



326 Raymaley Road, Harrison City, PA 15636

<https://www.newlifepresbyterian.org/>

Pastor Job Description

Our Mission

Our Mission, as we remain faithful to the scriptures, true to the reformed faith and obedient to the great commission, is to be the heart and hands of Christ.

Our Vision

To foster spiritual growth in each generation and to equip believers to share God's grace and truth in our community and the world.

Primary Responsibilities

1. Faithfully preach from God's Word on Sunday mornings: teaching, reproof, correcting and exhorting the congregation according to God's Word and the leading of the Holy Spirit. Apply the Scripture to everyday lives and current cultural issues. Explain theological concepts.
2. Together with the Session, provide a clear vision, goals and action plans for advancing the gospel and missional outreach to the church membership and local community.
3. Model and regularly exhort members to pray and read, study and memorize the Scriptures.
4. Actively and intentionally disciple members and regular attenders of New Life Presbyterian Church. Motivate the congregation so they make Jesus their Lord in their total lifestyle and participate in NLPC's mission.
5. Actively and intentionally evangelize within the community. Continue leading NLPC in reaching out to youth and young families with the gospel, especially the unchurched.
6. Recruit new officers and other leaders and provide leadership training. Strengthen the Session and Deacon Boards.
7. Provide for the pastoral care needs of NLPC. Conduct congregational visitations. Visit the sick and hospitalized. Administer the Lord's Supper to shut-ins.
8. Model the life of Christ in your personal and professional life.
9. Recognize that a pastor's schedule requires great flexibility. The pastor must be available for evening meetings and activities as appropriate. The pastor must be responsive to crisis situations, such as serious illnesses, hospitalizations, and deaths.

Qualifications

1. Ordained teaching elder in the PCA or eligible to be transferred to the PCA.
2. Master of Divinity or similar from an accredited seminary.
3. Experienced preaching and teaching skills.
4. Demonstrated ability to motivate the congregation to action.
5. Leadership skills commensurate with the primary responsibilities of this position.
6. Treats everyone with love, dignity and respect, as we all have been made in the image of God.

Other

The start date for this pastoral position is January 1, 2020.

How to Apply

Please send a cover letter, resume or Ministerial Profile, contact information (including how we can access recordings to sermons) and references (at least two from previous ministry positions, one academic (if graduated within the past 2 years), and one or two personal). Please email to: pulpitcommittee@newlifepresbyterian.org.



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Who We Are

New Life Presbyterian Church (NLPC) is a gathering of imperfect people who love Jesus and one another and who want to reach our community, our country, and our world with the Good News of Jesus Christ. NLPC seeks to foster spiritual growth in all generations and to equip believers to share God's Grace and Truth. Our motto: "To be the heart and hands of Christ."

We are a congregation of approximately 175 in Harrison City, an eastern suburb of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. NLPC is a member of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), whose motto is "Faithful to the Scriptures, True to the Reformed Faith, and Obedient to the Great Commission."

What We Believe

We believe that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior. We strive to be faithful to the entire Scripture because it is the inerrant Word of God. We believe the Gospel is the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ, and salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, and to the glory of God alone. Jesus commanded us and gave us the privilege to tell the world the good news of new life found only in Him, and so we strive to obey the Great Commission with joy, because those who have been forgiven much will love much.

We are committed to:

- Prayer
- Preaching and teaching the Bible as the infallible Word of God, the source of truth
- Growing in maturity in Christ Jesus
- Reaching out to others in love, and loving one another as Christ loves us
- Regularly and vibrantly worshiping the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
- Using our gifts for ministry under the Lord's shepherding guidance
- Reforming our vision and plan to implement our God-given purpose and mission in accordance with His word

Our Congregation

Our present congregation consists of residents of the Penn Trafford school district (Penn Township, Trafford, and Harrison City) as well as people from Irwin, North Huntingdon, Jeannette, Greensburg, and Export. There are many older families in our congregation and a fair number of younger families whose children are educated in the local public school systems (Penn-Trafford, Hempfield, Jeannette, and Norwin), as well as those who are home-schooled. On the whole, our members are very knowledgeable about Christian doctrine.

