Sunday, July 13, 2025 Vol. 18, Issue 41

# **Pastoral Pondering**

# Wisdom From Above

"For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men." 1 Corinthians 1:22-25.

"And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who <u>became to us wisdom from God,</u> righteousness and sanctification and redemption..." 1 Corinthians 1:30.

I was recently reading in 1 Corinthians, marveling at the unmeasurable contrast between the wisdom of our Lord and the wisdom of man. One might define knowledge as the acquisition of facts and information, whereas wisdom is rightly applying knowledge. A fun illustration I heard long ago: knowledge tells you it is raining outside; wisdom tells you to bring an umbrella.

The Greeks sought enlightenment through human intellect and wisdom. Human wisdom, with what little it could offer in pointing to Truth, did not (nor could not) lead those who sought it to the ultimate meaning and purpose in life—to know Christ as Savior and glorify His great name. The Gospel seemed absurd and foolish in the eyes of "wise" men, yet, in the end, they are the true fools.

Paul says that Christ "became to us wisdom from God," and it is that glorious wisdom from above that shows us that only by faith in Jesus can we be redeemed and become righteous. His wisdom is given to us that we would walk in Him (James 1:5.) 1 Corinthians 2:16 states that "we have the mind of Christ." How amazing is that? What a gift we have been given!

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God." Colossians 3:16.

As we study His Word and pray, we receive wisdom and understanding from the very author of Truth. And in that wisdom the Church is edified, and Christ is glorified.

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As Paul is reflecting on the salvation of Israel and the Gentiles in Romans 11, he breaks out into a beautiful prayer that begins, "Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!" Romans 11:33.

The Lord has given us such a great well to His wisdom and knowledge that we can never reach the bottom. I pray that we will drink deeply of these riches, and, like the apostle Paul, exalt Him ever more and more.

**Brian Gates** 



If you are a visitor this morning or have only been coming to New Life for a few months, we are glad you are joining with us! If you would like to learn more about New Life, be sure to stop by the Resource Center in the front foyer to pick up a welcome bag we have for you. Please join us for fellowship and a picnic at Dresser Park after service today where we would love to meet and get to know you and for you to get to know us more.

# Meal Team Ministry

Are you looking for a way to use your talents or time to serve God? Consider joining a Sunday Meal Team. If interested, please contact: Barbie Judkins (309) 269-0556, Barb Manship (612) 804-9793 or Rosie Swisher (763) 458-1261



Available by the Door

# **MINISTRY DIRECTORY**

# **Building & Grounds Ministry**

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# Coffee Ministry

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#### Meal Train Relief Ministry

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#### Music Ministry

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#### Newsletter Administration

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#### Resource Center

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#### Sunday Meal Services

Barbara Judkins: 309.269.0556 bjdarnell@hotmail.com

#### Video Ministry

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# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# Pastoral Eldership Team:

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#### This Week's Scheduled Events:

Tues Men's Bible Study—6:30 am
Tues Young Ladies Study—6:30 pm
Thurs Men's Bible Study—6:30 am
Thurs Ladies Bible Study—10:30 am
Thurs Ladies Bible Study—Noon
Thurs GriefShare—6:30 pm
Thurs Men's Bible Study—6:30 pm

#### July Memory Verse:

Isaiah 66:22-23 (ESV)

"For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the Lord, so shall your offspring and your name remain. From new moon to new moon and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the Lord."

# July Fellowship Tip:

Have you committed yourself to invest in the work of gospel ministry here at New Life and want to learn more about what it means to become a partner? Take a moment and talk to one of the pastor/elders and they would be glad to begin that process with you.

#### Sunday Meals and Fellowship:

July 13 No Meal Service

July 20 Meal Team 4 ~ Rice & Beans

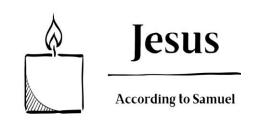
Contact Barbara Judkins if interested in being on a meal team or a helper.

Check Out New Life Online newlifechristiancommunity.org

- New Life Cookbook: Hey Church! August is fast approaching and we need your recipes!!!!! We have received a few recipes for the cookbook but we still need a lot more! Please feel free to email your recipes to evelyn.g.jacobson@hotmail.com. We hope to have enough recipes to submit to the publishing company by the end of August. You can also reach out to the others on the cookbook committee with questions or to hand in a recipe in person! Our committee consists of myself, Rosi Swisher, Cory Mattson, Katie Severson and Anna Abraham.
- Prayer Request: Please be praying for Pastor Paul and Amy Linzmeier, Rene and Lorrain Milner, and Isaac and Emily Karpenske as they serve the Lord in Albania. Moreover, pray for the Linzmeier kiddos! They've never spent so much time away from Paul and Amy!
- Young Ladies Study: We will be meeting on Tuesday, July 15 at 6:30 pm. Location is 2147 45<sup>th</sup> Ave, Star Prairie, WI 54026. Just bring a Bible. If you have questions, call Katie at (715) 417-1595.
- Good News Club: For those young families who want to learn more of the Lord and have fun doing it, Sandy Erickson will be holding a Good News Club on July 21- 25th from 10-1130 am at her house located by Lynn and Jim Nelson's on Sand Lake off Y. All welcome, usually for ages 4 up to younger teens., There is fun at the beach, weather permitting after. Sandy's phone is (612) 718-5518.
- Building Help Needed: After service on Sunday, July 27, we are excited to announce that we will be doing some deep cleaning and demolition in our main gathering space. Would you consider bringing a change of clothes and some tools to help with this project? We would love to swing a hammer with you!
- is our annual Baptism Service: Sunday, August 3rd is our annual Baptism service being held at the ARC in Osceola. If you have not been baptized and you're moved by God to now pursue baptism as a public proclamation of faith in Jesus Christ, please reach out to any one of the pastor/elders to make that desire known.

# New Life Directory

If you would like to be included in our directory or have additions or changes, please send your information to: nlccdirectory@gmail.com



Today's Passage:

Pastor Tony's message is from the Old Testament book, 2 Samuel 19:31-40

**Sermon Notes:**