

Dear friends and faithful supporters,

We want to wish each of you the very best of years for 2021! We pray that God will become an intimate part of your life this year. May you continue to grow in your faith and your relationship with Him!

We have an address correction we need to give all of you for our new Non-Profit 501c3. The address is still the same, it is only that the US post office has changed the city and zip code. Please update the address for New Life International Mission to:

New Life IM or NLIM  
C/O Eileen Ledgerwood  
1919 Jackson Lane  
Port Orange, FL 32128

We have also had some questions about the changes that are going to happen. We want to assure you that the only thing that will be changing is that we will no longer be receiving a salary, airline tickets or Place of Assignment support from the GBGM through our personal Advance Covenant numbers.

The Advance Project number of 15057A will still be available for you to use to send support for the projects that the New Life Center Zambia is involved with. This avenue of donation is available for United Methodist Churches, Conferences, and individuals to use for conference credits and recognition.

The new 501c3 New Life IM is set up to replace the existing avenue of receiving direct ministry support from our home church of Pine Castle United Methodist. We are still working with the same ministries in Zambia through the invitation of the Zambian church.

Thank you for your many years of support for the ministries in Zambia! We look forward to our continuing relationship of building up the Kingdom of God in Africa!

In mission together,  
Delbert and Sandy Groves

#### **From Pastor Green on 12-28-20**

Please also know that I had early this morning a COVID-19 test and praise the Lord there was not detected COVID-19 at all. Still feels a little bit weak but getting in an excellent shape. I am negative now. Muchas gracias to you all for the many ways you have supported me during the two weeks of quarantine. Thank for your daily phone calls, for your daily prayers, for the meals you provided to me, for everything. Thank for loving me so much without deserved it. My beautiful wife Reyna and my kids Kerry, Ashley and Richard have expressed to you all their gratitude for your love. Love you all.

#### **From the District Office on 12-23-20**

Dear Barry,

I write to say thank you to the good people of Faith for your support of Connectional Giving! Your faithfulness really makes a difference!

God Bless and Merry Christmas!

Durwood (Our new District Superintendent)

## **Psalm 72: 1-14**

- <sup>1</sup> Give the king your justice, O God,  
**and your righteousness to be the royal son!**
- <sup>2</sup> May he judge your people with righteousness,  
**and your poor with justice!**
- <sup>3</sup> Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people,  
and the hills, in righteousness!
- <sup>4</sup> **May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,  
give deliverance to the needy,  
and crush the oppressor!**
- <sup>5</sup> May he live while the sun endures,  
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!
- <sup>6</sup> **May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,  
like showers that water the earth!**
- <sup>7</sup> In his days may righteousness flourish  
and peace abound, until the moon be no more!
- <sup>8</sup> **May he have dominion from sea to sea,  
and from the river to the ends of the earth!**
- <sup>9</sup> May his foes bow down before him,  
and his enemies lick the dust!
- <sup>10</sup> May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute,  
may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!
- <sup>11</sup> **May all kings fall down before him,  
all nations serve him!**
- <sup>12</sup> For he delivers the needy when they call,  
the poor and those who have no helper.
- <sup>13</sup> **He has pity on the weak and the needy,  
and saves the lives of the needy.**
- <sup>14</sup> **From oppression and violence he redeems their life;  
and precious is their blood in his sight.**

## **St. Matthew 2:1-12**

<sup>1</sup> Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."

<sup>3</sup> When Herod the king heard *this*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup> And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup> So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup> 'But you, Bethlehem, *in* the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler, Who will shepherd My people Israel.'" <sup>7</sup> Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. <sup>8</sup> And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found *Him*, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also." <sup>9</sup> When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. <sup>11</sup> And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshipped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

## Great Thanksgiving for Epiphany

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. Before the mountains were brought forth, or you had formed the earth, from everlasting to everlasting, you alone are God. You created light out of darkness and

brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, in whom you have revealed yourself, our light and our salvation. You sent a star to guide wise men to where the Christ was born; and in your signs and witnesses, in every age and through all the world, you have led your people from far places to his light.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father (*God*), now and forever.

**Amen.**