



New Life™

The LifeChanger CONNECTED

JOHN 15:5

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Welcome

Vision 2026 Connected!

- Accepted Christ - 1
- Rededicated to Christ - 2
- Joined New Life - 8
- Guests - 22
- New Kid/Teen in Ministry - 12

Connect

Call Us

618.632.NLIC(6542)

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Questions? Elder Dagne Barton

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Communications Director

Dear LifeChangers,

Let's be a courageous community. How? Why? Lets look in the book of Joshua and I will show you. You know them as the Children of Israel who just crossed the Jordan River. I call them a Courageous Community. Why? Because they exude the characteristics. In many ways they are starting off the first of the year like you and I. They have crossed the Jordan River and all things are new. The promises of God lay ahead. The fruit of milk and honey is about to be realized. Like us they are learning the value of being connected and the destruction, disconnection can bring to a community. While New Life hasn't experienced nor will we experience that level of discord - we have learned this month how being connected can produce fruit.

As they came to Jericho, the first fruit of the Promise Land, in their "New Year", we too come to our first fruit. Jericho is a lesson in how to be connected. Just in case you forgot the story read the connected parts again.

Joshua 6:2-5 ² Then the Lord said to Joshua, "See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men. ³ March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. ⁴ Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. ⁵ When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have the whole army give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the army will go up, everyone straight in."

Every movement required cadence, rhythm, coordination and connection. This sequence of commotion was not a one-time thing. It was repeated seven days until perfection and connection was their culture. Everybody had a purpose. Everybody had a role! Everybody would benefit from the first fruit of the Promise Land.

Johnsua 6:19 ¹⁹ All the silver and gold and the articles of bronze and iron are sacred to the Lord and must go into his treasury." Vs. 20 so the people went up into the city...every man went straight [into the city].

This synchronization of connected events reflect how New Life will move in 2026. As the Children of Israel were courageous to take on their first assignment in the "New Year" and new land of promise. We too will be courageous to give our first fruit to set up the rest of the promises of God to be manifested this year. Courage is easier when you are connected. Faith is more fundamental when its in agreement with other behaviors. And so it is for us Lifechangers. We are CONNECTED and ready to receive all the bountiful fruit God has for us in 2026!



Bishop Dudley

MINISTRY NEWS

The News in the Middle



SCAN 2 GO 2 APP FOR
MORE INFO &
LINKS U CAN USE

SCHOLARSHIP TIPS

APPLICATION TIPS

1. Have all required supporting documents assembled in PDF format, except for your official transcript.
2. Fill out the online application. Upload all PDF documents on the online form.
3. Official transcripts must be turned into the reception desk at New Life Church, no later than February 19, 2026. They must be in a sealed envelope with the school's official seal. We discourage mail delivery.

INTERVIEW TIPS

1. Sign in to your zoom link at least 10 minutes early.
2. Make sure your camera is on!
3. Dress in a highly professional manner, and appear well-groomed.
4. Research the church, and the person for whom the scholarship is named.
5. Be confident, upbeat, & positive, yet humble during your interview. We want to feel your passion!
6. Thoroughly answer all questions, expand on all relevant information, engage with your interviewers, and maintain appropriate eye contact.



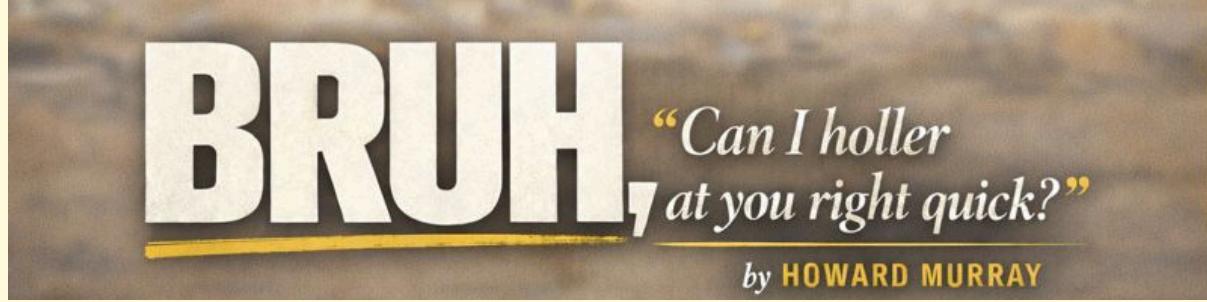
APPLY TO: thisismynewlife.com/scholarship

689 Scott-Troy Rd., O'Fallon, IL 62254

The cross is one of the most recognizable—and misunderstood—symbols in the world. For some, it represents love, sacrifice, and new life. For others, it carries the weight of suffering, injustice, and generational pain. And for many, it's familiar enough to respect, but distant enough to feel disconnected. From March 1 through Easter, we invite you to join us in person or online every Sunday and Wednesday as we stay rooted in the story of Jesus. Each gathering is an opportunity to reflect, to grow, and to reconnect with the meaning and power of the cross—not just for ourselves, but for the lives God is calling us to touch.

At the center of the cross is Jesus—His life, His love, and His sacrifice—and the new life made possible when we stay connected to Him. As we draw closer to Christ, we're also invited to bring others with us—those we've been praying for, those we've written on our connection cards, those God keeps placing on our hearts—to worship, learn, and journey alongside us.

Whether you join us in the room or tune in online, Cross Connection is an invitation to keep showing up, keep leaning in, and keep opening space for others to encounter Christ through you.--Pastor Mo



1 Corinthians 13:4-7 defines love as patient, kind, and free from pride and anger. Ephesians 5:33 emphasizes the importance of mutual love and respect in marital relationships, while Mark 10:45 highlights the value of serving others.

Song of Solomon 2:10 reminds us of the beauty in quality time with a lover.

With February here, Valentine's Day is fast approaching, but this isn't just about buying gifts. Are you ready to love your spouse or significant other in the way God intended? Are you meeting their emotional needs? Are they meeting yours? Consider the challenge of two people trying to communicate in different languages. One might shout, thinking louder

will help the other understand. This often leads to frustration and confusion rather than connection. The same can happen in our relationships. Are we communicating in ways our partners don't understand? Are we engaging in activities they don't value, leading to feelings of resentment and anger instead of love?

Bruh, If your way ain't working, TRY SOMETHING ELSE! While listening to "One Hundred Ways" by James Ingram (RIP), I gathered some valuable insights into expressing love. The song emphasizes the importance of showing affection in multiple ways, suggesting that love isn't just about saying the words but also about demonstrating them through actions.

Ingram encourages us to give compliments and surprise our partners with thoughtful gestures like sending flowers for no reason. "Compliment what she does, send her roses just because" This aligns with the concept of "Words of Affirmation" and "Giving Gifts," which are two of the five love languages. Men often think their partners know they love them without needing to express it verbally, but Ingram reminds us to articulate our feelings directly. "If you need her so much more, why don't you say?"

Furthermore, he emphasizes that being distant won't keep love alive. "Being cool won't help you keep a love warm."

Instead, we should be vulnerable and willing to show our emotions. The Bible teaches that we demonstrate value through how we allocate our time, talent, and treasure. Love can manifest in various ways, including Acts of Service, Quality Time, and my favorite - Physical Touch.

To maintain a loving relationship, we must explore diverse ways to express our feelings and seek wisdom from God in our actions. Otherwise, we risk merely shouting, "I love you," in a language our partners don't comprehend.

When you invest in your relationships and show genuine love in a way she can receive, your partner will often respond with her own expressions of appreciation. As Ingram suggests, if you truly value your partner, they will reflect that love back to you. "If she wants to pay, find 100 ways "

In essence, love requires intentionality and creativity. By finding "one hundred ways" to express your feelings, you can nurture a deeper, more meaningful connection with your special someone.

Here's some research material to help you in your love walk.

- Read Song of Songs (Be warned, there's some pretty hot stuff in there!)

- Check out the book, The Five Love Languages: How to Express Heartfelt Commitment to Your Mate by Gary Chapman.

- Check out the website: 101 Ways to Show You Love Someone without Doing It

LIFECHANGER NEWS

FEBRUARY Andrew Award Winners



Ken & Tia Smith

The Andrew Award is given to the person who is always bringing other people along...always inviting others to be a part...always excited about New Life and making sure others have one as well! This year it is our own dynamic duo KEN AND TIA SMITH!

FINANCIAL PEACE *University*

DEBT FREE PLUS CLASS
JANUARY 29TH - MARCH 26TH

REGISTER



SUN, FEB 22nd: Family Sunday Black History Sunday

A promotional image for an event. On the left, a woman with long, curly grey hair, wearing a dark blue top and a beaded necklace, is smiling. To her right, the word "FIRE" is written in large, bold, yellow letters with a flame effect. Above "FIRE", the text "She speaks" is written in a cursive, gold-colored font. Below "FIRE", the words "FAITH. IDENTITY. REVIVAL. EMPOWERMENT" are written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the date "FEB 27th | 3 pm - 6 pm" and location "LOCATION: 689 SCOTT-TROY ROAD" are provided. In the bottom right corner, there is a logo for "New Life" with a heart and dove icon, and the letters "NOL" in a stylized font. The background is a dark purple with a subtle flame pattern. In the top right corner, the text "Register Today!" is written next to a QR code.

Bayou Brunch & Brass
A New Orleans-Inspired Brunch Experience

Presented by

Reveal
EVENT STUDIO

CAROLINA LOU'S
LLC

Sunday, March 15th
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
689 Scott Troy Rd., O'Fallon, IL
Tickets: \$50 per person

Menu

Appetizer: Lobster Bisque

Main Course:
Fried or blackened white fish over a bed of smoked collard greens and creamy grits, finished with a rich Creole sauce

Dessert: Bread Pudding with bourbon sauce

Enjoy live Gospel Jazz and Spoken Word

CAROLINALOUS
LLC
(618) 417-7410
CarolinaLou618@gmail.com

Scan for Tickets & Details