



New Life™

The LifeChanger

CONNECTED

JOHN 15:5

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Vision 2026 WINS!!!!

Accepted Christ - 12
Rededicated to Christ - 37
Joined New Life - 45
Guests - 196
New Kids/Teens - 50
LifeChanger 101 Complete - 24
UPDATE: 2026 GIVING: 44% of the \$2.8m goal

UPDATE: After The Storm Capital Campaign:
Repair. Restore. Upgrade.
Total raised \$162,465 - 40% OF total pledged
Total pledged \$321,206 .00
Goal \$1,000,000.00

Connect

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Communications Director



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

I Am Back...But Not the Same by Bishop Dudley

Dear LifeChangers,

First Lady and I are back from our first-ever sabbatical, and before I share anything about what God taught me, I want to say THANK YOU!

Thank you to Pastors Mohagany and Travis for their strong pastoral leadership in my absence. Thank you to our Vision Board for insisting that I take this sabbatical. Thank you to our day staff, ministry leaders, clergy and diaconate staff for continuing the work of ministry with excellence. And especially, thank you to ALL of the LifeChangers who loved First Lady and me enough to embrace our absence and give us the space to truly step away, rest and hear from God.

Now the lessons! For most of my life, I have known how to DO—preach, lead, build, teach, serve, solve problems and make decisions. What I discovered during my sabbatical is that while I knew how to work—and even knew how to vacation—I had never really learned how to stop!

During this time, God taught me seven lessons.

I learned that Sabbath is more than taking a day off; it is trusting God enough to stop. **I learned** that busyness could hide what is happening in your soul and that vacation and genuine rest are not the same thing.

I learned to stop reading the Bible only for everybody else and start asking, “Jesus, what are You saying to me?” Before I am a preacher, I am a disciple. Before I am a leader, I am a follower.

I learned that regret (that I never did this before) cannot give me yesterday back, but what God teaches me today can change how I live tomorrow. **I was reminded** that after decades of ministry, leadership and life, I am still under construction. And finally, **I learned** that every question does not have to be answered. Sometimes we simply need to become quiet long enough to listen—to God, to our family, to our bodies, to our thoughts and to our souls.

Continued on the next page

So, **LifeChangers**, I'm back...but I don't want to come back the same. And I am not going to! I want to pray differently. Read Scripture differently. Rest differently. Lead differently. Live differently. And perhaps there is something in these seven lessons for you too, so...

I invite you to read my complete blog, "What I Learned When I Finally Stopped: Seven Lessons From My First-Ever Sabbatical," on the New Life church website or the New Life church app. (QR Code on the right)

Sometimes the most spiritual thing you can do is STOP. BE STILL. SIT WITH JESUS. AND LET GOD WORK ON YOU. I'm rested. I'm refreshed. I'm grateful. I'm back. But I'm still under construction. - **Bishop**



Scan QR Code for the full blog post from Bishop



Take the #thisismyNewLife LifeChanger Challenge!

You never know how one simple invitation can change a life! This month, we're challenging every LifeChanger to help someone find what you found - A NEW LIFE! Use your LifeChanger Cards and Block Party outreach items to invite someone to experience New Life.

1. HAND SOMEONE A LIFECHANGER CARD

Keep your new LifeChanger Cards with you! Give one to a coworker, neighbor, friend, family member, cashier, server—or someone God places in your path. A simple, "I'd love for you to come to church with me" is all it takes.

2. HANG A DOOR HANGER OR A GO BAG

Take a few Block Party door hangers into your neighborhood. Place them on doors and pray for every household you reach. Your invitation could be the answer to someone's prayer. Don't just drop it off—make the connection!

4. SHARE YOUR FLYERS & SLICKS

Put a flyer or slick in the hands of someone you see regularly. Leave one where permitted at your workplace, community center, local business, or other gathering place. Don't let those outreach materials sit at home—put them to work!

5. SHARE YOUR NEW LIFE!

Post a picture, Reel, Story, or short testimony on social media about what New Life means to you. Tag or send it to someone you want to invite and use #thisismyNewLife. Then follow it up with a personal invitation: "Come sit with me this Sunday!"

THE LIFECHANGER CHALLENGE

PRAY for someone. INVITE someone. BRING someone. Grab your LifeChanger Cards, door hangers, GO Bags, flyers, and slicks and make the invitation personal. Every LifeChanger can be a Life Changer!





