

National Avenue Christian Church

26 May 2011

Springfield, Missouri

Before Sunday Morning...

Memorial Day seems to be the official start of summer in the Ozarks so...to help us stay connected over the next three months, we are going to be posting information on the NACC blog each Thursday that will a) help you start thinking about the conversation if you are attending Sunday morning or b) help you reflect on the conversation even if you will be away. This week's post is already up so go to <http://www.nationalavenuecc.com> and watch the video about *Fifty People and One Question*. Feel free to post comments before and after Sunday – it will help the people who will be leading worship as well as allow us to have the benefit of hearing each other's voices. If you subscribe to the blog, you will get the post as soon as it is updated each week – no matter where you are this summer!

HELPING IN OUR GLOBAL AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES...

Joplin Relief and Help...

In consultation with the Ozark Lakes Area office of the Christian Church Disciples of Christ, National Avenue has made a commitment to be part of the second wave of responders to the tragedy in Joplin. We will be working with First Christian Church Joplin as well as South Joplin Christian Church in coordinating our efforts. South Joplin was heavily damaged in the tornado and they, as well as First, still are uncertain about the fate of several members and their families.

In these next few days you can help with the following:

- ***Prepare Snack Bags – Tuesday at 6pm*** we will gather in the Gallery/Fellowship Hall to assemble snack bags to be taken to Joplin. Several of our members are in and out of Joplin daily with their jobs and this will enable them to have something to give to the people they are working with. Please bring individually wrapped bags and boxes of your favorite treats such as granola bars, snack cakes, chips, dried fruit or nuts, and of course bottles of water. Many of these things can be purchased in large case quantities -- please do not bring things like chocolate that might melt.
- ***Volunteer at Ozark Food Harvest:***
Individuals are needed to unload trucks, sort and repack donations and create care packages. Volunteers are needed immediately and over the next few weeks. **Volunteer sessions MUST be scheduled in advance!** Call (417) 865-3411 or email the volunteer coordinators [Tina Olson](#) or [Jennifer Sickinger](#).
Weekday Opportunities - Monday through Friday
(The youngest volunteer age allowed is 14)
Morning Session: 9 to 12 pm Afternoon Session: 12 to 3 pm
25 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR EACH SESSION
Immediate Evening & Weekend Opportunities
(The youngest volunteer age allowed is 14)
Thursday, June 2nd: 6 to 9 pm - 25 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
- ***Give Money!***
You may give money to NACC that will be forwarded to *Week of Compassion* and sent to our churches in Joplin so that they may give the money directly to those most in need. Just make checks payable to NACC and mark ***Joplin Relief*** in the memo. Also, you may donate money towards restaurant gift cards or purchase cards for Applebee's, Outback Steak House, Buffalo Wild Wings, or McDonalds – these are all restaurants that are operational in Joplin at this time.
- ***Give Time!***
Scott Zimmerman will be putting together groups of people that can do construction work – if you can put a roof on a building, put up drywall, paint, or just be a day laborer, please contact Scott at: ScottZimmerman@MissouriState.edu. These groups will be going to Joplin throughout the summer as needed.



The Rainbow Network is a faith-based organization working to end extreme poverty in Nicaragua through housing, health care, education, micro finance, and sustainable agriculture. Nicaragua is one of our hemisphere's poorest nations. Unsafe dirt-floor houses, lack of access to education, lack of food and water, little to no economic opportunity, and nearly nonexistent healthcare kill more people every year than violence. We are working to change that.

National Avenue has been investing in a village called Hilapo Dos for several years and we are thrilled to be at an exciting new stage in our partnership with Rainbow Network and the village. We have learned in the past few weeks that a plot of land is available for purchase – this is land that will allow the village to build 30 new homes for families that desperately need this help. The total amount NACC needs to raise is \$40,000 - \$10,000 for the land purchase and \$30,000 to build the first ten homes. You are invited to invest in the lives of the people in Hilapo Dos by giving a gift above and beyond your regular pledges and donations.

If you would like to help, please make your check payable to NACC and note in the memo that it is for the Hilapo Dos project. If you prefer donating by credit card, go to our website at www.natlave.com and make your contribution through our **PayPal account**. For additional information contact Brad and Lucinda Wadle at: bmlwadle@mchsi.com.



Mark Your Calendars... *Art for Haiti* returns on **Friday, June 10th** in the Gallery at National Avenue. Several artists have already responded to the call that went out a few weeks ago and our curator, Holly Elkins, is busy working with our Gallery Team members on planning another exquisite evening that will invite you to enjoy some wonderful art, hear some great music, sample some delicious food and help the people of Haiti. The event this year will benefit ***Community Coalition for Haiti***, an organization that has local ties.

To help with the event please contact Anna Squires at asquires@smcelectric.com.

Save Your Stuff... NACC's Boy Scout Troop 24 is having their annual Garage Sale on Saturday, June 25th beginning at 7:00am in the church parking lot. They would appreciate any and all donations. You may call Rick Fay, the troop leader at 818-0302 to arrange pick ups.

IN AND AROUND NACC...

A Special Sunday – June 5th...

On June 5th, we will observe Pentecost [a week early!] by having Baptism during our 10:00 am worship. If you are considering making a decision about becoming a Christ follower or reaffirming a decision you have made previously, please contact Pastor Laura. On June 5th, we will also recognize our graduates and the Membership Team will host a celebration reception immediately following worship.

Summer Sunday School Schedule for Kids...

Beginning Memorial Day weekend our Summer Sunday School for May 29th through July 31st will be as follows:

Children 4 years old and under will be in the Nursery

Children 5 years old through 5th grade will go to Sunday School at the top of the steps in the children's area and will meet together for some fun activities and teaching.

As is our tradition, we will give all our teachers a break during the month of August and our normal Sunday morning schedule will resume in September. If you would like to help with the children on Sunday mornings this summer, either in Sunday School or in Kid's Chapel, please contact Robyn Hagerman or Rebecca Hampton.

Please note that we will not be having Kid's Chapel on Sunday, May 29th.

Calling All Graduates...

If you are graduating from high school or receiving a degree from college, please contact the church office this week and give us all your information so that we can celebrate your accomplishment in worship next Sunday morning, June 5th.

Ave-News Summer Break...

We will be printing the June Ave-News the week of June 5th and then the weekly Eblasts will take a short break, resuming the last week of June. If you have *any* information that you need conveyed over the first three weeks of June, it must be emailed to the church email address by Wednesday, June 1st. Thanks for your help!

May Meetings...

Sunday, May 29 th	11:30 am	Prayer Shawl Team
Monday, May 30 th	Memorial Day	Church Office Closed

June and July Meetings...

Sunday, June 5 th	5:30pm 7:00pm	All Departments Meeting and Dinner Cabinet Meeting
Sunday, July 17 th	3:00pm 7:00pm	Elder and Deacon Retreat and Orientation Board Meeting

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