



NOVEMBER 2020

Praising on Purpose



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As part of Paul's final instructions in I Thessalonians, written to the fledgling church at Thessalonica were these words that help us to keep our lives centered in the grace of God regardless of our external circumstances: ¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray continually, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. ¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit (1Thess 5: 16-19).

If we read these instructions from the end to the beginning, we would have to conclude that the fastest way to quench the influence of the Holy Spirit in our lives is to become lax in the practice of prayer and thanksgiving.

Have you noticed that prayer takes practice? Most people are not naturally good at it. We have to determine that we are going to pray, even when we don't feel like it and even when we are busy doing other stuff. We have to practice praying through our sorrows and praying when we are sturdy and satisfied. Most of us have looked to some helps and teachers along the way who can share their patterns and insights to help us to pray better. I know very few Christians who are satisfied with either the duration or the quality of their prayer lives. Therefore, we determine to "practice," because practice makes better.

You know what we need to practice more than prayer? Well, according to Paul, he points to rejoicing and thanksgiving twice while he points to prayer only once. Maybe he does this because Paul knows that it is twice as hard to "rejoice always" and to "give thanks in all circumstances" than it is to "pray continually." Therefore, we must also, and especially, practice being grateful, thankful, joyful, and content. Doing so may require that we deliberately choose a pattern of positivity even when we don't feel like it, when we are too busy, and when we don't get our way.

This month will give us lots of opportunity to practice both prayer and positivity. Between COVID and the election, we are sure to be disgruntled by something. Adding to those will be our normal set of pains and sorrows, including health, grief, disappointment, and dissatisfaction. Every day will present us with something to cause us not to want to talk to God and not to want to be happy with our circumstances. Frankly, some people will even grumble their way through the Thanksgiving feast.

So, what's the big deal if we don't practice prayer and positivity? Well, Paul understood that the best way to quench the Spirit in your life is to quit talking to God and to put on your grumpy mask. I suppose that is why we see so few Christians living in the power of the Spirit. He is there in their hearts; but, His influence has been completely quenched because we do not practice the things that give Him influence in our lives. And, if we quench the Spirit, we will never get to the promises of verses 23-24: ²³ May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it."

God will do in you what He has promised if you will do what He has asked. Be joyful, be prayerful, be thankful. **You will never have a better time to practice these things than today.**

Dr. Larry Lacher



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New Mexico District Leadership Retreat November 14, 2020

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REVISED ZOOM MEETING!!!!

Our Leadership Retreat will be using a zoom format this year. It will feature Hal Perkins who will be talking about discipleship. Because it is on zoom, pastors, pastors in training, staff members, and local church boards and leaders are welcome to join us. Below is the information you will need.

Saturday Nov. 14 at 3:00 p.m.: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87618788720?pwd=bGpodVA4WEVmYWcwYWNLTHd4dnQrZz09>

Saturday Nov. 14 at 7:00 p.m.: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89890264878?pwd=ZUVMcFJXSXYyaVBKQVdmZWlxYzMyQT09>

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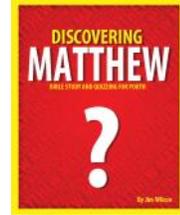
It is with heavy hearts that we announce that Paul Baker was gathered into glory Paul faithfully pastored our Mountainair Church even while his Colon cancer returned. The cancer continued to spread until it was medically unmanageable. There will not be a Service for Paul per his request. Please remember Judy, the Baker family and the Mountainair church in your prayers.



Don't forget that our next quiz is in just 1 week, on Nov 7 and we will cover chapters 1-10. More info to come on that. On to results of Oct 1;

Team

- 1st place – Cornerstone Jesus Freaks (LL Cornerstone & Hope Springs)
- 2nd place – Heights
- 3rd place – Sealed in Stone (Living Stones)



Individual

Rookie - Carissa Arpelar, Aztec

- 1st place – Allison Storch, Cornerstone
- 2nd place – Josiah Hurst, Heights
- 3rd place – Erika Cooke, Living Stones
- 4th place – Merrilee Martin, Hope Springs
- 5th place – Carissa Arpelar, Aztec

Memory Master – Allison Storch, Cornerstone (Quoted all 33 verses)

This is the 2nd quiz where all 5 churches are represented in the top 5 quizzers. I love seeing that. We ended up with 79 verses for today. That puts us at 83 for the year so far.



OFFERING OF THANKS — SUNDAY NOV 26



EVERY MONDAY Dr. Lacher leads a Leadership ZOOM for our ministry leaders at 2 different times to better fit your schedules. 10:00am and 7:00pm

The Monday 10:00am link is: <https://zoom.us/j/678230148>

The Monday 7:00pm link is: <https://zoom.us/j/598220646>

EVERY THURSDAY EVENING AT 9:00PM Dr. Lacher is leading a Prayer Meeting on Zoom. Everyone is invited to be a part of this worship in prayer.

The ZOOM meeting link is: <https://zoom.us/j/338982217>

If you already have the ZOOM app just select: Join a meeting and enter the numbers.



