

Join Us As We Celebrate Only Jesus



# 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, September 11, 2022

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## Pastoral Pondering

### For God So Loved The World

*"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." ~John 3:16-17*

With the new NFL season starting we will again be seeing the popular John 3:16 signs in the stands. This is the most popular Bible verse for obvious reasons and is probably the first verse committed to memory for most of us. This verse and the Lord's Prayer are recited so often that we take the words for granted and often don't spend time actually contemplating their meaning and how they pertain towards our own lives.

Sometimes it takes a trial or crisis to redirect our focus back towards God. This is often seen throughout the Psalms and it's true in my own life. Recently, our family life was going along as usual with summer weekend getaways and raising grandchildren when, suddenly, our life was changed in what seemed like a moment. Many of you know that our grandson, Jayden, has lived with us since his birth and therefore our relationship is more like a parent-child relationship. He has been my fishing buddy and an integral part of my daily life.

In late July, Cory had noted that Jayden was always hungry and thirsty with frequent urination. She told me this and, as a doc, I knew what this meant but tried to deny the obvious, knowing what this would mean. We finally checked his glucose and found his blood sugar to be over 500. Normal is generally around 100. I tried to hide my heartbreak but he saw my tears and asked, "Am I going to die?" I responded by saying no. I knew that we'd need to head to Children's Hospital for further testing. As we were driving there - which seemed to take forever - all I could contemplate was the lifechanging events we would be facing. As a doc, I have treated people with diabetes and all that comes with it for years, but when it hits your own family it's heartbreaking.

We got to Children's ER and eventually got escorted back to a room where we would be encamped for 18 hours awaiting a hospital bed. As the nurses came in to draw blood and start IVs my heartache continued as I watched Jayden trying to remain brave in the midst of this crisis. There were funny moments but most of it from Jayden's perspective was related to the hourly vital signs, blood draws and continued IV dripping and monitors beeping. The ER which was an area I was comfortable with as a doc now seemed so foreign with my loved one there.

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## Pastoral Pondering

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Through the night after several insulin injections, Jayden's blood sugars were getting closer to normal. It was in the middle of the night that Jayden asked the question which everyone eventually asks - "why me?" I told him that God is in control and that answer may not be obvious for a while but He has a plan. I also told him that I would, in a heartbeat, trade places with him if it were possible.

We finally made it up to the hospital floor, and while Jayden finally fell asleep out of exhaustion it became clear to me that true love is the driving force for giving up one's life for another. I would resoundingly do that for any of my family members but the question is would I do it for a stranger or, even worse, someone who persecuted me? The answer is absolutely not.

I was suddenly in a personal way confronted with the fact that Jesus took the place not just for me or the people who loved him like I would do for Jayden, but he died for ALL including the very people who hated him. That's mind blowing. I was also aware once again that, given all the trials Jayden will face battling his diabetes including the daily insulin injections and blood tests, this earthly life is short and that Jesus died so that we can have eternal life free of earthly diseases like cancers, depression, anxiety, diabetes and heart disease - which sounds awesome - but the ultimate reward will be an eternity with Jesus our Lord and Savior. God is good. And thank you to all who know Jayden and have been praying for him and us. Your prayers are invaluable!

Blessings, Greg Mattson



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. We would love to meet and get to know you and for you to get to know us more.

## MINISTRY

Building & Grounds Ministry  
Jim Judkins 715.338.8837  
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Coffee Ministry  
Sandy Moe: 715.417.1812  
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Barbara Judkins: 309.269.0556  
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Jim Mabee: 651.470.4172  
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Pastoral Eldership Team:

Pastor Tony Minell	715.417.1982
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Cory Mattson – Secretary	715.417.0945
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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

### This Week's Scheduled 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
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)

### September Memory Verse:

Corinthians 6:11 (ESV)

“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.”

### September Fellowship Tip:

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.

### Sunday Meals and Fellowship:

Sept 11 Team 3 ~ Italian  
Sept 18 Team 4 ~ Rice & Beans

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

Check out New Life Online  
[newlifechristiancommunity.org](http://newlifechristiancommunity.org)

- **Parking Lot Paving:** Is scheduled to begin **Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup>**. Please be advised that building access may be somewhat challenging during this time.
- **Immerse:** Our Wednesday Night Discipleship classes are starting next week **September 14<sup>th</sup>, 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 curriculums 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.
- **Ladies Bible Study Restarting:** Ladies Thursday Morning Bible Study has just started back up. We will be studying verse by verse through the book of Ephesians **every Thursday 10-Noon** at the building. Contact Shanda with questions, 651-465-3154.
- **Abolish Abortion Ministry:** Will meet out at planned parenthood St. Paul on **Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup>.**
- **Hall of Men:** Men, it's coming back again...yes you guessed it, Hall of Men **Sunday September 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm**. Men young and old come as we rehearse the core confessions of our faith and look at the testimony of Jesus in the life of another man of faith from the past.
- **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 and a camera operator. If interested or wanting more info please contact Jim Mabee @ 651-470-4172 or talk to someone on the team.

Busy Bags  
Available by the Door

nlcc  
resourcecenter

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.

Today's Passage:  
Matt Leko's message is from the  
New Testament book,  
**Matthew 7:24-29**

Sermon Notes: