



# New Life Community Church

WENDELL, IDAHO

# Who Are We?

New Life Community Church of Wendell, Idaho was started by a small but determined group of families in 1981. This courageous group of people wanted to develop a church family in their home community of Wendell. After steady growth in 1999, we built the current facility that has a worship center with seating for 350. It also includes a full-sized gymnasium, many educational rooms, a youth worship center, outdoor playground, and a café in the lobby. The number of people regularly attending worship is 160, with many young families and kids.

On December 6, 2009, Gary Westra was installed as our lead pastor. He has been an amazing Godly leader for our church and community for 14 years. God has blessed us with many other ministries that are impacting peoples lives. Many different bible studies including couples, men's, women's, and young people are happening on a regular basis. Over the past 2 years, Pastor Gary has been instrumental in shaping the next generation of Godly leaders through an eldership development study with 16 young men. With his leading, we have an inviting, uplifting and encouraging congregation. He has, through his leadership, challenged us through the word of God to a closer relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

In September of 2022, after many years of struggle over Biblical interpretation concerning human sexuality, we left the Reformed Church of America, along with many other churches in our classis. We are excited to have joined the Alliance of Reformed Churches and continue our ministries together with theology that is driven by the scriptures, under the guidance and leadership of the Holy Spirit.

New Life Community Church is excited to enter a new chapter serving God and His kingdom. We believe that we are a church that belongs to Jesus Christ and to the community. We see it as our mission to bring the two together. Our past is rich in history and our future is full of promise. We are seeking a new pastor who will journey side by side with us and fulfill God's mission for our church.



# Meet Our Staff



**Gary Westra,**  
Lead Pastor



**Todd Mikolyski,**  
Worship & Youth Leader



**Erin Roe,**  
Administration Assistant



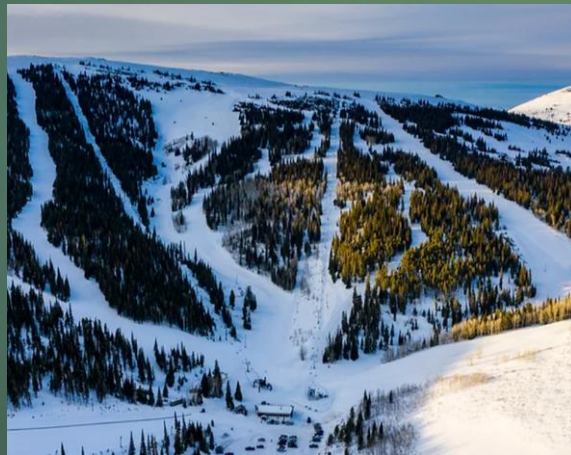
**Doriann Gibson**  
Director of Family Ministries

# Where Do We Live?

More info: <https://visitsouthidaho.com/>



Wendell is a rural town of 2,100 people located in south-central Idaho. Just a short 25 miles away from Twin Falls, a community of 45,000 people. Wendell is known as the “Hub City” as it’s a crossroads connecting several small communities. South-central Idaho has a strong economy, supported in large part by the agricultural and dairy industries. Wendell itself is a community of primarily blue-collar workers, the backbone of America. Just a hop, skip, and a jump away are some beautifully scenic and fun areas.....



## **Pomerelle Ski Resort**

Pomerelle is one of many options for skiing and snowboarding in Southern Idaho. Located 50 miles from Wendell in Albion, Pomerelle is a great mountain for beginners and experts alike.



## **Shoshone Falls**

Located 20 miles from Wendell in Twin Falls, Shoshone Falls is one of the largest natural waterfalls in the United States surpassing the height of the famous Niagara Falls. At Shoshone Falls you will find playgrounds and hiking trails, landscaped picnic areas, a boat ramp and swimming area, and a scenic overlook.

## Blue Heart Springs

Blue Heart Springs is a cove located in Hagerman, on the Snake River, just 10 miles from Wendell. Through the crystal blue waters, you can see the sandy floor of the spring bubble as the water pushes up through the ground. A convenient kayak rental offers a serene 30-minute paddle to Blue Heart Springs.



## Box Canyon

Located on W Point Road in Wendell, Box Canyon is the nation's 11<sup>th</sup> largest spring. It is a short hike down to the spring from the parking lot, where you will find bright blue water and a 20-foot waterfall.



## Ritter Island

Located in Wendell, Ritter Island is home to one of the last remaining areas of natural springs in the Thousand Springs complex. A 2-mile path circles the island and showcases beautiful views of the Snake River. In September, Ritter Island hosts the popular annual Thousand Springs Festival, featuring local arts, crafts, and music.



## Miracle Hot Springs

Miracle Hot Springs is a geothermal natural hot spring located 15 miles from Wendell in Buhl. Miracle Hot Springs offers year-round access to private and public pools, massages, or an overnight stay in a camping dome.

# What Do We Do?

New Life Community Church is continuously looking for opportunities to serve our Lord and our community. Here are current ministries we support.

## **Missionaries**

We support missionaries, both locally and globally as they further God's kingdom. We actively pray, support, and financially give to the following:

### **Local Ministries:**

- Voices Against Violence
- Sage Women's Center – Magic Valley
- Christian College Support
- Wendell Helping Hands Food Pantry

### **Global Ministries:**

- RCA Missions Coworkers – The Scheenstra's
- Gideon's International
- RCA Board of Pension
- McKallie's Home and Future of Hope
- Words of Hope



## **Small Groups**

Our church has a variety of men and women's bible study options available. These studies take place on and off campus. These groups focus on learning and growing from God's word, as well as building relationships amongst church members.



