



~ LOVE ~ LIVE ~ SERVE ~ LIGHT ~



AT BERGIER

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MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Acts 2:42

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BIBLE IN A YEAR

We welcome you to join us as we make our way through the bible this year. You will need to read through Ezekiel 24.



Sun 8/6 ~ through Jeremiah 11 Sun 8/13 ~ through Jeremiah 32 Sun 8/20~ through Jeremiah 50 Sun 8/27 ~ through Ezekiel 15

DEVOTING ourselves to FELLOWSHIP

We are well into summer, and this newsletter marks the beginning of August. I am not sure if it is my favorite month, but it is the month of my birthday. August is a Summer month, it marks warm days, and it also marks days of summer vacations. While it is hard to plan events at the church during these days, it is a month to remember and if any way possible, to attend church. When September starts, New Life Church will be moving through a series together – with many small groups – on what it means to live out of a life of a disciple. It will start with living our life with people in our church, and then living our life as we believer with people outside the Church. I certainly want to encourage you not only to come on Sundays, but also to participate in a small group. I have high hopes about the results of this series.

This series and the small groups lead me to another challenge. During the summer many families go on trips. And it is great to go on vacation, or even go away for a weekend. And if you got a chance to do that, I hope you enjoyed it. But that said, don't forget to come back to New Life, when you are back in the Baraboo area. Attending a local church is a very important part of your spiritual life.

In Acts 2:42 it says this: Acts 2:42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellow-ship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Why do I share this verse? Because it states what were FOUR important parts of the early church, as they were DEVOTED to these items. The first one they were devoted to was "the apostles' teaching". This is understood to be the apostles passing on what Jesus had taught them. Another item they were devoted to was "the breaking of bread". While this could have been just celebrating the Lord's Supper on a weekly basis, it is also believed that the believers in the early church also ate together often – so it may be both. The last item mentioned they were devoted to is prayer. This is very important, as it was the one item that Jesus "taught" His disciples on what to say (See Luke 11). And finally, the second item listed, they were devoted to "the fellowship". What does this mean? They were devoted to others believers, being in relationship with each other, and gathering together often. Why do I point this out? Because FELLOWSHIP was and IS a key factor to living a life as a believer/follower of Jesus.

Here are a few passages to keep in mind when it comes to fellowship. Hebrews 10:25 Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another — and all the more as you see the Day approaching. ... This verse reminds that MEETING TOGETHER is very important. We get to encourage each other as believers. And the closer we get to Jesus' return (or our death), the GREATER the importance of our gathering together. Some more important verses are in John. John 13:34 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.



Monthly Financial Report

June 2023

Actual Income\$24,690Actual Expense\$17,277Difference\$7,413

Budget Giving\$17,366Budget Expense\$16,311Difference\$1,055

(article Cont.) 35 By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." ... Jesus gives us a COMMAND to "love on another". Here He is specific speaking to BELIEVERS, His followers. He says, that we are to love each other like HE DID. So, if we are not together, how can we love each other? Another verse is from Acts 5:42 Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ. ... The believers not only met in their houses day after day, but also in "the temple courts". This an important fact to remember. Fellowship, togetherness, worship and believers gathering together, are a VERY important fact about being a believer. God did not make to exist in isolation together. In fact, if we are "in Christ", then we are in His family. And as His family, we are called to be living in partnership with each as brothers and sisters. And that is VERY HARD to do if we live in isolation from each other.

The last thing I want to share, before giving us a challenge, is this. Throughout the New Testament we read passages like the 2nd greatest command "love one another". Other passages like this end the same way "one another". The start out with "serve one another", "be kind to one another", "pray for one another", "rejoice with one another", "mourn with one another", "greet one another", and so on. In fact, there are OVER 40 different one

Actual 2025 YID			
Actual Income	e \$91,671	Budget Giving	\$104,186
Actual Exp.	\$101,258	Budget Exp.	\$106,534
Difference	-\$9,587	Difference	-\$2,348

another passages. What this means is, IF we are not together, we are NOT ABLE to live out the one another passages. We are NOT ABLE to live out God's instructions to us in the scriptures. And I don't think that is the result we as believers should be satisfied with.

Instead, we should seek to be WITH each other. Even though we may have weekend trips or vacations, we should still seek to be with each other on Sundays as often as we can. It is okay to miss a Sunday on occasion, but I want to challenge us to join each other on Sunday morning as often as we can. Why? Because this is fulfilling the instruction God has given us. It is an instruction not only to worship together, but to be DEVOTED TO THE FELLOWSHIP. So, if you could attend church more than what you are currently doing, I want to encourage to attend church more. If you don't attend church now, I want to challenge you to change that and attend New Life with us if you live in the Baraboo area. If you live somewhere else, find a local church to attend. Remember, attending church not only helps us to be together in fellowship, and live out all the "one another's", but also helps us learn and hear about God and the promises He has for us. Don't miss out on these. Join us on Sundays at 10am, so you too can be a part of our fellowship.