LARGSNAZ NEWS

Hospitality | Health |

Happening in March

Every Wednesday 10:00am

Prayertime on Zoom

ID: 536 626 992; Passcode: holiness (Note: we will not meet on 10 March)

Every Sunday 11:00am (and after) Join us at LargsNaz or on YouTube for our

weekly worship service Feb. 28-6 March

NMI Global Week of Prayer

Info at nazarene.org/nmi/prayer **5 March** World Day of Prayer

Info at wwdp.org.uk

6 March 3:00pm

District NMI Zoom Get-together ID: 930 8149 0692; Passcode: DNMI

8-10 March

BIND Ministers' Prayer Conference

14 March Mothering Sunday

25 March 7:00 pm

North Ayrshire Hub Prayer Gathering Zoom details to follow

28 March 6:00pm

Second Helping Bible study

ID: 873 0303 3023; Passcode: 119492

28 March 1:00am

Spring forward 1 hour for BST

COVID Update

At present, due to the lockdown, all in-person events and services at LargsNaz are postponed until restrictions are lifted. We will keep you updated as events warrant and the situation returns to pre-COVID conditions. Please join us online and on Zoom in the meantime.

Ways to Give
Thank you for supporting the church and all that we do. LargsNaz is financed through your regular giving. The simplest way to support LargsNaz is to set up a bank transfer/standing order. Our bank details are: Acct: 00127871

Sort code: 80-17-11. You can give a one-time or recurring gift online by using our "Tithely" form at LargsNaz.org on the giving page.

For donations specifically to the Hospitality Ministry, please mark your donation "Hospitality." We are currently raising funds for a new boiler and upgrades to our heating system at the church. To contribute to this cause, mark your donation "boiler." Please also remember that Easter is 4 April and we will be receiving an Easter offering supporting World Evangelism at that time. Please mark your offering "Easter." Thank you!

Hospitality Ministry Thrives During Pandemic

In January, 2020, the church board met for our Vision 2020 Planning Meeting, and formulated a vision statement for 2020. The three areas of focus in that statement Hospitality, Health and Holiness. Hospitality was defined as "providing a welcoming safe space and fellowship at the Lord's table," and at the time that meant things like our Light Bite Café, our Lunch and Learn work shops, and events like our Christmas and New Year's Day dinners. In March 2020, however, the first COVID



lockdown happened, and providing a welcoming safe place and fellowship in our building were explicitly prohibited. It seemed that a "hospitality ministry" during a pandemic was an impossibility.

In the days that followed, however, God would show us new opportunities and the Holy Spirit would lead our hospitality ministry in new ways that enabled us to reach out and fulfill the physical and spiritual needs of those in our community even without the benefit of our building.

In March, when the first lockdown occurred, we reached out to the Largs Foodbank and offered to prepare nourishing, home-cooked meals for the individuals and families they served each week. Since then, we have continued to cook approximately 30-50 meals for distribution from the Foodbank each Thursday.

In May, that number increased by another 20-30 or so weekly, delivered by volunteers from Brisbane Evangelical and LargsNaz. In November, we partnered with the North Ayrshire Council and the Largs Resilience Team, forming the North Ayrshire Community Cookhouse, a program funded by the NA Council that allows LargsNaz to provide evén more meals to péople in our community.

We have been blessed with a group of dedicated home bakers who prepare delicious sweet treats and fresh bread that complement the meals. Each meal and dessert that leaves the LargsNaz kitchen has a label with our church information, website and Facebook address as an open invitation to worship with us. We have certainly seen an



increase in our online worship service viewings and we are excited by the way God is opening doors through the gift of food, allowing us to build relationships with people we never would have met had it not been for the pandemic. In the last 12 months, the LargsNaz hospitality ministry has shared the love of Jesus with people in our community by preparing and distributing over 2500 meals.

Thank you for your prayers and support of the hospitality ministry. We are excited to see what God has in store for this next year and beyond.

Local News

Erskine Church of the Nazarene helps **food program stay alive**Erskine Church of the Nazarene has come to the rescue of a community group deliver-

ing lifeline food. EBI Unites had become homeless after space in an Erksine community centre was needed by other groups. The volunteers are in high praise of the Church of the Nazarene who answered the call in their hour of need. Project leader Jacqui Reid said: "This is all about the power of comunity. This will be our permanent home for the next couple of years." The group delivers food and counseling to folk in need within Erskine, Bishopton and Inchinnan. Ebi Unites began jus a year ago after stepping into the breach when the Trussell Trust food bank for the area had to close.





The Living Room offers telephone support

The Living Room Largs, our neighbours on Aitken Street, offer local telephone support to those needing a listening ear, or advice about money issues, parenting and family or bereavement support, between 10am and 4pm, Monday to Friday on 01475 789580. After working hours, all calls are diverted to Breathing Space, who also offer unconditional support.

Regional and Global News

Eurasia's 24 hours of prayer From 30 to 31 January 2021, districts and churches across 40 nations of the Eurasia Region participated in the region's first ever 24 Hours of Prayer initiative in creative and diverse ways. Some involved "witnesses" from other nations via Zoom to share how God is working, followed by short prayer times for their ministries. Others formed online prayer rooms where participants met virtually for prayer in dozens of languages. Still others organized in-person prayer meetings for one or all of the hours. The British Isles North District NMU swiftly repurposed an already planned district Zoom meeting as a "Concert of Prayer," inviting testimonies from Nazrenes in Italy, Scandinavia, Hungary, Poland and India and praying over the works there. The 24 Hours of Prayer initiative was born from a meeting between Regional Prayer Coordinator Sandra Tibi and new Regional Director Jim Ritchie, who wanted to begin a new chapter of ministry in Eurasia with concerted prayer and fasting.





30th General Assembly

After studying the current impact of COVID-19 globally, the General Assembly Commission has postponed the 30th General Assembly to 2023.