## Family Night

Every Wednesday Night, 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students from throughout the community of Wendell meet to worship and learn more about Jesus. Family Night consists of worship, bible study, and crafts. It begins in September and runs through the school year. Family Night is run by Doriann, our Director of Family Ministries and a small group of volunteers.



## Children's Christmas Program



## Youth Group

Our youth group is offered for middle and high school students. Led by Todd, our Worship and Youth Pastor, they meet year-round on Wednesday nights. Weekly meetings consist of worship, dinner, and bible study. Students participate in God-centered community events and service projects. Currently our youth has a worship band. They glorify God with their talents and bless our congregation and community in doing so.

# Special Events



River Church

Worship in the Park



Intentional Evangelism

Flowering the Cross and Easter Baptisms



Discipleship Huddle



# Some Reasons We Spend Our Sundays at NLCC...

Such a good, diverse group of young people.  
It's always felt like home.

Our family attends NLCC because of the strong Biblical messages each week. We feel extremely comfortable here and like the many programs offered and the people that love the Lord as much as we do.

Our grandkids started attending the Wednesday Family Night program. The oldest grandchild asked Jesus into his life as his Lord and Savior and was baptized by immersion. After that, we began attending with him and now worship weekly, loving becoming a part of the community of faith at NLCC. Now our granddaughter loves the Lord and wants to be baptized also. We enjoy the uplifting music and especially enjoy the old hymns sung on occasion.

A solid church community and fellowship.  
We really just feel at home.



Our kids began attending the Wednesday Family Night program. Through this outreach our son accepted the Lord into his life and wanted to be baptized. After watching his baptism, we have become faithful attendees along with the rest of our children. Our family loves the community of Christ followers, and the strong Biblical message shared each week.

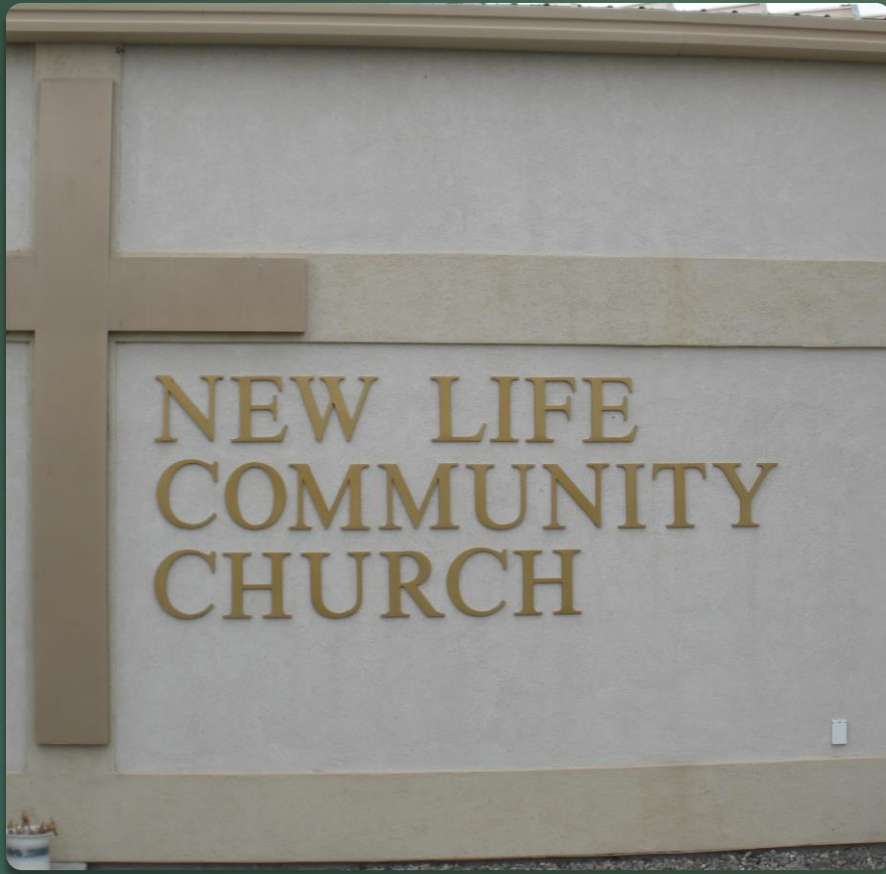
The strong Biblical messages and the people bring us to NLCC each week.

I attend NLCC because the people are so welcoming. They make us feel like an important part of our church. We also appreciate Pastor Gary and giving the message with boldness and speaking Biblical truth.

If I didn't attend NLCC, I would be lost. During COVID, I stayed home for many months and realized that I needed more than online worship. Our members are a community of faith that is needed to uplift each other.

I am very impressed with the traditional Biblical teachings, the welcoming attitude of the entire congregation and the financial openness of the church. I enjoy going to a church that has attendees of all different ages. Seems like a reflection of our community.





## **New Life Community Church**

**800 West Main**

**Wendell, ID 83355**

**Website: <https://www.nlccwendell.org/>**

## **Application Process**

If you believe you can contribute to the next chapter in NLCC's story and would like to enter the search process, we would love to hear from you. A candidate will be considered when we have received all of the following:

- Letter of Introduction
- Resume
- 3 – 5 References
- Links to view 2 – 3 sermons
- Respond to the following question;
  - Reflect on how God is leading your ministry, your strengths in ministry, and your vision for ministry.

Submit materials to [pastorsearchnlcc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorsearchnlcc@gmail.com)

We look forward to getting to know you.