



# 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, August 5, 2018

Vol. 11, Issue 43

## Ministry Highlight: the ministry of baptism

There are few services throughout the year that are more meaningful than our annual baptism service. The meaningfulness of that service has nothing to do with *how* New Life does it. It's meaningfulness has everything to do with *what* Jesus has done in the lives of those who are being baptized. As such, its meaning is eternal and infinite.

Let's take a look at the history of baptism.

Baptism was a fairly common practice done during the Old Testament times and especially during the inter-testamental period (the time between the writing of the Old and the New Testaments).

The purpose of baptism has always been to give people the opportunity to declare, to as many people as possible, a certain conviction and belief. In Acts 8, the Ethiopian Eunuch, on his way home from Jerusalem, was eager to immediately proclaim to his massive entourage (indeed he would have traveled with an enormous royal entourage) that he was a follower of Jesus Christ – Jesus was the fulfillment of the words he had been reading in Isaiah 53!

Before Christ came generally the reason people were baptized was to declare that they would like to become as Jewish as possible (without being circumcised and/or born into an Israelite family). This was a bold and vulnerable step. Not only were you putting your life into the hands of a Rabbi – who could kill you (in the midst of baptism), but you were also putting your family at risk by being associated with "those Jews!"

Later, when John the Baptist began to baptize people, his baptism declaration was very different than other "Jewish" baptisms. He told, not only the gentiles, but also the Jews that they needed to be baptized into "repentance" (see Mark 1:4, Acts 13:24, etc.). This was particularly offensive and jarring for the Jews (especially for the religious leaders). Now, not only was it dangerous for Gentiles to be baptized – it was even more risky to be baptized as a Jew – because you were essentially telling the Jewish leaders that their system wasn't good enough! That was a bold statement for anyone.

Jesus chose to be baptized into John's baptism (a baptism of repentance). It was during Jesus' baptism that God himself gave His testimony to the world about who Jesus was (which is the essential picture of what it is for us – a verbal and pictorial declaration of faith). It was Jesus' public declaration to the world. God declared

*Continued --->*

## Ministry Directory

### Building & Grounds

#### Ministry:

Dan Peikert, 715-377-6557  
dandpeikert@yahoo.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 B., 715.557.1431  
conjoh1@gmail.com

### Meal Relief Ministry:

Diane McMahan,  
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  
barb@pbmpkmanship.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.

"this is my son, in whom I am well pleased." In this act, Jesus fulfills all righteousness (Matthew 3:15) – but not to fulfill His righteousness. His act of baptism was on our behalf - standing in our place. He was baptized into true repentance on our behalf. He walks through the Red Sea on our behalf. He goes through the water on our behalf – just as later He would die on our behalf.

Today we are not baptized into John's baptism. We are called to be baptized into *Christ* and His death (Romans 6:4)! Just as Christ was crucified, descended into the ground and rose again – so we too, in baptism, display that change. It is our opportunity to tell the world what Christ has done in our lives.

We must be careful that we as a church don't make baptism about the act...we must keep the heart of the purpose of baptism at the forefront. Matthew 10:32-33 is a very pertinent passage to what baptism is all about. We must be willing to "confess Jesus as Lord of our lives" before men. That is the heart of the gospel, "If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9).

Standing in His righteousness with you,

Pastor Tony

## Book Highlight

Philippians 3:17-21 challenges us to consider the people we look up to, admire, and see as good examples. More than one time in his letters, Paul tells his audience to imitate those who display a life faithful to the gospel. In the book "*21 Servants of Sovereign Joy*," author John Piper considers the lives of 21 heroes of the faith. These are men who, though flawed, proved to be faithful to the gospel. Not only did they preach the truth of Jesus Christ, their lives were totally transformed by the message of Jesus. All of their ministries bore great fruit. Some of the men Piper considers are Augustine, John Owen, William Wilberforce, and John Paton. According to Paul, these men have something to teach us about living lives worthy of the gospel. "*21 Servants of Sovereign Joy*" is available for purchase in the Resource Center at the building!

## Announcements & Upcoming Events

**New Life Connect** - If your new and looking for ways to connect with the body outside of Sunday service, New Life Christian Community has a secure online community called "New Life Connect." It is designed for sharing prayer requests quickly with the rest of the body, allows for announcements and needs to be shared among the community easily and freely, and imply makes contact information available to each of us throughout the week. To be a part of Connect, please email pastor Tony or pastor Paul.

**Communion** - Usually we take communion on the first Sunday of every month, but since this morning we will be away from the building celebrating our Baptism service, we will partake of the Lord's supper next Sunday.

**Farewell Party** - Next Sunday we'll be saying our "good-byes" to Pastor Chandler, Kimmi and family. Join us from 5-7 pm for a farewell party at the New Life building. We will send them off with a proper Wisconsin pot luck dinner. Bring your best dish, side or something fresh from your garden. Dessert will be provided.

**Women's Luncheon** - River Valley Christian Women's Connection invites women of all ages to their August event "Fitness on a Dime", on August 20<sup>th</sup>. Includes lunch, speaker and music. Please see poster in the entry way for more information.

**Greeting Card Ministry** - 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 cell at 651-373-1426

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

Find Links to:

- Events • Sermons Online • Set Lists •  
New Life Connect • & More

### Pastoral Eldership Team:

Pastor Tony Minell	715.417.1982
<a href="mailto:galatiansii20@yahoo.com">galatiansii20@yahoo.com</a>	
Pastor Chandler Wiley	815.575.6122
<a href="mailto:pastorwiley.nlcc@gmail.com">pastorwiley.nlcc@gmail.com</a>	
Pastor Paul Linzmeier	320.226.5581
<a href="mailto:pastorpaul.nlcc@gmail.com">pastorpaul.nlcc@gmail.com</a>	
Cory Mattson – Secretary	715.417.0945
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

### This Week's Schedule of Events:

- 8.8 Women's Bible Study @ 12:30 am
- 8.9 Men's Bible study @ 6:30 am

### Upcoming Potluck/Meal Teams:

- Aug. 12<sup>th</sup> Meal Team 2
- Aug. 19<sup>th</sup> Meal Team 3
- Aug. 26<sup>th</sup> Meal Team 4

### August Memory Verse

"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved"  
(Romans 10:9)

## 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 10:1-5.

New Life 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](mailto:info@newlifechristiancommunity.org)