



# 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 17, 2019

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## PASTORAL PONDERING

### *Only One True Kingdom*

In January, our whole family had an amazing trip to Disney World. We went to Magic Kingdom, Hollywood Studio, Epcot, and Animal Kingdom. Lynn and I then took some time to reflect on the trip with a few thoughts.

We saw the amazing joy and happiness of our grandchildren Taylor and Jake as they actually experienced the magic of Disney. For the next seven days we all felt like we were living in a "make believe world", no worries, a full schedule of fun, rides, pool time, and relaxation. We had a beautiful condo overlooking a natural 100-acre savannah in Animal Kingdom. Every morning we would have a cup of coffee and watched zebra, Wildebeest, Gazelle, Impala, Antelope, deer, giraffes, and many other animals from our decks as the sun rose. Seriously, God must have a great sense of humor when He created the Giraffe. I found this a great time for prayer and worship. The constant sunny, 80-degree weather was a big plus also. Taylor and Jake's eyes were wide open with excitement and anticipation every day. We enjoyed Papa's favorite ride, Splash Mountain - 3 times one day, I've never heard Jake laugh so hard. Nana took both Jake and Taylor in Spaceship Earth in Epcot, where Jake thought he saw Jesus, the beauty of a child! Taylor had an amazing dinner with Cinderella in the Magic Kingdom Castle.

Between all the parks, Disney displayed over 1500 Christmas trees, some were 60 feet tall. Also, an endless amount of beautiful Christmas decorations. It was a pleasant surprise for us to hear the many beautiful old Christmas hymns in every park. As we toured Epcot, every country had these hymns in their own language. This was very meaningful to our family. It was fun to sing along and worship our new born King.

Disney does provide for a great family vacation. As great as Disney is, it's still part of our fallen world. At the end, you are exhausted, shocked by how much money you just spent, and you are ready to go home. You see, Disney offers you a fantasy that isn't real.

Lynn and I then discussed how different our lives are In Christ. As a Christian, we are In-Christ not only for today but for all of eternity. Just to mention a few of the amazing blessings we have; we are forgiven, we are adopted into God's family, we are set free from the power and the penalty of sin, we are being sanctified, we have the indwelling Holy Spirit guiding us and empowering us to live out the fruit of the Spirit. What a picture of deep joy and peace, and this is eternal and very real.

As believers, we are grounded in the Biblical truth that real joy, peace, and happiness comes only from a relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

It reminds us that Jesus entered this broken world to redeem and reconcile us back to Him. As we reflect on [Ephesians 2:8-9](#), *"For by grace you have been saved"*

*continued on next page ...*

## Ministry Directory:

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**Coffee Ministry**  
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**Finance Administration**  
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**GriefShare Adult Ministry**  
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## Pastoral Pondering

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*through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.*" The eternal kingdom of God is a free gift through faith in Jesus Christ. In comparison, the Magic Kingdom is far from free and definitely is not everlasting.

Are you putting your faith into man-made systems, idols, or even some religious systems instead of receiving the gift of salvation given to us by faith in Jesus alone? We need to fully meditate on the amazing life we have in Christ.

Jake wanted to know when we can go back to Disney World. This type of joy and happiness as wonderful as it was is not sustaining - only Christ can do that! In life, we find false fulfillment, meaning, and happiness from systems, places, and people that will never be able to fulfill our deepest needs. In this regard, the hollow feeling leaving the Magic Kingdom (or other places) is probably a good thing. These places provide an amazing vacation and great memories. But the experience is temporary. There is *ONLY* one type of eternal happiness. It comes from *JESUS ALONE*.

Please take some time this week to reflect on the following; do you know Jesus at a personal level and are you experiencing Him in your day to day life? And, Is He changing and sanctifying you into His image? Let's not put our hope in any world system, but *ONLY IN JESUS!* The way to the true eternal kingdom.

Your brother In Christ, Jim Nelson

## HELP FOR THE LLAPUSHI FAMILY

Toni and Ita Llapushi and their two children are one of our "adopt a missionary" families. They will be traveling from Albania to the states in a couple of weeks and will be visiting their supporting churches and families over the next 2 months. They will be joining New Life for service **Sunday April 28th**. Traveling can be exhausting and expensive. Would you consider making a donation to the family in the offering today to help with some of these expenses? Be in prayer for them to have good rest and fellowship with the saints as we seek to come along side and encourage them in the Lord.

## PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

Cheryl and I safely returned from a medical missionary trip to Damoh, India late Sunday evening. We wanted to thank God and our New Life community for all the prayers that kept us safe and healthy. When we left Damoh, 39 lives were changed by God's touch through the LEAP surgeons. These individuals will now be able to integrate into society and lead normal lives without the stigma of their birth defects. Please continue to pray for those in Damoh that we were not able to treat, as a number of surgeries had to be cancelled due to the patients failing to meet minimum health standards, as well as the lack of time to treat everyone that came to the hospital. We hope to help these children next year. Another prayer of thanksgiving is that the State of Madhya Pradesh (where Damoh is located) had government elections recently, and the oppressive Hindu-extremist party was ousted in favor of a more moderate Hindu government. After the elections, 300 court cases against the Central India Christian Mission were thrown out and two pastors were freed from jail when their charges were dropped. Praise God!

## Announcements and Upcoming Events

### WORSHIP AND PRAYER NIGHT

Join us for *Worship & Prayer Night*, **Tuesday March 26, 6:30 pm**. Bring a friend, a song to share, or a prayer request...or all three!

### INTERNET CARE/FAMILY SAFETY

We live in a time with all sorts of information at our fingertips in seconds, but we know full well that not all information is safe for you or your family to view. Since this is a growing concern in our day, we would like to have an adult conversation about what ways we can be protecting our homes/families from the dangers of internet surfing and technology habits. This is an informational conversation with some practical suggestions for guarding your family. This will take place during **Immerse on Wednesday, March 27th**. All children classes will remain the same, however the adult classes will meet in the sanctuary. All adults from New Life are encouraged to be there, even if you usually don't attend Immerse classes.

### 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.



### MOVIE HIGHLIGHTS

#### Pilgrim's Progress

Please save the date and spread the word - New Life will be a previewing site for a new movie coming out later this year. We are excited to be showing the *"Pilgrim's Progress"* on **Friday, March 22nd at 6:00 pm at New Life**. This family friendly movie is a dramatized version of that famous work by John Bunyan. It would be great to fill the building - so if you know anyone who would like to join us, please spread the word!

#### Unplanned

**Thursday, March 28 @ 7pm at St. Croix Theater**, the upcoming movie *"Unplanned"* will be shown for *one night only*. This movie depicts the transformation in the life of Abby Johnson, examining her journey from Planned Parenthood clinic director to becoming a leading advocate for defending the life of the unborn and supporting women who are in crisis. Be sure to pick up a handout at the front table for more information.

**Fellowship Tip:** Have you committed yourself to the needs and pursuits of the body here at New Life and want to learn more about what it means to become a partner? Talk to one of the elders or pastors and make that desire known, we would be glad to walk you through the few simple steps.

#### Upcoming Potluck/Meal Teams:

Mar 24 Meal Team #6

Mar 31 Meal Team #7

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

#### Pastoral Eldership Team:

Pastor Tony Minell 715.417.1982  
[galatiansii20@yahoo.com](mailto:galatiansii20@yahoo.com)

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Greg Mattson 715.417.2444  
Rene Milner 715.557.0185  
Jim Nelson 651.283.2132

#### This Week's Schedule of Events @ NLCC:

Mar 20 Women's Bible Study 12:30 pm

Mar 20 Immerse Family Studies 6:15 pm

Mar 21 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am

Mar 21 Women's Bible Study 9:30 am

Mar 21 ALL GriefShare Folks 6:30 pm  
Adults and Youth meet separately

Mar 21 Ezekiel Bible Study 7-8:30 pm

Mar 22 Pilgrim's Progress film 7:00 pm

#### March Memory Verse:

**2 Corinthians 9:8**

*"And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work." ESV*

HEBREWS

JESUS  
*According to Scripture*

Today's Passage:

Pastor Tony's message is from the New Testament book,  
**Hebrews 2:14-18**

Sermon Notes:

Address: 201 State Road 35 N, Dresser, WI - Email: [info@newlifechristiancommunity.org](mailto:info@newlifechristiancommunity.org)  
Sunday service starts at 9:30 am / Check out New Life online at [newlifechristiancommunity.org](http://newlifechristiancommunity.org)  
Join New Life Connect by emailing Pastor Paul at [pastorpaul.nlcc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorpaul.nlcc@gmail.com)