



FAITH IN ACTION

ISSUE #1, 2026

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Did You Know?

When visiting as a guest in Africa, local communities often expect you to sit at the front. Formal greetings are shared following local customs. First, the local leader - usually an area Chief - begins. This is followed by other local leaders, then guests, and then selected individuals on behalf of the women and men of the community.

If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?

1 John 3:17



Full Steam Ahead

Following our annual NCM Canada committee meetings in November 2025, and as we settle into the new year, "Full Steam Ahead," is the only way to describe the energy and enthusiasm we are experiencing at NCM Canada.

There are many inner workings constantly taking place behind the scenes that help to facilitate ministry activities. Often, in the midst of the busyness, God reminds us to stop, and be still, before taking the next step.

Ephesians 2: 10-11 states, "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

In Canada and around the world - God is at work! Do you Believe that? Can you see Him at work around you? Are you ready and willing for God to work **in and through you** in new and powerful ways?

This Newsletter features several exciting updates that we are happy to share with you. Thank you for being a part of this ministry through constant prayer, faithful giving, and willing hands.

We are the church that God has raised for such a time as this... and its full steam ahead!

In Unity,
Rev. Alan Cristales

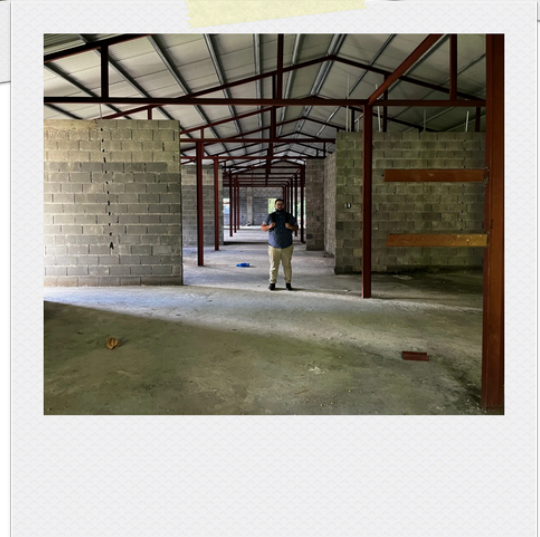
Rev. Alan visits Trinidad & Tobago

Opportunities for partnership unfolding in Meso America



Machaseh House is the name of a refuge home being constructed for disadvantaged, abused, and at-risk children. In partnership with Children's Authority (Government) and the local/district Church of the Nazarene in Trinidad & Tobago, Machaseh House will offer a safe home for up to 40 children between the ages of 0 to 12 years with wrap around support services in a Christ-centered environment.

Approximately \$365,000 USD is needed to complete the construction of the house, which began in 2019. Please join us in prayer as all involved discern the way forward.



In November 2025, Rev. Alan joined Regional NCM Coordinator, Rev. David Campos, and Regional NCM Holistic Child Development Coordinator, Marlen Soria, on an exploratory visit to Trinidad & Tobago.

A beautiful island, with a rich and vibrant culture, Trinidad & Tobago experiences significant challenges including high crime rates, drugs, economic dependence, corruption and a strained infrastructure. Regional challenges have resulted in mass migrations of people from surrounding countries to the island in search of a better life.

"The needs are great... but the heart is willing"

An NCM Child Development Centre, the very first in the Caribbean, is serving Venezuelan children and families in Port of Spain. A mobile Urban Ministry in San Fernando is building relationships and responding to the different needs of its surrounding community.

2026 marks **100 years** of ministry in Trinidad & Tobago! Check out their Centennial Celebration song on YouTube. Search for, *"We are Nazarenes", Nazarene Centennial Song, 100 Years in Trinidad and Tobago.*

Church Engagement



NCM Canada team members are happy to visit your local community, church and/or district gatherings to share about compassionate ministries. Recently, Rev. Alan & Yara had the opportunity to join London 1st Church of the Nazarene in Ontario at their annual Mission's Fundraiser Dinner. They shared about NCM Canada's work with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank and the holistic impact through Food Security initiatives. It was a fun and meaningful time together.

Grow Hope Markdale



2025 proved to be another successful year for the Grow Hope Markdale Project in Markdale, Ontario. A total of \$65,197.74 was raised overall. After paying farmer input costs (\$400 per acre x 41 acres), the net income was \$48,797.74. This amount has been sent and added to NCM Canada's account at Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB), enabling us to fund and implement significant Food Security initiatives through CFGB in places like Nepal. Planning is underway for the **30th** Grow Hope Markdale Harvest Celebration that will be held August 21 -23, 2026! More details to follow.

Annual Committee Meeting

Your national NCM Canada committee, along with staffing team members, met in person over several days in November 2025 to pray, reflect, discern, and plan for the following year of ministry. At these meetings, we welcomed our newest committee member, Rev. Geoff Holt from Woodstock Church of the Nazarene in Ontario, Canada. It was a productive, and purposeful time together.



Visiting Kenya & Malawi, Africa

Listening & Learning

In the fall of 2025, Rev. Mark Collins (National Director), Ruth (National office Administrative Assistant) travelled together to Malawi and Kenya, along with Nicole (NCM Canada Project Manager) who led them in a mini-learning tour. Learning Tours offer a meaningful opportunity to gain deeper insights into compassionate ministry, serve others, be spiritually enriched, and become inspired. When asked, "what is one takeaway from your visit to Africa that you would like to share with Canadians?" they responded with the following:



"My recent trip to Malawi and Kenya with an NCMC learning tour opened my eyes to the power of missions done well. I saw careful stewardship, strong training and grateful recipients. By helping families gain sustainable food, accessibility to water and education, these NCMC projects are building dignity, stability and lasting hope." -Ruth

"...These moments reshaped our perspective and deepened our understanding of what it means to serve. This journey reminded me that Matthew 25 is not simply a future expectation, but a present calling. When we respond to need with compassion and presence, we find that Jesus is already there —among the least of these." - Rev. Mark

Make sure to ask Pastor Mark and Ruth about their experience when you see them in your district. If you are interested in participating in a future NCM Canada Learning Tour, let us know so we can add your name to our Interest List.

Share Your Stories with Us

Across Canada, local churches, Compassionate Ministry Centre's (CMC's), and community events are making a difference. We'd love to hear about the ways your church is serving your community, and building God's Kingdom through compassion! Need help compiling a story or creating a short video? We're happy to help! Please send questions or submissions to Yara at ycristales@nazarene.ca.

Let's celebrate how God is at work through compassionate ministries in Canada!

Nazarene Compassionate Ministries Canada is a ministry of Church of the Nazarene Canada, a registered Christian charity (Reg. No. 12787527600001). Each gift will be used as designated, except where any given need has been met or when projects cannot be reasonably carried out, in which case, the donor agrees that the designated gift may be used where it is needed most.