



# New Life Christian Community

Join Us As We Celebrate  
Only Jesus

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." <sup>2 Cor 5:17</sup> SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2026  
VOL. 19, ISSUE 29

## Pastoral Pondering

### Drink The Living Waters

***"As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. <sup>2</sup> My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?" (Psalm 42:1-2)***

In the life of every follower of Christ there are times and seasons our souls feel distant or separated from God. In Psalm 42 the psalmist longs for communion with the living God in the same way that a weary, thirsty deer is desperate for the refreshment of the cool stream.

You can hear the psalmist's ache in his words; this thirst is urgent and intense. Lesser water from some brackish pool or stagnant pond will not satisfy. The writer knows that only the pure, clean, living waters of the living God can truly quench his spiritual thirst. The Lord is the wellspring of life.

This thirst is itself a grace. Only a heart made alive by the work of Christ can ache for His presence.

After some lament for his situation (42:3-4), the psalmist, who was in a literal exile during this time, does something profoundly instructive: he preaches truth to his own soul.

***"Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God." (Psalm 42:5)***

Hope in God. While his circumstances had not changed, his gaze did. He looks beyond his turmoil to the Lord who saves. While we may remain for a while in the valley, we are not forgotten.

The sorrows of this Psalm remind us of the great sorrow Jesus experienced in the garden (Matthew 26:38) before He entered the deepest darkness on that cross. He was forsaken on our behalf (Matthew 27:46), so that, even in our darkest nights, we will never be forsaken. As Paul reminds us: ***"We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; <sup>9</sup>persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;"*** (2 Corinthians 4:8-9) Though trials and sorrow come in this life, the Lord will not leave us in the valley forever. He walks with us.

The thirst of Psalm 42 is met by the fountain of grace found in Jesus. This grace is perfect and sufficient for every trial.

***"On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, 'If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. <sup>38</sup> Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, "Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."'"*** (John 7:37-38)

Psalm 43 reads as a continuation of Psalm 42. When we look at them together, an interesting pattern develops. At the very end of both Psalms 42 & 43, the whole of 42:5 is repeated verbatim.

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## Pastoral Pondering

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Three times the poems crescendo to the same point: "*Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.*"

Whether we are in the valley or on the mountaintop, let that always be our refrain.

Lord, ever awoken in us a thirst for You, and may that desire be quenched in the pure living waters of Christ. Amen.

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 meal* 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



nlcc  
resourcecenter

If you haven't visited the Resource Center lately, Come check it out! Our shelves hold so many great books to help you grow in your knowledge of and love for God and to help guide you in your daily walk with Him. Perhaps you'll find a book to read with a friend or form a book group with! We also have many great books that you may want to consider for your gift-giving needs for the young or old and all ages in-between. Come check us out after service today.

## MINISTRY DIRECTORY

### **Building & Grounds Ministry**

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### **Coffee Ministry**

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### **Resource Center**

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### **Sunday Meal Services**

Barbara Judkins: 309.269.0556  
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### **Video Ministry**

Jim Mabee: 651.470.4172  
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Pastoral Eldership Team:

Pastor Tony Minell	715.417.1982
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Rene Milner	715.557.0185
Jim Nelson	651.283.2132
Jay Swisher	763.587.3472
Sam Umlauf	612.791.2132

### This Week's Scheduled Events:

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	Ladies Bible Study– 6:30 pm
Thurs	Men's Bible Study– 6:30 pm

### April Memory Verse:

1 Peter 2:9 (ESV)

*"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."*

### April Fellowship Tip:

Spring is often a time where we get the itch to do a project around the home or get creative in the kitchen. Consider asking a brother or sister to join you and use everyday life activities as a way to build deeper relationships with one another bringing Jesus into each conversation.

### Sunday Meals and Fellowship:

Apr 19	Meal Team 7~SloppyJo/Hotdogs
Apr 26	Meal Team 8~Soup

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

### This Sunday's Worship Songs:

1. Christ Our Treasure
2. Here Is Love
3. There Is One Gospel
4. Speak O Lord
5. All Glory Be To Christ

### ➤ Men's Meat Fellowship:

When: **Saturday May 9th, 11am-3pm**

Where: Deland Richter's home: 1641 200th Ave. New Richmond WI

Cost: \$30 per adult, \$15 under age 10

You can look forward to a devotional in the Word, and fellowship with brothers over a meat heavy meal. Guys, you are welcome to bring a board game. Hoops and ping pong are on site.

Numbers needed of those who plan to attend. Please jot your name down at the welcome counter.



## New Life Connect

*"...so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another."*

New Life Christian Community has a secure online community designed to engage the body of Christ in between Sundays. If you would like to be part of this online community, please send an email to one of the pastors. (see emails to the left under Pastora/Eldership Team.) They would be glad to set you up with an account. All you need is an active email address.

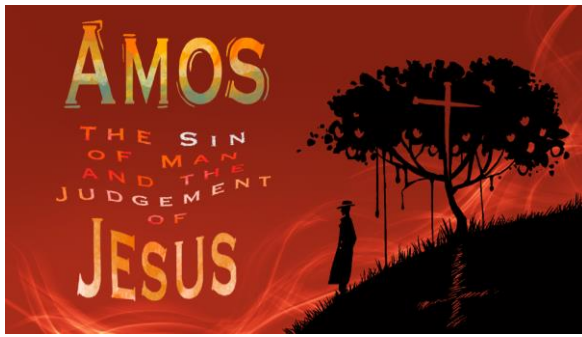
## New Life Directory

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



Do you know someone that needs encouragement, support, or celebration? Please remember that New Life has a ministry just for that! Contact Lynn with your request via email: [lynnjimmnelson@gmail.com](mailto:lynnjimmnelson@gmail.com) or you can call her cell at 651-373-1426.





**SERMON NOTES:**

*Today's Passage:*  
Pastor Tony's message is from the  
Old Testament book,  
*Amos 1:1-2*