

Senior Pastor: Rev. Jamie McBride
Pastors Cell: 765-243-2910
Email: jamiemcbride45@yahoo.com

Church Office Hours:
Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00
p.m.
618-833-6702
Email: annanazsec@frontier.com



FEBRUARY 2017

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

Come Out from Them

*"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession,
that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."*

~1 Peter 2:9

As Christians we have a truly wonderful calling and identity. Just re-read what Peter describes us as! A few weeks ago we started a new study on Sunday night. We are journeying through the book of Joshua. As we do so we are examining how God moves us from where we are to where we need to be. If you have not been coming I would encourage you to make time to join and allow God to guide you through this incredible book that presents many life principles to help you through another year. We recently looked at chapter 3 and one of the things we find is the importance of consecration. We find as we study consecration that God was bringing the people into a "Holy" land he promised. God was calling the people to be holy to inherit something that is holy. Peter as well describes us as a holy nation. Next time we will be in Joshua 6 looking at how we overcome obstacles. But in this month newsletter I want to look at Joshua 5 and this topic of being holy.

When the Hebrews crossed the Jordan to occupy the Promised Land. God mark them through an act called circumcision. God said to Joshua, "Make flint knives and circumcise the Israelite men again" (Josh. 5:2). Circumcision was an outward sign of inward obedience. It was a physical act wrought with spiritual meaning. It was a very important means of marking their identity as the people of God. It revealed the covenant relationship that God had with his people. In like manner God calls us to a holy life as well. I like how 1 Peter 1:15 reads in the message "Let yourselves be pulled into a way of life shaped by God's life." The call to be a holy person means to be distinct and separate. It is a lifestyle representing or real, genuine, authentic likeness of Jesus Christ. So what does it mean and look like to live holiness?

First it means we think differently. As the Apostle Paul tells us "be transformed by the renewing of your mind" (Romans 12:2). We can think of Paul's words in Philippians 4:8 as characteristics of Jesus Christ in which if we think upon those things we will be thinking differently. Our lives will ultimately move in the direction of our strongest thoughts.

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Second it means to live differently. Our outlook determines our outcome. How we think determines how we live. Blaise Pascal wrote, "The serene, silent beauty of a holy life is the most powerful influence in the world, next to the might of the Spirit of God." If our thinking is transformed the natural outpouring should be a changed life. Henry Thoreau a New England individualist of the nineteenth century once went to jail rather than pay his poll tax to a state that supported slavery. During this period he wrote his essay "Civil Disobedience". Thoreau's good friend, Ralph Waldo Emerson, hurried to visit him in jail, and peering through the bars exclaimed: "Why, Henry, what are you doing in there?" And Thoreau replied, "Nay, Ralph, the question is, what are you doing out there?"

Third it means to love differently. As we live differently we will learn to love differently. This love is an outpouring as God's love is for us. This love is what Jesus talked about "By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35). Love one another, sincerely, deeply, and purely, and people will know that you are different. They will know that you are followers of Christ.

Fourth it means we talk differently. When we put the salt into our speech it makes it pure and properly seasoned meaning we must not allow "no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth" (Eph. 4:29, 5:4). Charles Spurgeon once said "As I often tell you, you may know the quality of the water in a well by that which is brought up in the bucket; so may we tell a Christian by his conversation."

Conclusion

In 2 Corinthians 6 Paul addresses the issue of similarity between a righteous person and a wicked person, the fellowship between light and darkness, an unbeliever and believer. In verse 17 referencing Ezekiel 20:41, Paul calls us to come out and be separate. When we think about becoming Christians like Ezekiel 20:41 states "I will bring you out from...and gather you in from... I will be proved holy through you in the sight of the nations." The world around us is watching to see if this will truly happen! Will God be known as Holy through us? We are brought out of the world and brought into the kingdom of God. We are God's chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession. Remember everyday our entire being must be so. Soren [Kierkegaard](#) said "Still more terrible, however, is the danger of going along with the crowd. In truth, there is no place, not even one most disgustingly dedicated to lust and vice, where a human being is more easily corrupted – than in the crowd."

YOU WILL NEVER INFLUENCE THE WORLD BY TRYING TO BE LIKE IT

With Love in Christ,
Pastor Jamie

SUNDAY SERVICES

Breakfast 9:00 a.m.
Pastoral Prayer 9:10 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:35 a.m.
Children's Quizzing 5:00 p.m.
 September - April 1st Grade - 6th Grade
Pastoral Prayer 5:40 p.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY SERVICES

"Family Bible Study" 6:30 p.m.
 1st, 2nd, 4th & 5th Wednesday of each month

Missionary Service 6:30 p.m.
 3rd Wednesday of each month

Children's Quizzing 6:30 p.m.
 September - April 1st Grade - 6th Grade

Check out our Website and Facebook Page at www.annanaz.com



Nazarene Missions
INTERNATIONAL



I have a big thank you for Yvonne Graham! What a comfort it was to hear, "don't worry about anything", I got this! When she volunteered to conduct the January NMI Meeting. It was a relief to know that she was taking care of everything. I hope everyone enjoyed the soup and I know Yvonne is an incredible cook and rarely lets anyone leave the table hungry.



The ladies of the NMI committee would like to challenge the gentlemen of our church to a chili cook-off. If you are up for the challenge bring your best chili to the fellowship hall on February 15 at 6:30 PM. We expect this to be your own effort and rely on your honesty to compete. The judges are Carla Ramage and Marva Wall and if there is a tie Nina Shepard and Verna Fuller will decide who will take home the prize. There is a sign up sheet in the foyer. Women, your job will be to bring your appetite and something that compliments the chili, such as soup, corn chips, cheese, or a desert.

The first Alabaster offering of the year will be collected February 26, 2017. Alabaster offering provides funds for property and buildings around the world. While we understand the church consists of the people of God and not a building, it is these buildings that enhance ministry efforts and convey an attitude that the Church of the Nazarene intends to "put down roots." Alabaster funds help provide land for many Work & Witness projects, and the entire Alabaster Offering goes toward the purchase of land and construction of churches, schools, medical facilities, and homes for missionaries and national workers. Adopted in 1949, the Alabaster Fund is still strong, having provided funds for more than 8,800 projects since its beginning. Faithful Nazarenes around the world have given nearly \$100 million dollars for this much-needed ministry.



Accessories

February

NMI is collecting accessories for Samaritans Purse. Hear what the children said about accessories they received in their box. *"I was always late because I lacked a watch. Opening my shoebox gift, I found one. Now I am always on time for school."*—Niyonkuru, Burundi. *"I am so happy! I cannot believe that someone from a different country would send me a gift of exactly what I like: rings and hairbows. I will keep going to church."*—Vanessa, Colombia.

Sarah Elkins, NMI President

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday-March 4, 2017

SISTERS IN SPIRIT LADIES SEMINAR

Guest Speaker: Jennifer Mathewson Speer

Grange Hall Free Will Baptist Church, 9950 Grassy Rd., Marion, IL
Registration 8:30 a.m. / Seminar 9:00 a.m. – Approx. 1:30 p.m.

Cost: \$15 (if received by February 15)

\$20 (If received by February 24th)

Sign-up sheet along with fliers will be on the church foyer table.

See Carla Ramage or Verna Fuller for more details.



MARK MURPHY is a graduate of Olivet Nazarene University.

A **Gospel Soloist** and recording artist, he was voted one of the top 5 vocal soloists at the National Quartet Convention's SOLO Contest. He also is an Ordained Minister and a Commission Evangelist.

Mark is a song writer and has many of his songs available on CD.

Recently he was miraculously healed of Stage 4 Colon Cancer.

Singing over 300 days a year, he has traveled extensively in the United States and into Great Britain, Wales, the Caribbean and Canada.

Vocal Soloist in special events over the years:

- Church revivals, camp meetings, retreats as well as many concerts
- General Assemblies and International Laymen's Retreats for the Church of the Nazarene
- Guest soloist on TBN
- Guest soloist at Bump Day chapel, Indianapolis 500 and at the Detroit Grand Prix chapel Detroit, Michigan
- Ministry in special memorial services for 9/11, TWA Flight 800 and for the Oklahoma City bombing victims (broadcast on CNN) through his song "I am Near"
- Recorded in Nashville, TN with Bill Gaither.

Mark's mission is to bring hope to the hopeless, bring healing to the sick and point each listener to the giver of all these things, Jesus.

Mark is married to Julie who is an oncologist nurse. They make their home in Selma, Indiana. They have 3 married children and 4 grandchildren.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS FEBRUARY 5

Special Music:	A.M. Betty Odum & Rin Ray	P.M. Randy Wright & Johnathon Cauble
Greeters:	A.M. Chad, Am & Abram Brooks	P.M. Richard & Yvonne Graham
Projection:	A.M. Verna Fuller	P.M. Sarah Elkins
Sound:	A.M. Stanley Elkins	P.M. Stanley Elkins
Video:	A.M. Michael Hill	P.M. Abby Barlow
Ushers: Matt Macy, Terry Wiseman Sr., Noah Wiseman, Curly Ralls		
Pastoral Prayer Partners: Bryan & Ginger Morrison, Kathy Papa, Leonard Sadler		
Nursery Worker/Helper: Vonda Hill/Madison Wright		
Finance Team: Stanley & Marilyn Elkins, Leonard Sadler		

MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS FEBRUARY 12

Special Music:	A.M. Patti Mulback	P.M. Judie Barnhart
Greeters:	A.M. Kathy Papa/Lottie Smith	P.M. Leonard & Connie Sadler
Projection:	A.M. Verna Fuller	P.M. Jason Elkins
Sound:	A.M. Brad Clayborne	P.M. Brad Clayborne
Video:	A.M. Jason Elkins	P.M. Clayton Ramage
Ushers: Curt Lyerla, Esten Parks, Jacob Wright, Phil Ray		
Pastoral Prayer Partners: Bryan & Ginger Morrison, Richard & Yvonne Graham		
Nursery Worker/Helper: Vonda Hill/Marie Mowell		
Finance Team: Stanley & Marilyn Elkins, Leonard Sadler		

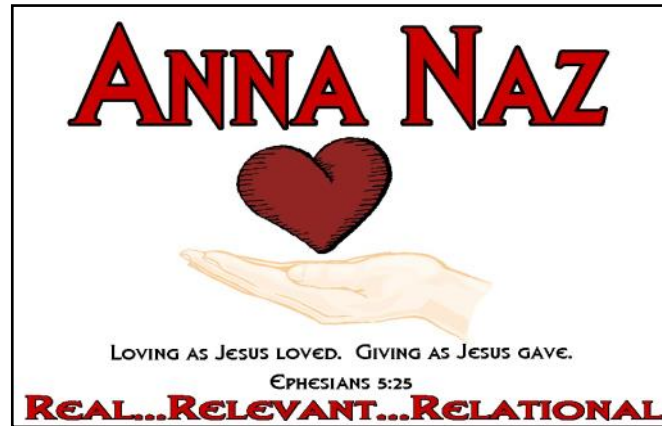
MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS FEBRUARY 19

Special Music:	A.M. Harley & Madison Schnaare	P.M. Curt Lyerla
Greeters:	A.M. Bryan & Ginger Morrison	P.M. Terry Wiseman Sr. & Noah Wiseman
Projection:	A.M. Verna Fuller	P.M. Verna Fuller
Sound:	A.M. Stanley Elkins	P.M. Stanley Elkins
Video:	A.M. Michael Hill	P.M. Abby Barlow
Ushers: Heath Brooks, T.J. Macy, Darrell Mowell, Mark Smith		
Pastoral Prayer Partners: Bryan & Ginger Morrison, Kathy Papa, Leonard Sadler		
Nursery Worker/Helper: Vonda Hill/Kerri Macy		
Finance Team: Stanley & Marilyn Elkins, Leonard Sadler		

MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS FEBRUARY 26

Special Music:	A.M. Jessica Elkins & Abby Barlow	P.M. Stanley & Marilyn Elkins
Greeters:	A.M. Darrell & Marie Mowell	P.M. Dorris & Joyce Johnson
Projection:	A.M. Verna Fuller	P.M. Sarah Elkins
Sound:	A.M. Brad Clayborne	P.M. Brad Clayborne
Video:	A.M. Jason Elkins	P.M. Clayton Ramage
Ushers: Robert Smith, Logan Wiseman, Chad Brooks, Dorris Johnson		
Pastoral Prayer Partners: Bryan & Ginger Morrison, Richard & Yvonne Graham		
Nursery Worker/Helper: Vonda Hill/Marva Wall		
Finance Team: Stanley & Marilyn Elkins, Dorris Johnson		

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Anna First Church of the Nazarene February 2017 Activities

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Family Bible Study 6:30 pm	2	3	4
5 AM-Communion	6	7	8 Family Bible Study 6:30 pm	9	10	11
12	13	14 Board Meetings Sunday School 6:15 pm Church 7 pm	15 Missionary Service 6:30 pm	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Family Bible Study 6:30 pm	23	24	25
26	27	28				