



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, September 4, 2022

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Ministry Highlight

GriefShare Ministry

GriefShare is an important ministry that has been sponsored at New Life for approximately 8 years now. What is GriefShare you might ask? It is a Christ-centered and biblically based program designed to help people who are grieving the loss of a beloved person or persons in their life. These precious, hurting people are gently presented with hope and healing that can only come from God through a relationship with Jesus Christ.

For me personally, it was the loss of our son Brent that brought me to GriefShare. Although the emotions and pain of grieving are identified in seven basic stages. I can say from my own experience, we all will go through them differently from an emotional aspect. GriefShare helps you to get through your own unique grieving process.

After Brent's funeral, I quickly began feeling the distance of family and friends because my pain seemed to never want to come to a place of peace within me and too, they were having a difficult time understanding why my grief wasn't ending on what they thought was an appropriate time frame of grieving. Even God seemed distant to me but only because of my anger towards Him. This is not an uncommon feeling for the grieving.

Despite my initial anger with God, GriefShare made a huge impact on me personally by bringing me closer to the Lord, to know that I can lean on Him, knowing only He utterly understands my heart. Only God willingly follows the grieving to the depths of our despair and helps us to rise above our pain through the blood of Jesus.

Psalm 71:1 says, "*Forsake me not when my strength is spent. In you, O Lord do I take refuge.*" It was when I really read this verse from my heart that I realized I *needed* God to get me through the pain of losing our son. It wasn't until I had asked God to use me in His service that I was able to face my grief with a purpose.

Now today as an anchor and facilitator to the GriefShare program, I genuinely believe God put me exactly where I needed to be to better serve His purposes. I still have my moments where I cry, remembering the pain of my loss, but that's okay.

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Ministry Highlight cont.

That is all part of the healing process, however long that may be. It's in the valley you meet God and from there, He lifts you up and brings you closer to Him by giving you the hope you need to press on with your life.

All the facilitators have gone through the GriefShare program and speaking for myself, it is undoubtedly a valuable resource for gently bringing people through their grief and to build a deeper relationship with God. Time and time again, I and the others who facilitate in this GriefShare program for adults *and* youth (who meet separately), see where God is working and using us in such a mighty way.

The people who created GriefShare explain it best, "We stress the importance of a relationship with Jesus Christ as the foundation for healing. The pain of grief is one of the most intense feelings a human being can face. The emotional damage cuts to the soul. True healing of this kind of pain can only come from God's presence in the life of a person experiencing it. This presence comes through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Although the message of Christ cannot be forced on anyone, participants in the GriefShare groups will hear the gospel presented in a clear manner through video presentation and discussion facilitated by loving and caring people in a 14-week cycle that meets on Thursday each week at 6:30 pm right here in the building. We feel it is our responsibility to point people hurting from grief to the only source of true healing, our Lord Jesus Christ. GriefShare views the Bible as the "owner's manual" for life. It is not uncommon for participants to repeat the sessions multiple times because the benefits are ongoing.

Participants are not charged to be in the program; however we will gladly accept donations to cover the materials we purchase for the participants. Please, as a New Life family, join us in praying each week for the participants and the facilitators of GriefShare. If you are lead to inquire about serving as a facilitator just reach out to me and I would be happy to share with you more.

Blessings of peace in Jesus Christ,
Robin Mattson

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Transportation Services

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Video Ministry

Jim Mabee, 651.470.4172
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Check out New Life Online newlifechristiancommunity.org

This Week's Schedule of Events

Tues Men's Bible Study--6:30 am
Tues Women's Precepts-- 6:30-8 pm
Wed Every Man's Battle--6:00 am
Wed Summer Young Adult-- 6:30 pm
Thurs Men's Bible Study-- 6:30 am
Thurs Ladies Bible Study-- Noon
Thurs Ladies Study-- 6:30 pm
Thurs GriefShare-- 6:30 pm
(Adults & Youth meet separately)

Meal Teams:

9/11 Meal Team 3
9/18 Meal Team 4

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

Fellowship Tip for September

There are many ways we use gifts of the Spirit; one of those ways can be in serving on a New Life Ministry Team. If you haven't yet, take a look at those listed in the newsletter.

September Memory Verse

"And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God." Corinthians 6:11

Pastoral Eldership Team

Pastor Tony Minell	715.417.1982
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Pastor Jeff Warren	316.308.0833
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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
Jim Nelson	651.283.2132
Jay Swisher	763.587.3472

Announcements

Video Ministry: If anyone is looking for an opportunity to serve your brothers and sisters who are unable to attend services the video ministry is in need of a switcher. If interested or wanting more info please contact Jim Mabee @ 651-470-4172 or talk to someone on the team.

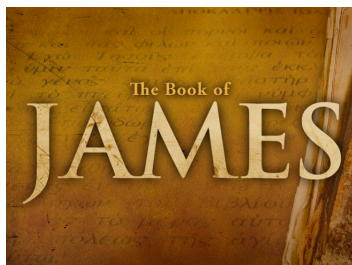
Immerse Volunteers Needed: We're still in need of volunteers & 2 teachers as well as assistants for the youngest age classes of Immerse. Please let me know if you are interested!

Abolish Abortion Ministry out at planned parenthood st.Paul will be the third Saturday, September 17th from 7:30am-12:30. Please join us as we engage the culture of death with the Gospel of The Kingdom. We will also have a time of prayer before Immerse on September 14th.

Women's Precept Bible Study in Isaiah: Starting Sept. 22nd for a, get to know you night, material handouts and calendar of dates for the class. This Class will last approximately 28 weeks. With Discussion one week and a video the following week. First Discussion Sept. 29th 6:30 PM Thursdays. Please sign up by Sept. 4th. The sign up sheet is on the table by the bulletins.

Immerse: Our Wednesday Night Discipleship classes are starting in just a few weeks! Wednesday September 14th to be exact, meeting each Wednesday from 6:15-7:30pm. We call it Immerse as we desire to Immerse ourselves in the study of the Word as a whole family mid-week. There are children classes from age 0-8th grade and the adults and young adults will be all together in one class. The children will continue in solid curriculum that help to support parents in gospel centered conversations in the home and our adults will spend the first half of the year studying though the Person and Work of Jesus Christ. We hope you consider coming seeing these times as a way to invest in the lives of this body that we might all together be mutually built up in the Lord through the study and fellowship over His Word.

Today's Passage



Pastor Paul will be teaching from the
book of James.
Our passage for today is James 3:13-18.

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

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