

new life news

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF NEW LIFE CHURCH OF CHRIST
JANUARY 2017

Steve Says...

Welcome to 2017!

One goal we have set for New Life this year is to fall in love with Jesus all over again. We will be spending the time between the New Year and Easter (April 16) preaching and studying through the book of Mark. I am inviting all of you to read through Mark with us using the reading schedule published in the bulletin each week, or the journaling book that we will be providing for you to use.

The goal is not simply to read through one of the 4 gospels, rather it is to use the reading as a catalyst for understanding, appreciating, and following Jesus. Through time spent reviewing and contemplating the actions of His life, we hope to grow more like Him in our daily life. So read the passage and then ask and answer these questions:

1. What do I learn about Jesus, his character, his treatment of people, his attitudes in this passage?
2. How can I emulate these qualities in my own life? What do I need to change? What do I need to add?

Take your time, meditate on Jesus, who He is and how he is directing your life. I am looking forward to going on this journey together.

January Events

- Jan 4th – Sewing Ministry
9:00am
- Jan 4th – Women’s Bible
Study 7:00pm
- Jan 7th – Upward Games
- Jan 11th - Beveridge’s
Discussion Group 7:00pm
- Jan 14th – Upward Games
- Jan 18th – Sewing Ministry
5:30pm
- Jan 18th – Women Bible
Study 7:00pm
- Jan 21st – Upward Games
- Jan 25th – Beveridge’s
Discussion Group 7:00pm
- Jan 28th – Upward Games

Jason's Jam

NEW YEAR HAPPENINGS

2017 is here, so it's time to make plans and goals for this year. My hope and desire for the kids this year is to continue to grow a sense of community with Christ and each other. We are going to do that by exploring who Christ was and is and what he offers if we accept him as our Savior and ask him to be Lord of our lives. So I'm hoping to see our kiddos grow in their relationship with Christ this year.

Also, the beginning of the year is a good time to start bringing your kids (if you don't already) to C.I.A. on Sunday evenings or volunteer in any area you're feeling the Lord lead you to. See me if you're interested.

Also, I would like to get the Check-in system fully running, so I need some volunteers to learn and run that as well as I will be creating a check in/check out routine in the toddler and nursery rooms.

Lots going on, so please be in prayer for our Children's ministry as we are hoping to create an environment where they can learn about Christ and grow in a relationship with him.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 – Reta Hamilton
- 6 – Adalyn Litt, Kayden Litt,
- 9 – Bob Jones
- 10 – Mary Swihart, Steve Broughton
- 11 – Shirley Nichols
- 14 – Steve Ehret, Brooklyn Williams
- 15 – Marilyn Ward, Lisa Bushong, Tommie Roseberry
- 16 - Keith Brokaw
- 17 – Marjean Hickerson, Pat Noe
- 19 – Marlin Hamilton, Steve Beal
- 20 – Joshua Broughton, Dennis Golden
- 21 – Beverly Shaffer, Gabi Twedt, Mia Twedt
- 22 – Cherie Culler
- 24 – Larry Arnold, Chris Fox, Troy Hamilton, Veronica Basye
- 25 – Judy Dickerson
- 26 – David Bushong
- 28 – Charley Frontz, Dave McGugin
- 30 – Kayla Clawson, Rob Armstrong
- 31 – Phil Johnson, Logan Slone

Ryan's Writings

The new year always brings with it new opportunities and experiences. Here at New Life we will be discussing a new vision and purpose as we endeavor to follow Christ. As Steve Kistler mentioned a few weeks ago, our mission as the body of Christ and the core scriptural beliefs we value will remain the same. We will look at the methods for which we accomplish those things and begin to focus on a plan that will enable us to make the most of Kingdom opportunities.

I want to take just a moment to ask you to consider joining one of the many ministry opportunities we have here at New Life. While I will only mention those related to the Worship Arts Ministry in this article, I encourage you to try something new by getting involved in the life of the church. We are always excited to have new participants share their talents on the Praise Teams. Whether you sing, play an instrument, or just enjoy technology and media, we can find a place for you to serve. This year we have been studying what it means to be true worshippers of God. I look forward to our weekly rehearsals where we can develop our musical skills, share life with one another, and grow closer to the God we worship.

For many years we were blessed to have a solid group of dramatist who would share their gifts in New Life Theater and skits. Recently, we have had several individuals that have needed to step down for a variety of reasons. While we look forward to bringing New Life Theater back this November, we would also like for people to get involved in expressing the Truth through drama in our worship gatherings. Maybe you were in your high school play, community theater, or church productions in the past. If you can act, help produce or direct, or can help with costumes and props, please consider dusting off your acting shoes and joining us this year as the curtain rises on new opportunities in drama.

Our Prayer Team has become a small group of warriors working toward making prayer a greater part of our spiritual growth. We are energized by ideas and events that draw us closer to the Lord in meaningful communication. The Pray for Me ministry has been a real blessing for so many students as well as the numerous praying adults involved. I have grown closer to many people in our congregation as a result of praying for them and spending time with them in the process. We meet every other month at the Mowry home and there are many ways in which you can get involved at any level.

I am hoping that we will be able to broaden the reach of our Welcome Team this year as well. We currently have a number of people that offer a greeting as people enter for worship, but we would like to have more volunteers involved with making personal contact with our visitors each week. Perhaps you would like to greet others at the door with a smile or hand out bulletins and help people who are unfamiliar with our church. Maybe you could make initial contact with a visitor by offering them a *Welcome Packet* full of information about New Life. We would also love to have individuals who would be willing to seek out visitors during the worship gatherings and offer to sit with them. There are many ways in which this ministry can grow and be strengthened but we need you to be the hands and feet of the the body of Christ as we welcome others to experience the love of Christ.

There are so many giving individuals that are already involved in these ministries and many others. I want to thank you all for your efforts and look forward to working with you this year. If, however, you are looking for a ministry where God can use you and your talents, consider one of these that I mentioned here. You can also get involved in any of the ministries here at New Life. Thank you in advance for being an active member of New Life and God's Kingdom.

A Line from Liming

Every year is a new experience. What in the world is going to happen? Here in America we have a new president with new ideas. Many will be wonderful and many will be new even if nothing else. If we look around the world we see a large amount of trouble between countries and peoples. War is awful. We have so many who are not feeling well here at home and some celebrating their first year of marriage (that could be me and Sylvia).

Whatever we find, the coming year is going to be fresh. We will enjoy every day as we watch God work in our lives. I wonder what He is going to do. It is going to be a wonderful time if we just trust Him. When He blesses you, be sure to praise Him and tell me and I will praise Him with you. He is so great and worthy of our praises.

Happy New Year, Steve

Kyle's Korner

An old year is gone and a new year has come! And with new years generally come new commitments and resolutions for ourselves. We commit to lose weight, manage money better, attend church more, improve our health, eat less dessert and a million other things. Making commitments and plans help us to keep them are good things. As for me, among other things, I am committing to spend more time in prayer. Prayer, no matter how much time I spend doing it seems to be the one thing that I need to do more of. This may be the same for you. There may also be something else that the Lord has prompted you to have more of in your life. How often are you reading the Scriptures? How often are you making it a point to serve others? When is the last time you memorized scripture? The beginning of the year is a great opportunity for us to step back and ask ourselves which areas we need to develop in our lives.

The most important thing though, is to remember the One from whom we do all that we do. Years come and go. Things change over time. Some years we weigh more than others. Some years we eat less than others. Some years we remember as "good" and as "bad." What a comfort it is to serve the Lord Jesus, who is the same yesterday, today and forever. (Heb 13:8) While we may struggle to keep our commitments, He never does. Our plans may fail, but His never will. He is unchangeable, and it is on His unchanging nature that our hope rests. He is with us in the good years and bad. Whether we keep our commitment to pray three times a day and lose 15 pounds or not, He is the Lord and He is with us.

The very fact that we make commitments and resolutions at all are proof of the changing nature of the universe we live in. Things have changed and we commit to make them like they were again. I find comfort in the one unchangeable Lord. Our greatest commitment should always be to Him who never changes.