

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

PASTOR DENNIS OWENS

JANUARY 28, 2024

MESSAGE: "GROWTH - THE UNCOMFORTABLE TRUTH"

REFERENCE: MARK 4:1-20

NEW TO STERLING NAZ? WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

1. Grab a RED Connect Card from the chair pocket in front of you.
2. Tell us your name, contact information, or share a prayer or praise.
3. If you are a guest, bring your card to the Welcome Center in the main foyer. We have a gift for you!

Please use the cards in the seatbacks to: Update contact information, get more information about volunteer ministry opportunities or share a prayer request or praise.

Email your prayer requests to Pastor Denny: prayer@sterlingnaz.com

WHERE DO MY KIDS GO?

The Children's Department is located downstairs in the main building.

If you need help finding it, a greeter will be glad to show you.

Measures are in place to keep your child safe.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (AGES 4-6TH GRADE) is located downstairs. The kids enjoy fun filled and interactive Bible stories, music, and activities.

NURSERY (BIRTH-3 YEARS OLD) is staffed and available downstairs. If your child is having a hard time adjusting, there is a system in place to notify you so you can come down.

MOTHER'S ROOM is available for caregivers just outside of the Main Worship area. Feel free to use it at any time.

GIVING STATEMENTS FOR 2023

are available in the main foyer TODAY, January 28.

Please pick up your statement and save us a stamp!



YOUTH CELEBRATE LIFE IS COMING

Saturday, February 24 @ 9 AM-4:00 PM

New Hope Church Princeton, IL

Cost is \$35 per student, Grades 7-12

Checks can be made payable to Sterling First Church

Questions? Contact Dalen Bradshaw, Youth Pastor:

dbradshaw@sterlingnaz.com

MUST REGISTER
ONLINE BY FEB. 1

www.nwilnaz.org

THIS WEEK AT STERLING FIRST

TONIGHT - Youth, 5:30-7 PM

Monday - Prayer Meeting, 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary

Tuesday - Ladies Bible Study, 2 PM,

- Pickleball @ 6:30 PM, HC

Wednesday - Kid's Wacky Wednesday, 6:30 PM,

- Ladies Book Club, Men's Bible Study, 6:30 PM in the HC

Thursday - 2nd Discussion for Strong & Courageous, 11:30 AM Sophies, RF

- Helping Hands, 9:30-Noon

Saturday - Men's Breakfast, A's Kitchen in Rock Falls, 8:00 AM

HC denotes Hatton Center (gymnasium bldg.)

A LOOK AHEAD @ 2024

THIS SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3 - Baby Shower Kayla Aguilar, 1-3 PM, HC

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4 - Collect Crisis Care Kit purchased items

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6 - Sunshine, 55+ Chili Cookoff, 12 Noon

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11 - New Single Ladies Small Group, 9 AM, HC

- Collect baby bottles for Hope Life Center

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24 - Celebrate Life, New Hope Church, Princeton

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 - Church Elections; Alabaster Offering

SATURDAY, MARCH 16 - District Convention, Peoria Nazarene

NEW SINGLE LADIES SMALL GROUP STARTING

Mary Bradshaw will be facilitating a weekly **Single Ladies Small Group** beginning Sunday, February 11 @ 9 AM in the HC.

This class is for ladies of all *ages who are single, divorced or widowed and are seeking a place to belong*. This group will gather together and dig into God's Word studying various topics.

If you are interested in attending or for more information, mark a Connect Card and put it in the offering.

Sunshine Ministry 55+ Chili Cook-Off

has been re-scheduled for ***Tuesday, February 6, 2024 @ Noon**.

Sign ups are in both foyers.

Please let us know if you are planning to attend!

***Please note this is a week from this Tuesday!**

STERLING FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs.—9 am-Noon & 1-3 pm

411 13th Ave Sterling, IL 61081

815.625.0864 | sterlingnaz.com | office@sterlingnaz.com

LEAD PASTOR Dennis Owens, dowens@sterlingnaz.com

CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR Erin Copling, ecopling@sterlingnaz.com

WORSHIP LEADER Tony Summers, tsummers@sterlingnaz.com

YOUTH PASTOR Dalen Bradshaw, dbradshaw@sterlingnaz.com

Sunday Gathering Times

9:00 am—Adult Sunday School

10:00 AM—Worship Service

5:30-7 PM—YOUTH

Wednesday Nights @ 6:30

Adult Bible Studies in HC

WACKY WEDNESDAY FOR KIDS

Main Building Lower level

Woods Memorial Library

Our church library has books and
DVDs available for you to borrow.

Open before and after service.

Helping Hands Food Pantry

1208 E 4th St, Sterling, IL 61081

1st & 3rd Thursdays 9:30-Noon

Drive-Up only

JANUARY 21, 2024 ATTENDANCE 129

	Contributions	2023-2024 Ministry Plan	Difference
Weekly	\$6,872.78	\$5,695.20	\$1,177.58
Y-T-D	\$271,350.04	\$267,674.40	\$3,675.64

BIBLE READING PLAN 2024

Jan 29	Exodus 13-14	Matthew 19
Jan 30	Exodus 15-16	
Jan 31	Exodus 17-19	Matthew 20
Feb 1	Exodus 20-21	
Feb 2	Exodus 22-23	Matthew 21
Feb 3	Exodus 24-26	
Feb 4	Exodus 27-28	Matthew 22

2024 READING PLAN

**Keep reading with
us, even if you get
behind!**



Events at Sterling Naz

Join us for a **BABY SHOWER**

Kayla Adams Aguilar

This Saturday, February 3,

1-3 PM,

in the Hatton Center

Kayla is registered at Target and Amazon

All ladies are welcome!

CRISIS CARE KITS are a cooperative effort between Nazarene Compassionate Ministries and the Nazarene Missions International. These kits meet needs around the world during times of disaster.

1. Grab a Ziploc bag with a shopping list.
2. Purchase items exactly as listed, bring them to the church by next Sunday, February 4.
3. Or you can make a donation and mark your gift Crisis Care.

Attention Ladies...

DISCUSSION TIMES FOR ONLINE BIBLE STUDIES

- **Strong and Courageous**, 30 day study facilitated by Jody Owens. Discussion group will meet Feb 1 & Feb 8 11:30 AM @ Sophies in Rock Falls

HOPE LIFE CENTER CHANGE FOR LIFE

Sterling First is partnering with Hope Life Center for the Change for Life baby bottle campaign.

Pick up a baby bottle from the foyer, fill it with cash, coin or check and return it to the church by Sunday, February 11.

Growth – The Uncomfortable Truth Mark 4:1-20

Where are you in this parable?

The Sower is ...

First and foremost is _____

Also, anyone who _____ Christ and shares the _____

The Seed is ...

The _____ of _____

The _____ of _____

The Soil is ...

The _____ and _____ of anyone to whom the _____ is shared

Anyone _____ to the _____

The Struggle, or Opposition is ...

Anyone or anything that _____ the _____, or _____ of the Word

Sometimes this is _____ and sometimes it is _____

There is an expectation of _____

In our _____ of the Word and in our _____ of the Word

There is no defense for _____