

FIRST CHURCH  
OF THE NAZARENE  
WEEKLY  
SERVICES

**SUNDAY**

9:15 am Prayer

9:45 am Sunday School

10:50 am Morning  
Worship

6:00 pm Evening  
Worship

**WEDNESDAY**

7:00 pm Adult Bible  
Study, Youth &  
Children Activities

**PASTORAL  
STAFF**

**Dr. Steve Ruby**  
Lead Pastor

**Andrea Covert**  
Pastor of Worship Arts  
Ministries

**Jerrold Covert**  
Pastor of Student  
Ministries

**Brandon Gibbs**  
Pastor of Children's  
Ministries

**Rev. Denver Prater**  
Visitation & Outreach  
Pastor

**Curt Skeens**  
Teaching Pastor

**Paula Sergent**  
Discipleship & Assimilation  
Pastor

# Ashland First News

Pastor's Page

10 Things I Want For Every Person Attending or Associated With AFCN:

#1 – I want every person to understand salvation in a Biblical context, knowing that they have been made right with God through Jesus Christ. ([I John 5:12-13](#), [I Corinthians 15:1-4](#))

#2 – I want every person to truly learn how to find their identity in Christ. ([Colossians 1:15-17](#), [Philippians 3:7-14](#), [Galatians 2:20](#))

#3 = I want every person to have a right relationship with others. ([Ephesians 4:32](#), [Matthew 6:14-15](#), [I John 2:9-11](#))

#4 – I want every person to love God's Church and be fully bought into Her potential. ([Matthew 16:13-18](#), [Colossians 1:18](#), [Ephesians 1:22](#), [Ephesians 3:10](#), [Ephesians 3:20-21](#))

#5 – I want every person to know about and discover their spiritual gift and use it to impact God's Kingdom. ([I Corinthians 12:1, 7](#), [I Peter 4:10](#))

#6 = I want every person to know how to lead someone to Christ and feel the calling/responsibility for doing so. ([II Corinthians 5:18-21](#), [Matthew 28:18-20](#), [Mark 16:15](#), [Luke 24:48](#), [John 20:21](#), [Acts 1:8](#), [Romans 1:16](#))

#7 – I want every person to learn how to recognize and follow the voice of God by reading their Bibles on a daily basis. ([Hebrews 4:12](#), [II Timothy 3:16-17](#), [Isaiah 45:18-19](#))

#8 – I want every person to have godly

dating relationships, godly marriages and strive to raise children who have a heart for Jesus. ([II Corinthians 6:14](#), [Ephesians 5:22-33](#), [Ephesians 6:1-4](#), [Colossians 3:18-21](#), [I Peter 3:1-7](#), [Deuteronomy 6:4-9](#))

#9 – I want every person to steward their money in a Biblical way, putting God first, living within their means and embracing generosity as a core value in their lives! ([Malachi 3:10](#), [Proverbs 3:9-10](#), [I Corinthians 6:1-2](#), [II Corinthians 9:6-15](#), [Psalm 37:25-26](#), [I Timothy 6:17-19](#))

#10 – I want every person to enter into the experience of entire sanctification, being filled with the Holy Spirit and surrendered fully to the will and purposes of God. ([I Thessalonians 4:3-7](#), [23-24](#), [Hebrews 12:14](#), [Acts 1:8](#), [Ephesians 5:18](#))

Over the next couple of months, I will be focusing on what it means to be a "follower" or disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ. God doesn't need any more fans or "groupies" but He is desperately calling all of us to a deeper level of followership that leads to Christ-likeness.

Keep in mind that our mission is "to make Christ-like disciples". Be all in!!

See you Sunday for a great celebration and church picnic starting at 10:30am. You will be blessed by the ministry of Dave Clark. Make sure you do not come alone.

## A Letter from Brandon Gibbs to his Church family.

Pastor Steve, Paula, Jerrod, & Andrea,

Four years ago at this time, I had just graduated college and thought I had everything figured out. I believed that God had called me to be a music pastor and I was going to fulfill what I had set out to do. As we all know, I had no luck finding a job and I honestly did not understand why. Over that summer, I began having conversations with Pastor Steve about maybe possibly filling the music position here at AFCN but even I knew that it probably was not the best choice or decision to make. That is when Pastor Steve ask if I would be willing to come and interview for the position of Children's Ministry. Never in my wildest dreams had I ever thought at that point that I would be working with kids, and I did not even know when to begin but I could not let this opportunity pass, so Korie and I prayed about it, and I started doing research on Children's Ministry. I even talked to a few professors about it and compiled a binder of a plan I had made to begin and make Ashland First's Children's Ministry a place kids wanted to come.

Well as you know, I got the job and started on September 30, with eight kids in this ministry. I was absolutely scared to death! I honestly had NO idea what I was doing, but I knew that God was with me and that we would get through this. Sometimes it seems like the answers is right in front of you the whole time and you never really realize it until it hits you in the face. I always thought I would do music because that what I was talented in, but God had another plan for my life one that Ashland First helped me to understand and I have grown a passion for working with kids and teaching them about God. I am so thankful that God gave me the opportunity to come to my home church and discover what He wanted me to do with my life.

Over the past 4 months, God has really been tugging at my heart about a decision that I have not wanted to make. He has really been challenging me on the direction of not only my life but of the direction of the ministry, here at Ashland 1<sup>st</sup> and where I fit in. The toughest thing I have do to is ask God if my time here is finished. Have I really done everything you wanted me to do? I had been struggling with this issue for a while when we had the Ash Wednesday Service back on March 9. I heard Pastor Steve in that service say this when talking about giving things up for Lent. People always give up pop, or candy, or something that they like. However, sometimes it is not those things God wants you to give up. Sometimes God wants us to give up something bigger when the understanding that God has something better in store. I was at the alter when I heard this and I just began to break down and cry because I knew that I had been disobeying what God had been telling me. It was at this point that I knew that my time here was coming to an end.

I love Ashland First; I love the staff, the people, and the kids here. This is my home church the place I grew up, the place God showed me a passion for Children's Ministry and this has been the hardest decision I have ever had to make. However, I know with ALL my heart that it is the right decision. I have prayed about this and cried about it and I understand and know that God is leading me somewhere else. Therefore, I am resigning from my position as Pastor to Children and families. I have accepted a new Children's Ministry position in San Luis Obispo, CA. My last Sunday will be June 19.

God has been tugging at my heart and I have been very selfish over the past 6 months because I love it here and why would I ever want to leave a place not only that I love but also where my family is. This has been a hard decision for both Korie and I, but we feel that this really is what God wants, and so we are going to follow His will and His direction for our lives. We love you all.

You Friend in Christ,

Brandon Gibbs



# Untitled Student Ministries

Connecting Students with other Students!

Growing In Faith, Knowledge, and Love for Christ!

John 3:30

# JULY/AUGUST

## NYC 2011 (Nazarene Youth Conference) July 4th - 10th

We will be meeting here at 8am Monday July 4th to leave for the bus and will be back Sunday Night around 6pm! Please bring only one piece of luggage with you! If you want to know what to pack and what to bring home check your email because I sent you a check list so to speak! NYC happens every four years and it's a once in a life time trip! Thanks to our church family...all our students are going absolutely free! Thanks so much! Please pray for us during our trip!

## NYC Report, Sunday Night July 17th

Come and find out what God has done through your students in this great church! Also find out what all that fundraising was about!

## Family Camp Youth Night Friday July 22nd at 7pm

Sunday July 24th, NO PM Service because we will be going out to Mt Hope for the close of Family Camp

July 31st, NOW (Night Of Worship)

## TEEN CAMP July 28th-31st

Cost \$95

Theme: SO WHAT?

Please fill out an application as soon as possible and let me know if you are interested in going!

**August 13th**  
**Back to School Bash**  
At the New Church Property  
More details still to come!

## August 19th-20th Spiritual Lock In

More Worship, Devotionals Times, Testimonies  
Less Fun and Games! This is a lock in for those wanting to grow closer to God! Don't miss out on a great Spirit Filled Lock in!

Sunday August 28th PM  
NMI Deputation

## Weekly Activities

- **First Hour** - Meets every Sunday at 9:30 am. We are spending 31 Sundays with Jesus...its a Bible Study geared toward students.
- **Sunday Morning Worship Service** - @ 10:45 in the sanctuary.
- **Sunday Night Youth Service**- is a fun energetic contemporary service that meets upstairs in the refuge. It's a night filled with worship, and a message from Pastor Jerrod that is relevant to teenagers! Starts at 6:00 pm. This service is open to anyone not just youth.
- **Wednesday Night Youth Group** - meets Wednesday nights at 7pm. Come check it out and bring your friends. You wont want to miss these awesome Wednesday night services!

**Join us on Facebook!**

**Untitled Student  
Ministry Fan Page**

**Get connected! Get  
updated!**

# Updates & Thanks

In the interest of keeping you informed about the process and progress of filling the staff position for Pastor to Children and Families, a search team consisting of Jamey & Heather Sellars, Suella Slibeck, Patty Filbin, Katrina Hamilton, Diane Ruby and Paula Sergent met last week to establish a profile and engage in conversation about the vacancy.

