

WELCOME TO NEW CITY CHURCH.

About 2,000 years ago Jesus Christ said he would build his church. In that first church in Jerusalem many people were forever changed as they turned to Jesus as Lord. That church grew exponentially and started other churches. Those churches grew and started still more churches. This cycle continues today.

While New City is separated from that very first church by time and distance, it is connected with that first church and all other churches because we meet together on Sundays for the same purpose—to proclaim Jesus is Lord. Our mission is the same as their mission: to make disciples of all nations and to proclaim God's glory to the nations.

Whether you are new to the Bible or know it deeply, whether you're rich or poor, whether you're old or young, whether your skin is light or dark or something in between, whether you're a high-school dropout or have a Ph.D., whether you're a single mom or a grandfather or have never been married, you're welcome here. What unites us as a group of people is Jesus Christ. There is one Lord and one faith.



Meeting for worship on Sundays at 10:30AM,
at Palmer School.

Nursery available up to age three.

MEETING ADDRESS:
309 Palmer St NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49505

MAILING ADDRESS:
PO Box 150516
GrandRapids, MI 49515

COUNCIL OF ELDERS:
John-Thomas Richards
Dave Vermilye
Dan Lane
Joel Shaffer

616.334.0370
info@newcitychurch.org
<http://newcitychurch.org>

HE IS RISEN!



CITY GROUPS

At the heart of New City Church are City Groups. These are small groups that meet in homes, where people can experience authentic Christian community. In our City Groups we study the Bible, pray together, encourage one another, and serve our community together. Whether you are a new Christian, a mature Christian, or just interested in learning more about Jesus Christ, we would love for you to join a City Group. For more information, please go to <http://newcitychurch.org> and click on "Church Life" then "City Groups".

WELCOME TO NEW CITY CHURCH

Whether you are here for the first time or are a regular, we're glad you're here! We hope you enjoy your time with us today as we worship God together.

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

SERIES ~ Church Calendar: Easter Sunday

TITLE ~ "The Resurrection"

TEACHER ~ John-Thomas Richards

TEXT ~ 1 Corinthians 15:1-9

Today is Easter. It is the single most important day of the year for a follower of Jesus, for on this day we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. We meet on Sundays in honor of the resurrection (which was on a Sunday morning) but on this day in particular we give a special focus to the resurrection and what it means for us.

Why is the resurrection so important? What makes it "good news?" Why is the resurrection at the core of what Christians believe? The answer is as simple as it is marvelous.

Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me." (Matthew 28:1-10, ESV)

OFFERINGS

Our fiscal year is from August through July. Our budget for this year is \$148,420. About 40% of this budget will come from financial support from Calvary Church, with the remainder coming from the generosity of God's people at New City Church. We continue to trust God to work through New City while providing for our needs.

The records below reflect New City's offerings.

	Rec'd 03/24	Needed	YTD	YTD Need
Ministry	\$1,323	\$1,700	\$53,243	\$57,800
Special Offering*	\$0	—	\$7,192	—

* Not included in budget

The Pastors / Elders of New City Church are available to speak with you and pray with you after the service.

MARCH 31, 2013

10:30AM

GET CONNECTED AT NEW CITY

New City is not a program-driven church. We believe that discipleship happens in relationship as God's people spend time with others. Rather than filling your week with church activities we want to make sure you have time to spend with others, whether a neighbor or a co-worker or a family member, as you seek to share the good news of Jesus. Nevertheless, we offer a few opportunities for you to connect with others.

TITUS 2 MINISTRY

Discipleship happens in relationship. In Titus 2 Paul instructs men and women how to engage in ministry: live godly lives and spend time in relationship with people. Those who are mature in the faith ought to seek out those who are not; those who are not ought to seek out those who are. Invite someone to lunch or to a basketball game or have a game night at your home and break out Scrabble or Checkers. Spend time with others and share the good news of Jesus in the context of friendship.

CITY GROUPS

Want to really get to know people in the church? Join a City Group! City Groups are small groups that meet in a home regularly for a meal and a Bible study and lots of fun. We have several groups available that meet on different nights of the week. All are welcome to join. Please note that City Groups are not limited by stage-of-life, age, or any other factor, so as to better reflect the diversity of the church. For more information see Pastor J-T.

TEEN BASKETBALL

In your teens? Want to play basketball? Teens are invited to come to "the ROCK" on Saturday nights from 8:00-11:00 at Berean Baptist Church. For more information see Geoff DeHaan.

YOUTH GROUP

All middle school and senior high students are invited to "Thursday Night Hype" at Berean Baptist Church. At Hype students will study the Bible, enjoy good music, and have a great time. See Pastor Joel for more details.

YOUNG ADULTS

You are invited every third Sunday of the month to have lunch and lots of fun, right after the worship service. Please bring a snack or a drink to share. For more info, see Pastor Dan.

TEEN FUN

Teens, let's get together at the home of Dan and Brenda on the first Sunday of each month to have fun, eat, and have more fun. All teens are welcome. The party starts right after the worship service. Bring a soda and a snack and be ready to laugh! Lunch is provided. Mark your calendar!

BIBLE STUDIES

Join us on the second and fourth Wednesdays or Sundays for Bible study. Each group studies the same material.

The Wednesday night study is from 6:30-8:00PM and the Sunday night study is from 5:30-7:00PM.

We are studying Wayne Grudem's "20 Basics Every Christian Should Know", a study of twenty essential teachings every believer needs to know and understand. The Bible study meets at the Creston Church Ministry Center (1342 Buffalo Ave NE). For more information please see Pastor J-T.

All are welcome.

NEW CITY CHURCH

PO Box 150516, Grand Rapids, MI 49515
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

BAPTISM

In 1 Peter 3 Peter says that baptism is an appeal to God in faith. It is not the physical act of being baptized that matters; it is the heart of faith that wants to be baptized that matters. In baptism we are publicly declaring that Jesus is Lord and we signal our desire to live for him. Through this physical act our inner faith is made visible.

Baptism represents the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. More specifically, baptism represents our participation in his death, burial, and resurrection. This morning we will celebrate baptism together.

MEMBERSHIP

If you have completed your membership application please be sure to turn it in to your City Group leader as soon as possible. If you do not have a City Group, please see Pastor J-T. Copies of the church constitution and applications are available in the back of the gym. For more information, please see one of the Elders.

GIVING RECEIPTS

Once a quarter we send out a year-to-date record of your giving (annual reporting is required by the IRS). If you have moved or changed your name or address, please contact Shirley (616.260.6131).

SERVING OPPORTUNITY

There is still opportunity to bless Erik and Felicia after the birth of their little girl. The following days are still available for someone who is willing to take them dinner.

Wed, Apr 3rd
Fri, Apr 5th
Tue, Apr 9th
Thu, Apr 11th
Fri, Apr 12th

Please email Bethany Slusher if interested for further details (bethanyslusher@gmail.com).

SOUND TECH NEEDED

We need a sound technician to help on Sunday mornings. If you have some experience running a sound board (including set-up and tear-down) or are willing to learn, please see Pastor Dan for more information.

NEW CITY T-SHIRTS

A few New City t-shirts are available from our last order. Very few small, medium, large, and extra-large shirts are available. Please see Shirley for more details.

see other side

COMMUNION HELP

Would you like to help prepare for communion? This commitment involves filling the communion cups and breaking the bread prior to the service. If you are interested, please see Dawnae Richards for more information.

COMMUNION SCHEDULE

March: Beth
April: Pat
May: ?

URBAN FARM

New City Neighbors (not affiliated with New City Church) is an organization that focuses on the near-northeast of Grand Rapids. They offer a number of ministries reaching out to the Creston neighborhood. (See <http://newcityneighbors.org> for more information.) One of their ministries to the neighborhood is an Urban Farm. They hire high school students in the area to work the farm, helping to plant, water, weed, and harvest. Among the goals of the Urban Farm is to help students develop a biblical worldview of work and to understand better what it means to be a follower of Jesus.

