



**November, 2016**

**To God Be the Glory for 150 Years of Faithful Ministry through  
His People at New Life Community Church  
Sayville, Long Island, NY  
Founded in 1866**



38 Cherry St. West Sayville, NY



380 Lakeland Ave. Sayville, NY

During the afternoon of December 19, 1866, thirty-one persons were individually examined and welcomed into church membership upon confession of faith as charter members of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in West Sayville, NY.

During our senior year at Western Theological Seminary in Holland, MI, my wife Sue and I prayed: "Lord, we will go wherever You want us to go." In His perfect timing, and in His unique way, God made it clear He was calling us to serve Him at New Life Community Church in West Sayville, Long Island, NY. I was installed as the Associate Pastor on June 24, 1979 with Dr. A. E. Pearson as the Senior Pastor.



We enjoyed a wonderful team ministry and experienced people coming to Christ from all walks of life — resulting in compounding growth and expanding ministries. We patiently, persistently, and faithfully proclaimed God's Word as we persevered through a 7 year relocation process and built new facilities on 10 areas of property about 2 miles away on Lakeland Ave. in Sayville. The new facilities were dedicated to the glory of God on March 17, 1985.

The whole congregation and community was shocked and saddened when Dr. Pearson accepted a call to a church in California in April, 1997. After completing a nation-wide search, the Search Team, Consistory, and the congregation voted to call me to serve as Senior Pastor. I was installed in September, 1997 and served as Senior Pastor for the next fifteen years. By God's grace and with His provision and blessing I had the honor and privilege of serving as the Pastor of New Life Community Church for 23 years (June 24, 1979 – June, 24, 2002). My wife Sue and I, along with our three children, Sarah, Matt, and Andrew, have so many wonderful memories of our years on Long Island. We were richly blessed with relationships in the congregation and in the community. When we are asked what we miss the most, Sue and I always say, "We miss the people!"



I was given the wonderful privilege of officiating at a friend and former member's wedding on Long Island on July 17, 2016. Kristine Boysen-Kilanowski paid for my plane ticket and made arrangements for my local transportation. I scheduled a couple of extra days to connect with friends and worship at New Life on Sunday morning before the Sunday afternoon wedding.



Pastor Scott Rees has served as Senior Pastor at New Life since August, 2007. We had communicated with each other several times by phone and by email. It was very special to finally have the opportunity to meet each other face to face.

Pastor Scott was very warm, and welcoming. He was very gracious and kind. He said some wonderful, meaningful, and affirming things about me and my ministry at New Life when he publicly welcomed me and introduced me to the congregation during the worship service.

After the service Pastor Scott invited me to come forward and then he invited the people who remembered me and loved me to gather around for a group photo.



