

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

Sun, October 29, 2017

Vol. 11, Issue 4

Pastoral Ponderings

Wrestlings with The Commandments (Part 1 of 2)

I continue to wrestle with the Ten Commandments. Not the existence. Not that they are a word from God. Not the truth of them. My wrestle is with the understanding. When I was a child I thought like a child. As I grow those early thoughts often inhibit my ability to think clearly with my renewed mind. I am called to think more deeply and yet I often find myself in the knee jerk reaction of assuming that what I learned about God and the Bible as a child is necessarily true. Praise the Lord for these past four years which have taught me to look at God and the Scriptures in a renewed way. What I would call a God Only way. Not that God is the most important thing in my life. He is not the best thing in my life. He is the only thing in my life. (Now having said I believe this does not mean I carry it out very well) The interesting thing about this is that most often the old way was not wrong but just partial and incomplete. I suspect that in many areas where I now feel that I have a deeper understanding, I likely am still only scratching the surface of the depths of the wisdom and the love that is contained in these holy words from our eternal Father. There is now however comfort for me in this as we know that God can fill in wherever I lack and that His Spirit can guide us when words fail us.

So what is it that makes me wrestle with the Ten Commandments? Well I would have to say in the past it was my flesh that did not want to be told what to do. Thankfully I am a pretty good guy and I have not murdered or stolen too much. I get to church on Sundays (sometimes) and so all in all they shouldn't bother me right? Well it doesn't take a read too far into the new covenant to realize that the intent of the old was much deeper than controlling the actual actions. Lusting after a woman, wanting my neighbors stuff (Don't ask who is my neighbor cause it might just be anyone you stumble across that needs you and your possessions) being angry with anyone (yes that includes my children). Suddenly the Old Testament seems a whole lot more comforting. You know perhaps that is why many groups chase after rules and laws

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Ministry Directory

Building & Grounds Ministry:

Jim Nelson, 651.283.2132
lynnjimnelson@gmail.com

Children's Church Ministry:

Pastor Chandler Wiley,
815-575-6122
pastorwiley.nlcc@gmail.com

Children's Nursery Ministry:

Sara Fugate, 715.379.8799
fugate.sara@gmail.com

Grief Share Ministry:

Connie Bayle, 715.557.1431
conniesue1989@gmail.com

Meal Relief Ministry:

Diane McMahon,
715.453.8123
dedewiz@gmail.com

Missions Outreach:

Lorraine Milner,
715.557.0661

Newsletter Administration:

Dawn Holm, 715.472.8453
dholm@lakeland.ws

Sunday Meal Services:

Barb Manship,
612.804.9793 or
715.755.3330
bmanship55@hotmail.com

Transportation Services:

Art Behr, 715.220.6882
behrden1@charter.net

Treasurer:

Pete Manship,
715.755.3330
pete@pbmpkmanship.com

Video Ministry

Jim Mabee, 651.470.4172
jmabee@centurytel.net

Youth Group Ministry:

Pastor Chandler Wiley,
815-575-6122
pastorwiley.nlcc@gmail.com

Ministry Highlight cont.

from the Old Testament. Give me a list. I can check it off and if it is not on the list and I want to do it for myself then all is good, right? The problem with this is that it is focused on what can I do for me that does not anger God, when we should be asking how can I live for God no matter what happens to me. This self-promoting understanding comes in many forms. We can even make it look good by saying, "I follow these laws because I love God and want to show this to Him." Does He who can see into the heart of man need to be shown our love by our outward actions? If we owe Him life and breath and our current pardon from instant death resulting from our sin, how many actions can prove we love Him more than our disobedience proves our self-love? And if I am trying to prove my love of Him to protect myself, how pure is that love really? So no matter whether it is the Ten Commandments or the Beatitudes, it cannot be about a list of things I must do. There must be something else. Something more. If this last five years has taught me anything it would be that there is always something more...

By Rene Milner

**Part two of this this pondering will be found in our next newsletter. Please stay tuned...

Opportunities to Serve

Backpack Program

The program is run by the Osceola Open Cupboard and provides backpacks of easy to fix food for children and their families for over the weekends when they don't have access to school meals. This ministry is vital to our communities and the children that receive these bags. This year New Life is collecting pouches of sides--think rice, pasta, muffin mix and brownies. Please consider helping collect these inexpensive items, and remember, it should be pouches so it fits in the backpacks easier. Also, the easier it is to make, the better (the "just add water" are perfect). Many times it's children preparing this food on the weekends. Thank you!!

Upcoming Events

Atten: Young Adults!

Young adult friends, come party with the pastors and families Friday, November 3, at 6:30 pm at the Minell House. There are two qualifications for those invited: you must be post high school age and unmarried. You'll find Minell House at 2212 73rd Ave, Osceola. Bring your best game face.

CEF Verse-A-Thon

You are invited to participate with CEF in their 5th annual Verse-A-Thon on Saturday, November 11th, 2017! This is a great way to hide God's Word in your heart while helping CEF to continue their ministry in this area. Contact Erika Rice for more info.

Operation Christmas Child

Supplies are needed for Nov. 4th shoebox pack. Whether you would like to donate and cannot come or can come, those present need items to pack. Individuals are more than welcome to attend or do their own boxes, but we would like to group together in fellowship also. Please bring Wow items or bulk items as color books, facecloths, pencil sharpeners, a deflated soccer ball, stuffed toys like new or new...Let us see if we can beat last years number of 66! Thank you.

Women's Harvest Tea

The Women's Harvest Tea is fast approaching! This is an event where you can invite friends and women from the community for tea, refreshments, music, a speaker, & fellowship. Please sign-up on the welcome table for the Sat., November 18th Harvest Tea @ 1 pm. Questions?, please talk to Lorraine Milner, Sara Fugate or Cory Mattson



Oct. Memory Verse

Go on up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"
Isaiah 40:9

Check out New Life Online

newlifechristiancommunity.org

Find Links to:

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

Secretary: Cory Mattson

info@newlifechristiancommunity.org

715-417-0945

Finance Administration

[financeministry@](mailto:financeministry@newlifechristiancommunity.org)

newlifechristiancommunity.org

Treasurer: Pete Manship,

715.755.3330

Finance Secretary:

Erika Rice, 715-928-0835

Pastor Tony:

galatiansii20@yahoo.com

Pastor Chandler:

pastorwiley.nlcc@gmail.com

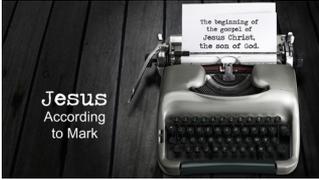
Pastoral Eldership Team:

Pastor Tony Minell	715-417-1982
AP, Chandler Wiley	815-575-6122
Zachary Fugate	715-379-2918
Paul Gilbertson	715-755-3517
Dale Mattson	715-566-2302
Greg Mattson	715-417-2444
Rene Milner	715-557-0185
Jim Nelson	651-283-2132

meal [teams]

- Nov. 5th Potluck Team #1
- Nov. 12th Meal Team 4
- Nov. 19th Meal Team 5

Today's Passage



Pastor Tony will be teaching from the Book of Mark.
Our passage for today is Mark 14:43-52.

Sermon Notes

New Life now has an Instagram account! Follow us @newlifechristiancommunity

Sign up in the entry way to be added to New Life Connect

201 State Road 35 N, Dresser, WI ~Sunday service starts at 9:30 am
email info@newlifechristiancommunity.org