All are welcome to worship with us. The current demographics of our congregation reflect those of our community: largely white, middle-class professionals including engineers, highly skilled tradespeople and technicians, blue-collar families, and a significant number of retirees.

NLPC currently has a senior pastor and an assistant pastor. Five elders are actively serving on Session, and there are two elders emeritus. Six deacons are actively serving.

Our Sunday Worship

Sunday morning worship includes the pastor faithfully preaching the word of God; prayers of invocation, praise, and petition; worshipful music with singing and instruments; and an offering. A lay leader assists with worship on most Sundays. Our worship team provides a mix of joyful and contemplative music and leads the congregation in singing contemporary songs with some traditional hymns, all to the glory of God. Communion is served on the fourth Sunday of each month. The senior pastor or assistant pastor also gives a brief children's message most weeks, followed by children's church for those parents who wish their child to participate. Above all, we strive to worship God in spirit and truth, and with joy and reverence.

After the worship service, there is a coffee fellowship, and then Sunday School for all ages.

Our Ministry Activities

The goal of our ministry activities is to increase the faith and Christian walk of His church and to spread the Gospel to our community.

Children and Youth Activities

- Sunday School classes for ages three through high school.
- Vacation Bible School (VBS) for ages four through sixth grade. Our VBS attendance averages about 80 children, and with a large portion from outside NLPC, this is one of our outreach programs to the community.
- A Christmas program for elementary-aged children.
- Basketball and soccer camps for children from kindergarten through sixth grade. These camps include a Bible lesson and are one of our community outreach programs since many of the children are from outside NLPC. Over 100 children attended the 2019 basketball camp.
- Our Bible Train program alternates with the basketball and soccer camps and is directed toward children from ages four through sixth grade. This is a newer program, and about 25 children attended last autumn.
- Bible Story Time is for young children ages three and up and is held one Saturday morning each month from September through May. This program is for our own children and for children outside of NLPC. It is conducted jointly with the Young Adult program, so many of our children attend Story Time while their parents are participating in their own program.
- Echoes Teen Ministry is for students in grades 7-12. The teens also participate in Snow Camp with other activities such as an overnight stay or “lock-in.”

Adult Ministries Goals

- Minister to men as men and women as women and encourage connections through intentional relationships.
- Encourage the spiritual growth of the men and women in our church, with an emphasis on Scripture and the application of Scriptural principles to daily life.
- Nurture the prayer lives of men and women in our church, praying for the life-changing work of God in and through us.
- Provide an opportunity for men and women to discern and exercise their gifts and abilities to the glory of God in the total work and worship of the church.
- Equip the men and women of NLPC to serve as pillars of support to our church in its mission.

Activities for Adults

- Weekly prayer meetings: Sunday morning prayer before worship, Wednesday morning men's prayer, and Thursday morning prayer for the lost, the church, and the community. Prayer with the elders is also available every week after Sunday's service for special requests.
- Saturday evening prayer services are held monthly in preparation for Sunday communion.
- Sunday School: Adult Sunday School is offered year-round with the topics changing quarterly. Each quarter there are typically three classes led by laymen: one on Christian Living, one on Theology, and one on a book of the Bible.
- Small Groups: There are a number of small groups ranging in size from 10-20 people. These groups meet once or twice a month at various homes with meeting times and topics varying between the groups.

Activities for Men

- The Journey: Two men's groups are currently working through the "Life on Life" Missional Discipleship study, which is designed to teach Biblical truth and help us grow in Christian virtue, personal worship, outreach, and evangelism.
- MTB Men's Weightlifting and Bible Challenge: This ministry uses weightlifting as part of the effort to help men get or stay healthy, and is for new and regular lifters. During the fellowship time together, the leader reads a Scripture passage and guides a discussion of it to create spiritual growth as well as muscular growth, because we are MTB (More Than a Body).
- Men's Fellowship: Up to 39 men from inside and outside NLPC play dart ball or bocce every week, with a short devotional or prayer time.

