



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, March 4, 2018

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Ministry Highlight

2018 St. Croix Valley Men's Retreat: Life in Death

The St. Croix Valley Men's Retreat has been taking place at Oak Forest Center for over five years. Each year, like-minded men from the St. Croix Valley gather together for two days to encourage one another toward knowing Christ Jesus more. This year, the theme of the retreat, "Life in Death," will force men to consider Jesus' call to take up their cross and follow Him. The Apostle Paul called following Jesus dying with Jesus in order to live in Christ (see Gal. 2:20).

Now, as I highlight this opportunity for men, let me answer a couple questions beginning with "why?". You might be wondering: Why should I go to the men's retreat? I have three reasons. First, gathering together for a focused time of study in the Word, mutual encouragement in Christ, prayer, singing, and fellowship with Christian brothers can be a time of spiritual formation. If you are honest with yourself, you'll realize that your schedule is often hectic. The tasks that demand your attention as a man are ever growing: work, commute, family, honey-do-list, home maintenance, commitments at church, and other necessary tasks are screaming for your devotion. Sometimes, in the business, your focus wavers, even if just slightly, away from Jesus Christ. The upcoming Men's Retreat can be a time for you as a husband, father, grandfather, and/or son to readjust your spiritual eyes. I promise, if you come to the Men's Retreat with a willingness to listen to the Spirit's lead, you will be forced to set your eyes on Christ.

Although you need nothing more to convince you to set aside time for this retreat, I will offer two other reasons you, man, should come to the retreat. At the retreat, you will be able to grow Christ-centered friendships with men in this church and with other Christian men in the valley. The friendships that grow during the time of the retreat have eternal significance.

Finally, it's fun. Pastor Tony once climbed to the edge of a roof on cross-country skis to get the needed momentum to propel him down a rather steep hill. Keith Strohbeen once smashed an epic spike over the volleyball net that has men talking to this day. Rene Milner finally took Pastor Chandler down in a historic game of Splendor (it's a board game). Pastor Tony shot a large sum of tannerite with an AR and the boom was heard in Osceola (needless to say, we're not allowed to shoot guns up there anymore). The men's retreat is a blast!

Continued --->

Ministry Directory

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Ministry Highlight Cont.

The next question I want to answer is: What will happen at the Men's Retreat? Above all, the Men's Retreat is a time to study God's Word with other men. There will be three primary teaching sessions followed by group discussions (don't worry, you don't have to talk if you don't want to). Pastor Mark Barlow of Grace Church will be preaching first in the book of Romans. His sermon will be a call to come into the Gospel, and his sermon title is, "Let the Dead Hear His Voice." Pastor Seth Brickley of Eureka Baptist will be preaching on slaying sin in the power of the Gospel. His sermon title is, "The Truth Will Set You Free." Finally, our very own Pastor Chandler will be preaching on Gospel living with his sermon, "Rightly Living Means Rightly Dying."

During the retreat, men will join in song together, enjoy a pastoral panel discussion on spiritual disciplines, gather in breakout sessions to talk about things like *What is the Bible?* and *Biblical Fatherhood* (led by our elder Rene Milner). During the weekend, there will be great food, plenty of free-time, and a rather large amount of laughing.

Finally, when, where, and how? The Men's Retreat is April 13th and 14th. Check-in begins at 6 PM Friday evening. The closing session will end around 8:30 PM on Saturday night. The retreat is hosted at Oak Forest Center in Frederic, WI. To register for the Men's Retreat, you need to be on the lookout for the official brochure, which will include a registration form. Fill out this form and hand it to Pastor Tony or Pastor Chandler.

Hey, wives, moms, daughters and all other women. You want the men in your life attending this retreat. Encourage them to come!

Can New Life send the most men to the retreat? Although it's not a competition, I think we can.

Last Call for Directory Photos

If you were unable to have your picture taken for the updated New Life Directory, you still have an opportunity. Sun, March 18 will be our make-up day. Thanks for being part of this family photo album!

Opportunities to serve

This is an opportunity to serve those who are unable to join us in person to worship Jesus Christ and to study God's Word on Sunday morning. New Life video ministry is looking for camera operators. You can sit with one of the camera operators to see what is involved, talk to anyone on the team about the ministry, or contact Jim Mabee @ 651-470-4172. We'd love to have you on the team.

We are still looking for people who would love to help someone in a time of need with a meal. The meal relief program (we call Meal train) is always looking for people to fill the calendar of someone who is home bound and needs help getting meals. You could make an extra portion of what you are making for your family and drop it off to the person in need. Even a take out meal from your favorite spot can work! Please contact Diane McMahon for details.

FMSC Fund raiser

At 7 pm on Sat, March 10th, our brothers and sisters at the Alliance Church will be hosting a Feed my Starving Children fund raiser. Artist and Pastor Paul Oman will paint a larger than life sized mural before your eyes. The gospel will be celebrated and illustrated artistically, and musically throughout the event. All proceeds from the silent auction and free will donation will go towards the Feed my Starving Children ministry.

this week [events]

- 3.4 Forge - 6:30 @ the Milner's
- 3.7 Immerse @ 6:15
- 3.8 Men's Bible study @ 6:30 am
- 3.8 Women's Bible Study @ 9:30 am
- 3.8 GriefShare @6:30pm

Check out New Life Online

newlifechristiancommunity.org

Find Links to:

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

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March Memory Verse

"But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed." - Isaiah 53:5

meal [teams]

- Mar. 11th Meal Team 2
- Mar. 18th Meal Team 3
- Mar. 25th Meal Team 4

Today's Passage

JUDGES
Our Desperate Need for the King

Pastor Tony will be teaching from the
Book of Judges.
Our passage for today is Judges 2:20-3:6.

New Life has an Instagram account! Follow us @newlifechristiancommunity

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

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