



Today's Passage:
Pastor Tony will be speaking to us today from
Joshua 7:16-26

Sermon Notes:

Welcome to the Celebration!



Sunday, September 20, 2015

Vol. 8, Issue 50

Pastoral Ponderings

Grace is Always a Scandal

Labor Day afforded me and Jenna a chance to visit her family in Texas. And...perhaps a Badgers football game (let's not talk about the outcome). Our time with the Kulpinskis is always limited, so it was a soak-y'all-up trip.

Our plane ride departed for home in the early hours and my bones are getting closer to calcification (cattle joke) with each year so I figured the Spirit Airlines seats would be no refuge. I was correct. After tossing and turning, the Holy Spirit reminded me that I had downloaded the NIV version of the Bible on my phone and that I had lots of time on my hands. Disclaimer: admittedly, this prompting was not my lazy flesh. But, as always, the Lord stood ready for a date!

I opened to the book of John; soon I came to the story of the Samaritan woman at the water well (John 4:1-26). I've read this story many times before. But, this time the Lord reminded me that His grace is always a scandal. In other words, by any other metric in the universe, grace does not happen. Yet, for His glory and the building of His kingdom, grace is essential.

Let's count a few of the scandals. First, she was Samaritan, He was a Jew. Jews didn't associate with Samaritans. Yet, Jesus did. She was a woman. Yet, Jesus still spoke to her. Next, He offers her living water, **"If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water,"** (John 4:10). This is scandalous because Jesus didn't claim to be just a prophet - He claimed to be King! He could offer living water. This irked the Pharisees constantly. Then, Jesus calls out her life story. She's had five husbands and currently is living with another man unwed. Jesus wraps up the interaction by declaring that He is the Christ (John 4:26) - the living water, the grace that covers sin.

This story hit me because my life in Christ is a constant scandal. The result of my sin is death without the covering grace of Christ. Scandalous.

Andy Peterson

Visitor Card

We'd like to get to know you. Please take a moment to fill out this card then drop it in the wooden offering box near the back of the room.

- First-Time Visitor
- Returning Visitor

Name:

Date:

Email:

Phone:

How to access the sermon archives:

If you would like a copy of an audio (CD) or video (DVD) of a sermon from our archives (\$2 per copy), please complete the following and drop this card in the wooden offering box near the back of the room. Your order will be available for pick-up at the video booth the following week.

Name:

Sermon Date:

Scripture Passage:

To download sermons for free, go to newlifechristiancommunity.org

Prayer Card

If you are in need of prayer or would like to share a praise report, please share it below then drop this card in the wooden offering box near the back of the room.

Please check a box below:

- This may be added to our congregation prayer wall
- Share this only with the pastor and elders

Optional:

Name:

Email:

Phone:

If you would like someone to pray with you today, you may come to the front of the church immediately following the service.

Pastoral Eldership Team:

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Andy Peterson 715.417.2253

Checkout New Life Online newlifechristiancommunity.org

Our website is full of information about who we are, what we believe, and up-to-date information about what's going on at New Life.

Find Links to:

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

Sunday Nursery: (Infants - Preschool)
Sept 20 Sara F, Carly P, Jocelyn F
Sept 27 Cindy D, Lillian H, Rebbecca R, Cecilia

This Week's Schedule of Events:

Sept 20 **Church Softball/Cookout**
3:30 p.m. at Alliance Softball Field - Cookout to follow

Sept 23 **GriefShare Meeting**
12:30-2:00 p.m. at NLCC building-Grn Rm

Sept 23 **Immerse Family Grp. Studies**
Groups for Infant to Adult
6:30-7:45 p.m. at NLCC building

Sept 24 **Men's Bible Study**
The Book of Acts
6:30 a.m. at NLCC building

Sept 24 **Women's Bible Study**
Book of Hebrews
6:30 a.m. at NLCC building

September Memory Verse:

Galatians 6:14

"But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world." (ESV)

Announcements and Events:



NEW KITCHEN UPDATE

Praise the Lord! The Building and grounds would like to announce that on October 4th we will be opening up our new kitchen - Lord willing!!!



Welcome to our Newest Addition!

