
New Life Presbyterian Church

August 12, 2018

10:30 a.m.



Welcome to this Lord's Day Worship. We rejoice that you are here!

NLPC Mission Statement (June 2016)

Assured of the new life we have received in Christ, we will live out our faith together through worship, prayer, education, fellowship, and mission.

Being called to love all people, we will use our gifts to serve God in an imperfect world.

Equipped with our faith and filled with the Spirit, we will:

- *reach out in acceptance to a diverse community;
- *embrace the marginalized and show love to all;
- *feed the hungry and care for the sick;
- *search for peace and work for justice.

Child Care is available during our worship service.
Ask an usher for the location of the Childcare Room.

Large Print Bulletins, Hymnals, and Bibles are available.

Participating in Worship

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Worship Leader: | Rev. Mary Bahr-Jones, Pastor |
| Music Director: | Edyta Jaros |
| Liturgist: | George Steiger |
| Ushers: | Francis Booth, Bruce Duff, Jodie Horan and Don Soule |

Service for the Lord's Day
12th Sunday after Pentecost
Season of Creation

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *God, Reveal Your Presence* Sharon Gire &
Becky Piatek

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to you, Creator God,
*Give us a vision of you walking with humanity
In the garden of Eden at the time of the evening breeze.*

We come to you, Creator God,
*Help us to express the love of the Resurrected Christ
Who was crucified on a tree to redeem us all:
Our universe, our planet, our forests, our trees and ourselves.*

We come to you, Creator God,
*Teach us to live in hope that the Living Christ
Is renewing ALL of creation with his love everlasting.*

We come to you, Creator God,
*Ready to worship Christ our Lord
In company with the majestic forests quivering with life.*

O Creator God, we come to you!

*HYMN #12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

CALL TO CONFESSION

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creator God,

You have made to grow great trees on our green planet

These gentle giants feed, sustain, refresh and heal the life around them.

We confess that we were born into a planet green with life,

Filled with majestic and mysterious trees symbolizing the divine,

Yet we see trees as simply inert and insensible.

Forgive our narrow vision

AND

Open our eyes to the irreplaceable nature of the forests.

We confess that when great trees reach their leaves to the heavens,

We see in them lumber for building homes, wood for making furniture,

and logs for our fires.

Forgive us our human arrogance

AND

Teach us to appreciate the precious forests as a tremendous gift.

We confess that in our thoughtlessness and greed,

We have cut down the forests for lumber and fuel

And we have burned the trees to clear lands for grazing cattle.

Forgive us our self-focus

AND

Guide us to becoming the redemptive hands of Christ,

Preserving the irreplaceable forests

and re-planting where forests have perished.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

...May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

And also with you.

Please share the peace of Jesus with those worshipping around you..

*SONG OF PRAISE

#582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

LISTENING FOR THE WORD

THE WORD INTERPRETED FOR CHILDREN

ANTHEM *The Rainforest Song*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE WORD OF GOD

Genesis 1:1-13

Pew Bible OT p. 1

Genesis 2:4-9, 15-17

Pew Bible OT p. 2

Revelation 22:1-5

Pew Bible NT p. 245

This is the Word of the Lord;

Thanks be to God.

SERMON SERIES

Caring for Creation

SERMON

Symbol of the Divine

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN #17

Sing Praise to God, You Heavens!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray.

O Creator God,...

...We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, WHO...

...Taught his disciples to pray together, saying:

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

SHARING GOD'S GIFTS

OFFERTORY *God of Heaven* Calli Bowman-Tomlinson

*SONG OF DEDICATION #614 *Great Are You, Lord*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING OUT INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN #14 *For the Beauty of the Earth*

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

May the Spirit of our Creator God, ...

...Go in peace! Serving Christ and loving Creation!

We will go in peace, serve Christ and love Creation.

POSTLUDE

**Those that are able may stand.*

*Today's liturgy inspired / adapted from the following resources: webofcreation.org;
letallcreationpraise.org; seasonofcreation.com; stranzdocs.blogspot.com; patheos.com,
env-stewardship.com, Sermon by John Paarlberg @ First Church of Albany (2014).*

New Life Opportunities & Announcements



Coffee Time- Please join your fellow NLPC members and guests in a time of fellowship following the service this morning. Everyone is welcome!



Greeters Needed! We are in need of greeters to welcome all who enter our doors each Sunday. No experience is necessary, just sign up on the bulletin board and arrive with a smile on Sunday! The sign up sheet is posted across from Pastor Mary's office with many opportunities. Thank you in advance for being the face of our warm and welcoming congregation.

Notes and reflections on this week's sermon:

The plants in the sanctuary today are in
memory of

Sheila Steiger,
Beloved Wife of George



*In
Loving
Memory*



Summer Music!



