New Life
FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER
FAITH • FAMILY • FRIENDS
Rom. 12:2

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Newsletter Date - September/October 2026 Volume 53

Vision Statement

New Life Family Worship Center desires to be a thoroughly biblical church that seeks God's presence and leadership. To that end, we are committed to proclaiming God's perfect law and His glorious gospel of grace in Jesus Christ throughout the world and to, "defending the faith once delivered to the saints" (Jude 3). "Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." (1 Cor 10:31).

A Word From Pastor Steve

Well, is it hot enough for ya? We've had a great monsoon season so far and I hope we get more rain. But the heat has been working its way up and the rain has stopped, for at least the time being. Hopefully Angus will keep praying for rain; he seems to have God's ear regarding that matter.

My cataract surgery was a great success. I now have 20-20 vision out of both eyes. It's still taking some time to get used to it, since I was nearsighted and am now farsighted. But the improvement is remarkable.

Satan is so predictable. Not long after my eye surgery I began to have a series of physical setbacks. My left knee gave out several times, and I have found out it is bone on bone. I suffered an accident on the golf course, which injured my ribs and gave me some tough round rash. And my blood work has been off, and I will soon see a hematologist to try to find out what's wrong with that. Satan never lets us rest; always throwing something at us to discourage. But as always, we know who is sovereign and who knows all. I may not be completely sure of what's going on, but He is.

New Life Kids and Students has just begun again. We are starting a half hour later and that change has been generally well received. We are emphasizing our Students' program and now have a batting cage [donated], a reworked volleyball area, a second basketball goal and are still working on a few other things.

Our fellowships have been amazing with this past Sunday's attendance near 140. That's high cotton for New Life. I continue to be amazed at how God brings folks to the church. I know it's not the excellence of teaching, but rather the sweet dealings we have with each other. Let us always cherish the love of our Father and love each other fervently.

Sunday AM lessons have been focusing on a love relationship with the Lord and now here comes Wednesday night, that in 1 John 4 is focusing on what? That's right, "perfect love". Sunday PM has begun a fascinating study on the "Two Witnesses." Avail yourself of these opportunities to hear and study God's Word.

Well, that's all for this newsletter. See ya around campus. May the Lord be "utterly obvious" in your life as you seek His will.

STEVEN MEDEIROS
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ABOUT US

ELDERS

Steve (Nicki) Medeiros, Teacher/Preacher
Ron (Betsy) Graves
Mike (Renee) Cox
Roger (Anita) Choate
Tom (Ashley) Van Wart
John (Tiffani) Peralta

LEADERS

Kathy Simko-Teaching
Mike & Renee Cox-New Life Kids
John Peralta-New Life Students
Janie Howard-Praise & Worship
Marsha Robertson-Hospitality

Your Giving is Between You and the Lord

If you want to help our church and our missions grow, there are options available on our website:

- **"Give Online Now" button allows one time or set up of recurring giving**
- **Crypto/Stock Option-A new way to give on the website**
- **Text Giving - Simply text the word "GIVE" to 844.879.5964 (Instructions on site)**
- **You will find access to mobile-giving via the Church App with links to the app stores**

newlifebenson.com/give

Agape Box
Located in the Foyer

Scan QR Code to give online

7 *So let* each one *give* as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of [a]necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.
2 Cor. 9:7

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Words From the Word #53

From 1 John 4:7-21 – As we look at man being made in God's image, we see this is not in regard to his physical traits, but in regard to the immaterial part of us, the spiritual part. God specifically designed man for inter-personal relationships.

When you talk about man created in the image of God and what makes up relationships, you talk about self-consciousness, which only man possesses. Man has the capacity to understand himself. Man has the capacity to think abstractly, because that's necessary in relationships, to appreciate beauty, to feel emotion, to be morally conscious, to reason, to acquire wisdom. All of that to have the ability to personally connect, personally relate to other people and especially to relate to God, to be able to love others and to love God. The core, then, of the image of God can be summed up with the words "personal relationship". Man is made with a capacity to love, to love others and to love God. And within the frame of that love there is fellowship, care, sharing of thoughts and attitudes, and experiences that make love the richest of all human experiences. The image of God then is the capacity for personal relationships which come down to giving and receiving love.

God Himself has never existed in a single lonely solitary fashion. He has never existed in isolation; He has never existed in some cut-off form. He's always existed in the fullness of a family-like reality: Father, Son, Holy Spirit. The Father has never been without the Son, the Son never without the Father, neither ever without the Spirit, the Spirit never without either. The amazing mystery of the origin of the *imago dei*, [image of God in Latin] the human personality is the Trinitarian essence or substance or reality of God. And God so designed that He would develop man not only to be able to relate to his fellow man but to be able to relate to Him. This still resides in the human heart, all these millennia after creation. We still long to love and be loved in all human relationships as well as the relationship with God.

In fact, as you probably are aware, the human heart cries for love more than anything else. It's the theme of more songs, more plays, more books, more films, more literature in general, more poems than any other thing. We long to love and be loved. We long to find that perfect love. All the forms of human discourse tell us that. It's because we have been made in the image of God for that. We want so much that perfect love relationship. And that understanding draws us all the way from Genesis into 1 John 4. In 1 John 4:7-21, where John presents for us a study of "perfect love." It is not hard to understand. It unfolds with beauty and simplicity and yet with depth.

So, the theme is perfect love. Verse 12 ends, "His love has been perfected in us." Verse 17, "Love has been perfected among us in this." Verse 18, "Perfect love casts out fear." End of the verse, "he who fears has not been perfected in love." Four times here, in those three verses, we read about perfect or perfected love. This is what everybody is looking for, everybody is longing for and no one will ever find outside a relationship with God. I think this adjective sort of tops my list, this adjective perfect. The Bible talks about brotherly love. It talks about unfeigned love which is love without hypocrisy. It talks about abounding love. It talks about serving love and a number of others. But I think the best of all is that the Bible presents to us perfect love.

Now how are we to understand that word perfect-we have to be able to do that, right? Well, it is from the verb *teleioō*, which simply means complete, whole. It basically means to carry out something to the max. That word is used by Jesus when He was dying on the cross and had come to the end and said, "It is finished." He used a form of *teleioō*, *tetelestai*, same verb, to say, "It's complete." And what He was saying

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was, "What I've just done can't be added to. What I've just done can't be improved on." And that's the kind of love we're talking about. It's a love that cannot be added to. It is a love that cannot be improved on. It is the perfected love with all the completeness that could only come from God. It is that kind of love, and this is another time and another sermon, but that kind of love that is defined and laid out for us in that wonderful chapter called 1 Corinthians 13 – the love chapter. What is here pledged to the true Christian is perfect love. That is the experience of the love of God in all its fullness, all its completeness, experiencing a love to which nothing can ever be added. The fullness of God's love is available to us. And that's what John is telling us here. Perfect love is the legacy that God has left to His children.

In 1 John 4 John is talking to believers here as indicated by the opening designation "beloved" – *agapētoi* divinely loved ones. Those whom God loves, let us love one another. Habitually here, the verb *agapē* / *agapaō*, the love of the will. It's not the love of emotion. It's not physical love, friendship love. It's the love of the will. It's the highest and noblest and it's habitual. We've heard this injunction already from John. We hear it again. We are to love one another. We are commanded to do that with a love of the will. And we're going to see as this unfolds all that that really means, but let me just remind you that this level of love is the love of self-sacrificing service. It's a love basically that is granted to someone who needs to be loved, not to someone who somehow is attracting that love. It is love that chooses to love because there is a need to be loved, no matter how unattractive the person might be, who chooses out of that love sacrificial service, because there is a need for that service and an opportunity for that sacrifice.

