



# NEW LIFE NEWS



~ Welcome ~ Guided ~ Needed ~ Sent ~



February 2012

Volume 9 : Number 2



## I AM A WITNESS

- Feb 4.....Rockin' Worship Road Show
- Feb. 7.....Breakfast Fellowship
- Feb. 12.....Potluck
- Feb. 15.....Board Meeting
- Feb. 14.....Valentines Day
- Feb. 18.....Chicago Auto Show
- Feb. 21....Breakfast Fellowship

I have a lot of recreational activities that I enjoy participating in. I enjoy playing golf. I enjoy biking. I enjoy playing tennis, softball, and even basketball. Truth be known, I have had the opportunity to participate in each one these sports at some point in time during the year 2011. Now, I would not say that I am an expert, or even highly skilled in these activities, but I would say that I can participate in each of them without embarrassing myself too much. In fact, I would even be willing classify myself as a biker, a golfer, a tennis, softball, and basketball player. In fact, I have been trying to make a point of playing basketball at the church every Monday night during the winter months. I have only missed a few weeks since December. No doubt I have some challenges that I face, especially in the height department, but I can dribble, play defense, and even hit a shot or two. I am nowhere near the best player who plays on Monday night, but, I am a basketball player none-the-less. If you were to come on a Monday night, and watch all of us play, there would be no question as to whether or not I was a basketball player. The fact that I was in the game, and playing somewhat competently with others, would be evidence enough. The question you would have is, not whether or not I am basketball player, but rather, how good of a basketball player am I? Much like all the others sports that I participate in, there is no question as to whether or not I am player or participant. I am a biker, golfer, tennis, softball, and basketball player. The real question is, "What kind of player or participant am I?" I am not going to give you the answer to that question, but I want you to think about a similar comparison.

also in the book of Acts. Acts 1:8 says "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Now this may be familiar verse to you as it is to me. And like many familiar verses, sometimes it is easy to gloss over them. However, as I was thinking about the annual meeting and getting ready to share my pastor's report, I started to reflect on this particular verse. This verse is similar to the others accounts of the Great Commission because there is a mandate in the verse. Jesus was telling His disciples that they would become His witnesses. That it was something that was going to happen in the future. But I wondered if it was more than just a statement about something that would happen in future. I wondered if it was also a statement about a believer's identity, and a reminder of what our calling is. In other words, was Jesus saying to His disciples, "There is no question that you will be my witnesses. You will make declarations about me in Jerusalem, Judea, and all Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. You ARE going to be a witness. Take note then, and be careful of, the type of witness you will be."

As I stated above, I am a basketball player, as well as a player of many different sports. I am not the best player, but a player none-the-less. The question is not whether or not I am player or participant, but rather the kind of player or participant I am. I am also a believer in Christ Jesus as the Savior of the world. I am a witness. If you too are a believer, there is no question as to whether or not you will be Jesus' witness. You ARE His witness. It is a fact. There is no question as to whether or not you represent Jesus. But there is still a question that is left unanswered. It revolves around how you and I represent Jesus. Jesus says, we will be His witnesses, but the question that remains is, "What kind of witness will we be?"

In January, we had our annual meeting at New Life. Leading up the meeting I had been preaching a series on the Great Commission – to make disciples. I had shared that each of the gospel writers accounted for the mandate to "make disciples" one way or another. In fact, Luke did it not only in his gospel, but

### Memory Verse

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8

### THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

We welcome you to join us as we make our way through the Bible this year. You will need to begin in Genesis 1 and read through Deuteronomy 27 by the end of this month.



Here's the breakdown for Feb

Sun 2/5 ~ finish Leviticus 21

Sun 2/12 ~ finish Numbers 15

Sun 2/19 ~ finish Numbers 36

Sun 2/26 ~ Deuteronomy 21

~ Pastor Jesse Stevens



# Practice Makes Perfect

As many of you know by now, my wife Traci and I have performed in numerous Baraboo Theater Guild productions through the years. Most recently I am rehearsing for a dinner show that will be beginning next week.

The role I am playing, Lars Knudsen, is the largest role I have taken on and certainly has proven to be more work than any of the others roles in the past-- Not because Lars is a complicated character, or that the plot is overly difficult to follow, but because Lars has a lot of lines and a lot of lines means a lot of memorizing.

I like to joke with people that "If practice really make perfect" then I would be a lot better at certain things...

The problem with practice is that it is hard, its tiring, and worst of all, it gets boring. I enjoy magic, but the problem with magic is that there is very little instant gratification. It requires practice. The three keys to magic are practice, practice, and you guessed it, practice.

The theater guild is the same way: practice multiple nights a week and then late nights sitting up reading over my lines again, and again, and again.

Now I can't say I have all of my lines down frontwards and backwards...not yet. But I continue to practice, and Traci continues to help me, and drill me, and by the time the show starts I will be ready.

Two months, 29 practices, and 235 hours of practice all for a weekend show. Why? Because practice makes perfect.

Switch gears with me for a second. One of my aspirations in life is to be able to use my magic and comedy as a way of preaching the Gospel. That would make my day, that's what keeps me up at night, that my prayer for my ministry. So I'm sitting in my office praying that God would open doors and He said, "Why would I open doors that you're not ready for yet?"

You know what I mean? We ask God to help us on our tests, and when we don't pass because we didn't study we get mad. We ask God to give us a promotion at work, but we don't show up on time or with a good attitude and wonder why it hasn't happened. We pray for God to give us opportunities to serve him, but never prepare for them, and then complain we are stuck in the same place we were last year.

If practice makes perfect, then why don't we practice sharing our testimony, inviting our neighbors to church, speaking a kind word, and asking for forgiveness. If practice makes perfect how can we afford to spend so little time in prayer, in our quite time, and on our personal walk with God?

I would love to be able to travel and preach. I wish I had a reason to buy that old train trunk. I know I need to have a better walk with the Lord, yet until I am committed to put in the necessary work and time, I shouldn't expect God to open doors in those areas.

Scripture tells us in 1 Peter 3:15 that we are to be prepared. "But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. **Always be prepared** to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. 2 Timothy 4:2 says to "**be prepared in season and out of season.**" 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 Paul tells us to train as though we are competing. "Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into **strict training.** They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize."

Now I know there is a spiritual aspect to all of this and depending how far your pendulum swings and in which direction will determine what your argument against my article is...

New Life Community A.C. Church  
Board Meeting Minutes  
January 2012



Financial Report

Month of December

Budgeted Giving \$12,156  
Budgeted Expense \$12,815  
Difference **-\$659**


Actual Giving \$12,702  
Actual Expense \$9,875  
Difference \$2,827

Complete 2011 Budget year

Budgeted Giving \$158,495  
Budgeted Expense \$158,495  
Difference \$0


Actual Giving \$162,122  
Actual Expense \$161,777  
Difference \$345

There was no January board meeting due to the fact that the annual meeting just took place. Church annual reports may be obtained by contacting the church office via phone 608-356-3367 or e-mail at [newlife@centurytel.net](mailto:newlife@centurytel.net).




### Men's Outing: Chicago Auto Show.

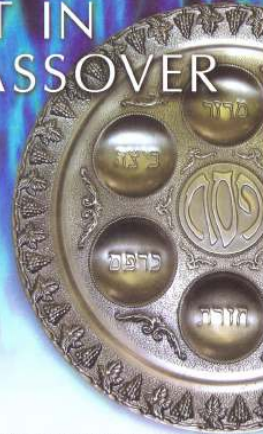
Men wanting to go should meet at the church at 7:30 am, on Saturday Feb. 18th, to car pool down to Chicago for the show. Plan on being gone the entire day, as the group will not be arriving back until around 9 pm. Each attendee will be responsible for paying for their admission and their meals during the trip.



Join us every  
Wednesday  
evening from  
6:00 to 7:00 pm



## CHRIST IN THE PASSOVER



What do the Jewish Passover and Jesus' last supper have in common? Peter Blitscheyn, a missionary with Jews for Jesus, will answer that question as he presents "[Christ in the Passover](#)" at New Life on [FRIDAY MARCH 23rd from 7-8pm](#). A free will offering will be taken that evening to support Jews for Jesus.



## POTLUCK

Please join us after the worship service on Sunday, February 13 for food and fellowship. Please bring a dish to share.

New Life Community Advent Christian Church  
Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 PM  
1919 Elizabeth St  
Baraboo, WI  
(608) 356-3367

## Our Newly Adopted Church Mission Statement

After several months of thought, reflection, and discussion, and based upon the recommendation of the pastors, elders, and the official church board, the congregational body voted unanimously at the 2012 annual meeting to approve a revision to the mission statement of the church.



**NEW Mission Statement**

The mission of the New Life Community Advent Christian Church is *to be disciples of Jesus, who love and honor God, grow and serve together, and reach out to our community with the Gospel.*

# Sunday Schedule

**8:30 am**  
Coffee & Donuts

**9:00 am**  
Sunday School

**10:00 am**  
Worship Service

# Weekly Events

**Breakfast fellowship** at the Log Cabin first & third Tuesday of every month at 8:00 am. All are welcome.

**Youth Group** meets every Wednesday evening from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm here at Church.

**Choir** meets every Wednesday evening from 6:00 to 7:00 pm at the church.

**Kid's Klub** meets every Wednesday evening from 6:00 to 7:00 pm at the church.

**Prayer Time:** Friday's at the church at 9:30 am.

**Church-wide prayer chain:** Call the church office at 356-3367 with your prayer concerns.

# Community Groups

Please see list of Community Groups on page 5 of the newsletter



# February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5	6 Men's Basketball 6:30-8:30pm	7 Breakfast Fellowship 8:00 am	8 Kid's Klub 6:00 pm Youth 6:00 pm Choir 6:00 pm	9 Kid's Klub 6:00 pm Youth 6:00 pm Choir 6:00 pm	10 Prayer 9:30 am	11
12 Potluck	13 Men's Basketball 6:30-8:30pm	14 Valentine's Day	15 Kid's Klub And Youth 6:00 pm Choir 6:00 pm Board meeting 7pm	16 NEW LETTER HEAD	17	18
19	20 Men's Basketball 6:30-8:30pm	21 Breakfast Fellowship 8:00 am	22 Kid's Klub 6:00 pm Youth 6:00 pm Choir 6:00 pm	23	24	25
26	27 Men's Basketball 6:30-8:30pm	28	29 Kid's Klub 6:00 pm Youth 6:00 pm Choir 6:00 pm			

# Birthdays

- 1 Nate Dean
- 5 Brandon Wegner
- 7 Delores Coming
- Chuck Koberstein
- 12 Theo Fuller
- 13 Tyler Urben
- Taylor Weber
- 14 Tom Fuller
- 18 Jorge Rosas
- Noah Steinhorst
- 19 Eugene Starks
- 20 Bianca Rosas
- 21 Ericka Horstman
- 22 Jacob Dean
- 24 Lauren Rockhill
- Samantha Oelke
- 27 Ron Greenwood
- 28 Joe Canepa
- Bonnie Sherven
- 29 Jon Taylor
- Amanda Dent

# Anniversaries

- 12 Chuck & Carolynn Koberstein
- 13 Phil & Marily Urban
- 20 John & Juanita Rockhill

Continued from page 2 Yes, the Lord is the one giving this gift (Eph 4:11) and yes He works in spite of my weaknesses (2 Corinthians 12:9-10). Of course His spirit blows where it wants (John 3:8). You can take Luke 12:11-12 "When you are brought before synagogues, rulers and authorities, do not worry about how you will defend yourselves or what you will say, for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say." His spirit will give you the words to say, and swinging to far to the left you can justify not having to read the Bible, Acts 4:13 "When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished...", and say there is no need for school or biblical training. Swing that pendulum to the right and none of us has ever been with Jesus personally, so there is no reason to speak up.

