

100 reasons to give thanks

by Kyle L.

Kyle is a member of New Life and is also part of the Equipped for Service Team.



In our Tuesday prayer group, we're learning from Sarah Young's *Giving Thanks to God (Jesus Calling Bible Studies)*. Pastor Rick and Rose challenged the men to write down 100 reasons to be thankful to God.

Here's what I'm thankful for:

God; Jesus; my mom; my brother; my sisters; my sons; my aunts; my uncles; my nieces; my nephews; my dad; my ex-wife; my Christian brothers; my Christian sisters; my friends; trees; grass; the sun; the moon; the stars; clouds; wind; rain; snow; hot and cold weather; peacefulness; being loved; happiness; joyfulness; being needed and wanted; New Life Prison Community and every visitor or volunteer who comes here on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, or Sundays;

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Christmas giving

by Pastor Rick

Merry Christmas! The Holy Spirit tells us to remember the greatest gift: that God sent His only Son to be born in a Bethlehem manger. Paul celebrates this greatest treasure of all with these words: "Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!" (II Corinthians 9:15).



As we are impacted by Jesus Christ, we become motivated to give. In this season of celebration, please consider giving to New Life Prison Community.

- You can give by volunteering. Contact PastorRick@new-life-prison.org to learn about volunteering opportunities.
- You can give by praying. Contact Rose@newlife-prison.org to join the prayer team.
- Or you can give by writing a check (see form below).

Due to your faithful giving, we'll keep sharing the good news of the greatest gift ever given! If you're inspired to give to our prison congregation, please fill out the form below and send your donation to New Life today.

Priority #1

by Bobby S.

Bobby is a member of New Life and is also part of the Equipped for Service Team.

Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, "Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep." I tell you

that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent. (Luke 15:4-7 NIV)

As only God's Holy Spirit can lead, while in the presence of the Lord I was led to lay down my life in this world, surrendering all I have to the Lord Jesus. Jesus has called me to deny myself, pick up my cross, and follow Him. Jesus came to call sinners to repentance, and He calls His

disciples to do the same. Becoming a fisher of men is not a sideline to maintaining our life and relationships. This calling requires a surrender of all we know in this world, devoting 100 percent of our focus to calling the lost to repentance. Truly, we have been bought with a price; we are not our own! Today, I was called to give up my life for the Gospel. Having counted the cost, I have laid down my life for honoring the Lord's call. My heartfelt cry is, "Lead on, oh King eternal! Your wonders to perform." This is truly the greatest joy of my life.



Pastor Rick Admiraal

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www.facebook.com/NewLifePrisonCommunity

Please consider a year-end donation to New Life

Contributions may be sent to: **New Life Prison Community, 408 Maple St., Pella, IA 50219**

I'd like to donate \$ _____ to New Life to support

New Life Prison Community.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____



Brothers-in-Blue blessings

by Pastor Rick

The fourth Brothers-in-Blue event of 2017 was held at the Newton Correctional Release Center on November 16–19. Overall, 26 men participated and **14 men were baptized!** Here is some powerful feedback from the men who attended:

- Rodolfo - "Being here has changed my life greatly."
- Brian - "I had a lot of darkness, but now I've seen the light. I want to thank the Lord."
- Billy - "I was wearing a winter coat of guilt, but God took it away at the foot of the cross."
- Chris - "I'm super excited that the guilt is gone. I feel lighter now."
- Paul - "This is a blessing."
- Shane - "I thank God for redirecting my life."
- Jeff - "Nobody can do it better than Jesus."
- Stefan - "I just praise Jesus!"
- Jesse - "God bless you all."

New Life Board Members

- Sheryl Hanthorn** (Grace Fellowship)
- Don Rouwenhorst** (First Reformed)
- Fran De Haan** (Calvary CRC)
- Marcus Van Zee** (Sully CRC)
- Marv Goodyk** (Sully CRC)
- Phil Goodyk** (Third Reformed)
- Ken Stursma** (Federated Fellowship)
- Pastor Rick Admiraal** (New Life)

Global Missions Conference inspires

by Pastor Rick

On Sunday, October 2, Federated Fellowship hosted their third annual Global Missions Conference in Pella. Board members Ken Stursma (Federated) and Phil Goodyk (Third Reformed) participated alongside Pastor Rick and Rose Admiraal.

One highlight of the conference was having New Life member Ryan P. in attendance. Ryan made the trip to Pella from Cedar Falls, where he lives with his family.

Sabrina Cullinan, coordinator of the event, shared these thoughts:

Honestly, right away I really felt the Lord moving with worship. You could feel the glory of the Lord put on display! From start to finish, Sunday was amazing!

It was so encouraging to have so many of our missionaries there and hear the conversations that took place. I really feel like the Lord was residing over the conference and that a lot of people left feeling encouraged to get involved.

The conference brought together missionaries from around the world. Kurt Rietema, a missionary with Hope of the Nations, preached a vibrant Sunday morning sermon based on the book of Jonah. After lunch, Pastor Rick spoke about Stephen Ministry and the dynamic growth of New Life in 2017. Jim Karr, a member of Federated and a New Life volunteer, introduced Pastor Rick, prayed for him, and blessed him with a generous donation from the church.

The afternoon featured various seminars led by missionaries. Rick, Rose, and Ryan enjoyed a presentation from Doug Rietema, who operates the Allegan Harvest Farm in western Michigan. The evening concluded with a banquet celebration.

It was a blessing for us to sing the energized worship songs and receive prayer from the people at our banquet table. Overall, the event was an incredible inspiration, just as it has been in past years. Joel Ruisch, the Connections Pastor at Federated, said, "I was so encouraged by the testimonies from our missionaries, both local and international. It is always great to hear the stories of God working among his faithful followers around the world. Can't wait for next year!"



Pastor Rick and Rose at the Global Missions Conference.

100 reasons to give thanks

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dogs; cats; food; glasses; vehicles; quads (four-wheelers); being healthy; having all my toes; my feet; my legs; my arms; my hands; my fingers; my eyes; my ears; jobs; phones; planes; boats; buildings; electricity; water; pictures; pencils; paper; being saved; being in prison; shirts; pants; construction; plumbing; the Bible; books; newspapers; TV; music equipment; radio; coffee; pop; corn dogs; pizza; windows; mentors; shoes; socks; pants; shirts; coats; hats; gloves; necklaces; hair clippers; scissors; toe and fingernail clippers; communion; groups; homework; beds; sheets; blankets; life; breath; the Holy Spirit; and that I'm going to Heaven!