



# *Vision & Plan*

Advancing the Gospel of  
Jesus Christ throughout the Twin  
Cities and beyond by preaching the  
Gospel and serving the community in love  
and good deeds, equipping  
households and leaders, and planting  
churches that do the same.

New Life Church  
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"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Mark 12:29-31

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

Matthew 5:16

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© June 2010

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## Who Are We?

### History and Background

#### New Life Church

In 1976, God moved in the heart of Pastor Dick Wiens, then senior Pastor at Trinity Baptist Church of St. Paul, Minnesota to challenge five men to begin a new work in Woodbury, Minnesota. With the blessing of the Minnesota General Baptist Conference the five men, along with Pastor Wiens, met for a day of prayer and did indeed conclude that a new church should be started in Woodbury. On Sunday evening, October 31 of that year, 100 people gathered for the first time in a leased office building to commit themselves to God and to one another to reach their new community for Jesus Christ.

As Campus Crusade for Christ's "Here's Life Twin Cities" evangelistic campaign was winding down that year, members of the new fellowship pursued those who had requested follow up from the campaign, inviting them to Bible studies and to church services to learn more about Jesus Christ. Meanwhile, others began canvassing Woodbury and Cottage Grove neighborhoods, extending invitations to come try us out.

Discipleship groups for men, women, and couples became a hallmark of the young ministry as members were grounded in the Word of God and were involved in outreach efforts in the community. Outstanding musical and drama talent attracted others with the same interest and provided opportunities for outreach that remain to this day.

Since its inception, the object of this church is to carry out as fully as possible the purpose of our Lord Jesus Christ, who made the church to be His earthly body, to witness for Him in our community, and to the fullest possible extent throughout the whole world; to observe His ordinances; and to seek to build up His people in all spiritual grace.

#### New Life Academy

Within a year of our founding as a church, the leadership sought to establish a Christian school to come alongside parents and their families in providing Bible-based education. Pre-kindergarten classes began as a pilot program in 1977. The following year, in the fall of 1978, Pre K-grade 6 began, followed by one grade a year until the grades were completed through grade 12. Today, nearly 700 students from 80 churches attend our Pre-K through 12 academy which offers extensive co-curricular activities and competitive athletic programs. The mission of New Life Academy is developing students to influence generations for Jesus Christ through academic excellence, a biblically-based, caring environment, and character development.

# What Do We Believe?

## Doctrinal Statement

While accepting the Bible, God's Word, to be our only authority in faith and practice, we make the following declaration of belief:

### The Word of God

We believe the Bible to be the only Word of God, fully inspired and without error in the original manuscripts, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and having supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct. (2 Timothy 3:16, 17; 2 Peter 1:20, 21; Matthew 5:18; John 16:12, 13).

### The Trinity

We believe that there is one living and true God, eternally existing in three persons; that these are equal in every divine perfection, and that they execute distinct but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence and redemption. (Deuteronomy 6:4; 2 Corinthians 13:14)

### God the Father

We believe in God the Father, an infinite personal Spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love. We believe that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, that He hears and answers prayers and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ. (John 17:3; Ephesians 1:17, 20-21; 1 Corinthians 2:6-13; 1 John 5:14-15; Jeremiah 9:23-24; John 3:16-17)

### Jesus Christ

We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit. We believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles and teachings. We believe in His substitutionary, atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people, and personal, visible return to earth. (John 1:1-2, 14; Luke 1:35; Romans 3:24; 1 Peter 2:24; Ephesians 1:7; 1 Peter 1:3-5; Acts 1:9, 10; Hebrews 7:25; Hebrews 9:24; Romans 8:34; 1 John 2:1-2)

### The Holy Spirit

We believe in the Holy Spirit who came forth from the Father and Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment and to regenerate, sanctify, and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ, and that He is an abiding helper, teacher and guide. (John 16:8-11; 2 Corinthians 3:6; 1 Corinthians 12:12-14; Romans 8:9; Ephesians 5:18)

### Regeneration

We believe that all men are sinners by nature and by choice and are, therefore, under condemnation and that there are no good deeds that a person can do to free himself from condemnation. We believe that those who receive Jesus Christ as Lord and trust in Him by faith as the only way to salvation are regenerated by the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 2:8-10; John 1:12; Ephesians 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19)

## What Do We Believe?

### Doctrinal Statement (cont'd)

#### The Last Things

We believe in the personal and visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to the earth and the establishment of His kingdom. We believe in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, and the eternal peace and joy of the righteous, and the endless suffering of the wicked. (1 Peter 4:5; Romans 14:9; 2 Timothy 4:1)

#### The Church

We believe in the universal church: a living spiritual body of which Christ is the head and all regenerated persons are members. We believe in the local church: consisting of a company of believers in Jesus Christ, baptized on a credible profession of faith, and associated for worship, work, and fellowship. We believe that God has laid upon the members of the local church the primary task of giving the gospel of Jesus Christ to a lost world. (Ephesians 1:22, 23; 5:25–27; 1 Corinthians 12:12–14; 2 Corinthians 11:2; Acts 14:27; 18:22; 20:17; 1 Timothy 3:1–3; Titus 1:5–11; Acts 13:1–4; 15:19–31; 20:28; Romans 16:1,4; 1 Corinthians 3:9, 16; 1 Corinthians 5:4–7, 13; 1 Peter 5:1–4)

#### The Ordinances

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has committed two ordinances to the local church: baptism and the Lord's Supper. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the triune God. We believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted by Christ for commemoration of His death. We believe that these two ordinances should be observed and administered until the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. (Matthew 28:19, 20; Acts 2:41, 42; Acts 18:8; 1 Corinthians 11:23–26)

## What Do We Value?

### Jesus Christ

In every person and program, Jesus Christ is first, Jesus Christ is experienced and Jesus Christ is to be pleased.

### The Bible

Bible teaching permeates every program because we want to know and understand God's Word. The Bible must be lived out in our lives because we believe the Bible is God's Word for what we believe and do.

### Disciple-making

Disciple-making happens when we live according to biblical principles, demonstrating Christ-like character, especially under stress, and especially in demonstrating Christian love in relationships with others. We are far more interested in developing disciples of Jesus Christ than accumulating members for New Life Church.

### Households

The church is a group of households (singles, couples, single-parent families, etc.) or a "family of families" and the roles, responsibilities, and relationships in a church are a natural extension of those within households. Therefore, the way we structure our church ministries reflects the structure and function of families. This way, the ministry that occurs at New Life as a whole is a natural extension of what occurs within each family.

### Large Community

Weekend gatherings are essential for building unity within our believing community of faith through the ministry of the Word (preaching and teaching) and prayer. Here, body life is expressed in corporate worship; we encourage, strengthen, and equip one another in preparation for serving God and others throughout the rest of the week. Large community also gives us opportunities to engage in a variety of ministries that help to provide teaching, mentoring, and support to families and individuals.

### Small Community

Home Churches and other small groups are where discipleship and care take place. It is where we encourage one another to be worshipers of our Lord. It is where the body becomes the body; loving, caring and challenging one another. As well, it is within community that we engage culture and incarnate Jesus in the nooks and crannies of our city. We were created to worship Jesus in community in the Image of our Creator, who Himself exists in community. It is our desire to see every member of New Life Church loved, cared for, and challenged within a thriving community. And it is our desire that our neighbors within Woodbury and the surrounding area are blessed and touched by the love of Jesus through the lives of our members.

### Outreach

New Life Church looks outward to serve non-Christians and the un-churched in order to reach them for Jesus Christ. In responding to the pressing needs of the world around us through good works, humility, consideration, love, and sacrifice, we demonstrate the love and truth of Jesus, making him attractive to a world in need of a savior.

### Prayer

We desire to be a church that worships and seeks God through prayer and that throughout our church family and in all kinds of venues, we would be a people strongly oriented toward prayer.

## What Is Our Mission?

Advancing the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the Twin Cities and beyond by preaching the Gospel and serving the community in love and good deeds, equipping households and leaders, and planting churches that do the same.

In embracing this mission, we are striving to follow the example of the first church as it went out into the world. Their example can be seen in these words found in Acts 14:21-23...

### To Evangelize

They preached the good news in that city and won a large number of disciples.

### To Establish

Then they returned to Lystra..., strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith...

### To Entrust

Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust

## How Do We Accomplish Our Mission?

### By Preaching the Gospel and Serving the Community in Love and Good Deeds

The Gospel is the good news of Jesus Christ's victory over sin and death through his own death on the cross and his resurrection from the dead. That proved he was the Anointed One of God, the promised Son and King who would establish peace for the nations forever. Since God desires all people to be saved, it is the task of the church to proclaim this message.

The preaching of the Gospel occurs publicly and individually. Public preaching of the Gospel happens regularly in the large gatherings of New Life Church, which normally occur on Saturday evenings and on Sundays. Individual preaching of the Gospel should occur all the time through the efforts of everyone in the church through the relationships we build as individuals and households through the intentional engagement in good deeds.

People in our community need to see evidence of our love for them before they will believe and accept our message of the Gospel. By serving after the example of Jesus, we will respond to the pressing needs around us. In meeting those pressing needs through good works, humility, consideration, love, respect, and sacrifice, we demonstrate the love and truth of Jesus, making him attractive to the world in need of a savior.

### By Equipping Households and Leaders

All Christians are called to maturity in order to be useful to the ongoing ministry of the Gospel. Mature Christians embodying the teachings of Jesus Christ in the church reflect the truth and love of Jesus Christ and fulfill Christ's calling upon their lives.

A household is a family unit. A family unit can be an unmarried person, or it can be a family with children. As households are the foundation of a local church, the Scriptures call households to a way of life that embodies the teachings of Jesus Christ. As households mature, their effectiveness as witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ is enhanced, resulting in greater numbers of mature, long-lasting fruit.

As in any family, a church can only be strong and grow stronger if it has good foundations. In a family, those foundations are the parents; in a church family, those foundations are its leaders. The Spirit of God appoints leaders to carry out the necessary work to bring the church to maturity. Those leaders are to be positioned and used to fulfill their gifting and calling in the context of both the large community and in the small community. Those leadership roles are as follows:

#### Apostles/Church-Planters

The term "apostle" literally means "messenger" or "one sent." There were special apostles specially selected by God to write Scripture and found the church, but this passage is not referring to that select group. The use here simply refers to those who are called to preach the gospel and start churches where needed. Apostles are usually generalists, meaning they can preach, teach, shepherd, lead, and perform a wide variety of leadership roles as they are often in circumstances without a lot of assistance and depth.

## How Do We Accomplish Our Mission?

### By Equipping Households and Leaders (cont'd)

#### Prophets/Theologians

The term “prophet” literally describes one who proclaims the Word of God. While some prophets received direct words from God that sometimes foretold future events, the use of the term here refers to those people specially skilled in preaching the Scriptures and calling the church to faithfulness to God.

#### Evangelists

The term “evangelist” refers to those who are skilled at communicating the gospel and leading people to repent from sin and believe in Jesus Christ. They are also skilled at helping others learn this skill through example and instruction.

#### Pastors/Elders

A “pastor” is simply someone who shepherds and protects the church from false teachers, unconfessed and unrepentant sin, and other destabilizing influences. Pastors work with people to help them mature in Christ and become effective in their family and ministry spheres. Unfortunately, our culture has squeezed all church leaders into this single term, which has narrowed our understanding of church leadership. The term “elder” and “bishop” is also used to describe those whose responsibility is the care and nurturing of the church.

#### Teachers

A “teacher” is one who is particularly skilled at explaining and teaching the Bible. Whereas the prophet is mostly concerned about calling the church to faithfulness and commitment to God, the teacher is concerned with deepening the church in the message and teachings of the Bible from a comprehensive standpoint, with the goal of increased knowledge and depth.

### By Planting Churches

Because churches are so central to the eternal plan of God through Jesus Christ, we are following in the example of the Apostle Paul and the early church. The Book of Acts shows that when the Gospel was preached and people believed, they were assembled in local churches. As in the early church, New Life Church focuses its ministry and resources on establishing churches locally, regionally, and globally in obedience to Jesus’ mandate found in the Great Commission.

#### Local: Home Churches

Locally, home churches generally are comprised of a group of four to ten households. Gathering weekly for fellowship and accountability, study and prayer, good times and tears, New Life Church home churches are an essential expression of our church’s mission.

At the heart of the home church ministry is the desire to see a community of believers who worship Jesus, love one another, and embody the mission of New Life Church to make disciples. God has called us to a continuous lifestyle of worship and relationship with Himself, which is cultivated and nurtured within the body of Christ. The Church is a people. It is a gift of God. At New Life Church, home churches are the place where discipleship and care take place. It is where we encourage one another to be worshipers of our Lord. It is where the body becomes the body; loving, caring and challenging one another.

## How Do We Accomplish Our Mission?

### By Planting Churches (cont'd)

#### Local: Home Churches (cont'd)

As well, it is within community that we engage culture and incarnate Jesus in the nooks and crannies of our city. We were created to worship Jesus in community in the Image of our Creator, who Himself exists in community. It is our desire to see every member of New Life Church loved, cared for, and challenged within a thriving community. And it is our desire that our neighbors within Woodbury and the surrounding area are blessed and touched by the love of Jesus through the lives of our members.

#### Regional: Twin Cities Church

Regionally, our West side church plant in Saint Paul was formed in 2009 under the leadership of church planter George Stagg. Several of our church's families were sent to form a nucleus whom George is equipping as leaders of home churches that gather people who live within close proximity. Collectively, people from all of the home churches meet publicly for larger meetings for preaching, teaching, and corporate worship. It is our desire that many more of these regional church plants will be organized throughout the Twin Cities Metro area.

#### Global: Cross-Cultural Outreach

Worldwide, New Life Church selects, equips, entrusts, sends, and supports numerous missionaries who are involved in planting churches in various countries around the world including Mexico, Indonesia, New Guinea, Spain, Thailand, Ukraine, and India. We are involved in three broad activities: **evangelizing** unbelievers; **establishing** them in the faith; and **entrusting** qualified leaders to assume responsibility for shepherding them. Our strategy for fulfilling the mission focuses on planting and establishing local churches which can then repeat the process.

# Why Become A Member? - The Membership Covenant

## Covenant Explained

### What is a Covenant?

A covenant is a promise by which we obligate ourselves to one another in such a way that the dedication of one party is not dependent on the faithfulness of the other.

### Why Participate in the Covenant?

By covenanting with New Life Church, people enter into a deeper level of ministry participation, commitment, and accountability to Jesus Christ with others who are equally committed to follow Jesus into His community and mission. It is not a doorway to special privileges nor does it grant special access to those serving as church leaders. In fact, people can participate in community, enjoy church services and events, engage in ministry efforts, participate in Lord's suppers, financially contribute, and enjoy the friendships and fellowship of the entire church without being a covenant member. Church members will not discriminate against non-members.

People participate in the covenant because they want to commit themselves to a group of people and to be known by Christ and those people as someone who takes their faith seriously—seriously enough to promise to be a faithful, participating member, which in some instances, may mean very challenging and difficult actions and sacrifices. It means that you are someone that can be depended upon to serve the church in both times of abundance and in times of need. It means that you are willing to go to another brother or sister in Christ and confront them in love, or to welcome correction from those that love you when needed. It means that you are willing to give of your time, energy, and resources for the ongoing work of the church and its mission to preach the gospel, plant churches, and equip others towards love and good deeds in the world. Essentially, it means that you are making the commitment that baptism would have implied centuries ago.

### Who Can Participate in the Covenant?

Anyone who has believed in the gospel of Jesus Christ and desires to commit to New Life Church may participate in the covenant after working through the process of becoming a covenant member of the church, which is described in this booklet (see *Steps to Becoming a Covenant Member*).

Being a member of New Life Church is really about being part of a family. All members are disciples of Jesus, unified by their identity in Christ. This unity is expressed in the way they collaborate in loving God, loving fellow Christians, and loving non-Christians. Members who enter into a covenant with their local church are called to a higher degree of responsibility and service. At the same time, the church leaders are covenanted to assist members first and foremost, to love and lead, provide counsel and aid, and pray for, teach, and guide them.

## Why Become A Member? - The Membership Covenant (cont'd)

### Steps to Becoming A Covenant Member

#### Step 1 - Discovery Class

Attending the Discovery Class is recommended in order to become a member, and classes are designed to answer questions you may have about membership at New Life, including such topics as:

- Purpose and Statement of Faith of New Life Church
- Our Elder Form of Government
- Baptism and the Lord's Supper
- Responsibilities of a Covenant Member
- Participating in the Ministries at New Life

This class is usually offered as a Sunday morning class for approximately 3 weeks and may be taken at any time prior to a membership decision. The class is offered several times during the year.

#### Step 2- Interview with an Elder

Upon your personal decision to become a covenant member of New Life Church, an appointment must be arranged with an elder to interview you. This interview includes hearing your testimony as to how and when you became a Christian and whether or not you have been previously baptized by immersion or would need to be baptized prior to becoming a member. If you have been a member at another church, you should give us the name and address so that when your membership is complete, we can notify them of your membership change. We do not require any letters of transfer from another church.

Any questions you have about membership or about opportunities to become involved in the various ministries at New Life according to your spiritual gifts may also be discussed at this interview. Most interviews are scheduled between the morning services but appointments at another time and place more convenient to you can easily be arranged. Appointments can be made by contacting the church office (651-459-0444) or by personally talking with any elder of New Life Church.

#### Step 3 - Baptism

Baptism by immersion is required for church membership. The Greek word for baptize ("baptizo") means to dip or overwhelm in water. Every Biblical example of people who were baptized indicates that baptism took place following faith in Christ, then they went "down into the water." (Acts 2:41, Acts 8:26-38).

Water baptism is a visible expression and testimony to others of what takes place when we become believers:

We were buried with Christ—the symbol of our being dead to sin (the old life).

We were raised with Christ—the symbol of our New Life in Christ (Romans 6:3-5).

Baptismal services are scheduled periodically during the year. Prior to the baptismal service you will receive a letter informing you of pertinent details. Since the purpose of baptism is to publicly proclaim your faith in Christ, many people choose to invite friends and relatives to this service.

## Why Become A Member? - The Membership Covenant (cont'd)

### Steps to Becoming A Covenant Member (cont'd)

#### Step 4 - Membership Covenant Agreement

Prospective members must agree to and be willing to sign the following:

I have read, understand, and agree to the Doctrinal Statement and Mission Statement of New Life Church and commit to live out this mission as a diligent, faithful disciple of Jesus Christ, and that my identity would be in Him, my worship would be for Him, my fellowship would be through Him, and my interaction with the culture would be for His glory.

I understand that this covenant obligates me to the members of New Life and is an acknowledgment of my submission to the elders of New Life Church. I accept the responsibility to notify New Life leadership if at any time I can no longer commit to this covenant, or if I have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding New Life Church.

#### Step 5 – Conferring of Membership

Membership is officially complete when the Elders vote unanimously to approve your desire for membership during their monthly elder meeting. This then is the official date you become a member. You will receive a letter following that meeting, notifying you that your membership has been approved.

Only members age 18 years and above have voting privileges in decisions regarding budget, building programs, etc. People in positions of leadership at New Life such as teaching, discipleship group leader, etc. are asked to become members so that unity of purpose is established. Minor children may become members at any time with the consent of a parent.

#### Step 6 - New Member Welcome

Following the Elders' approval, a New Member Welcome will be scheduled to introduce you to the congregation. At that time you will receive your certificate of membership and be welcomed by the New Life Church family. New Member Welcomes are some of the most exciting events at New Life, as we see God's hand of blessing at work in our midst.

## Why Become A Member? - The Membership Covenant (cont'd)

### The Covenant Responsibility of Church Leaders

As a member of New Life Church you may have certain expectations of your church leaders including:

To lovingly care for you and seek your growth in Christ.

To provide teaching and counsel from the Scriptures that will span the whole counsel of God's Word.

To help in times of need.

To require all church leaders to meet the criteria assigned to them in the Scriptures (1 Timothy 3:1-13; 5:17-22; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-4).

To pray for you regularly for the deepening of the knowledge of God, of His will and purposes, for discernment, and when you are sick (Colossians 1:9-12; Ephesians 1:15-23, 3:14-21; Philippians 1:9-11; James 5:14).

To be on guard against false teachers (Acts 20:28-31).

To exercise church discipline when necessary (Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 5; Galatians 6:1, Titus 3:7).

To help you become equipped to serve Christ, the church, and the world (Ephesians 4:11-13).

To seek God's will for our church community to the best of our ability as we study the Scriptures and follow the Spirit (Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:1-5).

To set an example in following Jesus Christ and join you in fulfilling the duties of church membership (1 Corinthians 11:1; Philippians 3:17; 1 Timothy 4:12).

To order the church and mission by setting in place leadership, ministry, and community structures that fulfill the teachings of Jesus Christ and His administration (Ephesians 3:1-13, 1 Timothy, Titus).

# How Does New Life Church Function?

## Governance and Accountability

The constitution of New Life Church of Woodbury is the foundational document for all ministries of New Life Church.

New Life Church selects elders to provide spiritual leadership and direction for the church. These men serve an indefinite term on the Board of Elders. In addition to the leaders selected by the congregation, the lead pastor is also a member of the Board of Elders.

The lead pastor, together with associate pastors and some of the elders serve in preaching ministry.

The roles and responsibilities of elders and ministry staff are defined by a set of policies under which all parties agree to operate:

- Policies Governing New Life Church Elder Board (roles and function of elders)

- Policies Governing the Lead Pastor (job description and lines of reporting)

- Policies Governing the Elder Board-Lead Pastor Relationship (how the elder board and lead pastor relate to one another; boundaries)

- Policies Governing Ministry Ends (our goals and objectives for ministry)

- Policies may be viewed in the church office or on the NLC website ([www.newlife4u.org](http://www.newlife4u.org))

Gifted Ministry Teams are formed as needed to implement a variety of ministries. At least one member of the pastoral staff or Elder Board is assigned to work with each Ministry Team. Each Team recruits its own members and selects its own leaders. Examples of Ministry Teams include the Ministry Cabinet, the Preaching Team, the New Life Academy Governing Council, the Women's Ministry Council, etc.

Deacon Teams are formed as needed to implement a variety of functions and tasks. At least one member of the pastoral staff or Elder Board is assigned to work with each Deacon Team. Each Team recruits its own members and selects its own leaders. Examples of Deacon Teams include the Finance Team, the Deacon Aid Team, the Family Ministry Center Team, and the Master's Hands Team.

Final human authority in the organizational structure resides in the church membership, which delegates most responsibilities to the Board of Elders. The membership is directly involved in selecting elders, approving budgets and objectives, calling the lead pastor, and approving some real property decisions.

All members of this local church are to be involved in service, using the natural abilities and spiritual gifts entrusted to them by God. We are all ministers who are called to be committed, with guidance and encouragement of church leaders, to bring honor to our Lord.

## How Does New Life Church Function? (cont'd)

### Financial Practices

New Life Church and New Life Academy operate their fiscal year beginning July 1 and ending June 30. The annual budget is proposed by mid-May of the ending fiscal year for approval at our Annual Meeting. The proposed budgets are distributed to members of New Life Church a few weeks prior to the Annual Meeting. Members are able to make comments and ask questions regarding the budget during the weeks leading up to the Annual Meeting.

### Donations and Reporting

New Life Church is incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation in the State of Minnesota and is qualified as an exempt organization from sales and use taxes. In addition, we are recognized by the U.S. Department of the Treasury as exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to New Life Church and New Life Academy are deductible under section 170 of the Code, and we are qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers, or gifts.

Giving to support the ministry of New Life Church and New Life Academy is encouraged as a spiritual responsibility of all members as part of our commitment to God and to one another. Gifts are received at each public gathering on Saturdays and Sundays; donations also may be arranged as an automatic transfer from your bank account through electronic transfer of funds (EFT). Gifts of stock or other marketable securities are also welcome; please call the church treasurer for transfer instructions.

The congregation is kept informed from week to week regarding the progress of gift income against our budgeted goals. Donors receive quarterly and annual reports of their charitable contributions for tax reporting purposes.

## History of Revisions

November 18, 2011

Page 3, minor changes to New Life Church and New Life Academy.

Notes: