

Join us as we celebrate only Jesus!



# 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, June 28, 2026

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## Pastoral Ponderings

*"He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,"*

– Colossians 1:13

In some of my previous ponderings, I've wrestled with how to increase/renew my gratefulness in the Lord and awe of Him. And here we are again! The human side of my humanity so often dulls my senses and appreciation of the great salvation that has been purchased for us. So, one of the remedies that I've found helpful for myself is to look back and to put into focus just what my previous state was, according to the Scriptures, before becoming a follower of Jesus Christ.

If you recall from our sermon series in Colossians, chapter 1 is full of glorious joys and truths that make our hearts sing! But, there's a brief phrase in the above verse that I want to look at: *domain of darkness*. It's easy to read this line quickly as we're overwhelmed with the wonder that all of the surrounding verses bring. Yet, there is so much weightiness to this short phrase. Let's briefly look at two other passages from the Word to help us unpack some of the meaning of this phrase.

Psalm 14:1-3 -

*The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."*

*They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds;  
there is none who does good.*

*The Lord looks down from heaven on the children of man,  
to see if there are any who understand,  
who seek after God.*

*They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt;  
there is none who does good,  
not even one.*

As our LORD, Creator of heaven and earth and all of humanity, looks down from heaven upon the children of man (those He created in His own image), He finds them foolish, denying the existence of Himself, corrupt, doing abominable deeds, not doing any good, turning away, not understanding and not seeking after Him, not even one person doing good.

*Continued-->*

## Pastoral Ponderings cont.

These descriptions are so sobering. And it certainly is obvious that humanity was not dwelling in a kingdom of light. These verses paint a dark and hopeless world, a wretched existence for mankind. Such is the corruption of the heart and total abandonment of God. Such is where I was before Christ.

Ephesians 2:1-3 -

*And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.*

Dead in your sins. Not mostly dead. Complete spiritual deadness: you were dead in your sin and trespasses; you were following the sinful course of this world along with everyone else; it says that the devil was working in you as you carried out the wicked passions of your flesh and the wicked desires of your bodies and minds. And therefore, the fruit of this evil nature is to be a rightful recipient of God's judgment- a child of wrath. Here paints another serious picture of the domain of darkness. Such is where I was before Christ.

But praise be to our gracious Father , that He did not leave us in this wretched state, as a child of the wrath to come, but has transferred us from our helpless and hopeless state *to the kingdom of his beloved Son!* And Colossians 1:14 continues this majestic thought that it is in Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, *in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*

All praise and glory and honor and thanksgiving are most deserving of our merciful God!

May He be praised forever and ever!

looking to Jesus,  
pastor jeff



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: [lynnjimnelson@gmail.com](mailto:lynnjimnelson@gmail.com) or call her at 651-373-1426.

## Ministry Directory

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# Check out New Life Online [newlifechristiancommunity.org](http://newlifechristiancommunity.org)

## This Sunday's Worship Songs:

1. His Mercy is More
2. Come Thou Fount
3. Yet Not I but Through Christ In Me
4. Speak O Lord
5. Come Ye Sinners

## This Week's Schedule of Events

Sunday	Hall of Men– 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	Ladies Bible Study– On Break
Thurs	Men's Bible Study– 6:30 pm

## Meal Teams

June 14 No Meal

July 5 Meal Team 8 - Tacos

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

## Fellowship Tip for June

Have you begun a prayer/discipleship relationship with someone from New Life? If not, prayerfully consider whom you can be regularly meeting with for the purpose of growth and sharpening as disciples of Jesus.

## June Memory Verse

"It is good to give thanks to the LORD,  
to sing praises to your name, O Most  
high; to declare your steadfast love in the  
morning, and your faithfulness by night,  
to the music of the lute and the harp, to  
the melody of the lyre." Psalm 92:1-3

## Pastoral Eldership Team

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Sam Umlauf	612.791.2132

# 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.

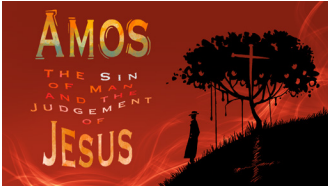
## Announcements

**Hall of Men:** this Sunday evening 6:30pm. For our encouragement, we will listen to a presentation on the life of a man of the past, celebrating the grace of God through Christ in him and how by faith he was able to stand firm in the Gospel in the midst of the trials and temptations of his own generation. You don't want to miss it!

**Save the Date:** Sunday August 2<sup>nd</sup> is our annual outdoor Baptism Service. We will be meeting at the ARC in Osceola at 10:00am for our regular Sunday Service, alongside the swimming pond, and then end Service by celebrating God's Saving work symbolized in water Baptism . If you have professed faith in Jesus Christ and are humbly walking with Him but have not yet been baptized, please prayerfully consider making this public proclamation of faith this year, in obedience to Christ's command and as a testimony of Christ's present and ongoing work in you. Just reach out to any of the pastor/elders to make that desire known.



## Today's Passage



Pastor Tony will be teaching from  
the book of Amos.  
Our passage for today is Amos 4:13.

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