The Book of Deuteronomy: Deuteronomy is the 5th and last of the five books of Moses, and in this book, we have a summary of the Law of God. I believe that Deuteronomy is the most important book in the Old Testament.

"Deuteronomy" comes from two Greek words, *deutero* meaning "second" and *nomos* meaning "law." It is the "second giving of the law." It is the reiteration of the law given by God. It is the summation. As the book of Deuteronomy opens, the people are ready to enter the promised land, Canaan. They have been delivered from bondage in Egypt. They are God's people and now they're going to take their possession of the land God gave them.

And as they move into the land, God reminds them of all they need to know. And so, we have here the summarization of all the Law of Moses, of all the standards for living in God's kingdom.

And I believe the summary of the entire Old Testament, in fact, the summary of the entire Bible is in Deuteronomy 6:5, part of *Shema,* which means" hear," which runs from verses 4-9, and is the most important prayer in all Judaism. "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength." That, beloved, is the pinnacle of the whole Bible. In fact, Jesus said the same thing in Matt 22:37-39. The law is what's in front of Deuteronomy, the prophets come after, and the whole thing kinda hinges right here. And as we go to the Old Testament, we find the key is in the Pentateuch. As we look at the Pentateuch, the key is in Deuteronomy. As we look at Deuteronomy, the key is in 6:5, "You shall love the Lord." Now listen to me. Because of that, the Old Testament is not really building a relationship on law as some would teach, but it is building a relationship on what? Love.

Prayer Requests

Did you know that New Life Family Worship Center has a prayer chain? When there is a physical, spiritual, or any need for prayer, a team of prayer warriors will send prayers up on their behalf. If you have a prayer request that needs immediate attention by our prayer warriors, contact Deb Zink at 520-586-2337. Please note that unless asked not to be, prayer requests are also put on the Sunday morning prayer list.

So, do you or a loved one have any needs for which we can pray? There are prayer request slips like these in the Information Center and a jar to put them in at any time. And please also keep the office informed of any up-

Today's Date: _____
Your name: _____
Who needs prayer? _____
Relationship: _____
What is their prayer need? _____

I want my request taken to/put on:
- Weekly Prayer Meeting ☐
- Weekly prayer list ☐
- Online prayer wall ☐
- Prayer chain ☐

Prayer Requests

as of August 31, 2026

Did you know that New Life Family Worship Center has a prayer chain? When there is a physical, spiritual, or any need that needs prayer, a team of prayer warriors send prayers up on their behalf. If you have a prayer request that needs immediate attention by our prayer warriors, contact Deb Zink at 520-586-2337. Please note that unless asked not to be, prayer requests are also put on the church's Sunday morning prayer list. The latest prayer request list is below.

Unsaved loved ones, unspoken, Our Nation & World, Leaders, Military, Law Enforcement, Revival, travelers, kids, teachers & schools, country, Israel

Pamela Martens–Ron's mom, Henny-salvation; Ron's sister, Denise, prayers for salvation; prayers for church & spiritual attack; prayers for daughter, Emmaline, to make a good decision; Emmaline's boyfriend is in hospital after a bad accident with serious injuries; son, James-prayers for spiritual attacks, anxiety; brother-in-law, Gene had a bad crash in his motorized wheelchair, semi-truck just missed running over his head, also has shredded skin on bottom of one of his feet; her sister, Kat-diagnosed with Lupus; grandson, Noah, had allergic reaction, in ER for 4 hours

Brother Steve – 82 yr. old brother, Ray-salvation; prayers for revival & that God be glorified; those he counsels-prayers for wisdom; Israel; prayers for Ashley Berryhill; country, military & their families, law enforcement that is under siege; the Middle East-military, leadership, a positive resolution; unspoken; Sharon Ginn-health; Chris Cajas -heart issues

Becky Schmidlin-nephew-in-law, Wayne-very ill; friend, Scott Greene-cancer struggles, had complications due to radiation, had surgery, lots of pain, prayers for next steps, not doing well

Barb Nastal-prayers for our family, church family & thankful for all of the prayers for Joe & I

Marsha Robertson-broken marriages; her sister-in-law, Judy Simms, prayers for recovery from stroke; friend, Scott, recovery from back surgery; Sharra Van Cleve's mom, Sandra, has COPD; Sarah Robb, young mom in Willcox, diagnosed with stage 3 colon cancer

Nicki Medeiros-unspoken; Nicki's sister, Gloria & her family; Heather at the DAV-prayers for health; travel mercies for John's parents

Renee Cox-her stepsister, Kathy going through hard times after parents passed away; Mom, Bea-continue prayers for her; Middle East, military; Renee-recovery from surgery and shingles; from Sally-prayers for Marcus, Amber & their 1 yr. old daughter, Chloe's health; travel mercies for Sally's trip home to OK

Jan Davis-friend, Kim-prayers for physical/mental health issues, no water at her home; friend Becky/Vicki has MS, is at Banner for hernia repair, hole in esophagus, lot of pain;

Margaret Bohmfalk-prayers for grandkids

Judith Herrera-son, Jay in PHX in remission from leukemia, keep in prayers; prayers for salvation for lesbian granddaughter, Rosie

Beth Rowekamp-brother, Bill's salvation; husband, Todd's arrythmia & Afib

Kim Martindale-prayers for comfort through grief for Kim & family after Marty's passing; salvation for sisters, Meg and Mickey; friend, Beth, & her husband need prayers for adopted 14 yr. old son & behavioral problems; prayers for God's loving hand on Idaho family & fractured relationships

Ron Graves-prayers for our church, Pastor, Elders, military & country; family & spiritual attacks; unspoken, health issues for some; friend, JZ-salvation; our country, that we can all be united; the Middle East, the Vice President & wisdom; prayers for Dewitt family-a grandpa, Milo, has stage 4 cancer & 15 yr. old granddaughter, Lily, was kicked in the head by a horse, part of her skull had to be removed, is paralyzed on 1 side; unspoken; Pastor A.B. Blair in hospital, not doing well

Valinda Turrell-prayers for son, Sean-spiritual direction; her sister, Barbara, was transferred to hosp. in Muskogee, OK for BP, GI test results show narrowing in throat, was dilated, can't swallow, is having seizures, getting tested; prayers for successful trigger point injections in Valinda's neck on 8.20

Kathy Simko-salvation for siblings, Chris & Jeff; sister-in-law, Jackie-freedom from long-term opioid addiction, cancer; purity/unity for NL body; her brother, Jeff-cancer has spread, prayers for radiation that began Fri., August 7th, prayers for spiritual healing & bad situation for him & his wife

Sherry Compton-her sister, Jennifer-ongoing blood diseases, pain, prayers for healing/God's will; prayers for Addie, niece of friend-has breast cancer

Max Spann-needs more surgery; has gall bladder issues, struggles

Steve Adams-prayers for daughter, Patti & husband, Josh, Rileigh, Kayleigh & JC-that they turn to the Lord and get saved

Kris Garmon-unspokens; healing of relationships; prayers for daughter & grandkids to find home; friend, Barb, has health issues, infection; prayers for her voice & right foot

Rebecca Mills-prayers for youth & Satan's attacks on them; Cooper's parents-salvation; prayers for those who choose not to go to church; families under attack; prayers for Iran situation

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Tony Herrera-people of Ukraine; brother-in-law, Tim-early stages of dementia, side effects from medication; friend, Bill Bivens, prostate cancer, prayers for treatment; Tony's friend, Bill's son-in-law, Tim-prayers for emotional issues; granddaughter, Rosie-prayers for repentance & return to her Lord; prayers for wife, Judy, who has cysts on her lungs

Angus Crawford-Pray for our country, Miss Bea, Miss Renee, rain

Sarah Widman-husband, Daniel-salvation, safety for both in law enforcement

Lundberg family-please pray for our son Xander to return to the Lord, for his safety and that our family be reconciled; Please pray for hedge of protection for Brandon Hanna as he faces life challenges.

