



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

Join Us As We
Celebrate Only
Jesus

SUNDAY, JULY 9, 2023
VOL. 16, ISSUE 39

Pastoral Pondering ~

ARE WE SLEEPING? ARE WE COASTING?

1 Thessalonians 5:6 *"Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober."* (NKJV)

Recently I was reminded by the suggestion from a brother that being saved in Christ is not the end game but merely the beginning. I was struck by the thought I may be sleeping, or comfortable, instead of watching and growing. Salvation is important for sure but with God's indwelling Spirit we can now grow in holiness. I know I have heard sermons on this and have read the scriptures such as [Hebrews 12:1c](#) "... let us *RUN with endurance the race that is set before us.*" and "*I PRESS ON toward the goal for the upward call of God in Christ Jesus*" ~[Philippians 3:14 \(ESV\)](#). But this past week I was convicted by the Word as we studied 1 Thessalonians 5. Am I comfortable just knowing I am saved? Or am I continually striving to grow closer to Christ and know Him better through His Word and commune with Him in prayer?

Let us not sleep... Think of the term sleep here. Sleep speaks of so much that believers should not be. Sleep speaks of apathy, lack of defense, inactivity, not alive. Those of us who are alive in Christ are called by the will of God to continue to grow in sanctification once saved ([1 Thessalonians 4:3a](#).) We are called to continue to renew our minds and be transformed ([Romans 12:2](#)) and [Hebrews 6:1](#), "*Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity (ESV).*" As believers we have not and will not reach some goal or area where we can just coast and sit back waiting for Jesus to return. We are called to strive. Run. Press on. Mature.

Now before the 'therefore' of [verse 6 of 1 Thessalonians](#), we have [verse 5](#) talking about the day of the Lord, or judgement day. The Word speaks of believers living in the light and contrasts it with those who live in the darkness. It speaks of Jesus' return coming as a thief in the night ([vs. 2](#)) and "...*people are saying, 'There is peace and security' then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a*

Continued on next page ...

Pastoral Pondering

...Continued

pregnant woman which they will not escape.” vs. 3 (ESV.) The unbeliever, lulled to sleep by economic peace and security and feeling content in their current state, will not be able to escape His judgement.

Brothers and sisters, if we belong to Christ, we belong to the day so let us not sleep but press on in faith and grow in love and hold fast to our hope in Christ. (1 Thessalonians 5:8)

Humbly submitted,

Brian Nelson

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 meal after service today where we would love to meet and get to know you and for you to get to know us more.

MEAL TEAM MINISTRY

Are you looking for a way to use your talents or time to serve God?

Consider joining a Sunday Meal Team. If interested, please, Contact: Barbie Judkins (309) 269-0556, Barb Manship (612) 804-9793 or Rosie Swisher (763) 458-1261

Busy Bags
Available by the Door

MINISTRY DIRECTORY

Building & Grounds Ministry
Jim Judkins 715.338.8837
oldoutboardjim@hotmail.com

Coffee Ministry
Sandy Moe: 715.417.1812
sandy.klj@hotmail.com

Finance Administration
Colleen Firkus (Treasurer): 612.889.7581
financeministry@newlifechristiancommunity.org

GriefShare Ministry
Robin Mattson: 715.566.1945
robinmattson27@gmail.com

Immerse Ministry
Ana Smith: 715.566.3740
anajoy87@gmail.com

Meal Train Relief Ministry
Kristin Stephan: 651.235.1681
kristin@kageinnovation.com

Music Ministry
Jeff Warren: 316.308.0833
pastorjeff.nlcc@protonmail.com

Missions Outreach
Lorraine Milner: 715.557.0661
lrmilner@gmail.com

Newsletter Administration
Dawn Holm: 715.472.8453
dholm@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

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	316.308.0833
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/Barton's– 6:30 pm
Tues	Men's Bible Study– 6:30 am
Wed	Every Man's Battle– 6:00 am
Wed	Young Adult Study– 6:30 pm
Thurs	Men's Bible Study– 6:30 am
Thurs	Ladies Bible Study– 10:00 am
Thurs	Ladies Bible Study– Noon
Thurs	Ladies Study– 6:30 pm
Thurs	GriefShare– 6:30 pm (Adults & Youth meet separately)

July Memory Verse:

Isaiah 61:10 (ESV)

"I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness..."

July Fellowship Tip:

Do you know that God is glorified even through showing hospitality? 1 Peter 4:9 exhorts believers to be purposeful in showing hospitality without grumbling, earnestly serving one another with Christ's love for His Glory. Consider who you can invite over this week. Or who would be blessed by a personal visit by showing hospitality even in another's home?

Sunday Meals and Fellowship:

July 9 Picnic in the Park ~ Dresser

July 16 Team 8 ~ Soup

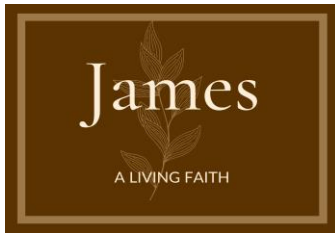
Contact *Barbara Judkins* if interested in being on a meal team or a helper.

Check out New Life Online
newlifechristiancommunity.org

- **Picnic Sunday:** Join us after service **today** for a picnic in the park. Just south on 35 one block, left on Main St. and down one more block on your left. Bring sunscreen and a volley/foot/kick ball or just a blanket. The Elders will be grilling up some hot dogs while we all enjoy some good fellowship! See you there.
- **James Study:** Hello! Just wanted to send out a reminder that for the month of July we will meet the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. So, we will pick back up this week with James chapter two. Look forward to seeing you then. If there are any questions please feel free to contact either Severson's Erik at 715-417-1596 or Katie at 715-417-1595.
- **Annual Baptism Service:** It's right around the corner! **Sunday, July 23rd** will be our Annual Baptism Sunday Service. This is held at the ARC in Osceola. If you are a follower of Christ and haven't yet made that confession publicly through baptism or if you just have questions about what baptism is please reach out to any of the elders/pastors. There will be a baptism sign-up sheet on the welcome table.
- **5-Day Club:** 5-Day Club is coming soon. Bible stories, Bible songs, Bible memory, Missionary stories, and more can all be found in a 5-Day Club. New Life will host from **July 24 to the 28th at 10:00am to 11:30**. Lessons are prepared for children ages 5-12. Please take a flier from the welcome counter to invite a friend or neighbor.



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.



SERMON NOTES:

TODAY'S PASSAGE:
Pastor Paul's message is from the
New Testament book,
JAMES 4:11-12