Sing a song, play an instrument, recite your favorite Bible passage, inspirational poem or get a group together and put on a short skit or choral reading.

Sign-up on the Bulletin Board to say you will share your gifts with us this summer!



Red Cross Blood Drive— New Life is hosting a blood drive on Thursday, August 16th from 2:00 pm to 7:45 pm in Agape Hall. Please help the Red Cross fight the summer blood shortage by signing up to donate blood that day. Sign up on the bulletin board or call the office to make an appointment. Walk-ins are always welcome, too. Contact the Church Office with any questions.



Bakers and Hosts Needed!

We are in need of volunteers to donate baked goods (pies and cookies) and also to host the Canteen on August 16th for 2 hour time slots. To volunteer to help in any way, sign up on the bulletin board or call Bruce Short.



Special thanks to all who are able to volunteer to make our drive a success!



Newsletter Deadline— Please note that the deadline for the September newsletter is Thursday, August 16. Please submit all articles electronically to the church office by 10:00 AM. Thank you!

The Minister's Memo-A Cosmic Remix



In the beginning, the Spirit of God hovered in nothingness, so God said: "Let there be light!"; and there was a BIG BANG! Light burst forth speeding in all directions generating space. God saw that the light was good, and God saw that the light reflected the purity of Christ, so the Creator God made light to be the essence of his cosmic creation. So there was light and space the first moment.

And God said: "Let there be particles of matter and let the matter be separate from the light!"; so from the light emerged protons, neutrons and electrons. The protons and neutrons fused together into positive ions. Then as the universe began to cool, the ions began to dance with the electrons. And it was so. God called the dancing particles atoms. And there was a very long Epoch.

And God said: "Let the atoms gather together into clusters." And it was so. The atoms gathered into clouds, which began to collapse upon themselves. As the clouds collapsed they began to spin forming nebulae. God saw that it was good. Then God said: "Let the matter at the center of a nebula form a sun, and let the matter at the edges of a nebula form planets." And it was so. Solar systems formed with a sun at the center and planets orbiting around each sun. Comets and asteroids danced through the solar systems with the planets. And God saw that it was good. And there was another long Epoch.

And God said: "Let the heavy elements sink to the center of the Earth and let the light elements rise to the surface, where they will cool to form a solid mantel around the Earth's core." And it was so. With the molten core swirling beneath it, the mantel began to shift creating volcanoes that released gases into the atmosphere. Then God said: "Let dancing comets and asteroids collide with the earth." And it was so. A colossal comet collided with the Earth catapulting pieces of the mantle into space, where the pieces formed into a moon orbiting the Earth. Frozen comets and asteroids collided with the Earth bringing water. With each collision, the waters grew around the solid mantel forming a great Sea. And God saw that it was good. And there was another Epoch.

And God said: "Let the mantel continue to shift so that the volcanoes create dry land." And it was so. God called the hot dry land earth and God called the waters sea. Then rain fell and formed pools of fresh warm water in the hot dry earth. In the warm pools molecules danced in the heat of the earth and in the light of the sun and formed the seeds of life. Then God said: "Let these carbon molecules form life." And it was so. The carbon molecules formed into globules floating in the water, and the chemical reactions became self-sustaining. Over time cells of bacteria emerged: bacteria which could capture energy from the sunlight. God saw that life was good. And there was another Epoch.

Eco-Friendly Tidbits



Eat your fruits and veggies! Eating lower on the food chain saves energy and other resources. This is especially true with regard to eating beef. The production of beef is the biggest contributing factor in the deforestation of the Amazon. Rain forests in South America are cut down and converted both for pastures and the production of feed for beef cattle. How can people around the world help save the rainforest? We can reduce our beef consumption. Try eating a vegetarian meal once a week in place of beef. When we eat a variety of grains, fruits and veggies, we diversify not only our diets but the animal kingdom as well.

Summertime...

Summer is here and with it comes the joy of vacation travel! We hope that you take advantage of the wonderful weather and have the opportunity to share this blissful time with family and friends. While the travels of summer may take you away from our worshipping community, we ask that you keep current with your pledge commitments through these summer weeks. Even though you may take a much needed break, the work of our church continues. Thank you for your faithful support and enjoy your vacation journeys!



Listening for God's Whisper



In our effort to listen for God's guidance at this pivotal moment in the life of our church, the Session has posted a book on the bulletin board in the hall. This book –entitled Old and New – is for ideas. The church leadership would like to hear about your ideas of things the church family might do to be more hospitable to both friends and strangers. These could be things that the church has done in the past, which we could do again, or they could be things that the church has never tried.

