



# 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, October 26, 2025

Vol. 19, Issue 04

## Pastoral Ponderings

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends" John 15:12-13

Last week I was watching President Trump sign the Middle East Peace deal which included videos of the releasing of the hostages. One video showed a father finally welcoming his son back home after two years of captivity, wondering if he would ever see his son again. The heartfelt wailing as he embraced his son for the first time in two years was enough to bring tears to even a casual observer.

Human nature is funny in that our short attention spans - perhaps by design - allows us to forget or at least soften the atrocities of the past. We remember 9/11, Pearl Harbor, and the Holocaust through history but it seems to lose its sting with time unless you were directly affected.

There is a story that emerged from 10/7/23, the day Hamas attacked Israel, killing 1,195 with most being young people attending the Nova music festival. The images were horrific and evil. Yet in the midst of all the chaos and horror stories, demonstrations emerged of what true sacrificial love looks like. One example is the story of Ben Shimoni who became known as the "Angel of Nova". A thirty-one-year-old man, Ben was at the Nova Music Festival near Kibbutz in Southern Israel with thousands of other young people when Hamas launched the brutal attack. What should have been a time of celebration, peace, and music turned into a nightmare of violence and terror. Ben fled with four strangers, driving them to safety. In the face of unimaginable danger, Ben turned around after dropping the strangers off and went back to the festival grounds two more times to rescue others. On his second trip he saved eight more lives but during his third rescue effort, the Hamas terrorists set up an ambush, opening fire on his car. Two of the three other occupants were killed and the one that lived, a female named Romi, was taken hostage and eventually released after being in captivity for 471 days. Ben's empty car was found, and he was declared missing. It was later confirmed that he had been murdered. Ben gave everything to protect others thereby saving thirteen lives of people he had never met.

I can think of many other examples of sacrificial love but the greatest and most important to followers of Christ is the cross. Before his crucifixion, Jesus instructed his disciples to love one another as He had loved them and then said, "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends." Jesus

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## Pastoral Ponderings cont.

went to the cross, not to bring judgment upon the world, but to save it. Ben's efforts rescued 13 people; Jesus's desire is that all would be saved. He has the power to save! Through His resurrection, we can know His love as the Alpha and Omega, which has no beginning and no end. His love endures forever.

My prayer is that we never let our short attention span minimize or soften the events of the crucifixion and God's sacrificial love, for it is everything. Without it there is no hope, no salvation or grace, and we are left standing at the Judgment seat depending on our own actions and deeds which amount to filthy rags in the sight of the Lord. Thankfully, we can rest in Jesus.

In Christ, greg



welcome

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. In addition, you're invited to join us for our meal after service. We would love to meet you and get to know 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



Busy Bags  
Available by the doors

## Ministry Directory

### Building & Grounds Ministry

Jim Judkins, 715.338.8837  
oldoutboardjim@hotmail.com

### Coffee Ministry

Ana Smith, 715.566.3740  
ajoysmith05@gmail.com

### Finance Administration

Colleen Firkus (Treasurer),  
612-889-7581  
c.a.firkus@gmail.com

### Greeting Card Ministry

Lynn Nelson, 651.373.1426  
lynnjinnelson@gmail.com

### GriefShare Ministry

Robin Mattson, 715.566.1945  
robinmattson27@gmail.com

### Immerse Ministry

Andrew/Laurysa Steward:  
715.483.5133  
lamilner.31@gmail.com

### Meal Relief Ministry

Kristin Stephan, 651.235-1681  
kristin@kageinnovation.com

### Missions Outreach

Lorraine Milner, 715.557.0661  
lrmilner@gmail.com

### Music Ministry

Jeff Warren, 715-553-2405  
pastorjeff.nlcc@protonmail.com

### Newsletter Administration

Dawn Holm, 715.472.8453  
djholtm@lakeland.ws

### Resource Center

Cory Mattson, 715.417.0945  
cory79mattson@hotmail.com

### Sunday Meal Services

Barbara Judkins,  
309.269.0556  
bjdarnell@hotmail.com

### Video Ministry

Jim Mabee, 651.470.4172  
jmabee@centurytel.net

## Check out New Life Online newlifechristiancommunity.org

### This Week's Schedule of Events

Sunday Hall of Men – 6:30 pm  
Tues Men's Bible Study – 6:30 am  
Wed Immerse – 6:15 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 Women's Study – 6:30 pm  
Thurs Men's Bible Study – 6:30 pm

### Meal Teams

Oct. 26 Meal Team 6-Potato & Salad Bar  
Nov. 2 Meal Team 7-Sloppy Joe  
*Contact Barbara Judkins if interested  
in being on a meal team or a helper.*

### Fellowship Tip for October

Make sure to seek out someone new today  
and introduce yourself, and let them know  
you are glad they are here.

### October Memory Verse

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday  
and today and forever."-Hebrews 13:8

### Pastoral Eldership Team

|                                |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Pastor Tony Minell             | 715.417.1982 |
| galatiansii20@yahoo.com        |              |
| Pastor Paul Linzmeier          | 320.226.5581 |
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| Pastor Jeff Warren             | 715-553-2405 |
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| Cory Mattson, Secretary        | 715.417.0945 |
| Zachary Fugate                 | 715.379.2918 |
| Brian Gates                    | 651.230.6554 |
| Dale Mattson                   | 715.566.2302 |
| Greg Mattson                   | 715.417.2444 |
| Rene Milner                    | 715.557.0185 |
| Jim Nelson                     | 651.283.2132 |
| Jay Swisher                    | 763.587.3472 |

## Announcements.

**Hall of men** tonight 6:30pm! Join us as we peer down the corridors of time pausing once again to look at the grace of God in another man of the faith.

**Immerse:** Wednesday Night Immerse Classes are in full swing. Take advantage of this opportunity to participate in these classes 6:15-7:30pm. These nights are one of many ways at New Life to invest in the lives of this local body (children and adults); together being taught, equipped, and sharpened in the Word as well as opportunity for inter-generational relationships to be formed.

**NLCC Cookbook:** We are taking pre-orders for the NLCC cookbook which is titled "Fellowship Feasts and Treats. "You can find us at the resource center where there will be sign-up and prepay for your very own copy. We are charging \$12 per book with all profits going back into the church. Thank you!

**NLCC 2025 Directory Supplement:** We would like to provide another updated supplement this fall prior to the holidays with additions of new families and further corrections. This would be great timing for those who send out snail-mail Christmas cards and letters! So if anyone would like to make us aware of needed corrections, or would like to have their contact information included for this fall, they can send an email to: nlccdirectory@gmail.com. The info needed, if you're willing to share, includes:

- names of all family members
- address
- cell phones and/or landlines
- email addresses
- birthdates (no year)
- anniversary dates (no year)

Please submit your information by Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>.

Current directories with prior additional info and corrections are still available in the resource center for \$2 each to cover printing costs.

## Today's Passage



# Jesus

Proclaimed  
to the  
Colossians

Pastor Tony will be teaching from  
the book of Colossians.  
Our passage for today is Colossians 1:9-14.

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[newlifechristiancommunity.org](http://newlifechristiancommunity.org)

Sunday service starts at 9:30 am • [nlcc.dresser@gmail.com](mailto:nlcc.dresser@gmail.com)

Join New Life Connect by emailing Pastor Paul at [pastorpaul.nlcc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorpaul.nlcc@gmail.com)