



Today's Passage:
Pastor Tony's message is from the Old Testament book,
Joshua 21:43-45

Sermon Notes:

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

Sunday, March 13, 2016

Vol. 9, Issue 23

Pastoral Pondering

In God's Image

"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well." Psalm 139:14

I knew I would be having the opportunity to write about where God is leading me for a couple of weeks. Usually it's very clear where I am being led but, I have to admit, this time I was having the proverbial writers block. I was feeling ashamed that it would take any effort to write something about our awesome God ... after all, He is our everything and the Sustainer of our every breath and heartbeat. That led me to consider the very thing I deal with on a daily basis, our own fearfully and wonderfully made bodies. I am hoping through my future ponderings that you can get a glimpse of the miracle of life in a way that perhaps you haven't pondered, and this alone will lead to a greater love and ultimately to worship of our Creator Jesus Christ!

God made us in His image. That means we are set apart from other creation. Evolutionary biology will state that we are very similar to apes pointing out that our DNA differs only by 1.2% from the chimpanzee. But this very 1.2% difference allows us to create art, know right from wrong and make moral judgements. Clearly there is a huge difference between humans and animals, and we accept with faith that this is granted from the Creator and not a set of random events. German-American rocket scientist and aerospace engineer, Werner van Braun (1912-1977) stated, "Certainly there are those who argue that the universe evolved out of a random process, but what random process could produce the brain of a man or the system of the human eye?"

I am going to start our journey with the building block of all life, the cell itself. All living organisms are made up of cells. Some may be a single cell like a bacteria or many cells like humans. Scientist estimate that our bodies are made up of 75-100 trillion cells. Within the cell lies the nucleus which I would best describe as the command center. In the command center is the blueprint (DNA). DNA is the very thing that will determine if a developing fetus will be male or female, blond or brown hair, skin color, eye color, height, and even susceptibility to early heart disease or specific types of cancers. Imagine your entire blueprint for who you are is tucked into the nucleus of a single cell in your body. Science has determined that a single cell will hold about 6 feet of DNA material in a microscopic sized nucleus. WOW!

So when I was just a single cell inside my mother 58 years ago my entire genetic makeup was carried inside the nucleus. One cell divided to make two cells and two cells then divided to make four cells. This process continued over and over without error. Suddenly some cells became specialized to form eyes, a brain, bones, liver, kidneys, teeth and a heart. We know by ultrasound that at 6 weeks following conception a fetal heart beat is detectable.

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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:

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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:

Pastor Tony Minell 715.417.1982
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Dale Mattson 715.566.2302
Greg Mattson 715.417.2444
Rene Milner 715.483.0185

Checkout New Life Online newlifechristiancommunity.org

Find Links to:

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

Be sure to tune into our pastors' podcast at the beginning of each week. You can access the podcast through our website, the Table, or the podcast icon on your Wi-Fi enabled Apple device.

This Week's Schedule of Events:

Mar 16 Afternoon GriefShare Mtg.
12:30 - 2:30 p.m.
Green Room at NLCC Building

Mar 16 Immerse Family Grp. Studies
6:30 p.m. at NLCC Building

Mar 17 Men's Bible Study
Book of Acts
6:30 a.m. at NLCC Building

Mar 17 Women's Bible Study
Book of Hebrews
9:30 a.m. at NLCC Building

Mar 17 Evening GriefShare Mtg.
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Green Room at NLCC Building

Upcoming Potlucks & Meal Teams:

Mar 13 Meal Team #2
Mar 20 Meal Team #3
Mar 27 Easter - All Church Potluck before Service
Apr 3 All Church Potluck (Meal Team #4 is serving and clean-up)
Apr 10 Meal Team #5

March Memory Verse: Hebrews 1:1-2

"Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world." (ESV)

Pastoral Pondering

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By 10 weeks the fetus is completely formed and only grows from that point up until delivery. Authorities have stated that the cardiac cell, an offspring of our original single cell is intrinsically or naturally designed to beat on its own and therefore no outside source is required. Scientists have proved this by placing a single cardiac cell in a petri dish. It will start beating on its own. If a second cardiac cell is placed in the same dish but not touching the other one it will beat independently of the other unless it is joined then the two will beat in unison. When you take millions of these cardiac cells and put them together you have the heart. Mine has been beating for over 58 years if you count the almost nine months prior to my birth. At this very moment your heart continues to supply all your vital organs including itself, usually without a glitch. That is a true miracle considering my microwave, which was used way less, lasted less than 3 years.

Now imagine 75-100 trillion cells joined together working as one. May our church body act the same! At this very moment, your brain is processing what I am writing through the sense of vision but at the same time monitoring your blood pressure, heart rate, the status of your metabolism via your thyroid and on and on. This continues 24/7 while you're sleeping or awake. Again this goes on without us even thinking about it. There is no check engine light or rebooting that is needed as noted with man-made objects. As you can see the body truly is fearfully and wonderfully made.

I am hoping with future ponderings to continue to write about the various aspects of our bodies so that in the end the only conclusion you can have is that we are truly created by a Creator in His image and not a product of randomness. To Him be the glory!!

In Christ, Greg Mattson



Men, please make your plans to attend this year's men's retreat, Biblical Manhood. This year the retreat will be held on Friday April 1st to Saturday April 2nd. There are brochures available on the welcome table with more information. Please take one and let Pastor Tony know if you will be there. Come for as little or as much as you can. We would love to have every brother there! Our very own Pastor Chandler will be leading worship and Pastor Tony will be among three area church pastors teaching throughout the weekend.

Ministry Directory:

Building & Grounds Ministry - Jim Nelson 651.283.2132 his email: lynnjimmnelson@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

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

Missions Outreach - Lorraine Milner: 715.557.0661 her email: lrmliner@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

Announcements and Upcoming Events:



ATTENTION ALL TEENS!

It's not too late to register for **CYIA!** Registration closes March 31st. So don't delay! See Erika Rice for info and details.



TAPESTRIES OF LIFE

This is a call to all considering the trip to Mexico to serve *Tapestries of Life*. We will be meeting Wednesday, March 23rd at 7:45 pm in the green room (after Immerse.) We will also need commitment at this time for going to build the orphanage. Paperwork will need to be done and our reserve money needs to be sent before the end of the month. We would also ask everyone to *Please Pray* for hearts willing to serve, money for our ministry day (\$2500), and the Lord to lead the way. There will be a box at the entrance of the church to collect regular size tubes of toothpaste (350#) and brushes for both adults and children of Mexico for Ministry Day on Wednesday of the week we serve. Looking forward to seeing you all then. Lorraine Milner



FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN EVENTS:

FMSC 'Envelope' fund raiser. New Life has been asked to make \$3000 in offerings, which have been broken down into several easy-to-manage increments written clearly on envelopes located in the entry way of the building. Please prayerfully consider taking one or more envelopes to contribute to this worthy event to help New Life meet this offering. Once you choose your envelope, PLEASE make your check out to **FMSC** and return it in the offering box, or to Pam Stratmoen.

'The Pack.' The Pack will be held on Friday April 1st 5:00-7:00 pm. This event promises to provide fun and fellowship while you donate your time. Registration for sign-up sheet is located in the entry way of the building.



Fellowship follows our service every Sunday, along with a great meal.

Please stay and join us!