

Welcome to our class  
on The Church Of The Nazarene

We hope to help you become a stronger  
Christian as you help us to build the Church  
of our Lord.

# Meet the Church of the Nazarene



- **Origin** – 1908 in Pilot Point Texas
- The Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene merges with The Holiness Church of Christ.
- 1919 changed name to Church of the Nazarene

# Articles of Faith

- The Triune God – We believe in one God revealed as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- Jesus Christ – Second person of the trinity, born of the virgin Mary, and died for our sins.
- The Holy Spirit – Third person of the Trinity. Convinces the world of sin, regenerating those who repent and believe, and sanctifying the believers.
- The Holy Scriptures – The 66 Books of the Old and New Testaments. Divinely inspired by God.

Sin, Original and Personal – Original sin came into the world through the disobedience of Adam and Eve. Personal sin is a result of our disobedience toward God.

- Atonement – By the shedding of His blood, and death on the cross, Jesus has made atonement for man. After the age of accountability one must repent of his sins and believe in God.
- Free Agency – We believe people have the God given right to choose between right and wrong.

- **Repentance** – A sincere change in mind in regard to sin. First, to be sorry and then a commitment to a turning away from sinful practices.
- **Justification, Regeneration, and Adoption** – Justification is the act where God pardons us of the guilt of our sins. Regeneration or new birth is the result of God’s work in the life of the new believer. Adoption is the act of believers being the “Children of God”.
- **Entire Sanctification** – The act of God following regeneration in which the believer is made free from sin. It is the work of The Holy Spirit through faith. There is a difference between a pure heart and a mature character.

# Taking a stand for good!



*We are more than conquerors  
through him who loved us.*

*Romans 8:37*

- **Entertainments that are subversive of the Christian Ethic** – We are to govern ourselves by three principals. First, is the Christian stewardship of leisure time. Second, is to apply the highest moral standards, and third is to witness against such evils as violence, sensuality, pornography, profanity, and the occult as portrayed through various forms of the entertainment industry.
- **Lotteries and other forms of gambling whether legal or illegal** – The church holds that the final result of these practices is detrimental both to the individual and society.
- **Membership in oath bound secret orders or societies** – The quasi-religious nature of such organizations dilutes the Christians commitment, and such secrecy contradicts the open witness of a Christian.

- **Dancing** – Forms of dancing that detract from spiritual growth and break down proper moral inhibitions and reserve are wrong.
- **The use of intoxicating liquors and tobacco** – This includes a stand against illicit drugs and tobacco in any of its forms, including the misuse of prescription drugs.
- **Marriage and divorce** (including dissolution of marriage)
  - The marriage covenant is morally binding so long as you both shall live and breaking it is a breach of the Divine plan of permanence.

- **Abortion** – We oppose induced abortion when used for either personal convenience or for population control. We also oppose the laws that allow abortion on demand.
- **Human Sexuality** – We view all forms of sexual intimacy that occur outside of the heterosexual marriage as sinful distortions of the holiness and beauty intended for it.
- **Storehouse Tithing** – This is the scriptural and practical performance of faithfully placing the tithe into the church where the member belongs.

- **Fund Raising** – Is not to detract from tithing principals or the Christian witness.
- **Responsibility to the poor** – Jesus commanded his disciples to have a responsibility to the poor.
- **Creation** – We oppose the godless interpretation of the evolutionary hypothesis.
- **Public Swimming and Recreational Activities** – We urge that Christian judgment be exercised in the matter of swimming or sunbathing in public places.

- **Evidence of Baptism with the Holy Spirit** – We believe this evidence is seen in living by the “Fruits of the Spirit” Galatians 5:22-24. To affirm that even a special or any alleged physical evidence or prayer language is evidence of the baptism with the Holy Spirit is contrary to the Biblical and historical position of the church.
- **Water Baptism** – We believe that Christian Baptism, commanded by our lord, is a sacrament signifying acceptance of the benefits of the atonement of Jesus Christ as their Savior, and full purpose of obedience in Holiness and righteousness.
- **The Lord’s Supper** – We believe that the memorial supper of our Lord Jesus Christ is a declaration of His sacrificial death. It’s participation is for all believers and to be celebrated until His coming again.

# Why the step of Membership?



- **It is important for people to take a stand for that which they believe in. Together we can make a difference.**
- **Our Promise** – We will love, include, nurture, and encourage you. You can anticipate learning, growing, laughing, ministering, and praying together.

**ZANESVILLE FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date you became a Christian \_\_\_\_\_

Do you testify to being Entirely Sanctified yet? \_\_\_\_\_

Understand that by joining the church you agree to the responsibility of serving Jesus by using your God given gift in the local church. You also are in agreement with the Biblical teaching and practice of tithing, and supporting the local church.

Are you currently a member at another church? \_\_\_\_\_

If so where? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of an organization that takes a secret oath? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you smoke or use other forms of tobacco? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you currently take part in alcohol consumption? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently involved in any habits that could damage your witness as a Christian and present a wrong image of the church? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you understand and agree with the "Articles of Faith" of The Church of the Nazarene? \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

A note from the Pastor:

It is my desire to see you grow as a believer, and together we can use our God given gifts to see His church grow. I believe membership is the next step of commitment toward accomplishing this. It's a real privilege to present your name to the Church Board for approval. I look forward to working with you in the days ahead, and commit to praying for you during this important time in your life.

In His Service,  
Pastor Steve

For Church Board use: Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Denied \_\_\_\_\_ Date of action \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Church Board Secretary \_\_\_\_\_