



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, February 17, 2019

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PASTORAL PONDERING

Vacation

"In your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore." "Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth I desire besides you. My flesh and heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and portion forever." Psalms 16:11; 73:25-26

My family and I had the blessing of being able to take a vacation down South over the last few weeks. We first went on a long road trip to Phoenix, Arizona to spend a week with my parents. The weather was sunny and in the 70's. We spent time hiking and riding ATVs in the desert as well as time with my dad and mom which was a real blessing. The days flew by and it was time to climb back into the car and hit the road to return to the POLAR VORTEX!

Our return was made easier by knowing that the following week we were going to Florida for a week with good friends. While Wisconsin experienced ice and snow, we enjoyed sunshine and 80-degree weather. Time was spent swimming, going to the beach, fishing and boating as well as walks without coats. Once again, the week flew by and we boarded a plane to fly back home. We left the warmth and beaches to return home to -10 degrees and snow.

I had been waiting awhile for this opportunity and it was awesome, but in a blink of an eye it was over. All the anticipation and excitement were gone in what seems like moments. I was left with the desire to return to what I had long waited for but instead was faced with the reality of life and all the responsibilities of daily living. I am left with great memories of time spent in the sun with friends and family and hopefully there will be more of that.

The mild sadness of returning from vacation is a common sentiment I've experienced in the past. I'm sure you can all relate. It seems we wait so long for that trip, often counting down the days prior to leaving only to find that time seems to accelerate while on vacation. We spend a life time awaiting retirement and then before you know it it's come. As we get older, we realize that vacation is really a microcosm of life. Before you realize it, it's coming to an end. I would like to interject here that I had an older patient tell me "Life is like a roll of toilet paper, the closer to the end the faster it goes!"

I'm wondering, after being in Florida, what it would be like to spend winter down there every year? Would it be like a constant vacation? Boy, I could get some fishing done! How many times are we left with the feeling "if only I had _____, then I would be fulfilled."

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Children's Church Ministry
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Coffee Ministry
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GriefShare Youth Ministry
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Transportation Services
Art Behr: 715.220.6882
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Jim Mabee: 651.470.4172
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Worship Ministry
Pastor Bennett Anderson:
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Pastoral Pondering

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To get an answer to this question, I would point towards Ecclesiastes. King Solomon wrote *"So I became great and surpassed all who were before me in Jerusalem. Also, my wisdom remained with me. And whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. I kept my heart from no pleasure. Then I considered all that my hands had done and the toil I had expended in doing it, and behold, all was vanity and a striving after wind, and there was nothing to be gained under the sun."* (2:9-11)

King Solomon, also author of Proverbs, was known as one of the wealthiest and smartest kings to ever live, yet all his wisdom and wealth didn't satisfy. He considered his life as it came to an end as nothing more than simply vanity.

If the wealthiest and smartest man with all the worldly treasures didn't find satisfaction, in what direction are we supposed to look? If you attend New Life, you will hear every week that we are to look to Jesus. It is in Him alone that happiness and eternal satisfaction is found. *Psalms* points this out, *"In your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore."* (16:11) The word fullness doesn't mean just some joy. It's the type of joy that lasts for eternity -- not just a short week like a vacation or a season of retirement. The reward isn't a condo in the sun or an endless supply of money. It's infinitely greater. It's living in the presence of our Savior and experiencing the pleasures that only He can give, both now in our earthly lives and forever in heaven! Jesus is the ultimate treasure. One that has and will always satisfy. He is our refuge, security and our Joy!

"Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth I desire besides you. My flesh and heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and portion forever." (Psalms 73:25-26) May we all dwell on this and wait with great anticipation an eternity with our Savior. This will far exceed any retirement or vacation.

In Christ, Greg Mattson

February Memory Verse

Colossians 1:15-16

"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things were created through him and for him." ESV

Adopt-a-Mission If you haven't yet considered adopting a missionary - check out the newest addition to our website or the [Missions cork board at the building!](#)

Fellowship Tip: Have you begun a prayer/discipleship relationship with someone from New Life? If not, prayerfully consider whom you can be regularly meeting with for the purpose of growth and sharpening as disciples of Jesus.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

NEW LIFE'S VIDEO MINISTRY

This is an opportunity to serve those who are unable to join us in person to worship Jesus Christ and to study God's Word on Sunday morning. New Life video ministry is looking for camera operators. You can sit with one of the camera operators to see what is involved, talk to anyone on the team about the ministry, or contact Jim Mabee @ 651-470-4172. We'd love to have you on the team.

CHILDRENS SAFETY FIRST

Behind the double doors near the kitchen is a door that provides access to an unfinished area. It is primarily used for storage, and there are many potentially unsafe conditions back there. Some use it as a hallway and on occasion children play back there--unattended. For safety, it should not be used as a hallway and children are never allowed to be playing back there. Thank you for your cooperation!

MOPS SHOP AND SWAP

Mark your calendars for the SCV MOPS vendor fair and clothing swap fundraiser happening at Hope Church in Osceola, Wisconsin, on **Saturday, February 23rd**. If you would like to help volunteer at the event, please contact Lorraine Anderson. Thank you so much for your support of our local SCV MOPS group where we strive to "encourage and equip moms of young children to realize their potential as mothers, women and leaders, in relationship with Jesus, and in partnership with the local church" (MOPS International).

ATTENTION ALL MEN!

MEN'S MEAT & GREET

Men, It's been too long! Mark your calendars again for a Brazilian style meat filled lunch at Rodizio's grill in Maple Grove on **Saturday March 9th**. We'll meet at the New Life Building @ 10:30am and drive there together. But of course, what's more amazing than the food is the fellowship around the table growing in relationships as men and brothers in Christ.

ST. CROIX VALLEY MEN'S RETREAT

The St. Croix Valley Men's Retreat is set for **Friday and Saturday, April 5 & 6 @ Oak Forest Retreat Center in Frederic, WI**. Be on the watch for more information about specific times, cost, and topics. Anticipate being challenged and sharpened in the faith as we study God's word and fellowship together. Be thinking and praying now about who you could invite, neighbors, co-workers, family and friends.

Upcoming Potluck/Meal Teams:

Feb 24 Meal Team #3
Mar 3 Potluck Team #1

Please join us for fellowship and a meal following our service today!

Pastoral Eldership Team:

Pastor Tony Minell	715.417.1982
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Cory Mattson - Secretary	715.417.0945
Zachary Fugate	715.379.2918
Paul Gilbertson	612.799.4865
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 @ NLCC:

Feb 20	Women's Bible Study 12:30 pm
Feb 20	Immerse Family Studies 6:15 pm
Feb 21	Men's Bible Study 6:30 am
Feb 21	Women's Bible Study 9:30 am
Feb 21	ALL GriefShare Folks 6:30 pm Adults and Youth meet separately
Feb 21	Ezekiel Bible Study 7-8:30 pm

Check out New Life Online

newlifechristiancommunity.org
• Events • Sermons Online • New Life Connect • Set Lists • & More

HEBREWS

JESUS
According to Scripture

Today's Passage:

Pastor Tony's message is from the New Testament book,
Hebrews 2:5-9

Sermon Notes:

Address: 201 State Road 35 N, Dresser, WI ~ Email: info@newlifechristiancommunity.org
Sunday service starts at 9:30 am