

FLORIDA CONNECTION

FLORIDA DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE



GOD HAS A UNIQUE PLAN
FOR HIS UNIQUE CHURCH
IN YOUR UNIQUE NEIGHBORHOOD

July 2019

5 things you don't know about Dale...

Wanting to get to know our new district superintendent, Dale Schaeffer, a little better? We asked some questions for you...



What are you reading right now? I tend to read 7 or 8 books at a time, but my favorite book that I'm reading right now is "Once a Runner" by John L. Parker Jr. It's a classic and the best fiction book I've read on running. As an added bonus, it's set in Florida so it's especially interesting to this avid runner and transplant to Florida.

If you had your own talk show, who would your first three guests be? If I had a talk show, it would likely be about the intersection of faith and culture, so that would influence who I'd hope to interview. With that in mind...

Kanye West, NT Wright, Brenda Salter McNeil.

What are your favorite sports teams?

Football: Chicago Bears

Baseball: Kansas City Royals, with respect to the Detroit Tigers

Basketball: Boston Celtics

Soccer: Portland Timbers

College Sports: Michigan Wolverines

What would people be surprised to know about you?

I once weighed 100 pounds more than I do today. Following a series of serious leg and knee injuries in my mid-twenties I gained around 100 pounds and found myself suffering from high blood pressure, anxiety and sleeplessness. Over the next two years I modified my diet and exercise routine resulting in regaining my physical health and developing a love for running.

Where did you propose to your wife?

This is a good one. I had an elaborate plan to propose at a local lakefront park in Sturgis, Michigan over Christmas break in 1995, but I became terribly

sick for the entirety of our vacation. Not wanting to miss out on proposing to Steph before leaving for Spring semester at Mid-America, I proposed to her at my parent's house between bouts of nausea and passing out. She's one gracious partner, a good sport, and truly my best friend.

Churches in transition:

Winter Haven First welcomed **Drs. Bruce & Peggy Oldham**, on Sunday, May 12th. Bruce has been serving as the president of the Asia Pacific Nazarene Theological Seminary in the Philippines since his election there in 2016. Prior to that assignment, he served as the senior associate pastor of Nashville First Church since 2012, and prior to that was in various administrative roles at Mount Vernon Nazarene University. Welcome to Team Florida!



Pensacola Ensley: **Pastor Denny Wilson (Annette)** has moved to Terre Haute, Indiana to pastor Terre Haute First church. His last Sunday was April 7th. Denny served as the Mission Area Coordinator on the Panhandle Mission Area. Dr. Lee Woolery is working with the church board to place a new pastor.

Kissimmee Casa de Vida: **Pastor Selideth Perez** has resigned to serve as the associate pastor with her husband, **Pastor Elmer Santos**, at **St. Cloud Camina**. Please pray for the Casa de Vida congregation in this transition.



Orlando United: **Pastor Bob Yates (Nila)** is moving to Tennessee to become a full-time chaplain. Bob has served the Orlando United congregation for 20 years, and has been a vital part of district leadership. He was a Mission Area Coordinator, and has directed the Florida Nazarene Bible Institute. The church hosted a celebration of Bob's ministry on Sunday, May 26th.

Missions Highlight

Florida District churches gave a total of \$926,711 for World Evangelism Fund, which was over 100% of our goal, making us a **District of Excellence for 2018-19**. With mission specials, point-to-point, and other global missions giving, we gave a grand total of \$1,663,173. These funds support missionaries, build schools and hospitals, provide relief in times of disaster, and help educate the next generation of leaders. Want to learn more about the Church of the Nazarene's Global Mission? Visit <http://nazarene.org/globalmissions>



Better Together

Apopka Calvary recently held their quarterly "Better Together" service with their AC/BC Biker Church, Futsal (Soccer) church, Hoops (basketball) church, African-American, Haitian, and Hispanic congregations. Leaders shared reports of victories and changed lives.



Pictured (left to right) are Ronda Rieves, Executive Pastor; Willett Riley, Springhill - African American; Phane Loremus (Haitian), Farah Loremus; Nikki Jaimes, Hoops; Jose Matamoros, Casa del Rey; Jesse Lugo, Futsal; Keith Hullinger, AC/BC; **Garry Proehl, Lead Pastor.**

Holiness Today, our denomination's publication, featured an article by Pastor Proehl in their recent issue showcasing Nazarene Missions. To read the article, [click here](#). To visit the Holiness Today website and/or subscribe to a print or digital edition, please [click here](#).

Vital Signs

Each month our churches report their church health via our Vital Signs reporting system. Please see the [attached report](#) for the month of May. Those who did not report are bold and in green. Requests for reporting for the month of June went out June 30th. You can see a dashboard of district Vital Signs, as well as any Team Florida church by visiting [here](#). Select a church name from the drop-down list to view individual churches.



Resource Exchange...

One of our Team Florida churches is looking for choir robes. If you have some you would like to donate, please contact mary@floridanaz.com. Thank you!

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