



# New Life Christian Community

Join Us As We  
Celebrate Only Jesus

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024  
VOL. 17, ISSUE 19

"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

## Pastoral Pondering

### YES BROTHERS AND SISTERS, WE CAN HAVE JOY!

As we start the New Year of 2024, it seems hard to find much joy in this fallen world. From our physical eyes, we see inflation, economic hardship, illness, death, many wars, hatred, dissension, immorality, idolatry, political corruption like I've never seen in my lifetime. Everywhere we look, we see the painful results of sin.

But, as Christians, we live by the Spirit. Paul teaches us in [Galatian 5:22](#), "*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, and self-control; against such things there is no law.*" To "walk in the Spirit" means to have our daily lives under His control, and this means under the direction of the Word of God.

Literally, the "fruit of the Spirit" is what happens when the Holy Spirit indwells a believer. The "fruit" is the product of the Holy Spirit's cultivation of character in a heart. Joy is the natural reaction to the work of God, whether promised or fulfilled. Joy expresses God's kingdom - His influence on earth. Paul teaches us in [Romans 14:17](#), "*For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.*"

The Spirit's production of joy can manifest in several different ways: The joy of salvation, the joy of growing and being sanctified more and more into His image, and the joy of God's presence in our daily life.

Our greatest reason to be joyful is that God wants to save us and spend eternity with us. Nothing is better than this. [Luke 15:7](#), "*All heaven is joyful when a person accepts God's provision of salvation.*" [Acts 8:8](#), "*the people of Samaria were joyful as they heard the gospel and saw God's power in healing the sick.*"

As the Holy Spirit works in us to bear fruit, we become confident in God's promises and rejoice in our walk with Him and with other believers. [John 15:11](#), "*The fullness of joy comes to those who continue in the love of Christ and obey Him.*" [Philippians 2:2](#), Groups of believers who unite in demonstrating the mind, love, and purpose of Christ bring joy to others. Recently, as we walked the last days with our dear sister in Christ and friend, Lindsay Maring, we witnessed her tremendous joy even in such a trial. Likewise, many from this body of believers were blessed with her joy.

We also see the joy of God's presence. The Holy Spirit draws us to God, in whose presence we can know true joy. [Psalm 16:11](#), "*You will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.*" *Continued on next page...*

## Pastoral Pondering

...Continued

[Matthew 2:10](#); [Luke 24:41](#): Mary and the shepherds were joyful because Immanuel had been born,

We have joy because of God's grace. The next step in the progression is to allow our joy to become an action as we express it, although sometimes joy can be so great it is inexpressible as Peter explains to us in [1 Peter 1:8](#).

Humanity yearns for hope, for meaning and purpose. Within every human heart is the knowledge of eternity, even if we don't recognize it as such. Without God as a vital part of our existence, only emptiness and futility remain.

The joy of the Lord may be inexplicable to the one who does not possess it. But, for the Believer in Christ, the joy of the Lord comes as naturally as grapes on a vine. As we abide in Christ, the True Vine, we, the branches, are full of His strength and vitality, and the fruit we produce, including joy, is His doing ([John 15:15](#))

Possessing joy is a choice. We choose whether to value God's presence, promises, and work in our lives. When we yield to the Spirit, He opens our eyes to God's grace around us and fills us with joy. Joy is not to be found in a fallen world; it is only fellowship with God that can make our joy complete ([1 John 1:4](#)). Nehemiah teaches us, "*For the joy of the Lord is our strength.*"

Your brother In - Christ, Jim Nelson

## New Life Directory

Hello New Life family! An effort is underway to update our directory with fresh photos and contact information! This is a final call out to anyone who has not yet submitted a picture and contact information to Mary for the directory to do it today! Even if you are not a partner or relatively new to attending, please consider adding yourself/family into the directory. It's such a helpful way to connect names to faces and provides quick accessible contact information to get in touch. You can provide your family information by



using the QR code in the newsletter or emailing info. to: [gcyr13@gmail.com](mailto:gcyr13@gmail.com). Thank you!

## MINISTRY DIRECTORY

### Building & Grounds Ministry

Jim Judkins 715.338.8837  
Daniel Lipp 612.229.2893  
[oldoutboardjim@hotmail.com](mailto:oldoutboardjim@hotmail.com)

### Coffee Ministry

Ana Smith: 715.566.3740  
[anajoy87@gmail.com](mailto:anajoy87@gmail.com)

### Finance Administration

Colleen Firkus (Treasurer): 612.889.7581  
[financeministry@newlifechristiancommunity.org](mailto:financeministry@newlifechristiancommunity.org)

### Greeting Card Ministry

Lynn Nelson: 651.373.1426  
[lynnjimmnelson@gmail.com](mailto:lynnjimmnelson@gmail.com)

### GriefShare Ministry

Robin Mattson: 715.566.1945  
[robinmattson27@gmail.com](mailto:robinmattson27@gmail.com)

### Immerse Ministry

Mindy Havlish: 715.494.0410  
[havlishm@gmail.com](mailto:havlishm@gmail.com)

### Meal Train Relief Ministry

Kristin Stephan: 651.235.1681  
[kristin@kageinnovation.com](mailto:kristin@kageinnovation.com)