Crystal Arthur-now has permit to drive, prayers for safety; prayers for her brother to stay hydrated while working in heat, passed out previously

Bob Medeiros-challenges at pregnancy centers; his son, Gabriel-reconciliation; his daughter, Rachel, recovery after stroke; Bob-on a spiritual/emotional/ physical rollercoaster; Ricky, a friend of a friend, is in a coma; homeless people he met-Jacob, Joe, Dennis, Donovan, Laizey, Melissa & George; prayers for 1 year old girl, Gia, having problems with asthma;

Brittany Crawford-prayers for 5 yr old, Halley, diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes, having many struggles, and salvation for her family; friends in Australia, Jas and Matthew, lost their 8-week-old son from a traumatic brain injury after a fight with bacterial meningitis, not saved & need Jesus more than ever; her mom's recovery from hip replacement surgery

Michael Crawford-his friend's father is in a coma due to alcoholism

Barbara Vander Leest-her sister's friend's husband, Wayne -diagnosed with rare liver cancer; prayers for healing for friend, John Jellar

Esther Goddard-prayers for God's will in her life; continue prayers for Butch, that he seeks the Lord; prayers for safe trip back to AZ & that she finds a place to live

Betsy Graves-prayers for the next generation; Jay & Maggie Cooper-prayers about health; Tom's sister & daughters -prayers for salvation; prayers for Sidney's recovery with Mono; the grandmother in the DeWitt family passed away; prayers that Beau Skaarer won't get infection at burn site & that he won't need skin grafts; her sister, Susie, fell, broke 4 ribs, is at TMC & has fluid in her lungs, also prayers for spiritual health

Gene Shull-his niece is having a lot of pain due to back problem; cousin-in-law, Lyle-serious heart problem; grandson-in-law, Cory-struggles, needs healing; his second cousin, Gary, had a stroke; Donna in TMC with high BP, had angiogram, stent placed

Kathy Steel-unspokens; prayers for a job for son-in-law Christopher in Montana

Karren Meier-prayers for neighbor's husband, Pat Gemind's leg pain

Sunshine Cesolini-continued prayers after double mastectomy on 7.3, & husband, Tim, needs a job

Mike Cox-unspoken; prayers for salvation for Ryan Lukens

John Conser-; prayers for John's vertigo; prayers for upcoming Senegal, Africa mission & dog sitter

Vicki King-Vicki's sister's son-in-law, Jerry-in ICU in Mississippi with heart issues

Jacki Nichols- Prayers for her brother, Aidan - for sobriety, the return to God's will, spiritual healing, physical healing, mental healing

Maggie Gonzales-prayers for the youth in her family; prayers to learn to forgive; unspoken prayer requests for family-David, Becky, Nathalie, Jay, Crystal, Ruby, Jewley, Christian

Debbie Vidal-12 year old neighbor, Sophia, is being tested for alopecia

Katie Maakestad- 16 mo. old granddaughter, Dahlia, has Hyperinsulinemia (HI) and has to go to Phil. every 4-6 months for regular visits; her daughter, Kaysen, had a stillborn recently and was found to have APS (blood clotting disorder).

Kristin Hicks-friend Della, health issues; Terry Hauzer has serious illness & high blood pressure; Mom's coworker Mary-her boyfriend, Zach was admitted to hospital for high BP, blood clots, also prayers for financial difficulties

Abby Cochrane-prayers for friend who joined the Army, prayers for protection

Crissy Nell- Her sister, Leia, in Portland had a brain aneurysm and isn't doing well. Prayers for healing and salvation; prayers that Angel feels better soon

Joyce McCormack-friend, Cynthia, in Calif-has AFIB & rare, genetic eye disease that causes eyes to bleed; prayers for family's safe travels & strength during trip to Arlington for Rex's service

Tracy Glenn-friend, Stephanie Fears, in serious accident in TX, husband passed, son injured, she may never walk again; prayers for friend in Wash. state & wildfires

Link Glenn-52 yr. old brother-passing out, needs heart transplant, prayers for salvation; prayers for family of AZ firefighter lost in CO, military lost in Iran & our country; prayers for his father's recovery after spinal surgery

Ashley Van Wart-Brianna Skaarer's 11-year-old son, Beau, was burned severely by boiling hot water while on backpack trip, there is improvement, prayers for pain during dressing changes

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Bonnie Barlow-granddaughter, Emmalyn, in Tucson had pneumonia few months ago, now is pregnant & has breathing problems; her daughter, Michelle, much cancer, has taken a turn for the worst, may be in hospital or hospice, prayers for family

Rhonda Dupee-recovery from surgery; toes have turned blue, getting CT scan

Janie Howard-retired friend, Mark, moved from Albuquerque to Phoenix, not recovered after surgery last year; prayers for answers at Mayo Clinic

Chris Davis-a young family he met with NLOT-dad, Shane told about his son Ethan, who is very sick due to mold

Spencer Carruthers-he has skin cancer on his face

Terry Hauzer-mouth is swelling, tummy hurts, face feels tingly, symptoms of Mast Cell Activation

Tiffani Peralta- a student who was admitted to the children's hospital over the weekend is getting a VP shunt placed, potentially her gallbladder removed.

PRAISES

Giving thanks for our church & where we live!

Esther Goddard-Thank you for prayers for safe trip back to AZ!

Barbara Vander Leest-praise that friend, John Jellar, didn't have to have thyroid surgery after all!

A Word from from Ranger Bob:

This article was written because a number of Saints at New Life Family Worship Center requested that I recount my spiritual journey/ adventure/history. So, here goes.

When I was five years old, I attended a Methodist church down the street from where we lived in Pawtucket, Rhode Island. I remember this petite elderly, frail, loving, friendly, smiling lady who taught me Bible stories using flannel graph. I learned exciting stories about David, Noah, Adam and Eve, Moses, Joseph, Abraham, Daniel, Jesus, and many others.

At six years of age, I would arrive home after dark after my swim team practices at the local YMCA. I had to walk down a long driveway to get to my home in the back of this lot. It was totally dark and a high concrete wall was on one side and the back of a three-story apartment building was on the other side. We had recently been studying the 23rd Psalm in Sunday School. This long drive-way to me was the "valley of the shadow of death". It was terrifying to me. I remembered the part of the Psalm that said, "yea, thou I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil." I would repeat that verse over and over as I walked through my valley of the shadow of death. Pretty soon I had memorized my first scripture verse. I had not accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior yet, but I remember that one Bible verse was so comforting when I would return home at night. I remember even praying when things were tough.