Please, share your thoughts with your church leaders ... you never know when God is whispering to us through you!



Have Yarn, Will Knit!

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry is in need of yarn donations to help replenish our supply of prayer shawls. We are grateful for any yarn you may be able to donate (please be sure it is machine washable). It doesn't have to be new, full skeins, either! Becky Piatek has offered to collect yarn and create shawls using even very small amounts of yarn! So, if you have yarn that is left over from a project, please bring it to church and Becky will put it to use. Contact her with any questions at 813-848-4473.- If you have the talent and time to help create shawls, please let Pastor Mary know. Yarn can be supplied if needed. Thank you for your help in providing comfort



Presbyterian Coffee Project

The Presbyterian Coffee Project offers a special link between congregations and communities around the world. Churches can now reach out to neighbors overseas not only with the prayers and offerings we give, but with the goods and products we purchase. A warm cup of coffee (or tea) in our hands is perhaps the most tangible daily connection we have with farmers around the world. Buying fair trade through the Presbyterian Coffee Project ensures that more of the money we spend on coffee reaches the hardworking farmers who actually grow it.

The next **fair trade** product order is being assembled. Individual 12oz bags of coffee are \$6 (reg) and \$8 (decaf). Tea is \$4.50 for a 20 bag box and cocoa is \$7.50 for a 12 oz can. Consider splitting a case order with a friend to get a better price. Other products are also available, see Stanley Iobst for more information.



Mark your calendar for Sunday, September 9, 2018

We are having our annual church picnic, planned with a country flair, beginning immediately after worship that day.

Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided. Remember to invite your families for a fun filled afternoon. Sign up on the bulletin board to tell us you will join in the celebration and also to let us know what dish you will bring to pass!

Church Communication

Would you like to have a church event or announcement included in the Newsletter or Sunday bulletin? Would you like to invite church members to a special event? Please submit a Publication Request form to the church office for all announcements to be included in the Newsletter and/or Sunday bulletin. The deadline for Sunday bulletin publication is the prior Wednesday. Request forms can be found on the bulletin board outside the church office. You can also email your request to office@newlifepresby.org.



Thank you for your cooperation in keeping the lines of communication open here at New Life Presbyterian Church.

Congregational Care Fund



New Life Presbyterian Church has established a Congregational Care Fund to assist members of the congregation when they face unexpected crises. Over the past years we have been able to help members who have faced problems such as unexpected loss of employment, mortgage foreclosure, illness and other things. The assistance we have been able to provide to individual members has made a genuine difference in helping stabilize their lives. Much of the fund has come through individual donations from members of the congregation. If you would like to make a contribution, please include a note indicating it is to be allocated to the congregational care fund. This fund makes it possible to provide assistance where appropriate. Thank you for your consideration.

Have You
Paid Your
Per Capita?



2018 Per Capita

One of the regular expenses in the church budget is Per Capita, a yearly apportionment that each Presbyterian congregation is asked to pay to cover the administrative costs of the governing bodies. Your Per Capita contribution allows our mission dollars to be spent directly on mission projects rather than on the costs of administering a mission.

Per Capita for the year 2018 is \$26.33 per church member. The total apportionment for New Life Presbyterian Church is \$5,213.34. This is how much more New Life would have available for programs and missions if each member paid their per capita for the year. You may use the blue "Per Capita" envelope included with your offering envelope pack or clearly mark your contribution as "per capita". Feel free to contact the church office for more details on Per Capita contributions.



**Please join us at 11:45AM in Agape Hall for light refreshments.
12:00 PM Sunday School
Childcare is available from 10:00AM-1:00PM.**

By providing educational opportunities for all ages our mission is to deepen knowledge and understanding of the Bible, strengthen relationships with Christ, increase the desire to share our faith and to grow Christian leaders both within and outside the church community.

Sunday School/VBS

Thank you to all who attended our *Polar Blast* Vacation Bible School Program in June. We hope everyone is enjoying a wonderful summer and we look forward to returning on September 16th with a great Sunday School program for all!

Prayer Group

Thursdays: 11:00 am – NOON

The Greek word for Gospel is evangelium. It means simply “good news.” It is the root of the word “evangelism.” Before Jesus ascended, he commanded his followers to go into the world as his witnesses. In response, the Apostles faithfully went out into the world and became evangelists. Evangelism is a word that makes most Presbyterians recoil. Any suggestion that we should be evangelists makes us run for the hills! Yet, as followers of Jesus we are, indeed, called by Jesus to share the Good News about him. On Thursdays at 11:00, our Prayer Group will be studying what it means to be Contagious Christians. Come join us as we learn how to become the kind of Christians, who break the “evangelism” stereotype, yet share the Good News about Jesus.

