



# Pastor's Comments

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## Northampton Assembly of God

3449 Cherryville Rd., Northampton • Sun. 10:45 am & 6 pm; Wed. 7:30 pm  
Daniel E. Lundmark • [pastor@NAOG.ws](mailto:pastor@NAOG.ws) • 610-262-5645

### Your Best Year Ever!

It seems that everything peaks in life, and then it is downhill from there! As we age, our strength and capabilities disintegrate and often so do our hopes for the future. Just ask a sports hero who now lives on the memories of the past. Youth tend to be hopeful of the future—optimistic and visionary. But as life passes by and disappointments come, as dreams fail to materialize and unforeseen things happen in life, optimism turns to negativism. The quest for a happy life often succumbs to the reality of frustrations, disillusionments, and unfulfilled dreams. As you face this new year, maybe you are on the downside of life, and you feel as if there is nothing to look forward to—**nothing worth living for**. The hopelessness of it all leaves you discouraged with life and discontented. It may seem to you that this has been your worst year ever, and next year looks to be even worse!

**But, I have good news for you—things can be different!** This could be **your best year ever!** During my 43 years of serving as pastor here, I have seen many lives turned around—some of these occurred recently! It happened when they put their faith in Jesus and sincerely repented of their sin in humble prayer. The Bible declares, ***Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new*** (2 Corinthians 5:17). Dale Oldham says it this way in the Gaither song, “Life was shattered and hope was gone—Crushing the load that I bore; **Then out of the depths I cried, ‘Oh God, Give me something worth living for.’**” Reflecting on the life change that Jesus brings, one verse says, **“O the joy of sins forgiv’n—Nothing’s the same as before; My life overflows since Jesus came And gave me something worth living for.”** I urge you to earnestly cry out to Jesus now in humble prayer and let Him make this **your best year ever!**