To fund the program, the Urban Farm sells shares. A share entitles the shareholder to receive fresh vegetables each week during the harvest season. If you are interested in fresh veggies, brochures are available in the back of the gym. If you're a high school student looking for a great summer job, please see Pastor J-T.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

The apostle Paul tells us in his letter to the Corinthians that God has given to each of us a spiritual gift for service to the church (1 Corinthians 12:4-7). A spiritual gift is a divine enablement to do something for others, whether teaching or serving or encouraging or leading or one of several other gifts.

The best way to discover your gift(s) is to ask others. Oftentimes spiritual gifts are discovered as one uses a gift unknowingly. For example, one may speak words of encouragement that God uses in profound ways, even if the one encouraging has no idea that she has encouragement as a spiritual gift. Another way is to use a spiritual gifts test. They aren't foolproof, but can provide a general guide for discovering how God has enabled you to serve the body of Christ. To take a free survey, go to <http://www.churchgrowth.org/analysis/intro.php>.

FAITH STORY

Would you like to share a brief story of God's faithfulness? Please see our new Worship Leader, Eric Scholtens. Sharing a story of what God has done or is doing in your life is a great way to encourage God's people and to praise him publicly.

March 31, 2013

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COMMUNION

We celebrate communion each week as a regular part of our worship together. Through communion we are proclaiming the Lord's death until he comes. This regular reminder points us to Jesus as the only one who makes us right with God; it is not based on us or our behavior, but on the work of Jesus on the cross. All who are followers of Jesus may participate in the celebration of communion. If you are not a follower of Jesus or are not prepared to participate, simply pass the tray of bread and juice without taking any.

PRAYER FOR CHURCHES

Pray for Creston Church, Fourth Reformed, East Leonard CRC, Berean Baptist and all the other churches that preach the gospel message in our community.

WORSHIP STYLE

The apostle Paul instructs us to teach one another by "singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs" (Col 3:16). While the instruments or style of music may not be your preference, we trust that the rich theology in the worship music will strengthen and encourage you today. We are very intentional to choose songs that cause us to focus on Jesus as we are here to worship him and him alone. Expression in worship varies from person to person. Feel free to raise your hands, to stand, to sit. More important than physical expression of worship is our true worship, a heart that is engaged with the majesty of God.

SERVING IN NURSERY

03/31: Lora and Bethany K.
04/07: Sherilyn and Kerri
04/14: Bethany S. and Kristen
04/21: Emma and Kelsey
04/28: Alissa and Beth

TUTORING

Have an extra hour or even half-hour between 9AM and 2PM? Why not tutor a student at Palmer? Tutoring is a great way to love your neighbor as yourself. Please see Shirley for more information and an application.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Our Council of Elders meets twice a month and devotes significant time to praying for you. If you have any concerns for which you would like prayer, please see any of the pastors (Dave, Dan, Joel, or J-T).

GREETERS NEEDED

Would you like to greet people on a Sunday morning? Greeters are needed! Please see Lora Kleis for more information.

MAILING LIST

Are you on the New City email list? This list is for announcements regarding ministry opportunities, prayer requests, and reminders about New City activities. If you would like to join this fairly low-volume mailing list, give your email address to Shirley.

SERMONS

Past sermons are available on our website: <http://newcitychurch.org>. Click on Resources then Sermons.

NEW CITY READING PLAN

We have a year-long reading plan that takes you through the whole scope of Scripture in a single year. With this plan you will read about half the chapters of the Bible (673 of the 1,189) but will cover the entire history of the Bible, from creation to new creation. The plan also includes the Psalms (on Sundays). This reading plan is for six days a week. Don't worry about falling behind; just continue reading according to the plan. Each day's reading generally consists of two chapters, but be sure to check the schedule. We will include the week's readings in each week's bulletin. Copies of the entire reading plan are available in the back of the gym.

Sun: Psalms 35-37
Mon: Numbers 10-11
Tue: Numbers 12-13
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Thu: Numbers 16-17
Fri: Numbers 18-19

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