



# where WORLDS meet



the monthly newsletter for the church of the nazarene in eurasia

YEAR 13, ISSUE 3 • MARCH 2016

## NEPAL BLOCKADE OVER, MINISTRY CONTINUES



Despite the recent fuel shortage created by a blockade along Nepal's borders, Nazarenes in Nepal have persevered in their ministries, from church planting and JESUS Film to compassionate ministries and discipleship training.

By Gina Grate Pottenger  
Eurasia Region Communications

Nazarenes in Nepal have been persistently pushing forward in all their district's ministries across the country for the past year, in spite of a massive earthquake in April 2015 that devastated entire communities, and a border blockade that started in September 2015, ending in February 2016.

The border between India and Nepal was closed due to political disagreements. Because Nepal imports all its fuel through India, this created a fuel shortage. Additionally, unrest throughout Nepal added to ground transportation interruptions.

In spite of limited movement throughout the country, and resulting slower-than-expected progress in some ministries, the district organized 11

churches in 2015, with more than 700 new members received.

"Though we were able to organize only a few churches, we are not disappointed," said Nepal District Superintendent Rev. Dilli. "We rely on God and on His strength. We pray for His help and guidance as we participate in the works to expand His kingdom."

Church planting was less than had been planned, but is explained by the fact that workers diverted their efforts from normal activities into earthquake emergency relief and recovery programs, according to Rev. Dilli's report to the district assembly on 14 February. (Read more: <http://www.ncm.org/nepal-earthquake.html>)

Since then, the district has continued with its holistic ministry efforts, such

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as a new partnership with Humedica, a medical NGO in Germany, to sponsor 200 carefully selected families over three years to bring significant changes to their socio-economic status. NCM Nepal also is applying for funding to establish child-focused community development projects at four village development committees, a program expected to last 3.5 years. And the district is still working on long-term rebuilding for families in earthquake-affected areas.

### Effects of the fuel shortage

Jörg Eich, Eurasia Region coordinator for Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, visited Nepal recently, during the height of the fuel shortage.

"To visit a project site, it was only possible to go there through motorcycle because the Landcruiser uses too much fuel," Eich said. "When I bought fuel, it was about 3.50 euros per liter – very expensive. That slows down everything."

"If you want to travel from one place to another place, they have a protest on the highway and have blockage from cities to cities and towns to towns," Rev. Dilli said. "About 200 kilometers of highway links Kathmandu to the eastern part. The southern plain belt of Nepal was badly affected. Vehicles were not allowed to run in this section of the road and, if found, vehicles

“Am I wiser than these?”

## Interpreter turns district super- intendent

By Zee  
Gimon



For Zhanna Yugay, who believed that her own knowledge and hard work were enough to secure a foundation for her life, what began as a simple interpreting job became the start of a faith journey.

It was 1996 when South Korean missionary Michael Park came to Astana, Kazakhstan. In those days, in a nation climbing out of the ruins of Communism, religious activities and missionaries were rare and many people visited his church from curiosity.

During the first year, Park preached in the Russian language and, while he could speak it, he wasn't fluent enough to share the Good News clearly with the people. A solution to this obstacle had to be found.

Knowing that his friend Zhanna Yugay, whose parents were originally from South Korea, could translate from Korean, Park approached her with a proposal to become an interpreter, and she agreed.

Zhanna began to attend the Church of the Nazarene as an interpreter -- who did not believe in God. When she studied at the university in Saint Petersburg and later had practical lessons in Moscow, her friend showed her paintings of Jesus at the Tretyakov Gallery, but they never impressed Zhanna. Besides, no one talked about God with her, so faith was a foreign matter, and she knew she could

rely on herself.

Every day, Park prayed for Zhanna to be found by Christ, yet she relied mostly on her mind's abilities to translate the heartfelt sermons. She was not moved in her spirit by what she was interpreting for the congregation. It took two years since their meeting for the Good News to reach the heart of Zhanna.

Due to a flight delay, she stayed at a pastors' conference for two additional hours in Chekhov, in the Moscow region.

**“I asked God to  
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my life. I wanted to be  
in His hands.”**

**-- Zhanna Yugay**

All the missionaries and pastors prayed together on their knees and Zhanna pretended to do the same, while she actually watched everyone. It stunned her to see all these people being so honest and sincere in their prayers, some even with tears in their eyes. A question was born in her mind: “Am I wiser than all these people? Why do I cling to my own way?”

