

Experiencing God's Transforming Presence @



WELCOME! ARE YOU NEW?

Whether you are just visiting or looking for a church home, we want to say, "Thank you!" for visiting us. We encourage you to fill out our yellow communication card, or go online to our "[Ways to Connect](#)" page and fill out our online form. We'd love to get to know you and help you get to know us!

ABOUT NLV

New Life Vineyard Church exists to help people to *experience the transforming presence of God*. We do this by **Connecting** to Christ and others, **Growing** into Christian maturity, **Serving** others, and **Going** out into our community to make a positive difference. We value love, acceptance, and forgiveness in all relationships. You matter to God, and you matter to us!

WHAT TO EXPECT

We're a "come as you are" kind of church. Most of our families come dressed casually. Our music is contemporary but also contemplative. We encourage people to have fun celebrating God's goodness. We welcome clapping, raising of hands, and saying, "AMEN!". Our celebration services aren't meant to be a show, but rather a group of people all celebrating an audience of One – our great and awesome God!

REGULAR CONNECTION OPPORTUNITIES

- **Children: VineyardKIDS** w/ *Pastor Dave*
 - Dismissed weekly after the 2nd song of worship during our Sunday services.
- **Jr/Sr High: VineyardYOUTH** w/ *Jessica Cooper*
 - Wednesday night 6-8pm here at the church
 - 1st and 3rd Sundays during service
- **Young Adults: VineyardYA** w/ *Pastor Dan*
 - Every other week following service
- **VineyardMEN & VineyardWOMEN**
 - Men - Retreats, breakfasts, Bible studies, fish fries, draft parties, and more
 - Women - Soul Sisters gatherings, Bible studies, kayak trips, retreats, and more



KUDOS

A special shout out to all the students and leaders of VineyardYOUTH who stayed late to help empty the sanctuary so we could have our beautiful carpets cleaned. As always, we appreciate you!

WI-FI NETWORK PASSWORD: NLVGuest

NEW LIFE VINEYARD CHURCH
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Follow us on Facebook & YouTube

March 26th, 2023

COMING UP @ THE VINEYARD:



EASTER BAPTISM

During our Easter service, on April 9th, we will be having baptisms. What better time to demonstrate your commitment and obedience to God! Signups

have started coming in and we are excited! To learn more, talk with a pastor and sign up in the Narthex or [online](#) for our preparatory class held on April 2nd following service.

CONNECT GROUP WEEK

It's Connect Group week. If you're not in a group yet, get connected! Hook up with Pastor Larry or head to the info center for more information.

GOOD FRIDAY/EASTER SUNDAY

Join us on Good Friday for an evening of worship and reflection as we give thought to the suffering that Jesus went through for our sake. Reflecting on how much Christ suffered to pay for our sins deepens the joy and gratitude we feel for the gift of new life with Christ that we will celebrate on Easter Sunday.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

VineyardWOMEN - Join us to learn more about who God is through his many names in our 7-week study titled "**Knowing God by Name**" by Mary Kassian. This will be held on Tuesday nights starting April 11th and will be led by Tara Applegate. Please register early so we know how many study books to order. Sign up in the Narthex or [online](#).

VINEYARDYOUTH

Spring Break Lock-In, March 31st from 9pm-7am. Cost is \$5 to attend and registration is required. Dodgeball, 2AM Dance Party, Midnight Message, Late Night Taco Bar, & more! Also – mark your calendars for **Impact:Shine!** youth service week, June 20-24th! Go [online](#) for more info on these youth events.

WAYS TO CONNECT

For more information on all the ways to connect at New Life Vineyard Church, visit midlandvineyard.com/waystoconnect.

PRAYER AND GIVING

If you would like prayer for any reason, you can reach us at prayer@midlandvineyard.com.

Tithes and offerings can be placed in the offering baskets, lobby lock-box, sent [online](#), or through the mail (1014 E. Ashman St, Midland, MI, 48642).



March 26th, 2023

Pastor Mike Leiter

The Greatest Story EVER!

Key Verse: “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

2 Timothy 3:16-17

The three lenses of understanding the Bible:

- **The Story:** what is the plot?
- **The Strategy:** what is the plan?
- **The Specifics:** what is the process?

Responsible Bible interpretation always considers the story, strategy and specifics of the Bible.

Today's focus: The Story

What is the plot of the Bible, and how do we get it wrong?

- We confuse what God's goal is.
- We mix God's story with human stories.
- We focus so much on the details that we forget the main point.
- We've never been properly taught.

The plot in Colossians 1:13-14 (NIV):

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

The Greatest Story EVER plays out in the Bible like a five-act play:

- **Act 1:** Creation: How the World Got the Way it Is (Genesis 1-11)
- **Act 2:** Israel: God's People for the World (Genesis 12-Malachi)
- **Act 3:** The Messiah: The New Adam (The Gospels)
- **Act 4:** The Church: The New Global Israel -Jews & Gentiles Together (Acts-Rev)
- **Act 5:** Our Turn: The History of the Church

NOW WHAT?

As God's “change agents” called by the Father, commissioned by Jesus and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are to announce and demonstrate the kingdom of God. We are to play our part in God's big story and obediently enact God's strategy, while being shaped, informed, and corrected by the richness of God's Word.

APPLICATION:

- In what ways do you still need God's kingdom to break into your life?
- What is God saying to you about YOUR part in God's grand purpose?

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