One More Step by Howard Murray

September is here and with it comes a reminder of the importance of hope in our lives. Romans 15:13 says, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him." This verse speaks to our very human need to for reassurance and motivation. Who is this God of Hope? He is El Ha Tikvah (Hebrew). This is just another way that God shows up for us. You are familiar with various names of God: Jehovah Nissi (God, our Banner), Jehovah Shalom (God, our Peace), or Jehovah Rapha (God, our Healer) and so forth, right? Bruh, you need to know the God of Hope.

Have you ever been working towards something and **hit a wall**? You're putting in the work. You're working your plan, but you can't see any progress. You may even be moving backwards! When that happens, doubt may creep in. You may be tempted to throw in the towel. That is when you need to call on **The God of Hope**.

Hope is that gas that your spiritual engine needs to keep moving forward even when you can't see the path. Your faith is built up by what God has brought you through (rearview mirror). Hope is what is needed for the destination God is bringing you to (windshield).

Smokie Norful's song, **I Understand**, puts it this way.

*"Sometimes I feel like giving up....It seems like my best just ain't good enough
Lord if you hear me, I'm calling you....Do you see, do you care all about what I'm going through
And then He says, one more day hmm, one more step...See I'm preparing you for myself
And when you can't hear my voice, please trust my plan...I'm the Lord, I see and yes I understand"*

Yes, life can throw curveballs that will leave you feeling stuck or disheartened. But here's the reality: God sees you, and He is always working, even when you can't perceive it as progress. He is orchestrating every detail and crafting a plan that is uniquely yours (Jer. 29:11). He has already walked out all of your days (Ps. 139:16)! So, when you can't hear His voice, continue to trust His plan for your life and take one more step!

Here are some practical ways to hold onto hope:

- **Visualize Your Goals**. Post your Faith, Finance, and Fitness goals somewhere and read them regularly to remind you of what you're working towards.
- **Share Your Journey**. Build a community of people that share your faith and encourages you through challenges. You can lean on their strength when yours fades.
- **Embrace Change**. Remember our talk about making Halftime Adjustments? Growth often comes through discomfort. Be adaptable. Flexibility is key when pursuing God's plan.
- **Celebrate Small Wins**. Take the time to recognize and celebrate small steps. Even minor victories are a testament to your ultimate destination: Success.

LCP News U Can Use!

September

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Thank you for serving &
Changing Lives
2025-2026

Tirsha Lenior

LCP OF THE MONTH

New Life

Happy Birthday

Pastor Travis

August 30

CashApp
\$TravisLee23

Pastor Mo

Sept 6th

CashApp
\$MsMahoganyDudleyF

HELP NEEDED

KIDS MINISTRY
TEEN MINISTRY
MEDIA MINISTRY
PROJECTS TEAM
HELPS: GREETERS, USHERS,
MORE!
SOCIAL MEDIA TEAM



Happy Birthday to all of our
September
LifeChangers! Double
shout out to Pastor Mo and
Pastor Trav who are
celebrating back to back
birthdays!

Happy Anniversary!

New Life

Happy Anniversary to the **September Couples!** May
God continue to bless your union!

**PARENTS, GRANDS,
AND CURADIANS!**



**IT'S TIME TO GET
READY FOR...**

AWANA CLUB!

AWANA is a Bible Club for kids where
each week, clubbers experience:

- Christ-centered fun and games.
- Engaging Bible lessons.
- Positive interactions and relationships with friends and caring adults.

REGISTER TODAY!

AGES PREK-6TH GRADE



**CLUB STARTS
THE LAST
WEEK OF
AUGUST**



Congratulations to our Lead Trustee Francine
Nicholsoh on her engagement! She said yes!
She and Bro. William Gardner will tie the knot
May 2027! Happy for you!



MEN OF VALOR (MOV)
PRESENTS

RIBS & PIGSKINS
BARBECUE

KICKING OFF THE BLOCK PARTY!

SAT, 19 SEP
12 PM - 4 PM

NEW LIFE IN CHRIST CHURCH
689 SCOTT TROY ROAD
O'FALLON, IL 62254

ELDER WELLS
A WINNER AT ONE OF
THE BLOCK PARTY
COOK OFFS IS THE
GRILL MASTER!

FOOD | FELLOWSHIP | FOOTBALL | COMMUNITY
#THISISMYNEWLIFE