A verse she had heard from 1 Corinthians 1:25 came to her: “For the

foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.” That truth became the catalyst to Zhanna sincerely joining the others in prayer.

“I asked God to forgive me and told Him that He can have my life. I wanted to be in His hands and to live according to His will. I opened my heart to Jesus Christ and my life has never been the same ever since,” shares Zhanna. “There were times when I was overwhelmed with joy and people back in our home church came up to me and told me that I have changed somehow. Within a week, I became a different person. I realized that my reaction to things happening around me has changed, as if my world became brighter.”

Granted, everyday life goes on and Christian faith is not based on emotions only, so Zhanna strives to do everything she can for other people to see the Lord every day in her.

She says, “It's not easy. Actually, it would've been impossible if not for the Holy Spirit's support and strength.”

She became a pastor in 2001, after Park talked about the necessity for a local pastor for two years. Zhanna agreed with him, but did not think he was actually praying for her to be the pastor, instead thinking about other younger people who were active at the church.

“It was a Sunday, and before the



# NEPAL: Shortages limited work, life

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running there could be burned, damaged or destroyed by masses of protesters. This is the reason, there was no daytime bus services for people traveling to Kathmandu from eastern Nepal and vice versa for more than four months.... To avoid long and exhausting travel people needed to take flights."

As a result, various non-profit organizations have been struggling to help people who lost homes in the 2015 earthquake to rebuild with earthquake-proof materials and designs, according to Eich. The border closures meant that shipments of materials from outside Nepal has been delayed. With lack of fuel, delivery of those building materials within the country to reconstruction sites was often interrupted.

"The poverty in the area where the earthquake struck is even higher than before the earthquake, because of the destruction," he said.

## Moving forward

Fortunately, the fuel shortage did not seem to affect attendance at the more than 100 local Nazarene churches and the 12 child development centers because the buildings are within walking distance of their regular participants and activities normally occur during daylight hours.

The country's 15 JESUS Film teams continued ministering during the fuel shortage, but required extra persistence in reaching areas they'd chosen to share the film and invite new believers to participate in discipleship.

"Even in this situation, our team did not stop our task," wrote one JESUS

Film team in its monthly report. "We were inviting all village [residents] door to door [to watch the film.]"

Another team wrote about one JESUS Film trip: "The border has been blocked for a long time, so in these days no gas, no fuel in the whole country. No vehicles on the road. All Nepalese people have been suffering. We continued traveling eight and a half hours....Physically we became weak. When we reached the village it was so dark already."

People traveling to this village accompanied the team and helped them find the way in the dark. Then the team showed the JESUS Film with 150 people in attendance, and some expressed a desire to follow Christ, including the family who had guided the team to the village.

## Tough times in Kathmandu

Meanwhile, even in the best of times, electricity is often unreliable in Kathmandu, which means there are frequent power cuts to the Nazarene District Center. However, in those times, the center could rely on fuel-powered generators when government-provided electricity was off. Without consistent supplies of fuel, computers, phones and Internet were inaccessible for many hours of each day without the center's back-up generators, according to Dilli. For this reason, Eurasia Region Communications had difficulty reaching the center staff during the past several months.

"This really discourages not [just] me and my team and the staff in the center,

but this has discouraged a lot of people in the country," Dilli said (photo left), when power was on for a few hours on 10 February.

"Strikes and minor problems, this and that, it's very common over here. But border blockage we are facing this time, it's quite different and strange."

The two to three hours of electricity per day were unpredictable and might even happen in the middle of the night, meaning missed opportunities to charge dead cell phones and laptops. Many people in the cities and towns resorted to outdoor cooking over wood-fueled fire in order to eat. Yet, even this was not always possible: for families renting houses, there may not be enough space outside to cook. And rooftops were reserved for use by the landlords.

"Thus families living on rented houses had to find cooking places either on the roadside or in an open field," Dilli said. "More difficulties they had to face when there was rain and wind while cooking outside the house. Most of the time, families fed ready-to-eat junk foods, such as dry packaged Ramen noodles or potato chips, to their children before sending them to school. This situation compelled several families to leave their homes in the cities and towns and move back to their villages."

The district is developing a proposal for funding to install solar-powered energy panels at the district center, where the city is blessed with some sunlight nearly every day of the year. This will provide more consistent electricity so the staff at the center can work normal office hours and be able to communicate regularly with Nazarenes across the country and internationally.

## God-sized goals

On 14 February, the district held its annual assembly. In addition to the churches that were reported organized in 2015, the district has set a goal to organize 30 additional churches in 2016, and a total of 115 within three years. They also plan to start 45 mission churches this year, and build four ministry centers.

The Nepal Nazarene church has set a goal to train 300 people in disciple making movement and church planting in the next three years, and want to become a self-supporting national church by 2017. □



# East Mediterranean refugee work thrives

With Middle East countries hosting millions of Syrian and Iraqi refugees, many of whom have exhausted their savings and cannot work due to host country laws, churches of the Nazarene continue to hold ministries for refugees who have moved into their communities.

On 9 February 2016, one church launched a special ministry for mothers. A six-week mother's training will

discuss:

1. The role of parents
2. How to discipline your child
3. Trauma
4. Sexual abuse
5. Healthy food and healthy habits
6. Violence against women

The church also started a new children's club for children from 4 to 6 years old but who don't go to school. It

will be twice a week for 12 weeks. The teachers will give basics of English and Arabic languages, colors, numbers, etc.

These two projects are reaching the community and we trust God to reach the hearts. Your prayers are very important. Thank you for all your care and support for God's kingdom. □



Left: One church regularly distributes food packages to about 300 refugees. Below: A church gave away electric heaters to families struggling with winter cold.





# Eurasia missionaries commissioned by General Board

**T**rino and Anna Jara (photo top right) and Martin and Cezarina Glendenning (below right) were commissioned as Global Missionaries in the Church of the Nazarene at the 2016 General Board meetings held in Ede, Netherlands, on 29 February.

During a special evening service at the conclusion of the gathering, the Glendennings and the Jaras were joined by five other couples, all of whom have been journeying through a process as intern missionaries in various assignments in the Asia-Pacific, Africa and Eurasia regions.

The missionary candidates had five days of retreat and training sessions leading up to interviews by the Global Mission Committee of the General Board, as well as the denomination's six General Superintendents. The couples were asked about their personal testimonies, and sometimes other spontaneous questions, such as how they have experienced entire sanctification.

The weekend concluded with the service, during which time the candidates were presented to the board, several songs were sung together, Scriptures were read, and the General Superintendents laid hands on the missionaries to pray for them and their families.

Global Missionaries are understood by the denomination as people who have sensed a call from God to give their lives into full-time, cross-cultural ministry, using their unique gifts and talents and experiences to fulfill a specific assignment. These missionaries have agreed that they are willing to go anywhere the church sends them.

All candidates have several years of experience serving in their assignment before being commissioned.

The Church of the Nazarene denomination currently has sent out more than 700 missionaries, who are serving in about 40 world areas. About 40 percent of Global Missionaries originate from outside the United States. □



Trino and Anna Jara are serving in the CIS Field and in global NCM.



Martin and Cezarina Glendenning minister in finance and prayer.

**M**artin Glendenning, from the U.S., has served at the Eurasia Regional Office in Büsingen, Germany, as the regional finance coordinator.

He grew up the son of a Nazarene pastor. It was while studying for his accounting degree and involvement with several mission trips that he experienced God's call to missions.

While in Büsingen, he met Cezarina, who was studying for her BA in Theology at European Nazarene College.

Cezarina grew up in Albania, and found Christ through the Nazarene church. She moved to Florence, Italy, to study engineering and became involved in the local Nazarene church as a lay leader. While there, she fully committed her life to serving God and the church, and relocated to Büsingen to study for ministry at European Nazarene College.

In 2012, they were married. In 2015, Cezarina was ordained. She is the

region's prayer and fasting coordinator. Together they work with the youth of the Gottmadingen Church of the Nazarene on the Germany District.

Their son, Reuben, is about 18 months old.

Read Martin's testimony here: <http://engagemagazine.com/content/called-be-missionary-accountant> □

**T**rino Jara was born in Costa Rica, and found the Lord at age 15. He gave his entire life to God at a regional conference in the Mesoamerica Region. For 10 years he worked for different non-government organizations in Costa Rica. Then he gave 10 years as regional NCM coordinator for the Africa Region. In 2008, the Church sent Trino to serve in the Eurasia Region to lead compassionate ministries for the CIS

Field. Today, he has added the roles of Armenia District Superintendent and Eurasia Region Holistic Child Development (HCD) Coordinator, as well as global HCD coordinator for the church. He was ordained in 1997.

Born in Armenia, Anna gave her life to the Lord in 2009 during a church camp. She began helping with children's ministry at her local church, and as she deepened her walk with the Lord, she also was given more leadership experience. She took the role of district secretary, and district NCM coordinator.

In 2012, the Jaras were married, and Anna began her journey in missionary service. Today she continues as NCM coordinator for Armenia and as district secretary, and has added the responsibility of mission finance coordinator. She is currently studying toward ordination. □

# Download materials now for Easter offerings

CHURCH OF  THE NAZARENE



"The same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him."

Romans 10:12b

<http://www.eurasiaregion.org/nmi/promotion-information/world-evangelism-fund-promotion/>



OFFERING DATE:

(Put your date here)



A life-changing story has to be shared. We can't keep the gospel to ourselves, waiting for others to spread the hope we enjoy. Each time you give to the World Evangelism Fund, the message reaches further, through schools, church plants, mission hospitals, and more. When we join our gifts and prayers together, God uses our humble offerings, and new voices call on the **Lord of All**.





M+POWER  
EURASIA

Other upcoming training events:

- 3-5 August, Moscow
- 4-7 September, Hungary
- 9-11 October, India

# WHOM SHALL I SEND?

Be a missionary in the Eurasia Region!  
Find out more and apply now.

**[www.eurasiaregion.org/volunteers](http://www.eurasiaregion.org/volunteers)**

To explore your call or train for missionary assignment,  
visit the website to register for the  
Eurasia Mission Orientation. **9-12 May 2016, Hatton, Srilanka.**



*"I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things."  
— Philippians 3:8*

Do you have pictures of your church ministry in Eurasia that you would like to share with the region? Send them to [communications@eurasiaregion.org](mailto:communications@eurasiaregion.org) and we'll consider posting them on our Facebook page.

[www.eurasiaregion.org](http://www.eurasiaregion.org)

## ZHANNA: Served in local church

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service, I felt so light, and then Pastor Michael asked me to take the role, and I felt the heavy weight settle on my shoulders. For two days, I kept thinking of the reasons why I couldn't be a pastor. However, I did make my decision in the end."

Later, when a district superintendent

was needed, Zhanna was asked to be the interim superintendent after Park had to return to Korea. The other missionary, who was getting ready to assume the role, had trouble with documents and someone was needed in the meantime. Since she has spent many years working hand in hand with Park, everything was familiar to her. In 2009, the decision has been made by Gustavo Crocker, former Eurasia Regional director, that Zhanna would remain in the superintendent position, and she has been serving ever since. She is also the administrator of the EuNC Central Asia Learning Center.

Zhanna's life is an example of the importance of persevering in prayer for those who don't yet know the Lord. Although it took several years for Zhanna to recognize her need for God, Michael Park's prayers for her were finally answered. □

## Prayer Requests

- Please pray for Nazarenes and the people of Nepal, as they grapple with challenges that come with fuel shortages and unrest. Ask God to remove obstacles to ministry and to provide all the resources necessary for helping people rebuild after last year's earthquake.
- Please pray for Zhanna Yugay, as she leads the Central Asia District. Ask God to empower and anoint her for the work, along with believers throughout these countries.
- Pray for churches across the Eastern Mediterranean Field as they continue supporting and ministering to refugees. Ask God to pour out abundant resources for their ministry, as well as healing and restoration for the refugees.
- Pray for Martin and Cezi Glendenning, and for Trino and Anna Jara, as they continue their missionary service to the Eurasia Region. Ask God to anoint them with a special outpouring of His Spirit, to empower and encourage them for the work.

Where Worlds Meet is the monthly newsletter for the Eurasia Region of the Church of the Nazarene. To subscribe, e-mail [communications@eurasiaregion.org](mailto:communications@eurasiaregion.org) or visit [www.eurasiaregion.org](http://www.eurasiaregion.org).

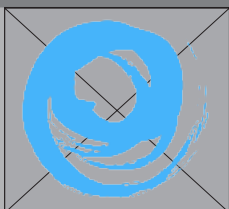
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