Activities for Women

Women's Bible Studies:

- In morning and evening Bible studies, women gather to study a book of the Bible or other materials such as Nancy Guthrie's DVD series, *The Word of the Lord*.
- Our monthly Saturday morning fellowship events include breakfast, testimony, music, and a Bible study.
- We have a monthly outreach at a local nursing home where we have a time of worship with the residents.

Annual Women's Fellowship Events:

- Spring: Luncheon, devotion, and craft.
- Fall 2019: Mission project (Women at Risk).
- Christmas: Luncheon, devotion, and Christmas craft.

Our Mission Activities

- Diaconate: The NLPC Diaconate typically consists of 4-6 men. We consider this a spiritual ministry as well as a mercy ministry. The Deacons gather to pray with those struggling with health issues, and they assist with material needs by arranging for transportation, paying bills, addressing household chores, and connecting people in need with local organizations.

The Deacons also coordinate the use of the church building, the Christmas outreach ministry (Operation Christmas Child), and the maintenance of the building and grounds (cleaners, lawn service, snow removal, etc.). When the need arises, the Deacons administer scholarship funds to assist members who are pursuing a seminary degree.

- Local Missions: NLPC has financially supported China Outreach Ministries (for Chinese students studying at local universities) and a local church plant.
- Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) Missions: NLPC financially supports RUF, and several NLPC college students have participated in mission trips to the Yakima Native American reservation.
- Kairos Prison Ministry: Several NLPC men are active in the Kairos Prison Ministry at two State Correctional Institutions. NLPC also financially supports this ministry.
- Global Missions: NLPC financially supports five Mission to the World missionary families.

Our Fellowship and Social Activities

The members and friends of NLPC enjoy having fun with each other. Each quarter there is a luncheon after Sunday School sponsored by one of the small groups. Each year we have a church picnic and fishing derby, a game night, a Thanksgiving dinner, and a congregational meeting dinner.

History of New Life Presbyterian Church

Approximately 30 years ago, NLPC was founded as a church plant from the nearby PCA church in Pitcairn, PA. At that time, some Pitcairn members wanted to reach the growing community in Penn Township with the Good News of Jesus Christ, and several of our current members were involved in purchasing the church property and constructing NLPC.

A special cornerstone from the original barn on the church property was installed near our main entrance door. The inscription on the cornerstone reads: “See I have given you this land” (Deuteronomy 1:8). This verse proclaims God’s faithfulness and goodness to us and reminds us that Jesus Christ is our Rock. As God gave the Promised Land to the Israelites, we believe that He gave this land to us.

- Fall 1991: Scott Johnston is called as the organizing Pastor of the Mission Church at New Life.
- April 5, 1992: Pastor Scott Johnston conducts the first worship service for the New Life Presbyterian congregation (PCA) at a provisional location in Level Green.
- June 15, 1995: The congregation closes on the purchase of the property for the church.
- August 18, 1996: The groundbreaking ceremony is held for the new church building.
- September 28, 1997: The first worship service of NLPC is conducted at the Raymaley Road site.
- October 26, 1997: The dedication service is conducted for the new church building.
- June 4, 2000: Scott Johnston accepts a new church planting position in Lancaster, PA.
- August 5, 2001: Dennis J Gill is called as the second pastor of NLPC.
- September 9, 2009: Jeremy Whipkey is called as the Director of Youth Ministries and Project Development.
- June 19, 2010: A building expansion called the South Building or Fellowship Hall is dedicated.
- February 16, 2012: Jeremy Whipkey is ordained as a pastor in the PCA and begins as Associate Pastor of NLPC.
- April 13, 2017: Jeremy Whipkey accepts the pastor position at the Presbyterian Church of Pitcairn.
- May 7, 2017: Matthew Fisher is called as Director of Youth, Community and Outreach Ministries.
- March 12, 2018: Matthew Fisher is called as Assistant Pastor and Director of Youth, Community and Outreach Ministries.

May 20, 2019