NMI Central

NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

21 August 2024

Eurasia Region



Spain

Over thousands of years, many peoples moved into what is now Spain, contributing to its varied culture. Spain's naval strength resulted in the exploration of the New World, bringing a vast treasure into its coffers. This power waned over the centuries, and changes of power were frequent. In 1931, Spain was declared a republic; however, a civil war brought the country under a dictatorship. Following the dictator's death, Spain transitioned into a democracy. The Church of the Nazarene established its work in Spain in 1981. Because of a mistrust of traditional, organized religion on the one hand and evangelicalism on the other, many Spaniards, especially young people, are highly secularized in lifestyle. With over 47% of the population in Spain aging between 25 and 54 years, the approaches taken by the church to minister in communities require wisdom and imagination. There are encouraging signs of walls of mistrust coming down in Spain, and the Holy Spirit is moving in fresh ways and in new places through the people of God.







532 Members

9 Fully Organized Churches

7 District Licensed and 5 Ordained Ministers on 1 District

PRAYER

- Pray for the churches in Spain, many of which meet in spaces that are now limiting the work because of space or noise issues.
- Pray that church leaders in Spain will be able to find suitable properties for church development and growth.



PRAISE

- Praise God for answered prayer during the 75th Anniversary year of Alabaster and the new church property in Zaragoza, Spain.
- Praise God for the doors opening in Spain to the message of scriptural holiness and the transformation that comes through Christ.



During the 75th Anniversary celebration of Alabaster, a video was released of Diego Lopez, district superintendent of Spain and field strategy coordinator for the Western Mediterranean Field, sharing the need for church properties in Spain that are not attached to other buildings or in flats or apartments of residential buildings. To see that video, click <u>here</u>.

You have been praying and God has been answering. On Sunday, May 12, the Church of the Nazarene in Zaragoza, Spain, inaugurated its new church building. The church has been a faithful presence in their community for the past 14 years and was outgrowing their current space.



The inauguration service was attended by pastors from across the Spain district who listened to the testimonies of faithful brothers and sisters looking forward to how God will use their church in this new location to make Christ known to their community.

The Zaragoza Church began as a church plant. It was the only church in Spain without its own building. The rented space limited church growth and prevented the congregation from registering as an official church in Spain.

When a building in the same community where the congregation was serving became available, the people knew they would like to move forward in purchasing the property. It was important to them to stay where they already had roots, and it is a neighborhood with lots of people and potential.

Additionally, a new missionary couple serving with the churches in this area are using Zaragoza Church as a space to centralize their work.

This project is a beautiful example of many parts of the church coming together. Alabaster funds helped the local church body purchase the property, along with the help of Mission Partnerships. What started as a church plant is now a fully organized church.

To learn more about Mission Partnerships, visit https://nazarene.org/teams/develop-partnership

