

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



# JANUARY 2018

## PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

### Refocus Your Focus

What you stay focused on will grow

I grew up pretty much my whole life with glasses. A couple years I need a small adjustment in one of my eyes. It was truly amazing the difference that little adjustment did. As we begin a new year I want to encourage us to refocus or make those adjustments we need in our spiritual vision.

In Hebrews 12:1-3 the writer helps us see some practical things we can do to help refocus our spiritual lives. I believe as we get our spiritual in the right focus it will affect our physical world. So instead of how to's lets refocus our spiritual walks and everything else will come in line with it.

Take a moment to read the scriptures I mentioned above. Often we allow sin and circumstance to blur our vision of the prize. Just as many have every intention of going to get new glasses when they need them we have every intention to live differently but do we? Let's look at 5 things that will help us our focus.

- 1. Surround yourself with other believers.** Hebrews 12:1 is a continuation of the summation of Hebrews 11. There are many who have gone before us and kept the faith and we should be encouraged by them. The Bible also calls us to walk with other believers and encourage each other. [1 Thessalonians 5:11](#) says, *"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up."* It's easier to keep focused when we are encouraged by the faith of those who went before us and when we are encouraged by the words of those around us.
- 2. Deal with things clouding your vision.** The writer states *"let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily hinders our progress."* Did you notice the word "ESPECIALLY"! It's what follows that really centralizes what we need to throw off. Sin weighs us down, hinders or stunts progress, and perverts our perception. Jesus even said whoever commits sin is a slave to it (John 8:34). But he goes on to say if the son sets you free you are free indeed. This means through Jesus and the Spirits power we can throw off everything that tries to entangle us. When we decide we want the chains of sin broken in our lives (see Romans 6:11-12) we break off what hinders progress and what perverts our perception allowing our vision to become unclouded. Remember: Starve your distractions and feed your focus.

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

**3. Our walk is a marathon not a sprint.** We need endurance in this race that God has marked out. Endurance or perseverance reminds us that we are in a race that will require training and every day execution. Consider some words from the Apostle Paul:

- *“Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it.”* (1 Corinthians 9:24)
- *“Holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.”* (Philippians 2:16)

Although we may not see our reward we do not run in vain! When we keep the marathon in perspective, our focus will be clear and we can rejoice as Paul did saying *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.* (2 Timothy 4:7)

**4. Keep your eyes on the prize.** The enemy desires nothing more than to keep your eyes off the supply. Jesus is the source of our faith and endurance to the prize. Listen to what Paul says in 1 Corinthians 1:8-9, *“He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.”* When we forget whom we are living for we forget why we are living. There are two things Jesus never lost vision on: His Father and His purpose. Because he is the author and perfecter of our faith we can keep our eyes on the prize.

**5. Keep your circumstances in perspective.** Listen to what the writer says *“Think about all he endured when sinful people did such terrible things to him, so that you don't become weary and give up.”* Well I guess we don't have an excuse to give up regardless how bad it gets! Yes circumstances can distract us but in light of what Christ endured our problems are small. When we keep our circumstances in perspective and remember all that Christ endured, it is easier to keep fighting.

As we begin a new year let's not stay complacent and accept blurry vision as “just the way it is” but let's spend time with the optometrist of Heaven and let him get our focus refocused.

With Love in Christ,  
Pastor Jamie

<p><b>SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES</b></p> <p>Breakfast ..... 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Morning Worship ..... 10:35 a.m.</p>	<p><b>WEDNESDAY SERVICES</b></p> <p>Family Bible Study..... 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Youth Group..... 6:30 p.m.</p>
<p><b>SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES</b></p> <p>Evening Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>MISSIONARY SERVICE</b></p> <p>Sunday, January 21 ..... 6:00 p.m.</p>

Check out our Website and Facebook Page at [www.annanaz.com](http://www.annanaz.com)



Nazarene Missions  
INTERNATIONAL

It's been an exciting year for missions at Anna Naz! We've "traveled the globe" as well as our own community. 2018 brings with it some equally interesting adventures, so make sure you come be a part of missions! In January, Joanne Blakley will not only be our guest speaker - but our chef as well! Bringing a message from her travels in Africa and a meal to match, you won't want to miss this "trip" and a chance to help her take God's word back to Africa again!

Special preparations are in the works for a video from Pastor McBride in February, and the winds of March will bring with them our International Missions Night with food and activities from around the world!

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..." Matthew 28:19

Tammy Vicenzi, NMI President

## Prayer Mobilization Line

**"Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel,  
because he has come to his people and redeemed them."  
Luke 1:68, NIV**

The Prayer Mobilization Line (PML) is a weekly publication focusing on the prayer needs and praise reports for the global ministries of the Church of the Nazarene and our missionaries. It is available in English and Spanish.

Anyone can subscribe to receive PML, free of charge, via e-mail on the NMI Web site ([www.nazarenemissions.org](http://www.nazarenemissions.org)). Printable versions of the current and archived issues of PML are also available on this site.

Please visit the PML Facebook page often as additional requests are regularly posted at [www.facebook.com/NMIPrayer](https://www.facebook.com/NMIPrayer)

## ***FOR THE NEW YEAR***

### ***A GIFT OF TIME***

*"So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom"*  
Psalm 90:12

If you had a bank that credited your account each morning with \$86,400.00 but at the end of each day canceled out whatever amount you had failed to use that day, what would you do?

Well, cheer up, every person on the face of the earth has such a bank.  
It's name is: TIME

Every morning it credits you with 86,400 seconds.  
Every night it rules off as lost, whatever you have failed to invest to a good purpose.  
It carries over no balance, it allows no overdrafts.  
If you fail to use the day's deposits, the loss is yours.

Invest in 2018, not just spend it.  
Let's make it truly a year of spiritual enrichment and service!

### ***NEVER A TIME***

*There's never a thought God doesn't know,  
And never an act He doesn't see.  
Every moment of our lives,  
He's looking after you and me.*

*There's never a pain He doesn't share,  
And never a joy He doesn't send,  
Never a cry He doesn't hear,  
And never a heart He can't mend.*

*There's never a wrong God doesn't right,  
Or noble deed He doesn't bless,  
Never a worthless soul to Him,  
Though it be clothed in shabbiness.*

*Never a dream He doesn't know,  
Never a hope He doesn't share,  
There's never a day when God forgets,  
And never a time He doesn't care!*

*~Grace E. Easley*

# OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

## MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS JANUARY 7

Special Music:	A.M. Children's Church	P.M. Stanley & Marilyn Elkins
Greeters:	A.M. Terry Wiseman Sr.	P.M. Richard & Yvonne Graham
Projection:	A.M. Verna Fuller	P.M. Verna Fuller
Sound:	A.M. Brad Clayborne	P.M. Jason Elkins
Video:	A.M. Clayton Ramage	P.M. Marshall Ramage

Ushers: Curly Ralls, Jacob Wright, T.J. Macy, Mark Smith  
 Nursery Volunteers: Herman & Jessie Wells  
 Finance Team: Jack & Nina Shepard, Carla Ramage

## MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS JANUARY 14

Special Music:	A.M. Betty Odum	P.M. Randy Wright
Greeters:	A.M. Kathy Papa	P.M. Leonard & Connie Sadler
Projection:	A.M. Verna Fuller	P.M. Verna Fuller
Sound:	A.M. Brad Clayborne	P.M. Stanley Elkins
Video:	A.M. Jason Elkins	P.M. Clayton Ramage

Ushers: Robert Smith, Matt Macy, Noah Wiseman, Terry Wiseman Sr.  
 Sunday School Nursery Volunteers: Mary Clayborne/Kathy Cook  
 Church Nursery Volunteers: Robert & Nancy Smith  
 Finance Team: Jack & Nina Shepard, Carla Ramage

## MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS JANUARY 21

Special Music:	A.M. Jaida Smith	P.M. Missionary Service
Greeters:	A.M. Terry Wiseman Sr.	P.M. Missionary Service
Projection:	A.M. Verna Fuller	P.M. Missionary Service
Sound:	A.M. Brad Clayborne	P.M. Missionary Service
Video:	A.M. Clayton Ramage	P.M. Missionary Service

Ushers: Curly Ralls, Jacob Wright, T.J. Macy, Mark Smith  
 Nursery Volunteers: Herman & Jessie Wells  
 Finance Team: Jack & Nina Shepard, Carla Ramage

## MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS JANUARY 28

Special Music:	A.M. Jack & Nina Shepard	P.M. Abby Barlow
Greeters:	A.M. Richard & Yvonne Graham	P.M. Leonard & Connie Sadler
Projection:	A.M. Carla Ramage	P.M. Jason Elkins
Sound:	A.M. Brad Clayborne	P.M. Stanley Elkins
Video:	A.M. Clayton Ramage	P.M. Marshall Ramage

Ushers: Robert Smith, Matt Macy, Noah Wiseman, Terry Wiseman Sr.  
 Sunday School Nursery Volunteers: Mary Clayborne/Kathy Cook  
 Church Nursery Volunteers: Robert & Nancy Smith  
 Finance Team: Jack & Nina Shepard, Carla Ramage

# ANNA NAZ



LOVING AS JESUS LOVED. GIVING AS JESUS GAVE.

EPHESIANS 5:25

**REAL...RELEVANT...RELATIONAL**

## Anna First Church of the Nazarene January 2018 Activities

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day Church Office Closed	2	3 Family Bible Study 6:30 pm	4	5	6
7 Communion PM Service	8	9	10 Family Bible Study 6:30 pm	11 Board Meetings Sunday School-6:15 pm Church -7 pm	12	13 Fellowship Hall Reserved
14	15	16	17 Family Bible Study 6:30 pm	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Family Bible Study 6:30 pm	25	26	27 Team Day at Salem
28	29	30	31 Family Bible Study 6:30 pm			