Nov. 21-22, 2020 Midnight to Midnight



The Board of General Superintendents are hosting a **Global Service of Thanks**. This special service will include components from all across the globe. You can check out information at <https://www.nazarene.org/service-of-thanks>. **There will be services every hour of the day.** You don't want to miss this amazing service opportunity! **_This service will air on Nov. 21-22 in a live-stream format in five different languages. I encourage you to use this one-hour service on Thanksgiving Sunday as a way to join our entire global church in giving praise to God for his love and goodness.** You may also link to it with your own media accounts.

One of the beautiful aspects of the Church of the Nazarene is that we are mobilized all over the world. Workers are in hundreds of nations working as the hands and feet of Jesus to their neighbors. What an amazing gift to be able to continue to reach the lost and hurting during this time of Covid and Quarantine. Please be in prayer for the workers in the harvest field all across the globe. God is moving and lives are being changed by the truth of Jesus Christ and his salvation for all.

I would love to hear from all of you about the work you are doing in your local areas to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Please email me at nmmipresident@gmail.com. I would also love to see pictures if you have any to share. I want to celebrate and pray with you as you reach your neighbors and those searching for something authentic about Jesus and the truth of His salvation.

The Church of the Nazarene is mobilized. **We are in 162 nations and have victorious warriors on the ground.** COVID has not stopped the Church of the Nazarene! Be in prayer for each of them as they minister and reach out to the people in their communities. If possible, send gifts of support to help mobilize more of the Church for the Glory of God.

When you contribute to the World Evangelism Fund, you are part of the mission of the Church of the Nazarene. To date, our district has given \$63,140.15 to the WEF. this is amazing! Keep up the faithful giving, church!

Joyfully,
Nicole Young
nmmipresident@gmail.com

*******W.I.M.*******

Women in Ministry Virtual Fellowship—NO ZOOM UNTIL JANUARY 2021!!

*****Saturday January 23, 2021—1:00pm** We will enjoy a time together on Zoom.

NOTE TIME CHANGE

Meeting ID on zoom ; 831 5944 5875

Passcode: 806233

Invite link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83159445875?pwd=S1jCOXMya0JOUmFhYnlGMVKUT09>

This Fellowship is for all our Women in Ministry— Ordained, Licensed, Pastors, Pastor's wives including Staff. If you have not received an invite to this then I don't have your email address. PLEASE send it to me ASAP. lacherlisa@yahoo.com Looking forward to seeing you all in January!!

Lisa Lacher

Comings and Goings of our Pastors on the NM District



WELCOME!!

Rev. Chris Tiner, Stephanie, and family are settling in at Lovington. Stephanie has already begun working in the Lovington School system as the 2nd & 3rd grade music teacher. We are so excited to have them on our New Mexico district!

LOOK AT WHATS GOING ON IN OUR CHURCHES EVEN DURING COVID! THE CHURCH IS NOT BEING SILENT



Our Harvest Celebrations at Mesa Del Sol and Sandia Valley Church were a success as we welcomed over 300 people to enjoy pumpkins, goodie bags, door prizes, free childrens books and COVID safe fellowship. The weather was excellent and our Church and its partners worked hard to give our communities a Christ filled experience.

Pastor Pattie



Silver City CON hosted their **"HOLY WEEN PUMPKIN NIGHT"** The kids were to carve Christian Figures on the pumpkins!! What a wonderful evening of fun and laughter.

Pastor Earseye



SDMI

Pastors and SDMI leaders, below is a message from Tamara Bailey, our Adult Ministries Leader.

I sit here watching as the COVID numbers continue to rise and wonder how much longer before closures start happening again. One thing we as a church must realize is that NORMAL has changed. Life may or may not return to what we used to enjoy. How do we prepare for what may lie ahead?

At Angus Church of the Nazarene, we started live streaming our services in August of 2019. We wanted those who were sick/invalids to be able to watch and be a part of the service when they could not be there in person. We started with a cell phone and a stand. We increased our abilities each week to get the best angle and sound. We posted to Facebook Live and then we added You Tube since not everyone had a Facebook account. Little did we know what was coming. And then it happened—COVID. While we all went into quarantine, the pastor and the person filming continued to post. The message of Life and Hope continued at a time when we needed it most . . . and the numbers grew! First, just 50-60, then a couple hundred, then a couple thousand. All around the country, people started tuning in. They were looking for the Hope we had.

I don't know what is coming, but I believe God wants us to be prepared. All of our churches should be streaming their services, Sunday School, Children's messages, Youth messages, etc. You can start with what is in your hand—a cell phone and a stand. We want to show you how to reach those outside your church building. Would you give us an opportunity to show you how easy it is to start?

Please get this message out to anyone who may be interested in helping with this ministry in your church. Teenagers are particularly good with this since they usually are already using this technology for other purposes. We want to offer an online seminar to get you started. Please contact Mark Asplund or myself with contact information (preferably name and e-mail) for those in your church who would like to learn how to broadcast their service, class, etc.