### Music Ministry

Jeff Warren: 715.553.2405  
[pastorjeff.nlcc@protonmail.com](mailto:pastorjeff.nlcc@protonmail.com)

### Missions Outreach

Lorraine Milner: 715.557.0661  
[lrnilner@gmail.com](mailto:lrnilner@gmail.com)

### Newsletter Administration

Dawn Holm: 715.472.8453  
[djholm@lakeland.ws](mailto:djholm@lakeland.ws)

### Resource Center

Cory Mattson: 715.417.0945  
[cory79mattson@hotmail.com](mailto:cory79mattson@hotmail.com)

### Sunday Meal Services

Barbara Judkins: 309.269.0556  
[bjdamell@hotmail.com](mailto:bjdamell@hotmail.com)

### Transportation Services

Art Behr: 715.557.1890  
[behrden1@charter.net](mailto:behrden1@charter.net)

### Video Ministry

Jim Mabee: 651.470.4172  
[jmabee@centurytel.net](mailto:jmabee@centurytel.net)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Pastoral Eldership Team:

Pastor Tony Minell	715.417.1982
galatiansii20@yahoo.com	
Pastor Paul Linzmeier	320.226.5581
pastorpaul.nlcc@gmail.com	
Pastor Jeff Warren	715.553.2405
pastorjeff.nlcc@protonmail.com	
Cory Mattson – Secretary	715.417.0945
Zachary Fugate	715.379.2918
Brian Gates	651.230.6554
Matt Leko	651.465.3154
Dale Mattson	715.566.2302
Greg Mattson	715.417.2444
Rene Milner	715.557.0185
Brian Nelson	651.323.4253
Jim Nelson	651.283.2132
Jay Swisher	763.587.3472

### This Week's Scheduled Events:

Mon	Prayer Night/Westbury's– 6:30 pm
Tues	Men's Bible Study– 6:30 am
Wed	Every Man's Battle– 6:00 am
Wed	Immerse– 6:15 pm
Thurs	Men's Bible Study– 6:30 am
Thurs	Ladies Bible Study– 10:30 am
Thurs	Ladies Bible Study– Noon
Thurs	Ladies Precept Study– 6:30 pm
Thurs	GriefShare– 6:30 pm (Adults & Youth meet separately)

### February Memory Verse:

Romans 5:1 (ESV)

"Therefore since we have been justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

### February Fellowship Tip:

Consider the needs of the elderly, widows/widowers and those homebound in our fellowship. Consider reaching out to someone this week with a phone call, visit, invite to your home, or inquire perhaps about a need that can be shared for the body to come alongside in meeting.

### Sunday Meals and Fellowship:

February 11	Meal Team 4 ~ Rice and Beans
February 18	Meal Team 5~ Breakfast

Contact Barbara Judkins if interested in being on a meal team or a helper.

Check out New Life Online  
newlifechristiancommunity.org

- **New Life Preaching Guild:** Reminder to the men who are planning to participate in the New Life Preaching Guild ...our first meeting has been moved from this Sunday to **Next Sunday February 18th, 6:30pm** at the building.
- **Attention College & Career young adults:** Today after service and lunch, you are invited to 3 Arrows for some coffee and continued fellowship. Hope to see you there!
- **Monday Evening Prayer:** Monday night prayer is meeting at Linda Sandmann's home for the **month of February**. You're invited to join us **6:30pm** at 13415 Newlander Ave, Lindstrom MN.
- **Women's Thursday Evening Bible Study:** Our next Women's **6:30pm Thursday Bible Study** will be **March 21 to June 6**. We will be studying *Behold your God: The Weight of Majesty* by John Snyder. Workbook is \$18. The Sign-up sheet is in the foyer. Contact Colleen Firkus 612-889-7581 with questions. A 1st week sample is available for review.
- **New Life Business Directory:** We have many choices where to take our business and spend our dollars. Why not use those dollars to support our New Life church family, our eternal family. We might not even realize we have an auto mechanic, a plumber, a bread baker or an artist sitting right next to us at church! Melissa Cox is working to compile a list of businesses that are owned by New Life attendees for us to reference when we need goods or services.

If you would like to be in this directory, please contact Melissa Cox at [melissamae25@hotmail.com](mailto:melissamae25@hotmail.com) or 651-285-6185. Send me your business name, address, website, phone and what goods or services you provide and I will get you on the list. **Please do so by Sunday, February 18**. Once everyone's information is gathered, the information will be posted on Connect. Thank you for supporting our New Life businesses!

welcome

If you are a visitor this morning or have only been coming to New Life for a few months, we are glad you are joining with us! If you would like to learn more about New Life, be sure to stop by the Resource Center in the front foyer to pick up a welcome bag we have for you. Please join us for fellowship and a meal after service today where we would love to meet and get to know you and for you to get to know us more.

Busy Bags  
Available by the Door

nlcc  
resourcecenter

Are you looking for a good book to give as a gift or thinking of starting a bible study? Check out our resource center and ask the resource ministry team for some good suggestions. In addition to good books for both adults and children, there are also music CD's, DVD documentaries, bible concordance, systematic theology books, and much more. We have many choices, so be sure to take a look today after service.



# Jesus

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According to Samuel

**TODAY'S PASSAGE:**

Pastor Tony's message is from the  
Old Testament book,

**1 SAMUEL 17:55-8:4**

SERMON NOTES: