

# Owego Naz News

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## OIKOS and ALPHA – A POWERFUL COMBINATION

What makes you feel most inadequate about helping someone in your OIKOS come to know salvation through Jesus Christ?

You probably don't feel afraid to pray for them. You most likely feel fairly confident in building a natural relationship with them. For most of us, the thing that we find most intimidating is **the thought of explaining our faith to someone who doesn't yet understand it.** We wonder, *What if I get tongue-tied? What if they ask a question I don't know how to answer? What if I say the wrong thing and lead them astray?*

Those are legitimate concerns. They are what keep many of us from sharing the news about the Jesus we love with someone who doesn't yet know Him.

We want to help provide you a solution to those concerns. The solution is *Alpha*.

*Alpha* is a means of presenting the basic truths of the Christian faith to both non-churchgoers and new believers in a relaxed and informal setting. *Alpha* has been used as a tool in helping people meet Christ for over 25 years in 163 countries. *Alpha* is supported by all major denominations, including our own.

In *Alpha*, people enjoy great food, laughter and learning in a fun and friendly atmosphere. During each session, powerful videos help people explore the most important questions of life...questions like, *Is there a God? Who is Jesus? Why am I here? Where did I come from? Where am I going?*

*Alpha* is a great opportunity for you to invite someone in your OIKOS to come and discover the life-changing truths of the Christian faith. *Alpha* begins with an introductory dinner at our church on Friday night, September 10<sup>th</sup>. You can learn more about *Alpha* on our church website, [owegonaz.com](http://owegonaz.com).

I'm excited to see how God will be working through the exciting combination of OIKOS and ALPHA!

*Pastor Dennis*

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What Is Alpha?

Alpha is an opportunity for anyone to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed, nonthreatening setting over ten thought-provoking weekly sessions.

Who Is Alpha For?

Everyone is welcome to come and people attend for a wide variety of reasons. Some want to investigate whether God exists and if there is any point to life; others are concerned about what happens after death. Still others may have attended church on and off all their lives but feel they have never really understood the basics of the Christian faith. People come from many different backgrounds, holding many different viewpoints- but all come with the same objective: to establish whether Jesus Christ has any real relevance for their lives.

When Will Alpha Be At Our Church?

Introductory dinner and talk will be Friday, September 10, 2010 from 6-8.

The Course begins Sunday, September 12, 2010 at 6 o'clock

Plan to attend and invite your Oikos

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**CHOIR RESUMES SEPTEMBER 8TH at 6:15 PM**

**“Make a joyful noise unto the Lord...”**

**Interested? ....Join us!**

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**NAZARENE YOUTH INTERNATIONAL**

*Dorney Park/Camping Trip*

*Mark your calendars- August 27-28 we're headed south of the border for a night of camping (as in tents and s'mores) and a day of Dorney Park & Wildwater Kingdom (as in roller coasters and water slides). Reservations must be made and paid for by August 22, cost is \$32 per person. We will leave Friday afternoon and return Saturday night.*

*As always, be sure to check out [www.owegonaz.com/youth](http://www.owegonaz.com/youth) and our Facebook page for pictures, news and details!*



## BLOCK TIME

Building Lifelong On fire  
Christlike Kids  
Join Dr. Digalot on a Bible  
Adventure  
in I and II Samuel

Every Wednesday September  
2010 - May 2011  
Age K through 5th Grade  
Start Up Wednesday,  
September 15

## NAZ KIDZ NEWS

District Kid's Mission Encounter  
Saturday, September 18th 10:00 a.m.  
Christ Community Church in Syracuse NY  
We'll travel together  
\$3 Registration Required

Audience participation Drama and Music featuring  
all the kids... You'll make mission stories come  
to life!

Participate in a Compassionate Ministry Project  
Firsthand mission reports about the 2010 Haiti  
Earthquake

Hear life stories from Jon and Sally Mellinger, mis-  
sionaries to Africa

Poster and Writing Contest Opportunity. See the  
Naz Kidz Board for details

Prayer Emphases

Lunch provided. Meet new friends from across our  
Upstate District!

Let's Tune In Together at Christ Community  
Church!

UPWARD  
SPORTS  
LEADERSHIP &  
COACH  
TRAINING  
August 13-14  
Syracuse, NY  
Registration  
Required



Fifth ...Soon To Be Sixth  
Graders  
Parent/Child Camping Trip  
August 20-21  
Hickories Park  
Friday 6:00 p.m. - Saturday  
Noon  
August 22nd our graduated  
fifth graders will be moving up  
into Club 678 and become  
part of our Naz Youth group.  
That will bring lots of  
changes!  
Each soon to be sixth grader  
and their parent(s) are invited  
to a camping overnighter.  
It will be a time to laugh, play,  
eat and talk together.  
You're moving up and we  
want to help you explore all  
that might mean.  
Miss Cheryl and Pastor Andy  
will be hosting.

**Fall Family Potluck**  
**Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**12:30 - early afternoon**  
**Owego Naz Pavilion**

**Good Food, Lawn Games, Hayride, Laughter and Fun!**

**We need each other!** God thinks family is an awesome thing. **FAMILY** being you and your kids. **AND FAMILY** being God's family...you  
AND the family that sits next to you in church. **WE NEED EACH OTHER!**

As Christian parents we want our children to know and love Jesus as their Savior and best friend. That task is much easier to do if we  
partner together.

**WE NEED EACH OTHER!** Get to know other families who share your heart's desire to raise kids who know and love Jesus. Build  
relationships that will help your family stay strong in Godly character.

Sooooo plan on attending the Fall Family Potluck...

**Good Food** - bring a "meat dish" and another fruit, veggie OR dessert dish to pass No peanuts please

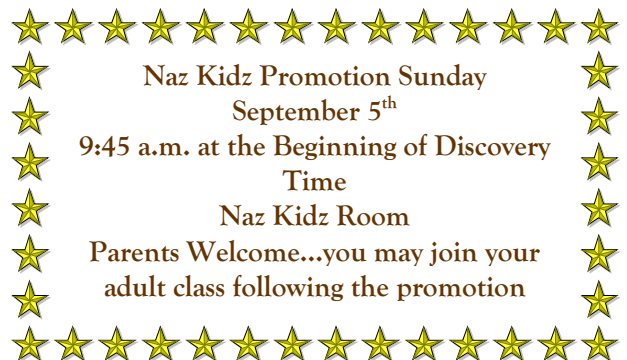
**Lawn Games** - croquet, bocce ball, wiffle ball, cornhole, others!

**Hayride** - ride the hay wagon down to the river and back

**Laughter & Fun** - Get to know each other and ENJOY FAMILY!



**World Changer Service**  
**Naz Kidz Choir Singing @ 9:45 a.m.**  
**Kidz Flag of the Nations March**  
**Mission Focus during Discovery**  
**Time @ 9:45 a.m.**



**Naz Kidz Promotion Sunday**  
**September 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**9:45 a.m. at the Beginning of Discovery**  
**Time**  
**Naz Kidz Room**  
**Parents Welcome...you may join your**  
**adult class following the promotion**

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU!

### Jim and Shirley Halton



By the time someone is in their sixth or seventh decade of living, the thoughts we think and the life we have led is pretty evident on our faces. When first meeting the Haltons, I was impressed with their open generous faces lined only with the evidence of years of smiles and real concern for others. How often my husband and I have said to each other that “When we grow up we want to be like them.”

Shirley was born into the ministry as the oldest of three daughters of a pastor. From an early age she was led to the Lord by her parents and was praying with and for the adults around her. Her musical talent was employed in church services, church organist, and even in the local ministry of Bible Lighthouse radio program. Shirley graduated from Houghton College and worked for the Evening Times as Society Editor before she was married. Jim proudly boasts that his wife was a gifted teacher working with children in Sunday School, VBS, and Children’s Church and later was a substitute teacher and ran a pre-school daycare called “Honey Tree” for 16 years.

Years serving as an altar boy in the Catholic Church exposed Jim to many God Things during his youth, but not a relationship with Jesus. That came when he went to Penn State and his roommate led him to Christ. And it really stuck! He made up for lost time

with involvement in Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship, daily prayer meetings, evangelistic services, and dorm Bible studies. One Christmas holiday while home from college he walked to North Waverly Chapel and received a warm welcome. Some in the church knew that Jim was a singer and he was asked to do some special music. Shirley accompanied all the specials so this put the two of them together for rehearsal. They wrote to each other often and after Jim graduated, they were married that summer.

In those post WW II days, Jim received a commission in the Navy through ROTC so he went aboard ship immediately upon graduation and was stationed in Little Creek Virginia where Shirley joined him following their marriage in August. They attended a large Christian and Missionary Alliance Church in Norfolk where they made many friends and in 1957 Jim was honorably discharged from the Navy as a LTJG (Lieutenant Junior Grade). They returned to the valley for a teaching job at Waverly High School, and of course, service to others in their church.

At North Waverly Chapel, both taught Sunday School and Shirley played the organ. Jim was elected to the board and later became a church Elder. Under Jim’s leadership as building chairman, a new church was built to hold the growing congregation and later a

large fellowship hall was added with more Sunday School rooms. As their three children became teens they started a group called Youth Time and later organized a large teen choir that did some traveling. Their home was often filled with kids following the Sunday evening services.

In 1979 Jim retired from teaching and took a job as New Product Engineer at Ingersoll Rand, Athens where he remained for 15 years. Their church work continued with Jim working as church treasurer, chairman of the pastoral search committee, co-chair with Shirley for the Centennial Celebration, teaching Sunday School and singing in the choir. But in 1999 seeking a new direction, they visited the Nazarene Church in Owego and immediately felt right at home. They loved the pastors and staff, the sermons, the music, the people who were warm and friendly and the strong

evidence that many were being saved and transformed.

These two church worker bees have felt a new call that had been neglected by them for many years—reaching out to children and grandchildren, neighbors, friends and relatives; in other words, a relationship ministry and I can’t think of anyone better suited! They host an annual neighborhood picnic, a Christmas cookie exchange party and they held an Alpha evangelistic class in the home. Shirley is involved in a prayer meeting with women from several churches, while Jim is president of Kirby Band and wants to represent the Lord there.

As two depression era babies, Jim and Shirley could play the “I’m too old/already done that/someone else’s turn card. But the closer we walk with Jesus, the more vibrancy our lives have to eagerly serve Him. Jim and Shirley’s one request is for prayer that they will be effective in reaching the lost around them. So may we all pray.



OWEGO NAZARENE  
CHURCH

3732 WAVERLY ROAD

OWEGO, NY 13827

[OWEGONAZ.COM](http://OWEGONAZ.COM)

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607-687-1932

WEEKLY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Sunday Services:**

**Sunday Morning Worship - 8:15 & 11:00  
AM**

**Sunday School Classes for All Ages -  
9:45 AM**

**& at 6:00 PM :**

**Pit Stop , LittleChurch, Evening  
Service in Chapel**

**Wednesday Services:**

**CLUB 678 - 6:30 PM & BLOCK  
Time - 6:30 PM**

**Gathering Place & Adult Prayer &  
Share Time - 6:30 PM**

**GROW/PRAY/SERVE**

**SEE US ON THE  
WEB:  
[OWEGONAZ.COM](http://OWEGONAZ.COM)**

**Church Staff**

Dennis King: Lead Pastor

Dave Barnes: Worship Pastor

Andy Fey: Youth Pastor

Cheryl King: Minister to Children & Their Families

Kathie Brainard: Leadership Team Secretary

Holly Klett: Church Treasurer

Carolyn Brink: Sunday School Superintendent

Larry Warner: Nazarene Missions International President

Phalen Hill: Nazarene Youth International President



**God's People Give**

Needed weekly for ministry com-  
mitments: \$9,166

Our average weekly giving for  
July:  
\$7,105

Our average weekly giving for the  
year:

(April '10–March '11): \$8,556



**9:45 AM**

**Every Sunday**

**SUNDAY**

**SCHOOL is**

**looking for U!**

**Greater  
love hath  
no man  
than this,  
that a man  
lay down  
his life for  
his  
friends.**

**John 15:13**