



Today's Passage:
Pastor Tony will be speaking to us today from
Joshua 14:1-15

Sermon Notes:

Welcome to the Celebration!



New Life Christian Community

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." 2 Cor 5:17

Sunday, January 10, 2016

Vol. 9, Issue 14

Pastoral Pondering

Resolutions

It's a new year. Many of those who are reading this have already failed at their new year's resolutions and others are still hanging on. If history is an indication of what is to come, 2017 will come with similar resolutions and similar results. Sadly, we are slow to learn. Nevertheless, our good intentions compel us to "give it another go." I suspect the fitness centers around us are fuller in the early days and weeks of January than any other time of the year. In time we will all fall back (with very few who are able to push through to the end) into the old patterns of who we are. Indeed, even with the few success stories among us, we are unable to truly change who we are.

This is among the truths that we must acknowledge as we come to the Lord for His grace. Indeed, in order to receive grace, we must first acknowledge our need. We need help.

More than that, and along with that, a more fundamental truth that we must first come to grips with is that we are sinful.

The fact that we are a sinful people is not news to the prophet Micah (if you haven't looked at the book of Micah lately, take a look - but be ready to apply some sobering and difficult truths). Micah begins his message to Judah by letting them know that there is impending doom. But his message of destruction for a sinful people (all of which could be applied to each of us) is not without hope. In Micah 4:1-2a he expresses hope in the days to come, despite the impending destruction of the temple;

"the mountain (temple) of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and it shall be lifted up above the hills; and peoples shall flow to it and many nations shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths."

There is good news to come! Those days have indeed come! In the following chapters Micah reveals that there will be a ruler to be born in Bethlehem. Christmas is the exact fulfillment of the prophecy of Micah.

But the days of salvation are yet far off.

God's people would need to wait nearly 800 years to see Micah's words fulfilled. In the same way, we view the promise of salvation for a day yet to come (if you are reading this you are still waiting for that great inheritance which is being kept for you). For those who have turned to Christ for salvation we have already received God's salvation yet we have not yet fully realized its inheritance in heaven.

Thus, we must wait (like Micah's readers). As impending doom knocks at the door of each of his reader's homes (that includes you and me), they/we are called to "look to the Lord" *continued on next page ...*

Visitor Card

We'd like to get to know you. Please take a moment to fill out this card then drop it in the wooden offering box near the back of the room.

- First-Time Visitor
- Returning Visitor

Name:

Date:

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How to access the sermon archives:

If you would like a copy of an audio (CD) or video (DVD) of a sermon from our archives (\$2 per copy), please complete the following and drop this card in the wooden offering box near the back of the room. Your order will be available for pick-up at the video booth the following week.

Name:

Sermon Date:

Scripture Passage:

To download sermons for free, go to newlifechristiancommunity.org

Prayer Card

If you are in need of prayer or would like to share a praise report, please share it below then drop this card in the wooden offering box near the back of the room.

Please check a box below:

- This may be added to our congregation prayer wall
- Share this only with the pastor and elders

Optional:

Name:

Email:

Phone:

If you would like someone to pray with you today, you may come to the front of the church immediately following the service.

Pastoral Eldership Team:

Pastor Tony Minell	715.417.1982 galatiansii20@yahoo.com
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Dale Mattson	715.566.2302
Greg Mattson	715.417.2444
Rene Milner	715.483.0185

Checkout New Life Online

newlifechristiancommunity.org

Find Links to:

- Events • Sermons Online • Set Lists • The Table • & More

Be sure to tune into our pastors' podcast at the beginning of each week. You can access the podcast through our website, the Table, or the podcast icon on your Wi-Fi enabled Apple device.

This Week's Schedule of Events:

Jan 13	Afternoon GriefShare Mtg. 12:30 - 2:30 p.m. Green Room at NLCC Building
Jan 13	Immerse Family Grp. Studies 6:30 p.m. at NLCC Building
Jan 14	Men's Bible Study Book of Acts 6:30 a.m. at NLCC Building
Jan 14	Women's Bible Study Book of Hebrews 9:30 a.m. at NLCC Building
Jan 14	Evening GriefShare Mtg. 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Green Room at NLCC Building

January Memory Verse:

Colossians 1:15-16

"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him." (ESV)



Fellowship follows our service every Sunday, along with a great meal.

Please stay and join us!

Pastoral Pondering

...continued

Micah writes, *"I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me"* (7:7).

Though we have not seen the full relief of the salvation that Christ has brought, we will wait for the God of our salvation.

What is most fascinating, and perhaps most insightful for our culture, is that the person who is truly turning to the Lord for salvation must first be willing to acknowledge that we are deserving of God's indignation.

In the midst of this inspiring moment - waiting for the salvation of the Lord, Micah writes something our culture tends to avoid. He says, *"I will bear the indignation of the Lord because I have sinned against him."* He is willing to acknowledge (first) that he has sinned and that he is willing to stand under the judgement/indignation of God (7:9a)! Then, in 7:9b Micah says, *"until he pleads my cause and executes judgement for me. He will bring me out to the light!"*

The person looking to the Lord for salvation must first look to Him for judgement.

These two contrary concepts do actually go together.

A heart willing to receive salvation from God is a heart that first acknowledges that he is sinful. A heart that is willing to be saved is a heart that freely acknowledges that she will not be able to change herself.

Let's make sure our new year's resolutions are not a distraction from the only truth that saves - **"there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."** Jesus Christ is our only resolute hope.

Truly, any eternal change is only possible in the one - Jesus Christ. He is our new year's resolution, today, tomorrow and forever.

Blessings, Tony Minell

Announcements:



It's Tea Time Again!

Today, January 10th from 2:00 to 5:00pm.

All ladies and/or older daughters are invited to attend tea and fellowship at the Milner's house, 205 S. Adams St, St. Croix Falls. Bring craftwork if you would like.

Ice Skating Rink is Open

The Gallagher's backyard pond is now shoveled and ready for skating, hockey or broomball. Everyone is welcome, come anytime. 1098 River Road, Dresser, WI 54009



Ministry Directory:

Building & Grounds Ministry - Jim Nelson 651.283.2132 his email: lynnjimmnelson@gmail.com

Children's Church Ministry - Cara Gilbertson: 715.755.3517 her email: cara.gilbertson@gmail.com

Children's Nursery Ministry - Sara Fugate: 715.379.8799 her email: fugate.sara@gmail.com

Community Outreach - Phil and Pam Stratmoen: 715.491.5779 email: philstratmoen@gmail.com

Finance Administration - Cory Mattson (Finance Secretary): 715.417.0945 her email: cory79mattson@hotmail.com or Pete Manship (Treasurer): 715.755.3330 his email: pete@pbmpkmanship.com

GriefShare Ministry - Connie Bayle: 715.557.1431 her email: conjoh1@gmail.com

Meal Relief Ministry - Julie Minell: 715.417.1981 her email: mrs.minell@yahoo.com

Missions Outreach - Lorraine Milner: 715.557.0661 her email: lrnilner@gmail.com

Newsletter Administration - Dawn Holm: 715.472.8453 her email: djholm@lakeland.ws

Sunday Meal Services - Barb Manship: 612.804.9793 or 715.755.3330 her email: bmanship55@hotmail.com

Transportation Services - Eve Bjork: 715.497.6418 her email: sofiesydne@yahoo.com or Art Behr: 715.220.6882 his email: behrden1@charter.net

Video Ministry - Jim Mabee: 651.470.4172 his email: jmabee@centurytel.net

Youth Group Ministry - Pastor Chandler Wiley: 815.575.6122 his email: pastorwiley.nlcc@gmail.com

Upcoming Events:



7th ANNUAL LADIES RETREAT
Hosted by Pam Stratmoen and Deb Balsavich
Jan 22-24 Oak Forest Center

The Retreat is approaching fast! Please remember to have your registration in by the deadline of January 14th to ensure your room!

These can be given directly to Pam Stratmoen or Deb Balsavich. Registration forms are located on the Welcome Table.



ATTN All New Life Partners - Please be sure to Attend! The New Life Annual Business Meeting will be held Saturday, January 16th at 10:30 am. at the building.

YES YOU CAN!!!!

Is a Christian Women's Connection event that is being hosted by Alliance Church of the Valley on Monday, January 18, 2016.

All women in the community are invited to attend this luncheon/speaking event, so be sure to invite your women friends and family.

Alliance Church of the Valley
1259 State Rd. 35
St. Croix Falls, WI 54024
The cost is \$10, all inclusive

More information can be found on the bulletin board.



It is time to be thinking of the New Life mission trip to Mexico. Anyone that is interested, please plan to attend our meeting on January 24th after the church service in the closed-door back area of the lunch room. We need to start doing paper work. People interested in traveling will need passports. This trip is a great first time mission opportunity. All ages are welcome. This is a family friendly opportunity. Please contact Lorraine Milner if planning to go and not able to attend the meeting.

ATTENTION ALL TEENS!

Christian Youth in Action is holding its winter retreat February 5-7 at Camp Fairwood, WI. Snow games, indoor games, great food, worship, special speakers and fellowship! Share the weekend with teens who love the Gospel and find out more about local summer missions. For more info or to register see Erika Rice.