Darelle & John Gil



Ruth Zegel



Pauline Vail





Gail Baird



Alma Pancir



Jackie Straight



Vera Truhlar



Vera's family from Czech Republic



Anna Romano



Cathy McLaughlin



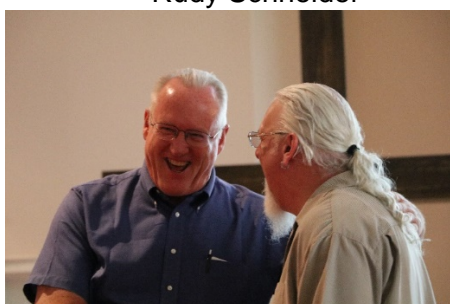
Rudy Schneider



Gary Picone



Cathy Grey



Matt Pittari



Mary & Fred Archer



Chris & Lou Petrignani



Susan Shiebler, Elissa, Matt & Christa Mingino





Eileen Heintz



Chris Kazen



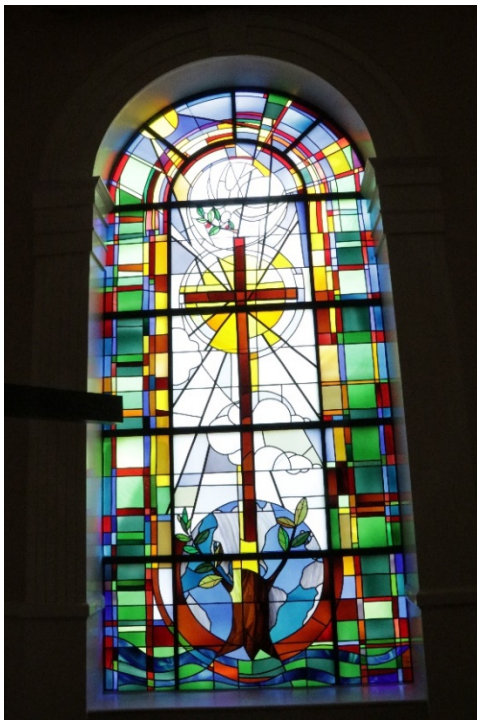
Rudy & Barb Schneider



Joanna & Russell Drake



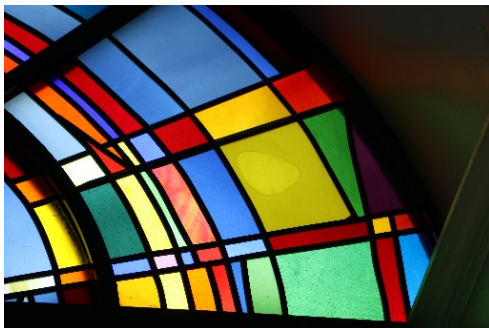
Wes Triani



The window was designed by Yan Rieger, a Belgian artist, to compliment the Federal Style and character of the architecture. The dominant feature of the window is the Cross, as the central expression of faith, with the sky as background. In the upper circle is the descending dove – the Holy Spirit – holding an olive branch. A rainbow and part of the sun complete this upper circle.

The lower circle is the composition is the earth as background for the trunk of a cut tree – from which the Cross was made – with new leaves and flowers. These “new shoots on old roots” symbolize the Roots of the Past that provide New Life for the Future. Underlining the entire composition are two blue wave lines, symbolic of the sound and the ocean surrounding the Island.

The entire window has been executed with hand-blown European antique-glass, offering the full range of textural qualities and vibrance. The greatest value in this type of glass is its luminous quality; it has an unpredictable ability to change with the changing light of a rainy day, sunny day, the morning or afternoon. This interplay with light gives the window its substance; it is an artform that lives and breathes natural light, and has an aesthetic impact on the light-adaptive behavior of the human eye.



During my farewell message on June 23, 2002 I shared about my favorite piece of glass in the entire window. In this close-up photo you can see one yellow piece of hand-blown European antique-glass that most artists would have overlooked, set-aside, or thrown away as useless because of the glaring imperfection — a large bubble.

Every time I look at that beautiful window I am drawn to that piece of glass that is flawed, fragile, and frail. Then I hear God's whisper that He can use someone like me — who is flawed, fragile, and frail — to create something beautiful and meaningful in His Kingdom.

God says to all of us, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” 2 Cor. 12:9



On Sunday afternoon, July 17, 2016 I enjoyed the wonderful honor of officiating at the wedding of Kristine Boysen-Kilanowski and Paul Coraci at Lombardi's on the Great South Bay.



Mr. & Mrs. Paul & Kristine Coraci



Pat Boysen (Karl went home to Heaven)



Andrea & Mike Lawlor





Throughout our ministry at New Life Community Church, many of the strongest, deepest, and most enduring relationships were forged in the midst of tragedy and difficulty. That was certainly true in my relationship with Karl and Pat Boysen and their two daughters Andrea and Kristine. Sarah Lawlor was Mike and Andrea Lawlor's first born daughter. I remember receiving a phone call that their baby had complications and was not doing well. I immediately went to visit them in The Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the hospital. Baby Sarah was with her family only four days before she died and went to heaven to be with Jesus.



The Boysen and Lawlor families donated this beautiful memorial garden in memory of Sarah Lawlor as part of the celebration of the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of New Life Community Church in 1991.



The Legacy of faithful Kingdom Ministry through the Body of Christ at New Life Community Church will be celebrated 50 years from now when the Time Capsule is opened at the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in 2066!

Please join Sue and me in giving praise and thanks to God this year for 150 years of faithful Kingdom Ministry through the Body of Christ at New Life Community Church!



We thank God for everything we experienced during our twenty-three years at New Life Community Church that helped to train and prepare us for our ministry of encouraging and coaching pastors and their families. Thank you for your prayer support and financial contributions to our ministry with PastorCare.

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