

**Those Serving This Week:**  
**Announcements:**  
Wayne Schultz

**Lord's Table:**  
**Presiding:**  
Tony Ward

**Serving:**  
Bob McAlister  
Ryan Thornsberry

**Song Leader:**  
Ron Schultz

**Scripture Reading:**  
AM – Nick Ward  
PM – R.W. McAlister

**Sun. Bible Study Prayer:**  
Ron Schultz

**Opening Prayer:**  
**Sun. AM** – John Shelton  
**Sun. PM** – Bob McAlister  
**Wed.** – R.W. McAlister

**Closing Prayer:**  
**Sun. AM** – Wardell Barnhart  
**Sun. PM** – Jesse Phillippe  
**Wed.** – Ryan Thornsberry

Anna Church of Christ  
104 Nile Street  
Anna IL 62906

### The Way We Affect Others

We may not always realize that everything we do,  
Affects not only our lives, but touches others too.

A single happy smile can always brighten up the day,  
For anyone who happens to be passing by your way.

And a little bit of thoughtfulness that shows someone you care,  
Creates a ray of sunshine for both of you to share.

Yes, every time you offer someone a helping hand,  
Every time you show a friend that you understand,

Every time you have a kind and gentle word to give,  
You help someone to find beauty in this precious life we live.

For happiness brings happiness and loving ways bring love,  
And giving is the treasure that contentment is made of.

- Author Unknown

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#### *Gauging Our Faith Last Week*

Sunday Morning: 35

Sunday Evening: 29

Wednesday Evening: 31

\*Were you counted among these numbers?\*



## Nile Street Notes

*Anna Church of Christ*  
104 Nile Street, Anna, Illinois 62906  
833-5815

**Website: [www.annachurchofchrist.com](http://www.annachurchofchrist.com)**

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Jan. 6, 2013

### Welcome to the Anna Church of Christ

#### **Elders**

Wayne Schultz - 697-5477  
John Shelton - 833-5090  
Ryan Thornsberry  
(573) 339-1633

#### **Deacons**

R.W. McAlister  
Robert McAlister

#### **Preacher**

R.W. McAlister  
618-697-0351

Email: [rwmcalister@hotmail.com](mailto:rwmcalister@hotmail.com)

#### **Office**

618-833-5815

#### **Services:**

##### **Sunday**

Bible Study 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship 5:00 p.m.

##### **Wednesday**

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

##### **Television Programs**

*In Search Of The Lord's Way*  
Ch. 49, Sunday, 7:00 a.m.  
*A Bible Answer*  
Heartland's CW (Dish ch. 9),  
Sunday, 8 a.m.

##### **Newspaper Ministry**

*The Preaching Pen*  
Gazette Democrat

#### *Thoughts On Worry*

Worry is the interest paid by those who borrow trouble.

Worry is stewing without doing.

Worry is like a rocking chair—it will give you something to do, but won't get you anywhere.

Sleepless is the man who is too busy to worry in the daytime and too sleepy at night.

Sign in a business executive's office: "The fellow who worried yesterday about tomorrow isn't here today!"

Worry doesn't empty the day of its trouble, but only its strength.

If you cannot help worrying, remember that worrying can't help you either.

A person can't change the past by worrying, but he sure can ruin a perfectly good present worrying about the future.

You can avoid a lot of sorrow if you'll work today and worry tomorrow.

If these quotes don't tell you enough about the danger of worrying, then listen to Jesus: "...do not be worried...why are you worried...Do not worry...do not worry..." (Matthew 6:25-34). So what should we do when trying times enter our lives? "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness" (v. 33). When we commit ourselves to serving God, we can leave our worries behind.

- From *THE SOWER*, a weekly publication of the Arthur Church of Christ, Arthur, IL

*Though Your Sins Be As Scarlet...*

You may be tempted to hit me for saying this, but I like snow. I like to watch it fall, as it did in the wee hours of the morning on Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>, I like to watch it accumulate and cloak the landscape in a seemingly endless blanket of white, and I like to go out with the kids and play in it. I'm very fond of the quiet that accompanies a thick covering of white snow. The only things I'm not especially fond of are shoveling a lot of snow and driving on snow-packed roads.

Snow is mentioned numerous places in the Bible, and here's the significance of it in Scripture: the *color* of the snow, white, is used as an indicator of purity, brightness, and glory.

The color white represents the absolute moral purity of God (Dan.7:9), Christ (Rev 1:14; Mark 9:3), angels (Mark 16:5; Acts 1:10), and believers (Rev 2:17; 3:4-5; 4:4). It indicates the certainty of God's conquest and victory over evil (Zechariah 6:3,6; Rev 6:2; 19:11). Of equal importance, it depicts complete forgiveness of sin.