At the age of fifteen God finally got my attention. I was at a General Conference of the Methodist Church in Redlands, California at a Baptist College. It was Youth Day at the conference, the third Saturday in June. I was sitting in the upper section of an outdoor Amphitheatre that held about three thousand people. I was there with a bunch of kids and adults from my church in Tucson, AZ. Bishop Kennedy was speaking about giving your life to the Lord and to full-time Christian service. As he concluded his message and gave an altar call, I felt strongly that I should go down to the front and give my life to the Lord Jesus and to full-time Christian service. But I was a chicken and thought I would be embarrassed in front of my youth group friends. We started singing, "Are ye able said the master, to be crucified with me, yea the sturdy dreamer answered, to the death we follow thee." I still felt an urgency to go down but was still a chicken. When we got to the third verse of the song, I discovered I was already two-thirds of the way down to the front, but my feet had never touched the ground. I decided to walk the rest of the way down and then knelt down and gave my heart to the Lord. I felt the Lord was calling me to be a pastor. I was led into a back room where people prayed for me and I received materials.

When I returned to Tucson, I began to study a program in the Methodist Church called the Local Preachers License. Within six months I was able to preach in churches in Southern Arizona when their pastor went on vacation or was sick. I also started a Sunday Evening Service at my local church and started to knock on doors in the community to invite people to church.

I had my life all planned out-I was going to go to college, get a degree in psychology so I could help people, then attend seminary and become a pastor in the Methodist Church.

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However, I made a big mistake. I was making the plans, leaning on my own understanding. I never bothered to ask God what He wanted me to do. I do remember telling God that I did not want to work in the inner city. I told Him I would go to China, Africa, South America, but not the inner city. I had just read a book called, "The Cross and the Switchblade", and the inner city terrified me. The funny thing is [yes, God has a tremendous sense of humor] seven years later I found myself working at a community center in West Los Angeles. I remember walking down the streets of Downtown Los Angeles and how it reminded me of when I hiked the Grand Canyon. Walls all around me. Scary yes, and also exciting.

I did go to college and received my degree in 1969. Then I remained in Tucson for three years because of my dad's failing health. I continued to work in local Methodist churches in the Tucson area. When my dad passed away in 1971, I enrolled in seminary the following school year.

In 1972, I packed up my family- my wife and two kids-and traveled to The School of Theology in Claremont, California. At that time, I was appointed to a Methodist Church in San Bernardino, California, as the pastor. In the Methodist Church they have a program where they send seminary students to pastor small dying churches. I didn't really know what I was doing so I visited some local pastors in San Bernardino and would follow them around asking questions and seeing how they did things. I visited a few weddings and funerals to see how things were done. I wasn't a wedding/ funeral crasher; I received permission from the pastor officiating so I could attend these functions.

It was very helpful and in my first year of being appointed as a pastor I had the privilege to officiate at a wedding and a funeral.

Seminary was frustrating. I seldom heard any of the teachers talk about Jesus. The highlight was a home group meeting led by Church of Christ seminary students where we would talk, share, pray, cry and laugh with each other. I discovered at this time that God wanted a real relationship with me, and I could talk to Him about any and everything, and He could talk to me. Towards the end of my first year in Seminary God clearly spoke to me that I was in the wrong place, both in the Seminary and in the Methodist Church. Both institutions were socially oriented and not very Christ-centered. I actually had a professor in seminary tell me that the main purpose of a pastor is to relieve the people in the congregation of their monetary burdens. I don't believe that is why Jesus built His church. Also, my church was not dying. It was starting to grow. I was initiating programs for the elderly, and for the youth. I also had opportunities to speak to groups about drug problems with youth.

Like I previously mentioned, God had clearly told me to leave the seminary and the Methodist Church. I had committed to help a fellow pastor in West Los Angeles at a community center for one year, so I moved my little family to West Los Angeles. And for the next year I developed programs for the youth, families, and elderly in that community. Then I moved my family back to Tucson, AZ.

[to be continued in the next newsletter – see how God opened doors, and presented opportunities for ministry]

Praises, Progress & Projects

- ***Hats for Hope***
  Hats for Hope provides handmade crocheted hats for cancer patients, hospital patients and those going through major illness. If you, a loved one or friend needs a hat, they are free and available in many colors for men and women. If there is a child that needs a special hat, let us know and we will do our best to accommodate your request.
- ***Pilgrim's Progress***
  Lessons remain available as an ongoing instructional resource via podcast. The source textbook is identified in the intro; and if purchased, anyone can go through all of the remaining episodes to complete the Pilgrim's Progress online class. To access the podcast, go to **https://www.newlifebenson.com/news.**
- ***Women's Interdenominational Bible Study***
  We are women of all ages who come from different churches, backgrounds, walks of life, and enjoy study-God's Word. The group resumes on Wed., Sept. 9th, when we will begin the study of "1 Samuel" by Joy of Living Bible Studies from 10:00am-12:15pm. The book is $21.00. If any questions, please contact Donna Goldsmith at 404.402.8567.

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  Hats for Hope provides handmade crocheted hats for cancer patients, hospital patients and those going through major illness. If you, a loved one or friend needs a hat, they are free and available in many colors for men and women. If there is a child that needs a special hat, let us know and we will do our best to accommodate your request.
- ***Pilgrim's Progress***
  Lessons remain available as an ongoing instructional resource via podcast. The source textbook is identified in the intro; and if purchased, anyone can go through all of the remaining episodes to complete the Pilgrim's Progress online class. To access the podcast, go to **https://www.newlifebenson.com/news.**
- ***Providing Peace-Prayer Shawl Ministry***

Four years ago, the Prayer Shawl Ministry made its first appearance at NLFWC. The pattern and concept is a simple one – knit 3 stitches – purl 3 stitches – representing the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. A prayer is lifted with each stitch created, and the finished shawl is then covered by a special prayer/blessing delivered by Pastor Steve. To date, we have been given the opportunity to present 125 shawls with the hope that the recipients have experienced peace, comfort, love and joy from them. If you know of someone who is in need of tangible proof of God's love and would like that individual to receive a shawl, please contact JoAnn Mazza at (706) 974-9525. A mini off-shoot of the shawl ministry are the prayer scarves – same idea – smaller version. They are on a shelf near the Information Center for anyone to take as needed or desired.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry praises God for the many blessings and successes in this ministry. We are grateful for your support and prayers. We also much appreciate the generous yarn donations we have received. Currently, we are overstocked with yarn and cannot accept any more at this time. We will let the church know when this situation changes. Again, thank you for your support, love, and blessings!!! God is good...all the time!!

- ***Intended Hope***
  Katie Maakestad, Director, spoke at a church service recently and provided the information below:
  Mission: Love the abused and transform the systems that create and allow domestic violence.

Our Vision for 2 special projects:

A Safe House in town

We have to turn away women who need a safe, secret, secure place to stay, while they are actively escaping from a dangerous abusive relationship. **Intended Hope** is working to purchase a Safe House a) with easy access to needed resources, b) that is patrolled regularly by law enforcement, secured by locks, cameras and fencing, and c) will have a caretaker on site, concealed parking, and storage.

Paradise Ranch

Intended Hope owns a 40-acre ranch, where we are building a rural refuge where survivors and their children can begin rebuilding their lives. Survivors and their children will have: a strong community of other survivors, safe housing, counseling and mentorship training in life skills, parenting, and job skills, legal and medical advocacy.

Click to contribute

- ***Operation Christmas Child***

OCC- It's almost that time of year again! Our hearts begin to turn toward preparing shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child! What a blessing it is to take part in sharing the love of Christ with children all around the world in such a tangible way.

Operation Christmas Child brings the joy of Christmas, and the hope of Jesus, to children around the world through lovingly packed shoebox gifts. Shoeboxes are now available in the foyer, pre-labeled and ready for you to fill! This month, we are especially collecting tools or gifts geared toward teenage boys. Every item you give helps make a shoebox special and opens the door to sharing the Gospel with a child who may have never heard about Jesus. To build a box online, go to our website at https://www.newlifebenson.com/events.

Thank you for your generosity and for partnering with us to bring joy, hope, and the Good News of Jesus Christ to children across the globe! If you have any questions, please reach out to Brittany Crawford or Janie Howard.

-Continued from page 8

- ***We Care Pregnancy Center***

There is a lot going on right now at *We Care Pregnancy Center* and blessings continue in our ministry!

Last month our "Baby Clothes Giveaway" helped 37 families in the community with clothing and other needs. The next "Baby Clothes Giveaway" will be in October at our new location at 450 N. Adams Street, Benson.

A very generous donor provided *We Care* with the money to have a custom shed built on the new property to help with our massive storage needs. The shed was completed last week and is currently being filled and organized.

Approval was received for permits to build our interior rooms in the new building, and we also received approval for our electrical permits. However, we have been informed by the *City of Benson* that we now need an engineer's stamp on our submitted plans before we can begin the construction. Please continue to pray that all barriers are removed so that we can finally get the interior construction completed and be enabled to help even more families with more services.

We Care was recently gifted an OB-GYN gurney for the ultrasound room. We are so grateful for God's provision.

The next item on our remodeling plan, for the Center, is to add secure fencing and play gym equipment.

The organization is looking for 2 Board Members to join our Board of Directors. A longtime Board Member retired and Anita Choate, who was our Vice President, moved to Texas! If you would like more information, please speak with Pamela Martens.

We Care Pregnancy Center has two signature events a year. In May we had our "Walk For Life" and on October 24, 2026 we are having another "Team Trivia Night". " Team Trivia Night" was such a fun evening and big success last year that we are doing it again. Teams of 6 will compete in 4 rounds of fun trivia and all members of the winning teams receive a prize! There will be an appetizer, catered dinner and dessert. The dinner is being catered by *Gunny's* in Sierra Vista, a Veteran owned local business. There is also a silent auction with jewelry donated by *Kay's Jewelers*, some beautiful, handcrafted items and much more. If you are interested in sponsoring one of the rounds of trivia or sponsoring a table, please speak with Pamela Martens.

Current needs at the *Center* include Pull-Ups diapers in all sizes, wipes (a never-ending need!), toddler clothing sized 2T-6T, and small RV sized refrigerators (not mini fridges).

We Care is incredibly grateful for all the support, prayers and donations from *New Life Family Worship Center* and the congregation. You are a blessing to us!

Notes From Ranger Bob
Servant/Pastor

- ***NLOT (New Life Outreach Team)***

The Outreach Team continues to visit homes in the St. David Community, south of Benson. The team meets at the St. David High School parking lot on Friday mornings, at 9 A.M.

A few weeks ago, Curtis Drake and Ranger Bob were visiting a home in the foothills of N. Sybyl Road. The lady of the house had just taken out the garbage as we came up to introduce ourselves and tell her about Jesus. She immediately asked us if we were Mormons or Jehovah's Witnesses, and then asked us what we believed. She wanted to be sure we were true believers. We answered her and then asked her if we could pray for her and/or her family. She said no. She explained that she went to Pastor Lupe's church in Benson. We talked a little longer and as we were starting to head back to Curtis' SUV, the woman hesitated and then with a choking voice asked us to pray for her. It seems her husband doesn't approve of her going to church on Sunday. Of course, we gladly, and willingly prayed for this Christian sister.

Towards the end of July, Ron Martens and Ranger Bob knocked on a door in St. David. And the gentleman that answered described himself as a Catholic believer. He explained that he was disillu-

- Continued on page 10

-Continued from page 9

-sioned with Protestant churches because they were always divisive and splitting up to create new churches. Ron and Bob asked the man if he knew he would be going to heaven. He hesitated and admitted that he did not. Ron tried to share with this young father that he could be assured of his salvation. The man was convinced that he could not be assured. Ranger Bob was hearing from the Holy Spirit that we should not be arguing with this young man but just to pray for him. So, I invite the Saints at *New Life Family Worship Center* to join Ron and Ranger Bob in praying for this young father. His name is "Bob".

The Outreach Team continues to visit sick and hospitalized folks, to take food to the needy, and to help families with utility and other financial needs. Many homeless individuals have received money for food, tracts, and prayers. An older couple in St. David had their roof ripped off in a windstorm recently and NLFWC was able to help them get it repaired.

The NLOT also touches families in Pomerene, Benson, Tucson, St. David, and Sierra Vista.

There was one Friday last month when Ranger Bob couldn't be with the team. Chris Davis reported that almost every home they visited that particular day wanted to receive prayer. He reported it was a real blessing to pray for these families.

Ranger Bob leads a home group in Tucson on Tuesday nights where the people there share, laugh, cry, and pray for each other. We also have communion monthly. Two baptisms were performed in the early summer.

Ranger Bob would like to thank the Saints at *New Life Family Worship Center* for their contributions of time, money and prayers for the NLOT's ministry.

Ranger Bob, Pastor/Servant for the Lord

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NURSERY MINISTRY:

The very name of our church says it all: *New Life Family Worship Center*. Every word in our name is necessary, powerful, and true. Please focus on one word with me now: "*Family*." Not only are we part of one large church family, but we are also a beautiful blend of a wide variety of family units and configurations. For the purpose of this article, we shall take a closer look at one particular family unit within our church – the extremely important YOUNG FAMILY. Let's face it – the *New Life* congregation is predominantly elderly (approximately 65 years +). The future of our church, and The Church, is the young, church-going family. Now, more than ever, the church needs young families! Young parents and their children need to be taught the Word of God in Its purest form because they desperately need the full armor of God to navigate this fleshly, unholy planet. Also, parents need the proper tools to raise and teach their young children, and the best place for them to obtain these tools is at a purely Bible-based church**. Which brings me to my point regarding the New Life Nursery – young, busy, tired parent(s) need to come to our church, confidently drop off their littles ones in a loving, safe nursery, go to the Sanctuary, relax for an hour, and receive their spiritual nourishment from God's Word.**

At *New Life FAMILY Worship Center*, we must to do all we can to encourage and support young families, and serving in the Nursery Ministry is an excellent way to help! But we still seek reliable, committed volunteers in the Nursery in order to better balance the constant need. At least four more adult individuals are needed to establish an equitable duty schedule. If we can add at least four more servants to this ministry, then everyone would only be asked to serve once every 4 or 5 weeks. Both men and women are eligible to serve in the Nursery. Every person must complete a church vetting process prior to serving in the Nursery; it entails a background check, several training videos with a short quiz (about an hour of your time), and needs to be renewed every two years. Please text or call Kathy Simko at (520)549-7691 if you're compelled to serve in this very foundational ministry, and she'll get you set-up to serve.

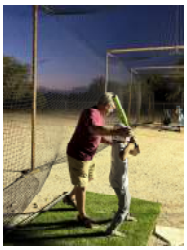
A heartfelt "THANK YOU" to all of you who have been continually serving the Lord through this ministry, often serving multiple Sundays per month during this challenging season.

With sincere gratitude,
Kathy

Children's Ministry Updates

From Miss Kathy-

- **New Life Kids/Students:**
  Our Wednesday night youth ministries, New Life Kids and New Life Students, kicked off to a great start on August 12th! Attendance is strong and enthusiasm is high – all praise and glory to God! During the off season, God led us to add several appealing outdoor recreation facilities to our once barren campus. We listened to Him and got to work. Through His provision, obstacles were overcome, exemplary volunteers came forward, and everything was ready for opening night: a batting cage equipped with two pitching machines, a second in-ground basketball hoop, and a sand volleyball court. Children of all ages are coming to New Life Family Worship Center, having a lot of fun, and being taught the Gospel of Jesus Christ in their classrooms by dedicated, knowledgeable teachers. Moreover, while the children are out on the playing fields, they are experiencing God's grace, love, and kindness through the actions and behavior of the adult staff. If you know anyone, or have neighbors with children (potty-trained pre-schoolers up to 12th graders), please let them know about Wednesday nights at New Life! It's all about God's love. Amen.



Upcoming Events:

- September 16th is a **Theme Night: "Sports Night**." Please come decked out as your favorite sports figure (baseball, football, soccer, basketball, rodeo, NASCAR, etc.) and have fun with it!
- September 30th: **Fall Break**, no NL Kids/Students
- October 7th: **Fall Break**, no NL Kids/Students
- October 28th: **Harvest Festival**

- **New Life Children's Praise & Worship Team:**
  The New Life Children's Praise & Worship Team returned from their summer hiatus and was back in action on Sunday, August 30th at the AM service. A fresh setlist coupled with a new season resulted in renewed energy and enthusiasm! This was evident as they sang "*No Fear*," "*Way Maker*," and "*Lord, I Need You*." We give all praise and glory to God!

  They plan to sing for the congregation the last Sunday in September and October, too. Remember, all children are encouraged and welcome to join this Praise & Worship Team!

Other Event Highlights

On July 25th, the ladies in the Women's Fellowship met at church where Gailyn Conser shared picture highlights from hers and John's mission trip to Jamaica and also some delicious food fare from there, also! Thereafter, Kathy Steel showed us how to make jump ropes out of T-shirts, many of which will be donated as box fillers for "Operation Christmas Child"!

One of the church's crucial pieces of equipment broke and had to be replaced.

We celebrated Nicki's birthday in August!

Much thanks to all who made this new space possible and available for our young people! See more pictures on page 14.

The August gathering of the Women's Fellowship took place at church on the 29th. In addition to enjoying delicious snacks, we answered and discussed "Bible Would You Rather" questions . There were very interesting perspectives!

September Memory Verse

11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end.

Ecclesiastes 3:11

October Memory Verse

17 Ah, Lord God! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You.

Jeremiah 32:17

Why did the chickens cross the school playground?
To get to the other slide.

What's Happening in September?

- ***Monthly Missions/Missionaries***
  We Care Pregnancy Center
  "We Care Pregnancy Center, Inc." offers compassionate and confidential guidance to women and men facing unplanned pregnancies by presenting them with realistic alternatives and Christ-Centered support. We acknowledge that every human life begins at conception and is worthy of protection. We are committed to sharing the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Jesus offers unconditional love, forgiveness, and the offer of salvation that every individual needs. See page 9 for more information.
- ***Church Ministry of the Month***
  Baptism Assistants
- ***AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)***
  All meetings are in the library -
  Tuesdays at noon and Fridays at noon
- ***New Life Kids Praise Team Practice***
  Sunday mornings at 10:30AM sharp in the library
- ***Weekly Prayer Meeting***
  Wednesday mornings at 11:00am in the church library. Please join us-Everyone welcome.
- ***Women's Interdenominational Bible Study***

  Wednesdays, beginning Sept. 9th from 10:00-12:15AM
- ***New Life Kids/Students***

  Wednesdays from 6:00-7:30PM
- ***NLOT (New Life Outreach Team)***
  Fridays-Sept. 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th at 9:00AM. Please watch for updates.
- ***Hospitality Meeting***
  Sunday, September 6th after church
- ***Sunday Out-For-a-Bite Night***
  Join us on Sunday, September 6th after the PM service. Destination-Wendy's!!

- ***Happy Labor Day!***
  Monday, September 7th
- ***Men's Breakfast-Followed by "New Life Mentors Bridge"***
  Saturday, September 12th at 7:30AM. Don't forget to bring sons, grandsons, friends, etc.!!
- ***Grandparents' Day***

  Sunday, September 13th
- ***Prayer Shawl Ministry***

  Monday, September 14th 10:00AM
  See page 8 for more info.
- ***New Life Kids Theme Night-Sports Night***

  Wednesday, Sept. 16th from 6:00-7:30PM
  Kids-We will see you here in your best sports gear!
- ***Elders Meeting***
  Monday, September 21st at 6:00PM
- ***New Life Kids Praise Team Performance***

  Sunday, September 27th during Fellowship at 10:30AM
  **Date is subject to change

- Continued on page 14

- *Continued from page 13*

- ***No New Life Kids/Students-Fall Break***
  Wednesday, September 30th
- ***New Life Women's Fellowship***
  September date TBD

What's Happening in October?

- ***Monthly Missions/Missionaries***
  Operation Christmas Child
  The Samaritan's Purse project **Operation Christmas Child** collects shoebox gifts filled with fun toys, school supplies and hygiene items—and delivers them to children in need around the world to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way. For many of these children, the gift—filled shoebox is the first gift they have ever received. **See page 8 for what you can do to help***!!*
- ***Church Ministry of the Month***
  Benevolence!!
- ***AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)***
  All meetings are in the library -
  Tuesdays at noon and Fridays at noon
- ***New Life Kids Praise Team Practice***
  Sunday mornings at 10:30AM sharp in the library
- ***Weekly Prayer Meeting***
  Wednesday mornings at 11:00am in the church library. Please join us-Everyone welcome.
- ***Women's Interdenominational Bible Study***
  Wednesdays, from 10:00-12:15AM
- ***New Life Kids/Students***
  Wednesdays from 6:00-7:30PM
- ***NLOT (New Life Outreach Team)***
  Fridays-Oct. 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th at 9:00AM. Please watch for updates.
- ***Hospitality Meeting***
  Sunday, October 4th after church
- ***Sunday Out-For-a-Bite Night***
  Join us on Sunday, October 4th after the PM service. Destination-Burger King!!
- ***Prayer Shawl Ministry***
  Monday, October 5th at 10:00am in library
  See page 8 for more info.
- ***No New Life Kids/Students-Fall Break***
  Wednesday, October 7th
- ***Men's Breakfast-Followed by "New Life Mentors Bridge"***
  Saturday, October 10th at 7:30AM
- ***Elders Meeting***
  Monday, October 12th at 6:00PM
- ***Intended Hope-5th Annual Banquet***
  Saturday, Oct. 24th at 5:00PM
  Mexican Dinner ($25/person), Dessert & Silent Auction
  Barney-Figueroa VFW Post 6271, 233 E 5th St., Benson

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- Continued from page 14

- ***We Care Pregnancy Center Team Trivia Night!***
  Saturday, Oct. 24th at 5:00PM
  Catered Dinner, Dessert & Silent Auction
  First Baptist Church, Benson
  **See flyer in foyer
- ***New Life Kids Praise Team Performance***
  Sunday, October 25th during Fellowship at 10:30AM
  **Date is subject to change
- ***New Life Kids' Harvest Festival***
  Wednesday, October 28th at 5:30PM

- ***New Life Women's Fellowship***
  Date TBD

Celebrations

September Birthdays

- Kinsler Walz - 1st
- Brady Beeler - 2nd
- Mike Cox - 3rd
- Ryan Manzo, Jr. - 9th
- Roger Choate - 11th
- Samantha Coleman-15th
- Anita Guild - 16th
- Barb Nastal - 16th
- Kaiden Lundberg - 19th
- Gage Strouse - 20th
- Brittany Crawford - 21st
- Allona Goeglein - 22nd
- Raven Cesolini - 22nd
- Tammy Groves - 22nd
- Stella Gregory - 23rd
- Ryker Mason - 23rd
- Maggie Gonzales - 24th
- Ronald Martens - 25th
- Aubrey Aker - 26th
- Dennis McAndrew-27th
- Donna Shull - 30th
- Jordan Ronquillo - 30th

September Anniversaries

- Konrad & Cynthia Fischer - 3rd
- Garrett & Lauren Medeiros - 9th
- Steve & Nicki Medeiros - 25th
- Will & Patty Tompkins - 27th

October Birthdays

- Esther Goeglein - 3rd
- Shawn Acuna 3rd
- Gavin Strouse - 4th
- Michael Crawford - 4th
- Jayden Castagno - 4th
- Hannah Walz - 5th
- Kasey Conaway - 10th
- Aurora Perez - 10th
- Beau Skaarer - 11th
- Sue Dupee - 13th
- Jim Howard - 13th
- Christian Hamlin - 14th
- Leo Horney - 17th
- Solomon Carrillo - 20th
- Courtney Warner - 20th
- Joanna Rogers - 21st
- Curtis Dupee - 22nd
- Ron Graves - 22nd
- Victoria McAndrew -22nd
- Sharon Gladman - 22nd
- Kennedy Nichols - 23rd
- Julia Coleman - 23rd
- Bill Anderson - 24th
- Mike Steel - 24th
- Kayti Plumley - 24th
- Bill Goldsmith - 25th
- Laney Warner - 27th
- Maeve Smith - 27th
- Riley Doot - 28th
- Cassandra Arthur - 28th

October Anniversaries

- John & Phyllis Ellis - 3rd
- Bill & Sue Dupee - 6th
- Drew & Marti Moehlau - 14th
- Roger & Anita Choate - 19th
- Arthur & Terry Hauzer - 24th
- Larry & Peggy Summers - 27th
- Joe & Barbara Nastal - 31st

My neighbor said to try manure on my strawberries;
- I'm going back to whipped cream.

Mexican Food

DINNER

$25 Person
$35 Couple
Buy in Advance or in Person

DESSERT AUCTIONS & SILENT AUCTIONS TO FOLLOW

Intended Hope

5:00 pm
Buy your tickets at Old Things New or with Square

Saturday Oct.24th

VFW in Benson

233 E. 5th St. Benson Az 85602

Support us in Helping Domestic Violence Individuals & Domestic Violence Awareness 501(c)3

JOIN US FOR

WE CARE PREGNANCY CENTER TEAM TRIVIA NIGHT!

LOCATION: First Baptist Church, Benson

OCTOBER 24, 2026

DOORS OPEN 5:00 PM | TRIVIA STARTS 5:30 PM

TEAMS OF 6 COMPETING IN 4 ROUNDS OF TRIVIA

PRIZES FOR EACH MEMBER ON THE WINNING TEAMS!

SILENT AUCTION

CATERED DINNER Dessert and Appetizer

EMPOWER FAMILIES, GIVE BACK, HAVE FUN!

REGISTER YOUR TEAM TODAY! REGISTER AT:

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE OR CALL: (480) 283-1101

https://secure.fundeasy.com/ministrysync/event/?e=32937

Recipes to Share

Polenta-stuffed Poblano Peppers

(Shared by Barbara Vander Leest)

Ingredients:

- 4 plum tomatoes, halved
- 1 red onion, cut into wedges
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 4 poblano peppers, halved lengthwise and seeded
- ¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 2 ¼ cups water
- ½ cup instant polenta
- 10 ounces frozen corn, thawed
- ¼ cup soft goat cheese
- 4 scallions, sliced

Instructions

1. **Broil the vegetables:** Heat your broiler. On a rimmed baking sheet, toss the tomatoes, onion, and oil. Place the tomatoes cut-side down and arrange the pepper halves on the sheet. Broil until tender and charred, turning and stirring halfway through, about 5 to 8 minutes.

2. **Make the sauce:** Transfer the broiled tomatoes and onions to a food processor. Add the cinnamon, ½ teaspoon salt, and ¼ teaspoon pepper. Puree until smooth. Spread half of this tomato sauce into the bottom of a 9-by-13-inch baking dish. Arrange the roasted pepper halves cut-side up over the sauce.

3. **Cook the polenta:** In a medium saucepan, bring 2 ¼ cups of water and a pinch of salt to a boil. Gradually whisk in the instant polenta. Cook and whisk constantly until thickened, about 3 minutes. Stir in the thawed corn, soft goat cheese, and most of the sliced scallions (reserve some for garnish) until combined.

4. **Stuff and bake:** Divide the warm polenta mixture evenly among the poblano pepper halves. Spoon the remaining tomato sauce on top. Bake in a 400°F oven just until heated through, about 5 to 10 minutes. Sprinkle with the remaining scallions before serving.

Easy Crock Pot Beans

(Shared by Deb Zink)

Ingredients:

7 bacon strips, diced
1 green bell pepper, chopped
2-28 oz. cans pork and beans
1-15 oz. can black beans, rinsed and drained
2/3 c. hickory smoke-flavored BBQ sauce
2/3 c. brown sugar
2 tsp. prepared mustard

In skillet, cook bacon over medium heat until crisp; remove to paper towels. Drain, reserving 2 T. drippings. Sauté green pepper in drippings until tender. Drain 1 can of pork and beans. In crock pot, combine all beans, BBQ sauce, brown sugar, mustard, green pepper and bacon. Cook on low for 4 hours, or until heated through.

**Recipes continued on page 17

Grandma and God

A young grandson was visiting one day when he looked up and asked, *"Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?"*

Mentally polishing her halo, the grandmother asked, *"No, how are we alike?"*

"You're both old," he replied.

- Continued from page 20

Grandma Cook's Peach Cobbler

(A treasured recipe shared by Tracey Glenn)

Preheat oven to 350°F.

