



## Winter 2026 Ready for More Update/2025 Giving Letter

### Dear Church Family

I just want to take a moment to say thank you.

Over the past several months, I've been so encouraged by the heart of our church family. The faithfulness, generosity, and willingness to say "yes" to God that I see week after week is something I do not take lightly. Because of your prayers, your serving, and your giving, lives are being cared for, families are being disciplined, and the love of Jesus is being shared in real and tangible ways.

This past fall, we stepped into a season together we called Ready for More. For some of you, this has been part of your journey from the beginning. For others who are newer to New Life, Ready for More is a two-year discipleship initiative that is about deepening our faith and expanding our reach. At its core, it is about how God is forming us and moving us forward through MORE MINISTRY, MORE IMPACT, and MORE REACH. It is about continuing what God's already doing, preparing space for what is ahead, and extending hope to our community and beyond.

As I think about this season, I keep coming back to the words of Paul in *Colossians 2:7*. "Let your roots grow down into Him, and let your lives be built on Him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness." That really captures my prayer for us as a church. That we would be deeply rooted in Christ, steady in our faith, and thankful as we watch God work through our obedience together.

Along with this letter, you will find your 2025 annual giving statement. I simply want you to know how grateful I am. Your generosity truly matters! It is making a difference, and we steward these gifts carefully as we follow where God is leading our church.

As we continue walking through this season, we will keep sharing how God is using your faithfulness to fuel ministry, reach people, and prepare us for what lies ahead. I am thankful to be on this journey with you, and I am excited for what God is continuing to do in and through our church family.

With gratitude and confidence,  
Chriss Sopke Sr.  
Lead Pastor  
New Life Church

# Walking This Journey Together

As we continue the Ready for More journey, we want to take a moment to share how things are unfolding. This update is meant to give a simple snapshot of where we are, celebrate what God is doing among us, and look to the road ahead.

What follows is not about measuring performance. It is about recognizing faithfulness and staying aligned as we walk forward together.

## How Ready for More Is Taking Shape

As we continue walking through Ready for More, we are seeing God use simple acts of obedience in meaningful ways. Ministry is being strengthened. Lives are being impacted. Our church is being prepared to reach others more effectively.

Through MORE MINISTRY, people are being cared for, and families are being disciplined. Through MORE IMPACT, faith is growing as people take intentional steps forward. Through MORE REACH, we are creating space to connect with our community and extend hope beyond our walls.

This journey is not about speed. It is about faithfulness. Step by step, we trust God to use each act of obedience for His purposes.

## A Year of Faithfulness

As we reflect on the past year, we are thankful for the many ways God has been faithful to our church family. Through your generosity, prayers, and willingness to serve, ministry has continued to move forward, and lives have been touched in meaningful ways. These moments remind us that steady faithfulness, practiced over time, bears real fruit.



## Because of your faithfulness this past year, we have seen:

- Families and individuals cared for through NLC Cares benevolence, meals, and practical support
- Children and students growing in their faith through camps, classes, and weekly ministry
- Our community reached through events and outreach that created space for connection
- Missionaries and ministry partners supported both locally and globally
- Discipleship strengthened as people took intentional steps in their walk with Christ

**We thank God for what He has done, and we recognize that every one of these moments is tied to the collective obedience of our church family.**

### Stories From The Journey

## A Step of Obedience in Leadership

One person in our church felt a clear calling from God to step into ministry leadership. One of the requirements to lead in that area is a commitment to tithing. While they had always known tithing was right, they had struggled to fully trust God in that step.

Through prayer, they felt the Lord clearly show them what obedience looked like, and they chose to begin tithing in faith. Since then, they have already begun to see God's hand at work as they walk in that obedience. More than anything, they describe a growing peace and confidence in trusting God with every area of their life.

## Joyful Generosity

Recently, another person in our church came up to me with a big smile and shared that they had received a small cost-of-living increase in their Social Security check. What stood out was what they said next. They told me they wanted to give that extra amount toward Ready for More.

It was not about the size of the gift. It was about the joy behind it. For them, it was simply another way to trust God and take part in what He is doing in our church. Moments like that remind me that generosity looks different for each of us, but obedience always comes from the same place, a heart that wants to honor God.

## Celebrating God's Faithfulness

As part of our commitment to walk this journey together with clarity and trust, we want to share a brief snapshot of where we are in the Ready for More journey so far. These numbers are not about pressure or performance. They simply reflect the faithfulness of our church family as we continue taking steady steps forward together.

Families Participating in Ready for More  
**60 families**

*(Every family that has given at any level toward Ready for More is considered a participant.)*

Total Ready for More Giving to Date  
**\$329,128**

*(Giving from October 2025 through January 2026)*

Ready for More Giving Snapshot  
*Projected RFM Giving (Oct 2025 - Jan 2026)*  
**\$378,000**

**We are grateful for every step of faith represented here and encouraged by the way our church family continues to walk forward together with trust and obedience.**

## Looking Ahead

As we move forward, our prayer is that each of us continues to listen closely to what God is asking of us and respond with trust and faith. We are thankful for how God is already at work, and we look forward to sharing more stories and updates as this journey continues.

If you are newer to New Life, or if you have been praying about how God might be inviting you to take part in the Ready for More journey, please know that there is still time to join us. This is not about catching up or keeping pace. It is about saying yes to what God is placing on your heart in this season.

We are grateful to walk this journey together, trusting God to lead us forward one faithful step at a time.

**Total  
RFM Giving**

**October 2025  
-  
January 2026**

**\$329,128**



**NEW LIFE  
CHURCH**

Where Community Becomes Family