

# JAY NEWS

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

UPDATE  
9.10



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

## Support Update

### I have reached 100%

What an incredible two months it has been since my last newsletter. In my previous newsletter I shared that I had surpassed the half way mark. Since then the Lord has connected me to a number of passionate Christ followers who have been very generous towards my ministry. Furthermore, New Life Church (NLC) decided to support me with \$1000 per month. The New Life gift equates to 27% of my total support, however, it was to be the final 27% (meaning it wouldn't kick in until I reached 73%). At the time of my last letter I was at 52%, which meant I had a gap of 21% that I still needed to raise. Incredibly, the Lord poured out on me in July and August enabling me to reach the 73% mark. In turn, NLC kicked in their

27% and I have officially reached 100%!

I want to thank all of you for your overwhelming kindness, your prayers, and your ongoing support of the ministry I am engaged in here in Ann Arbor. I am grateful to have you as part of my team and greatly encouraged to know you are behind me in this work.

As a caviat to this news, there are several promised gifts that have yet to be enacted. These commitments have been factored into the equation, but when time and circumstance allow for these gifts to come in it will be greatly appreciated. I am truly humbled by all of your generosity and honored to be serving on your behalf in Ann Arbor.

Thank You!

Thank You!



We're on the ground in Ann Arbor!

## Team Building

We are making real headway on the community side of NLC. Thank you for all of the prayers over our team; our planning and prayer times have been awesome. Previously, I mentioned that we were revamping our Wednesday night community meetings. We have done so and are getting ready to launch this on October 14th!

## Team Building Continued...

This will be called Community Core & Children's Core and meets on the second Thursday of each month. Here is a brief overview:

Community Core is a monthly service geared towards those who are recently or long since removed from their undergrad years. Community Core offers worship, teaching, vision and journey updates for the community side of NLC as well as an extended time of fellowship at the end. Children's Core runs simultaneously and engages kids in an active and upbeat environment of worship, VBS based curriculum, and games.

We are extremely excited to be kicking this off and I covet your prayers for God to do incredible things in our community through these times.

Our community leadership meetings on Sunday evenings continue every three weeks from 7:30-9:30pm. We are meeting this coming Sunday evening Oct 3 and diving into the purpose, place, structure, and vision for our Small Groups. It is a huge topic to tackle - pray that we are sensitive to the Spirit's leading in our discussions and that we find unity in our development.

## Ministry Update

We kicked off another year of New Life Kids in September for the families that currently attend New Life Church. The New Life Kids Director is one of the roles, among many, that I have assumed for the time being. The vision is to have a part-time paid NLKids Director in the years to come but in light of current circumstances we are not able to do this (hence my own support raising). We do have a

solid ministry structure in place for NLKids and a lot of great parents and college students volunteering as teachers and class helpers. I have implemented several new components to improve the team aspect of our ministry and support of our teachers, ministering on a foundation of prayer, and communication between volunteers. Pray that the Lord would continue to give us insight into how to improve NLKids as we strive to raise up the next generations of Christ followers.

I'll be getting the opportunity to teach/preach more often now that I have reached 100% and I covet your prayers for my sermon preparations and delivery - that the Spirit would move in the hearts of those who hear the messages and engage with Christ in a greater way.

Upcoming dates for prayer regarding my teaching and preaching:

- Oct 14 - Community Core 7pm
- Oct 17 - Sunday 9:29
- Oct 24 - Sunday 9:29 | 11:11
- Nov 11 - Community Core 7pm

## jAy2News.com

I originally created jAy2News.com out of a desire for more frequent contact with those who are supporting me in this work in Ann Arbor. jAy2News.com is an extension of my

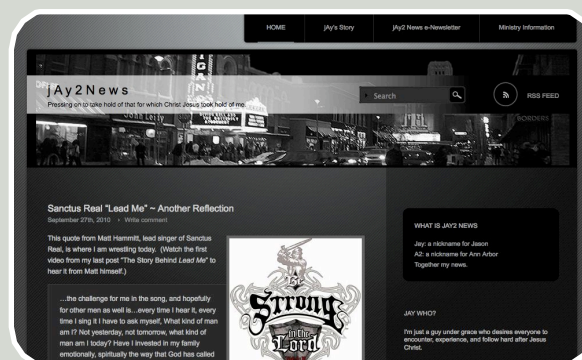
bi-monthly newsletters and an outlet for thoughts and reflections that stem from my life and work here in Ann Arbor. I gave jAy2News.com a complete overhaul in July and August and am back in the writing saddle. From time to time I may highlight a posting of mine in a bi-monthly newsletters or inform you of new features on the website. If you enjoy what you find there, you can sign up for the content to be emailed directly to you through the *Subscribe* feature located on the right sidebar. I hope it serves you well.

The one posting I would like to highlight right now is titled *Sanctus Real "Lead Me"* from September 24, 2010. It is a video of the story behind the song and it is powerful. The essence of this song is the anthem of my prayer life right now. Check it out! You will be blessed.

## A Scripture I'm Dwelling In

Hebrews 5:7 says, "During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission." Then Hebrews 8:24 and Romans 8:34 describe Jesus at the right hand of God living to intercede on our behalf. On earth and in heaven

Jesus prayed and intercedes for others with a passionate, emotion filled intensity. I am greatly challenged by the reality of Jesus' prayer life, something the Lord is currently calling me to study through the Gospels in more depth. On one hand, the sheer fact that Jesus'



## A Scripture I'm Dwelling In

entire life was rooted in and guided through prayer is a challenge - he truly *prayed continually* (1 Thess. 5:17). On the other hand, Jesus' prayers were passionate and intense - *loud cries and tears*. Jesus is my example, our example. If Jesus prayed this much and this intensely then one question begs to be asked of His followers, "Do we pray like Jesus?"