Ingredients:

- 2 C. flour
- 2 C. sugar
- 8 tsp. baking powder
- 1½ C. whole milk
- 44 oz. sliced peaches, drained *(If using canned peaches, I use one 29-oz. can and one 15-oz. can)*
- 2 sticks (1 cup) butter
  (You can use less if you want—but it won't taste as good!) 😂
- Cinnamon sugar, for sprinkling on top

Directions

1. **Melt the butter.** Place the butter in a deep 9x13-inch casserole dish and put it in the oven while it preheats. Let the butter melt while you prepare the batter, but keep an eye on it so it doesn't burn. *I use a 9x13-inch casserole dish with 3½-inch-high sides. This cobbler rises quite a bit, so I recommend placing the casserole dish on a cookie sheet in case it spills over.*

2. **Make the batter.** In a large bowl, mix together the flour, sugar, and baking powder. Add the milk and stir until combined.

3. **Assemble the cobbler.** Carefully remove the casserole dish with the melted butter from the oven. Pour the batter evenly **over the melted butter. Do not stir.**

4. **Add the peaches.** Drain the peaches well and arrange the peach slices evenly over the top of the batter. **Do not stir.**

5. **Add the cinnamon sugar.** Sprinkle cinnamon sugar generously over the top.

6. **Bake.** Bake at **350°F for about 1 hour**, or until the cobbler is golden brown and cooked through.

Enjoy! 😊

A Note About the Pan

This is a large recipe. If your casserole dish is smaller or shallower than a deep 9x13-inch dish, **do not make the full recipe** because it may overflow. Cut the recipe in half instead.

CAN YOU HELP WITH ANY OF THESE? WE NEED YOU!!!

- **Nursery helpers & Children's Church teachers**-Sign up sheet for nursery helpers is in the foyer & nursery. See Kathy Simko if any questions.
- **NLOT (New Life Outreach Team)** wants you to join them in reaching out to bless those in the community and church. See page 10 for more information. If you are interested, see Bob Medeiros.
- **Pianist**-experienced pianist needed for the Praise & Worship Team. If interested, please see Janie Howard or Pastor Steve.
- **Back-up AV Volunteer**-See page 18 for more info.
- **Hospitality**-Help is always needed in the kitchen-all help is appreciated!
- **Any ideas?**
  Do you feel called to serve in any other way? Please don't hesitate to let us know!

If God had wanted me to touch my toes, He would have put them on my knees.

Mission Help Needed

John and Gailyn Conser are traveling to Dakar, Senegal with the Lighthouse Medical Missions team in the last three weeks of October and need some help from our church family. Our dog Daisy is usually cared for by our family in Benson during our trips, but this time we have a period of about one week where we don't have anyone to help.

Daisy is a sweet and happy dog who loves people, especially children. She is very clean, housebroken, and quiet. If you think that you would be able to help with this need, please call John at 520-686-5455. Thank you for considering to help our mission work in this way!

In Service of the Lamb, John and Gailyn Conser

Seeking a Backup AV Volunteer!

Your Skills Can Make a Difference on Sunday Mornings

Are you looking for a new way to serve and connect with our church community? We need your help! Our Audio/Visual (AV) Ministry is seeking a reliable and willing volunteer to serve as a backup for our AV team.

Who We're Looking For

We need someone with:

- A basic familiarity with computers
- Comfort using Microsoft PowerPoint
- An interest in supporting the church behind the scenes
- A heart to learn and serve

No Experience? No Problem!

Don't worry if you've never run the AV booth before—full training will be provided! You'll learn everything you need to know, from setting up slides to basic troubleshooting, and you'll always have support from our experienced team.

Why Volunteer in AV?

- Be a vital part of worship each week
- Use your technical skills in service of our congregation
- Gain new friends and learn something new
- Enjoy the satisfaction of making Sunday mornings run smoothly

Interested?

If you're interested in learning more or would like to volunteer, please contact the church office or speak with a member of the AV team after service. We would love to welcome you and train you for this important role!

Your gift of time and willingness to learn will bless our entire church family. Thank you for considering joining the AV team!

Matthew 22:37 NIV

Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'

K	G	O	D	E	Y	O	U	R	W
M	K	O	M	H	V	T	X	E	S
B	H	E	A	R	T	D	A	P	O
T	G	B	W	I	T	H	L	L	U
J	E	S	U	S	K	A	O	I	L
F	A	Z	V	Y	O	U	R	E	J
W	W	T	L	O	V	E	D	D	X
M	I	N	D	U	N	I	Q	D	X
F	T	T	U	R	H	A	N	D	A
T	H	E	H	K	B	N	A	L	L
Y	O	U	R	A	S	D	Y	F	L

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Mandy Groce '10

ministry-to-children.com

Services Needed/Available & Classifieds

- **New Life Family Worship Center**
  Would really appreciate any help concerning cleaning of our Worship Center.
- **Homicide/Suicide Support Group**
  Surviving the loss of a loved one to suicide or homicide doesn't have to be a journey traveled alone. Support meetings offer a safe, confidential and nonjudgmental atmosphere where survivors can feel free to express their emotions or just listen. We help one another through an open sharing of personal experiences. Please call for information about upcoming meetings in the Benson area.
  Sue Dupee-Survivor and Cochise County Victim Advocate
  520.977.3870
  azemcnc@gmail.com
- **A-1 Port-A-Pots**
  A-1 Port-A-Pots is a family-owned and operated business that has faithfully served the residents of Cochise and Pima Counties since 2008. We rent Portable Toilets and Hand Wash Stations for construction sites, special events or whatever the need may be. A-1 also installs, repairs, and maintains septic systems. If you have a need for either service, please contact our office at 520.586.2115 or email us at info@a1portapots.com. Check out our website at a1portapots.com for photos and other information.
- **Pet Sitting Provider**

  Going on vacation or have an emergency and need someone to care for a house pet, horse, goats, or ??? Stella Gregory is your person—give her a call at 520.208.0017 for information.
- **Volunteers Needed**
  Volunteers are needed for the ***DAV (Disabled American Veterans) Thrift Store*** in Benson. If you are interested, please see Nicki Medeiros or Vicki King.
- **Housecleaning Help Needed**

  Help needed cleaning homes at the SKP Park in Benson. Light cleaning needed by several residents. For more information, contact Mary Keleher at (559) 737-0500.

Websites of Interest

1. ***New Life Family Worship Center:*** **Sermons and lessons:** https://www.youtube.com/user/NewLifeBenson
2. ***The Voice of the Martyrs***: https://www.persecution.com/ Write letters to those in prison, receive prayer updates; this site offers many opportunities to edify those that face persecution on a daily basis.
3. ***Samaritan Ministries***: https://www.samaritanministries.org/ Not insurance but Christian Sharing!!! Help brothers and sisters in Christ with their medical needs.
4. ***Intercessors for America:*** https://www.ifapray.org/ Informs, connects, and mobilizes intercessors to pray for our nation and our leaders. Desire to reach Christians with information and tools to unite them in effective prayer.
5. ***Bible Gateway***: https://www.biblegateway.com/ Great source for all of your Bible needs and searches.
6. ***Christian Radio Stations-Benson, Sierra Vista, Bisbee, Willcox and Tucson***: K-love: http://www.klove.com/
   The Spark: http://kwrb.org/

Comments/suggestions welcome - Did we miss your birthday? Anniversary? Is your name misspelled?
Any news/events or a monthly feature suggestion? Are you on the email distribution list?
Don't hesitate to let me know!
Phone—520.586.2337
Contact Deb Zink at admin@newlifebenson.com