Praise the Lord! Timothy and Missy Johnson had a healthy little baby girl September 17th. Let's all welcome Ember Jean Johnson to our New Life community! As is our tradition here at New Life, let's begin showering them with newborn diapers. Watch for the hamper at the front entrance of the building.



OSCEOLA FOOD SHELF

The Backpack Program through Osceola Food Shelf is in full swing. The items that New Life is assigned to bring are packets of muffins and pancake mix, (no boxes please since they do take up space.) Please bring your donations to the collection container at the front entrance of New Life.



HANDS and FEET for JESUS

Are you looking for a way to get involved? Perhaps joining a meal team to assist in providing one of the wonderful meals we enjoy each week would be a great place to start or perhaps you are a baker and just want to contribute to the desert table. Maybe clean-up is your thing. If you want more information and want to discuss the level of commitment that would work best for you, contact Barb Manship.



Fellowship follows our service every Sunday, along with a great meal.
Please stay and join us!

Ministry Directory:

Building & Grounds Ministry - Jim Nelson 651.283.2132 his email: lynnjimmelson@gmail.com

Children's Church Ministry - Cara Gilbertson: 715.755.3517 her email: cara.gilbertson@gmail.com

Children's Nursery Ministry - Sara Fugate: 715.379.8799 her email: fugate.sara@gmail.com

Community Outreach - Phil and Pam Stratmoen: 715.491.5779 email: philstratmoen@gmail.com

Finance Administration - Cory Mattson (Finance Secretary): 715.417.0945 her email: cory79mattson@hotmail.com or Pete Manship (Treasurer): 715.755.3330 his email: pete@pbmpkmanship.com

GriefShare Ministry - Connie Bayle: 715.557.1431 her email: conjoh1@gmail.com

Hospitality Ministry - Pam Stratmoen: 715.491.5779 her email: stratmoenp@gmail.com

Meal Relief Ministry - Julie Minell: 715.417.1981 her email: mrs.minell@yahoo.com

Missions Outreach - Lorraine Milner: 715.557.0661 her email: lrmlner@gmail.com

Newsletter Administration - Dawn Holm: 715.472.8453 her email: djholm@lakeland.ws

Sunday Meal Services - Barb Manship: 612.804.9793 or 715.755.3330 her email: bmanship55@hotmail.com

Transportation Services - Eve Bjork: 715.497.6418 her email: sofiesydney@yahoo.com or Art Behr: 715.220.6882 his email: behrden1@charter.net

Video Ministry - Jim Mabee: 651.470.4172 his email: jmabee@centurytel.net

Youth Group Ministry - Pastor Chandler Wiley: 815.575.6122 his email: pastorwiley.nlcc@gmail.com

More Events to take Note of:



A GRANDSLAM END TO SOFTBALL

REMINDER FOR TODAY! Sunday, September 20th, New Life and Alliance will play our last game for the season at 3:30pm at Alliance. Afterwards, we will join together for a cookout to celebrate a wonderful summer. The whole church is invited to come play or watch the game, and join in the fellowship following the game. Please bring chairs, and something to share with the group.

IMMERSE FAMILY GROUP STUDIES

Come and join us Wednesday evenings at the building starting at 6:30 p.m. We have studies to fit every age group, nursery through adult. We conclude at approximately 7:45 p.m. so that adults can pick up their children before 8:00 p.m. The first Wednesday of each month is dedicated to Worship.



TRAIN RIDE FUND RAISER

Mark your calendars now! The Annual Train Ride will be **October 24th!** It was such a beautiful day last year to be on the train. Bring your friends and family and enjoy a 90 minute scenic ride from Osceola to the Marine and back! On board, treat your family to a lunch provided by Polk County Mobile Pack (free will donation) All proceeds will go to the Polk County Mobile Pack Event.

Logistics for our Visitors and Guests

If you happen to miss a Greeter as you came in, here are a few tidbits of information to help you feel comfortable:

- The rest rooms are located on the North walls behind the nursery or in our worship/service area.
- The Nursery is always available for infants to preschool aged children East of entrance.
- Busy-bags for young kids are hanging from pegs on the offering box at entrance to service area, (please return after service.)
- We do not collect offerings but if you wish to make an offering, a wooden box is by the entrance to our service area.
- Until our kitchen is ready, our fellowship meal is being served at the very back of our service area, just follow the line!