We are not attempting to or desiring to replace a person because people are irreplaceable. Brandon and Korie cannot be replaced but the position can be filled by a person who will bring their own set of gifts and abilities as well as experiences to the ministry already existing.

Pastor Brandon developed a solid team of servant leaders who are stepping in the gap during this interim. The ministry will continue with excellent assistance from the Creative Team and teachers. They are all onboard and filling the assignments they have been given through the beginning of September. Be assured that nothing will change in terms of the ministry given to our precious assets we call “children”.

We deeply appreciate all those who invested so much time and effort in assisting with the District Conventions and Assembly. Hosting the meetings and services are no small task, believe me.

Countless hours were given to set-up, tear down, and daily demands associated with hosting this event.

Special thanks to Howard and Suella Slibeck who coordinated the whole thing. Chris and CJ Epperson who did such a capable job of handling the sound and video side of the conventions and assembly. Lydia Whitlock and Sally Sexton who were wonderful leaders in providing assistance in the kitchen and refreshments for our guests. Parking valets Mitch Sherman, Vernon Leeper and Tom Godbey who pulled double duty by keeping the facility spotless and stocked with necessary items.

For all those who helped in anyway, thank you and we are proud of your servant attitude.

If you missed the Sunday Morning service, you missed a wonderful opportunity to see our area Teens in action. The Impact Team, all area students from the 6th grade through graduates, did a marvelous job under the leadership of our own Andrea Covert. The music as well as the program was an inspiration to all who heard it. It gives us all hope for the future to see such wonderful youth participate in such a worthwhile program. Again thanks to Andrea and all who helped her in her endeavor.



# angel food MINISTRIES

The Angel Food Ministries have expanded their meal choices to include:

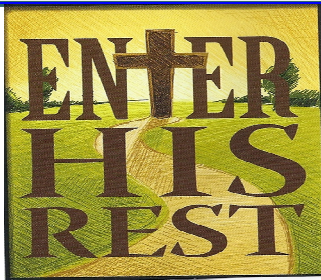
- The Original Signature Box—\$35.00
- Senior & Convenience Meals—\$29.00
- After School Fruit & Veggie Box—\$17.00
- Just 4 Me—After School Box—\$25.00
- Bit of Blessings Box—\$22.00
- Bountiful Blessings Box—\$46.00
- 5lb. Allergen/Gluten Free Box—\$25.00
- Pastor Joe's Premium Box—\$55.00
- May Specials:
  - New York Strip Steak box 5lb.—\$26.00
  - Memorial Day Grill Box—\$25.00
  - Premium Fresh Fruit & Veggie Box—\$24.00

*July order dates are:*  
July 9th & 16th from  
9:00—Noon at the church  
*July Distribution is*  
July 30th—7:00 am

*August order date is:*  
August 13th from 9:00  
—Noon at the church  
*August Distribution is*  
August 27th —7:00 am

**News from  
Angel Food Ministries**  
Another great feature to this wonderful ministry, you can now place your order on-line. **The website is [www.angelfoodministries.com](http://www.angelfoodministries.com)** or check out the link on our webpage at **[www.ashfirstnaz.org](http://www.ashfirstnaz.org)**  
Online orders need to be placed on or before 2:00 pm on third Thursday of the month.

**Announcing**



**Come to the  
Fire 2011  
For All Women  
Desiring a Holy  
Heart**

Grove City Church of  
the Nazarene  
4770 Hoover Road  
Grove City, Ohio 43123  
Columbus, Ohio Area  
**Sept. 29 to Oct 1**

Register online:  
[www.cometothefire.org](http://www.cometothefire.org)  
See Diane Ruby about  
hotel reservations.

## NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

August 28th—Deputation 2011  
Tim Eby from Senegal, W. Africa

July 17th—LINKS Missionaries  
Jay & Teanna Sunberg from  
Hungary

Jay is the Field Strategy Coordinator for the newly created Central Europe Field. Teanna is the theological education coordinator for the field. Their children, PR Lexi, Sophi, Lydia and Jenna enjoy being active MKs.

Tim and Michelle Eby have served in Kenya for six years with Nazarene Mission Aviation and are now assigned to Senegal, West Africa. Tim works in leadership development and church growth. Michelle serves as the treasurer for the Africa West Field.



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## First Church of the Nazarene

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Email: [AshlandFirst@windstream.net](mailto:AshlandFirst@windstream.net)

**AFCN exists to lead people into a  
growing relationship with Jesus  
Christ through commitment,  
care and community.**



**July & August**  
@  
**First Church**



HEAT. Tempted by Lust  
Kyle Idleman | July 17 & 18

*Hot  
Summer  
Nights*

**disciple.**

not a fan. i am a follower.