



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, January 28, 2024

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Pastoral Ponderings

1 Corinthians is the latest book we have been studying on Tuesday mornings. While it is a difficult book to summarize, I think a good attempt would be to say it is a letter of correction. Paul is correcting the Corinthian church on several topics most of which are behavioral. There are a few verses at the end of chapter 9 that have caused me to stop and think. Verses 26 & 27 are written, "So I do not go run aimlessly: I do not box as one beating the air. But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified."

Verse 26 begins with "So" which means there must have been some teaching before this that requires a response. The verses before this describe an analogy of an athlete running a race, not just to run but to win. This is a great example for the Corinthians as they would have been very familiar with athletic games. Corinth was host to games that were second only to the Olympics. Paul goes on to say the wreath a runner receives is perishable, but the race we, as Christians, are running should be run to receive an imperishable wreath. How do we, I, run this race? If there is a race or event coming up that requires physical stamina you need to train for it. One cannot just show up and expect a good outcome.

The running aimlessly or boxing the air really struck me. I had to reflect and ask myself if I was indeed running with a purpose or am I running aimlessly and boxing the air? Think about these examples. Running aimlessly and boxing the air have no real purpose. Yes you may be going through some motions, but are they producing any gains? If I go out and run a mile every day for a month but don't keep track of my times, or take days off if the weather isn't the best, am I really training? If I read my bible every day for a certain amount of time but don't really ponder what I'm reading or keep looking at the clock to see if my time is up, am I really gaining any wisdom? Or am I just going through the motions and checking boxes? To continue with the boxing analogy, these were the body blows that were setting me up for the knock-out punch. Verse 27, "But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified."

Continued-->

Pastoral Ponderings cont.

Boom, uppercut to the chin. Discipline here could be translated as bruising oneself, think of giving yourself a black eye. He's describing action that is not just checking of a to-do list. He is describing something that takes effort, and desire. Why? So if we preach to others we are not disqualified. Disqualified in a race means you are done, no second chances, no do overs. Disqualified in Greek here means to be rejected after testing.

This text caused me to reflect and think about my study, prayer, and race. Am I running aimlessly, boxing the air? When I preach (teach) to others and they test my actions am I found to be faithful to the Word, or should I be rejected?

Brian Nelson

New Life Directory Update!

Hello New Life family! An effort is underway to update our directory with fresh photos and contact information! Photos and contact info will be gathered from all of you the next 2 Sundays at the building between 9:00-9:20am and also during lunch. You can provide your family information at that time or you can use the QR code in the newsletter. You may provide a photo or we will take one for you. Any questions, please reach out to Sara Fugate or Mary Griesbach. Thank you!



NLCC *Resource Center*

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. Take a look today after service.

Ministry Directory

Building & Grounds Ministry

Jim Judkins, 715.338.8837
oldoutboardjim@hotmail.com

Coffee Ministry

Ana Smith, 715.566.3740
anajoy87@gmail.com

Finance Administration

Colleen Firkus (Treasurer),
612-889-7581
c.a.firkus@gmail.com

GriefShare Ministry

Robin Mattson, 715.566.1945
robinmattson27@gmail.com

Immerse Ministry

Mindy Havlish, 715- 494-0410
havlishm@gmail.com

Meal Relief Ministry

Kristin Stephan, 651.235-1681
kristin@kageinnovation.com

Missions Outreach

Lorraine Milner, 715.557.0661
lrmilner@gmail.com

Music Ministry

Jeff Warren, 715-553-2405
pastorjeff.nlcc@protonmail.com

Newsletter Administration

Dawn Holm, 715.472.8453
djhholm@lakeland.ws

Resource Center

Cory Mattson, 715.417.0945
cory79mattson@hotmail.com

Sunday Meal Services

Barbara Judkins,
309.269.0556
bjdarnell@hotmail.com

Transportation Services

Art Behr, 715-557-1890
behrden1@charter.net

Video Ministry

Jim Mabee, 651.470.4172
jmabee@centurytel.net

Check out New Life Online newlifechristiancommunity.org

This Week's Schedule of Events

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 Study– 6:30 pm
Thurs	GriefShare– 6:30 pm

(Adults & Youth meet separately)

Meal Teams

2/4 Meal Team 3

2/11 Meal Team 4

Contact *Barbara Judkins* if interested in joining a meal team.

Fellowship Tip for January

Have you committed yourself to invest in the work of gospel ministry here at New Life and want to learn more about what it means to become a partner? Take a moment and talk to one of the elders or pastors and they would be glad to begin that process with you.

January Memory Verse

Matthew 5:16 (ESV)

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

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

Announcements

Attention College & Career young adults: Sunday, February 11, we will be grabbing coffee at 3 Arrows after church. Hope to see you there!

Kinship of Polk County: Looking for a long-term evangelistic opportunity in our own community? Kinship of Polk County is specifically reaching out to local churches to connect compassionate volunteers to begin a mentor-based relationship with needy children from our community who lack healthy adult figures in their life. Right now they have 20 youths on a waiting list to be paired up with a mentor. Karalee, one of the staff for Kinship of Polk County recognizes the practical needs these children have but also more importantly their spiritual needs and therefore wants to reach out to believers in the community to help serve. If you are interested or want to know more about the level of commitment or expectations of volunteers just reach out to Karalee @ karalee.polkkinship@gmail.com. There are 2 informational meeting coming up in the next 2 weeks. Fliers with more details are on the welcome counter.

Hall of Men: Hall of Men is back this Sunday 6:30pm at the building! Look forward to fellowship centered on the core confessions of the Faith and a presentation on the work of Jesus Christ in another ordinary man used mightily in history by an extraordinary God.

Diaper Blessings: Please let us come together and bless, Todd and Therese Asmus with prayers, love and support. They have been called to foster to precious little boys. Let's shower them with diapers (both boys are in size 5). Collection basket is out in the foyer.

Today's Passage



Jesus

According to Samuel

Pastor Tony will be teaching from
the book of Samuel.

Our passage for today is 1 Samuel 17:48-54.

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newlifechristiancommunity.org

Sunday service starts at 9:30 am • nlcc.dresser@gmail.com

Join New Life Connect by emailing Pastor Paul at pastorpaul.nlcc@gmail.com