



New Life Christian Community

Join Us As We Celebrate
Only Jesus

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026
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"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

Pastoral Pondering

Worship And The Heart

"Sing praises to the Lord, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name." – Psalm 30:4

Each week that we meet together as a locally-gathered body of Jesus Christ, we sing songs within the worship service. This seems normal if you have grown up within the church, but quite odd if unfamiliar with Christian church services. Why singing?! Music is found in every culture, both globally and historically, and often can be tied to every human emotion - it moves us. It can be found in our cars, at sporting events, restaurants, fairs, parades and shopping centers; but why would a bunch of Christians *sing* when they gather together?

Commanded To Sing

Since God is the Creator of all things, He is both the inventor of music and the maker of each one of our voices. This is extraordinary - that He would place music within our world and something within us that would naturally overflow into song. But looking at Scripture, we see something that is even more extraordinary, that God Himself sings!

*"The Lord your God is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save;
he will rejoice over you with gladness;
he will quiet you by his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing."*

~Zephaniah 3:17

Even when Christ was on the earth, Scripture notes that He sang with His disciples at the Last Supper,

"And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives."

~Matthew 26:30

The bible has over 400 references to singing and at least 50 direct commands to sing; I think it's an understatement to say that our Lord cares about singing! These commands to sing never come with a qualification like, "if you feel like it" or "if you have a good voice." God commands us to sing - period. And being made in His image, singing is evidence showing that we reflect God's image within us.

Sing Unto the Lord

Therefore, the highest form of singing is done *as unto the Lord*, which is our musical worship. We are called to praise Him, worship Him, thank Him and bless Him. Therefore, most of the songs that we sing are directed to God. But we're also called to declare His wonders, which we do in songs about God - Who He is, what He has done, what He is doing and what He will do.

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Pastoral Pondering

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Singing As A Ministry to One Another

It's clear that congregational singing amidst the corporate gathering is done unto the Lord, but at the same time we are also called to sing to *one another*. Did you know that you have a biblical role as a 'vocal minister' amidst the church as we admonish one another through singing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs (**Colossians 3:16**)? As we sing to one another, we remind each other of the glorious truths about our God and His glorious works and therefore in turn, we pour out the praise, thanksgiving, glory and the adoration that is due His name. Incredible! And remember, in order to sing to one another, we all need each other (from youngest to oldest!) so that you and I can build up the body in love.

More Than Just Singing

Please pray: that as we sing bible-saturated song lyrics, we would all glimpse the great worth of God; His holiness; that He is trustworthy and immensely loving; that our imaginations would be captured with Christ's beauty, wonders and glories; that we would all taste and see that the Lord is good (**Psalm 34:8**) so that our hearts would *overflow* in the praise and adoration of our God; that the biblically-rich song lyrics would be etched into our memories so that we would be armed with wondrous truths and better equipped to fight the fight of faith (**1 Timothy 6:12**) and all to the glory of our blessed Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. May He be praised forever and ever!

Looking to Jesus, Pastor Jeff

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. Please join us for fellowship *and a meal* after service today where we would love to meet and get to know you and for you to get to know us more.



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This Week's Scheduled Events:

Sun	Preaching Guild– 6:30 pm
Tues	Young Ladies Study– 7:15 pm
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

March Memory Verse:

1 Peter 1:8-9 (ESV)

"Though you have not seen him, you love him.

Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with a joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls."

March Fellowship Tip:

Take a look around, who is NOT here today? Consider checking in with a phone call or text. In addition, if you're reading this from home and need something, make sure to reach out and let someone know..

Sunday Meals and Fellowship:

Mar 15 Meal Team 2~Salads
Mar 22 Meal Team 3~Italian

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

This Sunday's Worship Songs:

1. Behold Our God
2. I Want To Know You
3. His Mercy Is More
4. His Glory and My Good
5. There Is One Gospel

➤ ***New Baby!*** Let's praise the Lord and rejoice with Micah and Anna Abraham who recently welcomed baby James Michael Abraham! A basket will be located next to the welcome counter to fill with packages of diapers and wipes to bless them.

➤ ***Preaching Guild:*** Preaching Guild meets this **Sunday evening 6:30pm**. Fellow brothers, if you are willing to be challenged to dive deeper into the scriptures, lean more on Christ, and grow in the practice of preparing and giving of a sermon, consider attending tonight! New Life family please continue in prayer for our men who are laboring in the studying and preaching of the Word of God.

➤ ***Celebration Of Life:*** This coming **Friday, March 20**, will be the celebration of life for our sister Bonnie Piggot at New Life. *Visitation will begin at 10am with the service following at 11am and concluding with lunch*. Continue in prayer for her daughters Erin and Abby as well as her extended family and for the Lord to work powerfully in the service through His proclaimed Word in the face of death.

➤ ***2026 Men's Retreat:*** Don't forget to register for the 2026 Men's retreat **Friday and Saturday April 10th and 11th**.

2 Easy ways to register! Take a picture of the QR Code on the welcome counter to lead you to the registration website or open our New Life App and click the registration menu option. Just fill out your information and either pay online or select "I'll pay by check" under the "Men's retreat Payment" dropdown menu and you can pay at the retreat.

Registration deadline is Sunday March 22nd! If you have any questions about registration or scholarship funds to attend just reach out to Pastor Paul.

➤ ***Easter Week Soon Here!*** Easter is on the horizon and here are 2 special services you won't want to miss.

Good Friday Service April 3rd at 6:30pm. This service helps us to enter into the upper room with Jesus and His Disciples the night of the Passover meal, learning the significance of each element served and the sacrifice that was needed to be made for our sin.

Our Easter service, the following Sunday will begin at **8:00am, April 5th** breaking our fast and again partaking of the bread and the cup in celebration! This leads into our favorite meal of the year, an Easter Brunch! Our Easter Morning Breakfast will be a potluck meal. Please plan to bring a dish to pass if you are able. Look for a sign-up sheet on the welcome counter. **Our regular service begins as usual at 9:30am.**



Jesus

Proclaimed
to the
Colossians

Today's Passage:

Pastor Tony's message is from the
New Testament book,
Colossians 4:15-18

SERMON NOTES: