

A TIME OF REFLECTION

[Pastor Gene Henderson edited by Pastor Pier]

We haven't talked about leaves for a while, have we? Leaves are those beautiful green things that trees use to shelter us from the sun. Leaves turn a forest of nude sticks into a luscious hillside. Leaves are what rustle in the wind and talk to us subconsciously. They flip over when the breeze quickens and warn the birds and squirrels to find cover. Leaves bless our eyes, and speak gently to our ears. Then every Autumn they get tired, turn colors and the sight takes our breath away.

It's all a beautiful tapestry the trees create every Summer and Fall. But every September the leaves lose their beauty, fall off the trees and that's the end of our appreciation. It's difficult to appreciate the life cycle of a leaf when it's waiting for you to pick it up off your lawn along with a billion others who fell off their trees, too. It's a loud, annoying job blowing those brown, dead leaves into piles so they can join the others filling thirteen lawn and leaf bags at the sidewalk in front of our house.

Those leaves are like all the others – nothing to admire. They offer no shade, no web of color, no warning sounds. Can't say they're useless because they turn into mulch, but everyone treats them the same. Makes you wish you lived near palm trees where the weather doesn't turn cold, and you don't have to worry about your lawn. (As Pastor feels, the tropics are wonderful!)

So, why are we talking about the cycle of life? Every Fall we pick up leaves and watch the trees go bald. Every spring they sprout new leaves and welcome home the birds and squirrels. Whatever number is associated with your birthday is a number, not an assignment or a grade. Your life cycle provides wisdom and patience to those watching. You're not brown yet. Notice how Paul puts it in Ephesians 2:8-10 (English Standard Version):

For by grace, you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Welcome!

September 15th, 2024



"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so they can have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way."

SERVICES

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM
Unity in Prayer & Youth: 6:00 – 7:00 PM
Wednesday – Bible Study: 7:00 PM; Kid's Club
Prayer ½ hour before services

A BRAND-NEW INSTRUMENT

TEXT: 2 Kings 2:19-22; Matthew 5:13-16; Mark 9:50; Ecclesiastes 1:9; Habakkuk 1:5

The _____ is the _____.
And all know what is in us by what comes out of us in _____
and in _____.

We cannot _____ what we do not _____!

Salt stands for _____, _____ and _____.

The instrument must be _____ prepared.

The devil's way of _____ the church is to take and cause it to become something that God never _____ it to be.

The missing ingredient in today's religion is _____! John 1:4
Light _____!

The missing ingredient in the church is _____ and Life!

The river of the Holy Spirit flows from the _____, to the church, and from the church to the _____. Jeremiah 20:9

One of the striking omissions of Acts was any kind of an appeal for _____.

1. The new instrument must _____ absolutely on the New Testament.
2. The instrument must be that which _____ the point where God has a clear _____.
3. It must be that which _____ the absolute government of Jesus Christ.
4. It must be that which is _____ and has only one objective in this world and that is to _____ Jesus.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Wednesday Bible Study – we continue our new study, “The Great Disappearance” – Rapture of the church, taken from Dr. David Jeremiah’s study. We have student study guides available for \$10 each. Please see the Pastor for more details.

Flagging Class – has begun again on Wednesdays, at 6:00 PM prior to our Bible study. Special thanks to all the participants of this praise ministry.

Rev. Bill Pier Jr., Campus Pastor
Rev. Arthur Henderson – Pastor
Pastor’s cell phone: 518.567.9788
Location & Mail: 292 Hays Road, Rensselaer, NY 12144
Office Telephone: 518.479.3439
Email: pastorpier@newlifeaogeg.org
Webpage: <http://www.newlifeaogeg.org>
Guest Wi-Fi: NewLifeGuest – password: NewLife292