

JAY² NEWS

Jay: a nickname for Jason. A2: a nickname for Ann Arbor. Together my News.

UPDATE
4.10



“Pressing on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took Hold of Me.”

Ministry Update

This phase of ministry (support raising) has been a much longer process than I anticipated when entering into it. I am being continually stretched and blown away at both the generosity of others and the Lord's provision. Thank you all for your prayers, your encouragement, and your ongoing financial support.

Support Update

As of April 2010, I have transitioned my employment and support raising efforts from Great Commission Ministries to New Life Church (NLC). Functionally, my role and job description remain the same. The only difference is that NLC now manages and processes my support raising efforts.

All new special and/or recurring gifts should be directed to New Life

Church. Information on how to send in gifts to NLC is provided at the end of this letter.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Team Building

First, I want to thank you for your prayers concerning our leadership team. Some recent changes within NLC staff roles led to an adjusted agenda for the evening of March 14th. I hope to share more on that in my next newsletter.

On April 11th, we dove back into the conversations regarding what is needed within the community side of NLC to disciple well. We are continuing with this conversation in our upcoming meeting on May 2 at 7:30pm. Please pray for unity, clarity, and increased passion for making

disciples amongst those who call Ann Arbor home.

Praises

- Reese was dedicated on 3.7.10
- Spring is Here - Woo Hoo!
- 41% of my Support Raised
- A beautiful wife and daughter



Prayer Requests

A huge Support Goal I am believing for and would love you all to partner with me in is to see 20 new financial partners by June 1st.

- 20 Financial Partners x 6.1
- New Contacts for Support
- Unity in Leadership
- Day Shift for Tami

A Scripture I'm Dwelling In

New Life Church has a Good Friday service each year. This year, we had an evening of musical worship coupled with several people reading through the Gospel accounts of Jesus being arrested, tried, beaten, crucified, and placed in a tomb. After each of these five sections a pastor shared a brief reflection and the evening culminated with The Lord's Supper. I had the opportunity to share a reflection on the crucifixion and I'd like to pass along some of my thoughts.

One style of movie I really appreciate is when the story line actually begins at the end and then goes back in time to reveal the events that led up to that initial scene. Thus, the start of the movie actually turns out to be the end of the movie. And it is especially good when the actual end of the movie leaves off as if it is really just the beginning. I love how screen writers do that and it is what sparked my reflection by realizing the story of the Cross can be told in a similar fashion. You just have to start at the end.

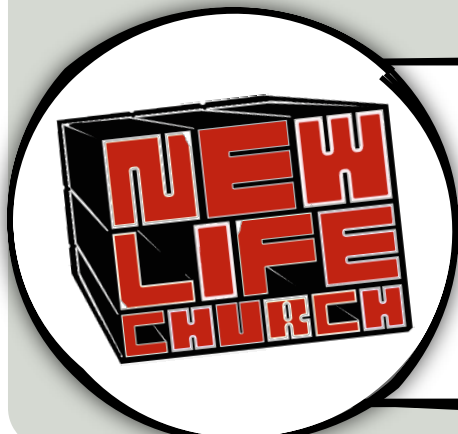
Read, Revelations 20:11-15 and imagine the scene. Imagine, masses as far as the eye can see are standing before the throne of God and books

are opened revealing a record of everyone's lives. Essentially, everyone is standing there with their own story and everyone is being judged according to it. And the results are not good - no one is making it with their own story (Romans 3:23 & 6:23). Then, another book is opened, the book of life and anyone whose name was found in it was spared the second death. This is where the movie would fade to black and either a narrator or text on the screen would reveal were jumping back in time to see the events that led up to that moment. Two questions would be running through the audience's mind: 1. where did this book of life come from; and 2. how does someone get his/her name in it?

As the movie continues to unfold it would without a doubt have to include the story of the crucifixion. Christ died on the cross because he will be on the throne in that opening/final scene and he knows that no one's story on its own will make the cut. Christ knew that our stories were in need of rescuing. So Christ stepped out of heaven and into humanity, lived a flawless life for roughly 33.5 years so that the cross would matter. The book of life was created through the cross. The

intersection of those two crossbeams is where our little individual story can intersect with His huge and perfect STORY. Where our story can be redeemed within His STORY. And that intersection is Love. Pure and simple.

He endured the cross, scorned its shame and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God because of the joy set before Him - His Bride - His people - those He redeemed and whose names are in the Book of Life (Heb.12:2). And just like those screen plays I enjoy so much, that opening/final scene before the throne is not really the end. It's merely the beginning to the rest of the story and He wants no one to spend it apart from Him. What a Writer we Serve! The Very Author and Redeemer of Life!



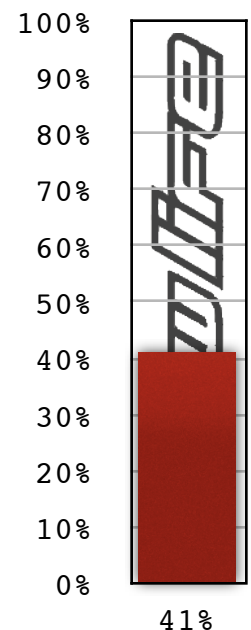
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SUPPORT GOAL



How to send in gifts to New Life Church

There are two ways to send in gifts to New Life Church: by check in the mail or via online. Directions are below...

By Mail:

Check made out to "New Life Church" with my name (Jason Bennett) in the memo. After initial gift, receipts and envelopes for next months gift will be mailed regularly.

Mail the check to:

New Life Church
Finance Department
1541 Washtenaw Ave.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Via Online:

In order to set up your giving with New Life Church follow the 10 steps below.

1. Go to www.nlcweb.org/give
2. Under Give Online - click on the "Give Online" button
3. Then on the right hand side click on "Create an Account"
4. Fill out the information to create an account and then click "Create Account" at the bottom
5. Once logged in - Use the Categories drop down list to select "Staff (Jason Bennett)" and enter the amount of your gift
6. Below this you can check the box "Make this a Reoccurring Transaction"
7. Then select the "Frequency" of your gift (monthly, bi-monthly, etc.) as well as the "Duration"
8. Next select your payment option (Credit or Electronic Check) and fill out the required information for your choice
9. Click "Next" at the bottom of the page to bring up a confirmation page
10. Review your transaction, enter the characters at the bottom to ensure activity, and click "Confirm Transaction"

You're Done!

To make changes to your account, update information, or increase gifting at any time you can log into your account from the www.nlcweb.org/give page.