Best regards,

Rev. Tamara Bailey

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LOOK AT WHATS GOING ON IN OUR
CHURCHES EVEN DURING COVID!
THE CHURCH IS NOT BEING SILENT

Continuing Lay Training

We have been teaching courses as we have partnered with Discipleship Place's CLT courses since 2017. Our Lay Students and Leaders have received instruction in Nazarene Core courses to include, Spiritual Formation, Old and New Testaments, History and Polity, Communicating the Gospel, Children's and Youth Ministry. Multiple Webinars and training videos. We recently completed How to Study the Bible. We first taught this course in 2017 with 11 students from the Mission Training Center Campus, recently we enrolled 34 Students representing 8 Nazarene Congregations! Twenty-nine, Certificates of Completion were given to our students on Oct 15th in a Zoom Wrap up Session. The Wrap Up Session included greetings from Nazarene Headquarters, John Comstock. Our Lay Leaders, Brenda Esparza, Pamela Gonzalez and Helen "Nina Kurth" led small groups in Hybrid/Zoom class instructions. They "Interned" as instructors. They will be completing their Lay Leader Core Courses Winter 2021 with the John Wesley Theology course. Each Lay Leader will continue studies in the area of their calling. Even though the classes are designed for individual study, we have been given permission to teach each course in a classroom setting, which builds community and support for all.

Faculty members include, Rev Patti Rivas, Rev Arthur Pacheco, Rev Bianca Rivas.



Congratulations to Barbara Wilson Of Belen Lighthouse
Certificate for CLT course How to Study the Bible

ALABASTER UPDATE

September was our Alabaster emphasis month. To date, our district has sent in \$1211.53 for the Alabaster offering. Remember that Alabaster is one of our Five Areas of Focus for NMI. The cool thing about Alabaster is that there is no amount too small. Send your Alabaster in to our District Secretary or directly to the Funding the Mission website to be part of this Kingdom changing offering! Funding the Mission is a convenient way to contribute to NMI and also to keep track of your church's participation in NMI. Check it out at fundingthemission.org

THANKSGIVING OFFERING

November brings about the opportunity to contribute to the Offering of Thanks, which goes directly to the WEF. You can find more information and promotional materials at: <https://nazarene.org/article/offering-thanks-allows-us-share-christs-love-around-world>

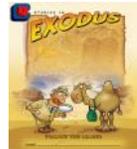
I would LOVE to hear from you about how your church family is reaching out to your communities, especially as we head into the holiday season. If you have any testimonies, stories, or pictures, please email me at: nmnmipresident@gmail.com

I look forward to hearing how God is moving across the NM District during this season of COVID and quarantine.

I appreciate each and every one of you! I am praying for you as you seek God's plan for your churches and outreach!

Joyfully,
Nicole Young

Children's District Quiz Results 10/12



Blue Level

Placing	Name	Score	Church
1st	Mallorie Ford	300	LSCC
2nd	Kalvin Nebris	295	El Paso Trinity
2nd	Abbi Hurst	295	Heights
2nd	Evan Young	295	Carlsbad
2nd	Charise Young	295	Carlsbad
3rd	Madison Strange	290	LSCC
4th	Abbie Compton	285	Heights
4th	Adah Young	285	Carlsbad
5th	Annabelle Bloomquist	280	Heights
5th	Melody Ybabben	280	Carlsbad
6th	Jeminye Ortega	260	Sandia
7th	Brennan Myers	250	Sandia
7th	Cayla Keller	250	Carlsbad
8th	Alex Byerly	245	La Vista
9th	Bree Laughlin	240	Carlsbad
10th	Iris Loftis	235	Carlsbad
10th	Javan McCord	235	LSCC
P	Jeminiz Ortega	230	Sandia
P	Keilah McCord	230	LSCC
P	Leon Ortega	215	Sandia
P	Rosalynn Martin	215	Heights
P	Cassie Keller	200	Carlsbad
P	Lathan Ingram	190	Carlsbad
P	Leah Ingram	180	Carlsbad
P	Janay Gibson	165	Carlsbad
P	Ruben Diaz	160	La Vista
P	William Cooke	150	LSCC
P	Dahlia Rivera	105	Sandia

Red Level

Placing	Name	Score	Church
1st	Rhett Ford	220	LSCC
2nd	Scarlett Donahue	205	LSCC
3rd	Nate Hurst	195	Heights
4th	Trenton Strange	190	LSCC
4th	Genevieve Anderson	190	La Vista
5th	Ben Compton	185	Heights
5th	Joshua McCord	185	LSCC
5th	Jeremiah McDuff	185	Los Lunas
6th	Jonah Byerly	160	La Vista
6th	Dorothy Martin	160	Heights
7th	Maddie Bloomquist	150	Heights
8th	Kit Kat Ortega	140	Sandia
8th	Annabelle Yocom	140	Carlsbad
9th	Zaina Mlelewa	135	Sandia
9th	Joy Anderson	135	La Vista
10th	Alyssa Carmona	130	Sandia
P	Myles Yocom	125	Carlsbad
P	Elizabeth Carmona	110	Sandia
P	Lyrical Loftis	105	Carlsbad
P	Neema Mlelewa	100	Sandia

Update: Kalvin Nebris score should be 290. 3rd place