I can share many stories from my own prayer life: fiery nights of exciting breakthroughs, long challenging hours of silence that put me to sleep, persistence, forgetfulness, excitement and anticipation, dread and avoidance. My prayer journey has been all over the place but one thing remains true through it all - I continue to pray. And in light of the Scriptures I have been dwelling on and what the Lord has me studying I desire to pray all the more. What's really exciting to me is that the Lord is leading our entire church here in A2 back into the culture of prayer that is in our DNA.

On Labor Day weekend this year, Kick Off Sunday, Sept 5, Pastor Steve Hayes gave New Life's annual vision talk. In this message, Steve shared New Life's theme for this year "*Our First Love*" and the 3 Cultures that pervaded NLC when we were small,

years ago: 1. Prayer; 2. Intentional Relationships with those who don't know Christ; and 3. Peer Discipleship. Within the culture of prayer, Hayes encouraged us as a church to pray for three specific things:

1. Pray that we as a church would understand & experience the love of God - Ephesians 3:18-19
2. Pray the Lord's Prayer - That God's Rule would come among us as it is in heaven. On campus and in the city of Ann Arbor.
3. Pray that our influence will expand.

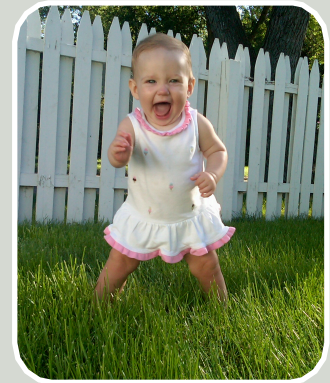
I would love for you to join me in this culture of prayer. These three specific focuses in prayer are exactly what I need to be centered on within the community side of NLC. Everything we do needs to be rooted in this foundation of prayer. Please spend time with our King on these specifics. I know it will make all the difference in our Kingdom endeavors in Ann Arbor.

## Praises

- Reaching 100% of my Support and being released to full time ministry in Ann Arbor. Amen!
- For God's faithfulness in provision and meeting our needs.
- Tami has not received day shift yet but has reduced to 2 nights

instead of 3 now that I have reached 100%. Thank you all again. It is a blessing to our family.

- For Reese. She is an absolute joy and blessing in our lives.

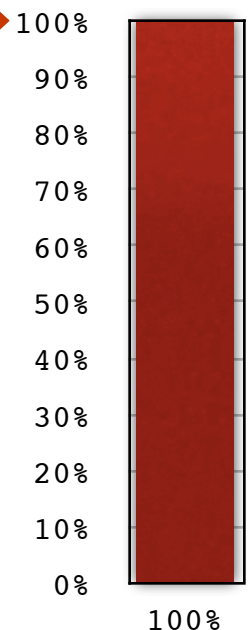


## Prayer Requests

- Community Core and Children's Core Launch. To be well attended and beneficial to everyone.
- Unity in Leadership
- Building Our Lead Team
- Small Group Structure
- Balancing work, night shifts, and family. Date nights!
- Day Shift for Tami

Amen!

## SUPPORT GOAL.



## CONTACT INFO

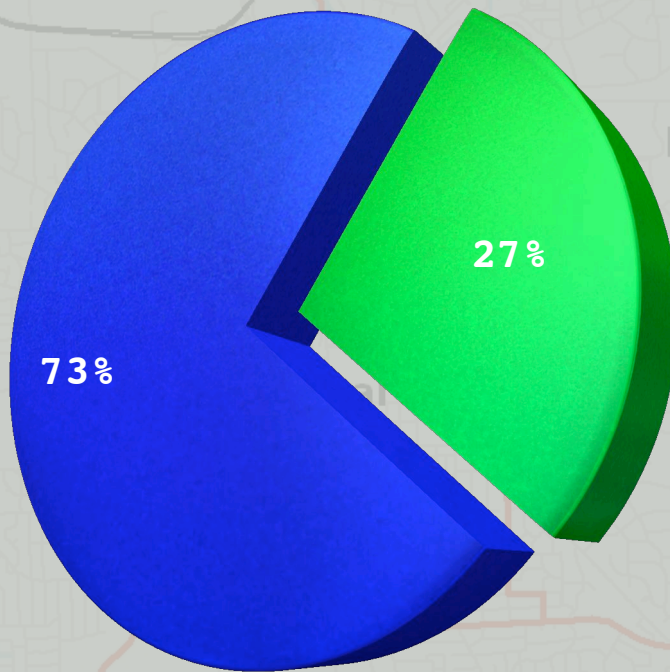
New Life Church  
1541 Washtenaw Ave  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
[www.nlcweb.org](http://www.nlcweb.org)

Jason Bennett  
2769 Parkwood Ave  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

231.580.1712  
[jason.bennett@nlcweb.org](mailto:jason.bennett@nlcweb.org)  
[jay2news.com](http://jay2news.com)

# THANK YOU - 100 %

● New Life Church 27%    ● Individuals 58%, Foundations 12%, & Churches 3%



**Total: \$3,665 / Month**

Background Image is Ann Arbor Street Map