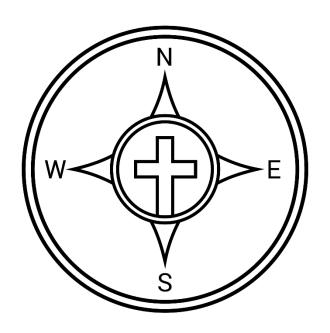
# Morgan Church of the Nazarene

2024-2025



ANNUAL BUSINESS REPORT

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### **Annual Report of the Pastor**

Delivered: May 11, 2025 Rev. Kent Davnport

#### Introduction

In the church of the Nazarene the lead Pastor of each church is to report to the congregation every year about the ministry and status of the church. This report can be given in the setting of a special meeting, but I choose to give it in the context of a service of worship for two main reasons:

First, because everything we do as a church is an offering of worship to our Lord. In addition to our Sunday Worship services, this includes every board meeting, planning meeting, Sunday school class, outreach event, and even cleaning the bathrooms. All that we do as the church is an offering of worship to the Lord. And so, this report is given in the context of worship, and it too is an act of worship.

Second, because most people will not attend a special meeting to hear a report, I find value in giving it in this context. The annual report gives us the opportunity to connect all the little things throughout the year into a big picture of what God has done and is doing. It also grants us opportunity to dream about our future together.

What follows is my annual report for the fiscal year that began on May 1, 2024, and concluded April 30, 2025. It is my privilege to bring you my sixth report as the pastor of Morgan Church of the Nazarene.

### **The Church**

As I begin my report, I find it necessary to note God's work in and through Morgan Church of the Nazarene for 96 years now. Many have come before us and laid a foundation on which we get to build. We benefit greatly from their faithfulness. And some who faithfully served and sacrificed for this church for many years went home to be with the Lord this past year. While we miss their presence here with us, we celebrate their homegoing to be with the Lord.

I believe in the work that God has done here in the past. I believe in the work God is doing here now. And I believe that God is working in ways that we don't yet see. God is forming us to be a reflection of his Kingdom.

In Revelation 7:9-10, we read:

After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing

before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice:

"Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

In the book of Revelation, John gets glimpses of God's throne-room as well as what God's new creation will look like. A common theme of those visions is that God's people are from every nation, tribe, people, and tongue. Worship in heaven will be in every language. Every kind of people will be in the Kingdom of God.

God is on a mission to bring new life and salvation to the world, and each local church is to participate in God's mission. To paraphrase author and scholar Dean Flemming, the church is to be a glimpse of God's future Kingdom. We are to embody God's rule and reign in our present setting as we mediate God's saving grace and his life-giving purposes to all people. And for this to be our reality, we must allow God's Holy Spirit to transform us, to change our minds, to change our hearts, so that we reflect God's character. And as we are formed into a people who reflect God's character, we show a watching world a sneak-preview of what is to come by the grace of God. We are to be full participants in God's mission of redemption. This is what it means to faithfully be God's church.

### **God's Work in This Church**

I acknowledge that we have a long way to go, but I also testify that God is forming us as we participate in His mission. God is transforming us to be the Body of Christ, the embodiment of the Kingdom of God in this world. I believe in what God is doing here, and I believe that God is not done with us yet.

In this past year, God has been leading us to new things. By the grace of God, we are a better reflection of God's Kingdom than we used to be. No, we don't have people from every nation, tribe and tongue, but through our willingness to make space for other cultures, our willingness to worship God together, as well as continue to worship in the uniqueness of our own cultures, we are becoming a better reflection of the Kingdom than we used to be. Praise be to God.

I am incredibly thankful to serve with leaders who have listened for the Holy Spirit and trusted in God's leadership. These people stepped out in faith as the Spirit led the ministries of the church. They trusted the movement of the Spirit to do ministry in the Landmark community. They trusted the movement of the Spirit

in launching a new worship service in a new language. They trusted the movement of the Spirit in granting Edgar Carrillo and Andrea Davenport local minister's licenses. These men and women who served on the board had faith in our Good Shepherd to lead us and provide for our every need. They believed in what God was doing in and through this church.

Our Stewards were Caleb Christensen, Russ Daniel, and Khris Peña. They not only served on the board as decision makers, but they saw to the fellowship, outreach, and care of our congregation.

Our Trustees were Curt Christensen, Al Forbes, and Jim Goss. They served on the church board as well as took care of our facilities and accounted for our finances.

Cynthia Lapp served on the board as our NYI President, giving leadership to youth ministries. And Susan Goss served on the board as our Missions President.