Faith Lessons Video Series-

Mondays: 10:30 am – 11:45 am in Agape Hall

On July 9 we began another study from the Faith Lessons Series. Experience the places of history recorded in the Bible for yourself. This in-depth Bible study, which is recorded on location, will visit the archeological sites of the Early Church. In this study, Ray Vander Laan—a noted historian and teacher—will help us to understand what gave the early believers the passion to go out into the world and found the Church. Join us to gain a better understanding of how the early followers became a light in the darkness of the ancient world and deepen your own faith through that understanding.

PRAYER CONCERNS

PRAY FOR HEALING

Glenn Watterworth
Jasmine Gorski- (Jeff & Wendy's granddaughter)
Mike Day- (friend of Kevin Konikson)
Lori Haralson
May Shorthouse
Christine Stripling-(Lori Haralson's friend)
Ashleigh Konikson
Daniel Paul- (Joyce Harrison's grandson)
Tara Sumners- (friend of Joyce Harrison)
Bill Mundle-(JoAnn DiPasquale's cousin)
Jeanne- (friend of the Robbins family)
Steve Jones
Brinlee Capazolli- (Jeff Turner's cousin)
Lana Horvath
Lillian Dodge- (friend of the Goughs)
Marge Kunz
Jodie Horan
John Turner
Patti Jones- (Cliff Robbins' sister)
Nancy Bechtel
Terry North
Shirley Honor
Joan Mc Bride

STRENGTH AND HOPE

Kevin Konikson
Brendan Bonkowski and family
Carlene Kneebone
Catherine Meeka- --(friend of Shelley)
Curt & Lisa Albrecht & Family--(friends of Schroeders)
Diane Burr-(Lori Haralson's friend)
Dean- (Margie Hurst's nephew)
Ken Pawlitz
Tom Dittman
Marilyn Anderson
Helen Goltz

COMFORT IN MOURNING

Karen Duff and family-after the passing of her mom, Rusty Estlow this past week
Family of Shirley Wintermuth- after her recent passing
Pastor Renee & Family- after the recent passing of her brother

SERVING IN THE MILITARY

SrA Shawn Konikson- US Air Force
Mike Stroud- US Air Force (Shirley Coar's grandson)
Kendra- requested by Fred Walker
PFC Julian Lee- US Army
Col. Jason Hollaran-US Army

GENERAL/GLOBAL

Those suffering loss and hardship from recent natural disasters
Those struggling in personal and spiritual crisis
Victims of unrest & injustice throughout the world
Second Mile Center
Those seeking work
Missionaries serving worldwide
Those experiencing homelessness
An end to violence in our nation

Please inform the church office of updates or if you know of someone who is well enough to be removed from our prayer chain. Thank you.

New Life Presbyterian Church

11300 Nineteen Mile Road Sterling Heights, MI 48314

www.newlifepresby.org

Find us on Facebook

Church Office 586-731-6133 fax 586-731-6629

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00AM to 3:00 PM

[*office@newlifepresby.org*](mailto:office@newlifepresby.org)

Reverend Mary Bahr-Jones, Interim Pastor

CHURCH STAFF

Wendy Mueller, Secretary
Shelley Claeys, Secretary

Edyta Jaros – Music Director
Sana Mansour – Child Care Supervisor

SESSION

Moderator: Rev. Mary Bahr-Jones

Clerk: Valerie Robbins

Phil Cunningham
Dorothy Harrington
Marge Kunz
Calliandra Bowman-Tomlinson

Lori Haralson
Matthew Hurst
Valerie Robbins

Bill Bowman
Sharon Gire
Charles Gough

DEACONS

Moderator: Joan Lockard

Secretary: Shayla Hansen

Bruce Duff
Shayla Hansen
Bernice Rutherford
Randy Tuck

Judy Doverspike
Jodie Horan
Margie Hurst

Bob Hitchcock
Cheryl Konikson
Joan Lockard

NLPC Weekly Calendar

MONDAY, August 13, 2018

9:00 AM Honey-Doers
10:30 AM Study Group
8:00 PM AA

TUESDAY, August 14, 2018

2:00 PM Pulmonary Support Group
8:00 PM AA, Alanon, Alateen

WEDNESDAY, August 15, 2018

7:00 PM Finance Committee

THURSDAY, August 16, 2018

Newsletter Deadline

11:00 AM Prayer/Study Group
2:00 PM to 7:45 PM Blood Drive
7:00 PM Band Practice

SUNDAY, August 19, 2018

Deacon Sunday
10:00 AM Prayer Partners
10:30 AM Worship w/ Lord's Supper
11:45 AM Coffee & Fellowship
12:00 PM Faithful Listeners
7:00 PM Venture Crew