David and Israel's bloodguilt would be fully removed, leaving them whiter than snow. Ps. 51:7: "*Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.*" David is essentially saying to God, "You instructed that hyssop and running water should be used to cleanse a leper (Lev. 14:1-8). Lord, what am I but a moral leper? Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow."

Isa. 1:18: "*Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow, though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.* <sup>19</sup>*If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: <sup>20</sup>But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.*"

Isaiah's appeal to come and reason together demonstrates God's invitation to all men (Mt. 11:28-30).

Notice that sin is described here as being scarlet and red like crimson. The colors indicate the crimson dye of the scarlet worm, which is indelible, or permanent. "Crimson" also refers to their blood-guilt before God. David pled for cleansing. The changing of colors from "permanent" red to snowy white is symbolic of the life-changing grace of God. God stands ever-ready to cleanse us and to forgive us when we turn to Him (II Pet. 3:9; I Jn. 1:9). Also, the destiny of the people of Israel was in their own hands. If they were willing to repent and be obedient, they would eat the good of the land.

On the other hand, rebellion brings certain judgment. The statement, "for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it" indicates the authority with which God has spoken.

Dear Reader, are you willing to be obedient? Have you repented of past sins? Wouldn't you like the crimson stain of sin to be cleansed from you, replaced with a snow-white robe? Repent – turn from your past sins, confess your faith in Christ, and let God wash away your sins in the water of baptism. "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow," if only you'll respond to the Lord in obedience.

- R.W.

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\* Thanks to this congregation for an excellent 2012 and for helping make my ministry so joyful. May we all work together in 2013 to the further glory of God. – R.W.\*

**SERMON TOPICS**

A.M. – "New Beginnings"  
(Phil. 3:13-14)

P.M. – "Science and the Bible" – Part 1  
(Jer. 33:22)

**Those For Whom We Are Praying:**

Mellie Karraker – Lutheran Home in Cape.  
Carlos Wright – Carlos is in Anna Rehab,  
room 8.

George & Dawn Lackey

Wardell Barnhart – Difficulty breathing.

Brenda Phillips – Kris' cousin. Has renal cell  
cancer in her lungs and trachea.

Rosemary's family: Katie Bauer has stopped  
her chemotherapy. Mitchell Shock (age 4)  
has terminal cancer. Breanna returned home  
New Year's Eve. Still awaiting kidney stone  
surgery.

Ron Pind (friend of Cliff Thomas) – cancer.  
John & Dawn Bradley – Scar tissue from  
appendectomy is causing Dawn some  
difficulty.

Larry Bell – recovering from knee surgery.  
Renee's dad - in St. Francis hospital having  
fluid drained.

**Welcome!** If you're visiting with us, we extend to you a special welcome and invite you to come back at every opportunity. If our worship seems unusual to you, please let us know what you find different. We endeavor to worship "in Spirit and in truth" (Jn. 4:24) and do only what scripture authorizes (Col. 3:17, Deut. 4:2; Rev. 22:18-19).

**Quotable Quote:** "Though no one can go back and make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending." – Carl Bard

**Wisdom From Proverbs:** "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Prov. 20:1).

**NEWS & UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

\* **Please remember to mute or turn off cell phones. Also: If you must take a phone call, please step outside the building so as not to disturb those who are worshipping.**

\* Items needed for the food pantry: canned meats, pineapple.

\* Let's make plans for a congregational prayer breakfast (all invited, men will offer prayer). It looks like the 12<sup>th</sup> will work best for the majority. Let's plan for a future date that will work for even more of us and we'll do it again.

\* Sermon suggestions or Bible questions? Feel free to put them in the Question Box in the foyer.

\* Ladies' Bible class will meet Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> at Olive Garden in Cape at 6.

\* Today is potluck Sunday. Please stay & take part!

\* Men's Bible class tomorrow night at 7. Micah 4.

\* **Hearing assistance available upon request.**

**BIBLE QUESTION/ANSWER:**

Last week's answer: Psalm 149.

New question: Who told the people living in Jerusalem, "Be not ye afraid of them: remember the Lord, *which is* great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses?"

**Sentence Sermon:** "A good exercise for the heart is to bend down and help someone up."

**Birthdays & Anniversaries**

Heidi Jones - 1/6

Ryan Thornsberry - 1/7

Rosemary Dillow - 1/9

Chuck Edwards - 1/11

\* Joe Johnson celebrates his birthday tomorrow, 1/7 & will be 95. \*