Jim Goss also served as our treasurer and Caleb Christensen as the Board Secretary.

I express deep gratitude to these men and women who have walked in faithfulness to the Lord as they trusted in his leadership for the church.

I also thank God for the privilege of walking with my staff in ministry. It has been a year that has stretched all of us as we learned new ways of doing ministry. I thank God for Kali Christensen, Jake Fajardo, Stacey Fajardo, Stashia Keller, and Brianna Newell. They have all participated in God's work here in essential ways.

But it isn't just the board and staff who have participated in God's work. You all have. You show up. You give. You gather to worship, to learn, and to serve. You volunteer to serve in music ministry, children's ministry, youth ministry, and to teach Sunday school. You serve donuts and run the sound board, you read scripture, serve as ushers, and greet people as they enter. You set up tables and chairs and take them down again. You provide food for people in need, put on funeral meals, and pray for one another. You serve at Landmark and outreach events. And you love one another well. You are involved in each other's lives, caring for each other. You are all participants in God's work here, as he forms us to reflect Him.

As we become a present embodiment of the Kingdom of God, we are all participants. Our church, all of us, are participants in the good work that God is doing in us and through us! We are in this together. And I believe in the work God is doing here.

I will always say that the work of God cannot be measured by things we can count, but I want to share a few statistics with you.

We estimate that 15 people made a new or renewed commitment to Jesus this year.

We baptized 13 people.

Our total average in-person worship attendance this past year was about 95, and if we include online participants, 101. A year ago, our averages were 76 and 84 respectively.

Our total income was \$172,818.82 compared to \$184,317.85 in the previous year.

Our total expenditures totaled \$194,420.91 compared to \$198,145.99 last year.

Our church carries no debt, and years of abundance in the past prepared us for years of scarcity in the present as our giving decreases with each passing year. But I firmly believe that when all of God's people tithe on all we receive, every need is met and there is always abundance. And God's resources are not limited to dollars and cents. The Lord has done great things among us this year despite a financial shortfall.

Our mission is to Be and to Make Christlike disciples. We are to be like Jesus Christ. We are to be motivated by self-giving love. God continues to help us become a loving community. God is doing good work here through his people. Through you. This past year, some have found a place to call home. Some who felt they were alone have found a new family here. The love of Jesus has been made known as it has been embodied it in our relationships with one another! I believe in the work God is doing here! And I believe God is not done with us yet.

This past year people have heard God's call on their lives to serve him in new ways. Brad Fickess felt called by God to begin a men's ministry, and he did. Stacey Fajardo felt called to greater responsibility and has taken on the role of Discipleship Ministries Coordinator with great grace. She also felt compelled by God to begin a young ladies Bible study that is currently discipling a handful of young women who desire to know the grace-filled life found in Jesus. Andrea Davenport felt called by God to be a pastor and is pursuing her credentials. She is currently faithfully serving in youth and music ministries. Edgar Carrillo, whom a year ago was not even part of this church, also responded to God's call to begin a new work here in Fort Morgan, and to serve as a pastor. And that work has begun! Edgar cares for our Spanish congregation and preaches twice a month.

This past year, God made something out of nothing, as we were able to launch a Spanish Worship service. God worked things out in the lives of several people in his perfect timing and created something beautiful. God called and

equipped individuals to come together and serve in new ways. People like: Edgar, Sandra, Edgar Jr, Sylvia, Amy, Sergio, JJ, Rudy, Juan, Andrea, Keeli, Kellen, Stacey, myself, and many others who are all serving in new ways every Sunday.

God has brought a beautiful community of people together to embody his love and grace on Sunday afternoons. By the grace of God our church is now equipped to minister to a greater portion of our community than ever before. And we are ministering to them. And the love of God is embodied in our Spanish-speaking congregation. The grace of God is being extended. Lives are being transformed.

God has moved in mighty ways as he has called and equipped his people for service. And we are a people who partner in God's work not only in answering his call in our own lives, but by empowering and equipping others as they respond in obedience. Thank you for the ways you have listened to God, responded, and supported others in their callings this past year. God is doing a good work here. He is bringing life and salvation to people through the church. And God is not done with us yet.

### **Moving Forward Together**

God is forming all of us into a better representation of His Kingdom. As we read earlier from Revelation, people from every language, tribe, and tongue were declaring, "Salvation belongs to our God." Salvation belongs to God. And Apparently God wants to save people from every language, tribe, and tongue. Salvation doesn't belong to the church; God is the one who saves. And God's salvation is not limited by our language, our abilities, or our ideas of what the church should be like. God's salvation is not dependent on our service times or our music preferences. God is transforming all things, and He is inviting us to be part of that work as we become living testimonies to the power of God at work in the lives of real people.

Our goal is not to grow the church. Our mission is not to get bigger and better. Our goal is not to relive some glory days of the past. We are to be the embodiment of the Kingdom of God in this world here and now. We participate in what God is doing. We are *His* people. This is *His* church.

In his book, *Foretaste of the Future*, Dean Flemming writes about the growth of the church in New Testament times, saying, "...the church grew because the Christians and churches lived by a [pattern of life] that attracted others. The Christian's focus...was not on saving people or recruiting them; it was on living faithfully – in the belief that when people's lives are rehabilitated in the way of

Jesus others will want to join them...the church's growth was the product of... their convincing lifestyle. (113).

This is happening here. The church is growing not because of strategic planning, attractive programming, or perfect performances, but because people are experiencing the transformation that comes through Jesus Christ! The grace of Jesus is being extended, and people experience something here that isn't easily found anywhere else. God is redeeming all things. And God is forming us to reflect His Kingdom. And may God continue to do that work here as we all live in faithful obedience.

I celebrate what God has done here. And I count it a privilege to pastor such a great people. It is a privilege to be pastor here at a time when God is doing such great things.

I believe that God is at work here – and I want to participate in what God is doing in and through this church. I want to be part of what God is doing here. And I want you to be part of it too. Not as observers. Not as bystanders. Not as consumers, but as partners and participants in the work.

And as we participate in God's work here, may we be ever-growing as we learn to live in his grace. May we, together, become a glimpse of God's future Kingdom. May we all get a little taste of heaven every time we are together. And may all who fellowship with us get a picture of the Kingdom of God.

I believe in that God has done great things here. I believe in that God is doing great things here. And I believe that God is not done with us yet. We are His people. This is His Church. He is still redeeming us. May we walk together as we walk with Him.

Respectively Submitted,

Reverend Kent Davenport Pastor, Morgan Church of the Nazarene

## Morgan Church Finance Report for Period Covering 05/01/2024 to 04/30/2025

Inflows		Expenses	
Building Fund	\$3,020.00	Buildings & Property	\$21,830.61
Caravan Registration Fees	\$318.29	Denominational Budgets	\$10,375.00
Credit Card Cash Back	\$346.09	Deputation Other Missionary (Out)	\$3,133.00
Deputation Other Missionary (In)	\$1,933.00	Ministry	\$13,962.38
Dividend Income	\$112.43	NMI Expense	\$8,231.90
Facilities Expense Share	\$2,997.00	Operations	\$25,727.09
Faith Promise	\$4,219.10	Staff Salaries & Benefits	\$111,160.93
Funeral (In)	\$350.00	Total Expenses	\$194,420.91
Interest Inc	\$477.30	Deficit for Period	\$21,602.09
Landmark Donations	\$965.00		
Memorial Fund	\$25.00		
NMI Offering	\$487.54		
Rental Income	\$2,250.00		
Tithes	\$151,481.00		
Watson (In)	-\$640.00		
Wednesday Meals	\$277.00		
Youth Ministries (In)	\$4,200.07		
Total Inflows	\$172,818.82		

In spite of budget cuts and reductions in spending in several areas, the Morgan Church of the Nazarene ran a significant deficit for the third straight year in the fiscal year just ended. We must have an increase in contributions in order to continue our ministry programs and to maintain our facilities.

Jim Goss

### Morgan Church of the Nazarene NMI Report for Period Covering 05/01/2024 to 04/30/2025

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Faith Promise \$4,219.10

NMI Offering \$0.00

Alabaster \$462.54

District Benevolence (Navajo, other) \$25.00

Total NMI Offering \$487.54

Total Inflows \$4,706.64

**Expenses** 

Local Benevolence \$699.29

NMI Expense \$0.00

Alabaster \$474.00

Child Sponsorship Expense \$330.00

District Benevolence (Navajo, other) \$125.00

Faith Promise Expenses \$132.90

World Evangelism Fund \$7,170.00

Total NMI Expense \$8,231.90

Total Expenses \$8,931.19

Deficit for Period \$4,224.55

Faith Promise giving was down to less than half what is needed to meet our obligations for giving to missions. As of the date of this report, we are over \$1,000 short of our assigned level of giving for World Evangelism Fund.

Jim Goss

### **Annual Trustees' Report**

2024-2025

The current year Church board Trustee members are: Al Forbes, Jim Goss and Curt Christensen. Other non-board members of the committee are John Camp, Shawn Schrum, and Doug Hector. All members of the committee, and many other volunteers from the church pitched in and helped complete a large number of projects throughout the year.

The Trustees are responsible for the care of the church property, staffing, overseeing church finances and offering, and to draw up a budget proposal for the church board.

- Worked on a budget proposal to present to the full church Board
- Requested and received bids on sewer replacement
- Requested and received bids on rental house removal/demolition
- Finished painting gym exterior and resealing back fire escape stairs
- Scheduled a Fall and Spring all church work days

Being able to serve Gods church with the talents and abilities He has given me is always a pleasure. Even with a few challenges throughout the year, seeing the willingness of His people to step up and help out in any way, is a true blessing.

As we head into the new church year, I look forward to working with this committee, and all church members on what God puts before us. I pray for His will and His wisdom for the upcoming year.

Respectfully submitted, Curt Christensen

Jim: In the trustees report last year I said that I am thankful that God has provided us with a great facility to do the Kingdom work in our community and that I can be part of the team that takes care of those facilities and the resources that God provides. I also said that I am humbled and sometimes a little frustrated

that often the job seems beyond my abilities at that moment. Those two statements still best express my experience on the board of trustees.

In this past year we were able to get the outside of the gym painted!! Thanks Doug!!!

Thank you, LORD, for blessing one of our team with a bucket truck that helped us to get the job done! I also believe that God led us to a more affordable option to replace the sewer line. Praise the LORD!!

Respectfully submitted, Jim Goss

### **Annual Stewards' Report**

2024-2025

The Stewards responsibility is serving the Lord and Congregational needs of the church.

- Serving Easter Breakfast
- Recognizing Mothers and Fathers
- Organizing Sunday and Funeral Dinners
- Making sure we have a greater on Sunday
- Have volunteers bring donuts Sunday mornings
- Caring for Pastor and Family
- Having a member of the church send cards and flowers and calling on members
- Making sure we have mid-week meals covered
- Assist in serving communion
- Organizing game and fun nights
- Helped organizing neighborhood BBQ
- Help with Pinewood Derby
- Help with Fall Fun Fest
- Helped with Christmas treats
- Pastor Appreciation Month
- Helped with Landmark

I feel the most rewarding part of my stewardship was organizing Sunday and funeral dinners. I felt that was part of my calling for being a Steward.

I have seen Gods work in the Spanish ministry and seems to keep growing every Sunday.

I would like to thank Caleb, Khris, Martha Lou, and Tammy for all their work and dedication to the Church.

Respectfully submitted, Russ Daniel

Khristina: My first year on the board has been very enlightening, enjoyable and a learning experience. With my time I have felt that God has called me to do more

outside of my comfort zone, by doing the ladies tea party, meeting and encouraging new church members and those in the leadership roles. I have grown in my own spiritual capacity, and this is flowing over into my work life by praying and encouraging my coworkers and neighbors. God is moving through the church with the new Spanish service and the leaders there, I see God moving in our you kids, teenagers and adults.

I have been truly blessed this past year and have more hope, Grace and patience's for the next year. God is so good.

Respectfully submitted, Khristina Pena

Caleb: This year as a Steward I was able to help with quite a few dinners, funerals and other full church activities to support the church body. This year I have also had a closer view of some of the hard decisions that a church board is a part of and have learned a lot from it. I think Wednesday nights are still my favorite as far as gathering as a church family goes. The conversations, laughter and games are so rewarding to be a part of. Although I didn't get re-elected, I fully plan on continuing serve the church in other ways.

Respectfully submitted, Caleb Christensen

### **Annual NMI President's Report**

2024-2025

In the past year as NMI President I have prepared missionary lessons from past years' lesson material that was available and gleaned some information from the NMI Central newsletters and presented them quarterly in Children's Church. We promoted and received Alabaster offerings in September and again in March. The Colorado District Navajo Christmas project is a major focus in late fall each year and is something I look forward to. We have begun to promote Faith Promise offering by presenting videos in morning service and putting materials in the bulletin. Thank you to all who have supported missions here at Morgan Nazarene!

### Summary of our work this year:

- In June, attended NMI conference at District Assembly in Littleton.
- September: Alabaster offering received
- October: Participated in Colorado District NMI Teams work at 5280 Movement compassionate services center.
- November/December: Received gifts for Navajo project and traveled to Gallup to help distribute them.
- February: Promoted and received spring Alabaster offering.
- March: Invited the Berry family to speak at the church about their work in Africa and received an offering for them.
- April: Faith Promise promotion begun.
- Every fifth Sunday presented children's missionary lessons about NMI missions around the world.

It is the responsibility of the NMI President to keep the local church informed about Nazarene global mission work and to promote that work. I am "old school" Nazarene and have struggled some in fulfilling that responsibility and am learning that I will probably need to use different methods in the upcoming year to get the message out. God is good! All the time! Thank you, Pastor Kent and Kali and others here at Morgan Nazarene for your help when I needed it. I am most thankful that the Lord blesses our efforts.

After we returned from the Navajo trip last December, I was approached by at least two different people from our congregation who told me that they want to go to Gallup with us this year. Awesome!!

Respectfully submitted, Susan Goss

### **Annual Discipleship Ministries Director's Report**

2024-2025

This past year marked my first in the role of Discipleship Ministries Director at our church, and it has been an enriching experience. I've had opportunities to grow and learn as I continued to lead our children's ministry while also expanding my focus to provide oversight, support, and congruency across all discipleship ministries. One of my key responsibilities this year was establishing an Education Committee. The committee's mission was to plan, organize, promote, and implement the church's Christian education efforts "To BE and to MAKE Christlike Disciples." Including myself, nine individuals served on this team.

### Main Responsibilities:

- Head of the Education Committee
  - Organized and executed the Ministry Fair held in August
  - Implemented small groups for the Advent study
- Oversight and support for discipleship ministries.
  - All Sunday School groups/classes
  - o Children's Church
  - Family Sunday- Kids' Word
  - o Bible Quiz
  - Afternoon Spanish Service
    - Children's Church
  - Young Ladies POINT Group (also an outreach ministry)
  - Men's Bible Study
  - o Wednesday Night Youth Group
- Help plan and conduct outreach ministries such as
  - Landmark
  - o Caravan
  - Pinewood Derby and Dinner
- Connect with, lead, and train volunteers.
- Build meaningful relationships with the families involved in children's ministry.
- Come along side members of our church who are going through difficulties to offer support and encouragement.

Trying to sum up in one or two paragraphs: "what has been the most fulfilling part of this last year" and "where I have seen God at work" seems impossible. I have been truly blessed by so much this past year. Supporting Pastor and his family has they partnered with God in starting an afternoon service in Spanish has been an honor and building friendships with those who attended in the afternoon has been rich. God is doing beautiful work, through this endeavor and being able to be a part of that is a gift.

Although the Education Committee met only three times during this past church year, I thought our time together was both productive and encouraging. One highlight was organizing the Ministry Fair, which was well-received by other committees and ministry leaders. It was a blessing to see everyone collaborate in decorating their tables and then sharing with church people about their ministries. God stirred the hearts of his people through the fair and many signed-up to get involved in new ways, which affirmed the fair's success.

Last but certainly not least, is the Young Ladies POINT Group (Bible Study), which I've had the joy of co-leading alongside Andrea. After finally saying yes to God's prompting to start this group, I am utterly amazed at how He is moving. I remain committed to partnering with God and our church community as we wholeheartedly pursue our mission: "To BE and to MAKE Christlike disciples" both inside and outside our church walls. God is actively working to redeem the world-and what an incredible privilege it is to be invited into that work!

Respectfully submitted, Stacey Fajardo

### **Annual Worship Leader Report**

2024-2025

I have had the opportunity to take over full leadership responsibilities as worship leader in the past year due to the stepping down of Brianna Newell to focus on her family responsibilities with a newborn. It is my responsibility to now focus on scheduling a worship team for each Sunday, and plan the worship songs accordingly. We have lost a few folks from the team and we have added a few volunteers, which makes it much easier to plan and schedule. We are blessed with those who graciously volunteer with happy hearts.

I continue to be most grateful to have the opportunity and responsibility to lead our congregation to the footstool and throne of God for worship and praise, a responsibility I do not take lightly.

My main responsibilities continue to be:

- Song selection and practice
- Teaching/Leading
- Gathering volunteers to serve in all areas of the team
- Leading by example

The most fulfilling thing from this past year is watching others grow as well as being part of the praise team. I enjoy the fact that others enjoy this as well. I continue to see God move in my life with this responsibility and I hope the Spirit moves in others on the team as well.

I will continue to try and excel in this role for the church and am always open to new ideas and music and will focus on honing all of my skills to lead this worship team as well.

Respectfully submitted, Jake Fajardo