and learn by encouraging global participation each year. Every Alabaster project is a joint effort of local contribution and labor, combined with global love and support in bringing tangible presence and a sense of long-term commitment to a community. No Alabaster funds are used for administrative costs.
- Nazarenes gave **US \$2.9 million for Alabaster** to fund projects in 2023. The Alabaster Offering is used in all six global regions.**
- Over **US \$30,000** was raised during the Global NMI Convention in June 2023 at the launch of the 75th anniversary year of Alabaster.
- Often, **Alabaster** giving goes hand in hand with **Nazarene Missions Teams** who help build structures funded by Alabaster and the contributions of Nazarene Missions Teams. NMI assisted **374 Nazarene Missions Teams** in raising **US \$1.3 million for projects**.
- Alabaster videos are available in English, French, Korean, Portuguese, and Spanish.

<https://bit.ly/AlabasterVideo>

¹ "New work" refers to new world areas, a geographical area, or new entities such as institutions. Pioneer areas or Phase 1 districts are considered new work. When a district reaches Phase 2, it is no longer a "new work."



WE IMPACT

NMI supports those called to go and serve as Nazarene missionaries, and NMI provides a place of service for those called to stay and support missions through their local church.

Since 1915, Nazarene Missions International has served Christ and his mission through the Church of the Nazarene in making Christlike disciples in the nations.

- **NMI Central** is a weekly publication that focuses on a different country each week by telling stories of impact, calling the church to pray for specific requests from the focus country, and offering praise for God's activities through the Church of the Nazarene. NMI Central is free to subscribers and is distributed by email every Wednesday in multiple languages.

NAZARENE.ORG/NMI-CENTRAL

- NMI membership is now equal to local church membership. In 2023, there were more than **2.5 million** NMI members organized in **28,077** churches around the world.

* Supported either directly or indirectly by World Evangelism Fund (WEF).

** Represents data for the fiscal year 1 October 2022 through 30 September 2023.