Can God work miracles? Absolutely! Will he? In His will and timing, certainly. Do you want a freshmen pre-med student to do your brain surgery? No, you want the doctor who is practiced, who has done it, who is prepared.

Come next week, the lights will come up on our stage, and there will be no more room for excuses. Either I will have wasted my co-actors time and your money, or I will have put in the practice needed, and those in attendance will laugh and applaud... and throw money? Yet when it comes to our lives there is something more valuable than the cheers and applause of men. One day, if we have put in the practice, God will say, "Well done good and faithful servant." Now that's worth practicing for. Practice makes perfect.

~Pastor Jed



# Scout Sunday 2012

Cub Scout Pack 393 of Baraboo will lead the congregation in a Flag Ceremony at the 10 am service on Sunday, February 5th to commemorate Scout Sunday. Scout Sunday is a tradition started in the mid-1940s to make those in houses of worship aware of scouting and to encourage scouts to live out their "Duty to God" pledged each week. Anyone interested in more information about Cub Scout Pack 393 may contact Dan Fuller at 608-448-4466.

## Community Groups

Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ. Acts 5:42

<p><b>Leader:</b> Pam Mjelde  <b>Contact:</b> 356-3347  <b>Place:</b> Sherly Spees' home  <b>What:</b> Overcoming Anxiety  <b>Who:</b> Women only  <b>When:</b> Fridays 1:00 pm</p>		<p><b>Leader:</b> Jesse Stevens  <b>Contact:</b> 356-3367  <b>Place:</b> Dan &amp; Traci Fuller's home  <b>What:</b> Good Sense Budget Course  <b>When:</b> Sundays 6:30 pm</p>
	<p><b>Leader:</b> Jerry Kinnamon  <b>Contact:</b> 356-4230  <b>Where:</b> Rotates weekly  <b>What:</b> Prayer Cell  <b>Who:</b> Anyone  <b>When:</b> Tuesdays 1:00 pm</p>	

Don't miss out on being a part of the winter session for our Community Group Bible studies. Call the church office (356-3367) for more details and information on other groups that are meeting throughout the winter months.

# NewLife News

New Life Community Advent Christian Church  
1919 Elizabeth Street  
Baraboo WI 53913  
Check us out on the Web: [www.newlifecommunityacchurch.org](http://www.newlifecommunityacchurch.org)  
**Dated Materials**



## New Life Community Advent Christian Church

1919 Elizabeth Street  
Baraboo, WI 53913  
356-3367

### Rev. Jesse Stevens

#### Senior Pastor

jessestevens@  
centurytel.net

408-9804

### Jed Crouse

#### Associate Pastor

jedcrouse@  
centurytel.net

963-1205

### New Life Christian Nursery & Preschool

#### Tracy Blake

Daycare Administrator  
newlifedaycare@  
centurytel.net

356-4211

### Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

[newlife@centurytel.net](mailto:newlife@centurytel.net)



### Need Prayer?

Have something you need prayer for? Want someone to talk to regarding a commitment you made? A pastor or elder will be available in the glass room next to the sound booth for prayer every Sunday after the service.

**AVAILABLE**  
*Now*  
**SUNDAY SERMONS**  
**ONLINE**

To download or listen to a sermon, go to  
[www.sermon.net/  
newlifeacchurch](http://www.sermon.net/newlifeacchurch)

The church website has a link to the sermons online.



### The Envelope Please.

If you utilize offering envelopes for your tithes and offerings, full boxes of envelopes are available in the church foyer on the table. When you take a box, write down your name and box number on the sheet next to the envelopes. This allows the offering counters to track your giving and report it back to you at the year's end.