



NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

SIGNS OF NEW LIFE

January 2026



After the Magi had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to *Joseph* in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”

So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR :

Ungreening: Sat. 10th 9:30 am, Please help.

Sunday School: Sundays 10:30 am, Book *Immortal Diamond* by R.Rohr.

Annual Congregational Meeting: Jan. 25th, Held after the 9:30am Service.

Senior Luncheon: Wed. Jan.7th, 12 pm. Potluck and **BINGO**. Join us for the Food and Fun!

Game Night Here!: Sat, Jan. 10th, Time: 6 - 8 pm
Location: Fellowship Hall: Come for pizza, and fellowship!

WELCA Lunch: Wed. Jan 14th. 11:30 am Women's Luncheon at Central Texas BBQ. Join us!

Quilters: Tuesdays 9:30 am, Quilts for Lutheran World Relief, USA and Overseas.

New Life Church 9:30AM worship livestream can be found at the [New Life in Pearland Facebook page](#), and bulletins are available on the website: [Worship Bulletins](#).

January 2026

In this Issue

Church Functions	p. 2
Nativity Service	p. 3-4
Environews	p. 5-6
Volunteer Thanks	p. 6
Activities	p. 7
Child Christmas Party	P. 8
WELCA, Volunteer Partys	P. 9
Seafarers Project	P. 10
Quilters	p. 11
Ministry	p. 12
Caring	p. 13
Calendar	p. 14

CHURCH FUNCTIONS



Thank You

Pastor Grant Housewright for
being with us to honor our
Advent and Christmas services.

We love you and Nancy for being part of
our church family.



PASTOR CALL COMMITTEE

New Life *Pastor Call Committee* - Left to Right, Laura Strickland -
Council President, and Call Committee Members :
Merideth Oliver, Rebel Heasley, Edward Tatuaca, Susie Wellman,
and Helen Beckman

FROM THE STEWARDSHIP TEAM: EVERYONE HAS A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION TO MAKE TO GOD'S MISSION

Think about the abilities you have been given. Then use your abilities
to serve GOD by serving others.

- **Share your Interests with Others**
- **Share your Skills** God gave each of us the TIME and TALENT to benefit others as well as ourselves. The STEWARD-SHIP TEAM gives thanks for all of you using your time and talent to serve GOD.



EVENTS HALL FOR RENT

The *Juul Fellowship Hall* is available for Receptions and Other Events: The
deposit for active members is \$100. The deposit for non-active or non-members
is \$300 which includes a refundable \$100 holding fee after inspection of facilities.

Contact the office to reserve.

Giving Report to New Life:

December General Funds Givng:	\$17,451.00
Needed for Month	\$18,792.00
Yearly General Funds Giving Thru December:	\$218,834.00
Needed for the Year Thru December Budget):	\$225,504.00

New Life Church worship livestream can be
found at the [New Life in Pearland
Facebook page](#), and bulletins are available
on the website:

[https://newlifelutheran.com/worship/
bulletins/](https://newlifelutheran.com/worship/bulletins/)

Congregational Nativity Pageant of Christ's Birth

In 1223 *St. Francis of Assisi* assembled the first **Nativity** scene in a cave in *Greccio Italy*. Inspired by his pilgrimage to Bethlehem he created the *manger scene* using live animals and united locals to gather by candlelight for a Mass that celebrated the humble birth of Jesus.



Continued....Pageant of Christ's Birth





January 2025 ENVIRONEWS by Helen Beckman

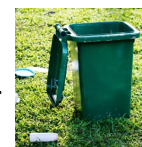
Stella Roberts Recycling Center (SRRC) will be closed **December 30 to January 2.**

SRRC is accepting Christmas trees for dune building through January 17. You may leave them in one of the dumpsters outside the gate at any time. Please remove all ornaments and tinsel before depositing it. **Dune building with the trees will take place in Surfside, Saturday, January 24, from 9 A.M. to noon at Stahlman Park, 2211 Bluewater Highway.**



Saturday, January 17 is paper shredding day from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. at Independence Park.

Saturday, February 7 is our next winter litter cleanup. Meet at the church at 8:30 A.M.



Keep Pearland Beautiful's (KPB) 3rd Annual Gala and "Trashion Show" will take place **April 23, 2026** at the **Pearland Knights of Columbus Hall.** For more information go to PEARLANDGALA.COM.



This year I have had more encounters with **chiggers, aka red bugs**, then any time since moving to Texas. I didn't think my yard was that weedy, but I learned that chiggers like warmth and moisture and can be found in the lawn as well as any plant growth in the yard. Sitting on the ground to weed, as I do, is not a good idea.

Chiggers, as one might expect, do not bite to drink your blood. They drink your skin cells. They get on your skin and deposit an enzyme that liquifies your skin and then suck it up.

The **itch occurs** as a response to the body's reaction to the enzyme. Don't scratch! Yeah, right. That makes it red and may cause infection. The cause of this itchy misery is a mite larva, freshly hatched, that you probably can't see. It will go through 3 nymph growth stages before becoming an adult that is about the size of a grain of salt.

Treatment is similar to that for poison ivy: anti-itch cream, oatmeal bath, cold showers, or cold compresses.

Prevention is best if you can manage it. Before going out to work in the yard, cover up your skin. Wear a long sleeve shirt and tuck the pant legs into your socks. Spray with insect repellent that contains Deet. When you come in, launder all your clothes in warm or hot water and shower from head to toe with hot water, scrubbing your skin with the wash cloth.

They say ranchers used to **put sulfur powder** in a sock before they went out on the range and then knock it against their shoes and pant legs to keep the chiggers from the grass off their legs. Antihistamines can also prevent the allergic reaction of extreme itching if it doesn't interfere with other medications you are taking.

January 2025 ENVIRONEWS (con't)



There are some **insecticides and diatomaceous earth** that are effective against chiggers, but they also kill beneficial bugs and insects.

Some **plants are excellent repellents**. I'll be looking to include some of these into my landscape: *catnip, mint, lavender, sagebrush, chamomile, geranium, lemongrass, tea tree plant or paper bark tree*.

All of nature has its place in the balance of its environment along with its predators and benefactors. Many animals and plants may be irritating or harmful to me, but I prefer **deterrence, avoidance, and repellency** to elimination.

We humans often introduce a new species into an environment where it becomes *invasive and detrimental* to existing species. In that case I believe elimination in the new area is warranted. Sometimes a new species naturalizes and adapts with existing natural controls and becomes part of the natural balance of nature.

As stewards of God's creation, we should endeavor to use what is provided for us without being destructive of the overall system of balance. We find God's love throughout His creation.

Helen Beckman



***Rejoice and be glad in it
but don't scratch!***



THANK YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS:

Vince Gottleib – For updates related to fire code compliance.

Tony and Elizabeth White - for transporting all of the Lutheran World Relief materials.

Diane Tanksley - for removing vegetation from around the sign and changing the sign's letters.

Jenaro Castillo - for attending council to acclimate to procedures before his duty starts.

Karen Dahse - for her work organizing the library.

Meredith Oliver – for leading the Adult Sunday School for the fall book.

Church Volunteers - to the volunteers who bring food on Sunday morning.

Laura and Michael Napoleon - for organizing the game night and the volunteers who lead the games. A fun night was had by all.

Michael Napoleon and Ryan Strickland - A/V and Worship Streaming Updates.

Karen and Krista Sweet - for transporting and delivering the Seafarer's gift boxes.

Cheryl Robinson - for arranging and decorating the Fellowship hall for events.

ACTIVITIES



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Charlotte Thurman donated two Collectors Dolls for the **Christmas Raffle - Girl and Boy**. Thank you to everyone who donated to the raffle to help us get a new sound system. Number was won by Holly Tatuaca.



🎮 Game Night at New Life Lutheran! 🎮

📅 **Date:** Saturday, January 10th

🕒 **Time:** 6:00 – 8:00 PM

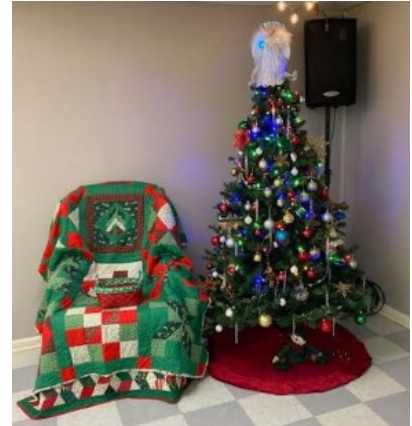
📍 **Location:** New Life Lutheran Church

Come for **pizza, fun, and fellowship!** All are welcome—bring a friend and join the fun.



CAROLING DEC. 19th
TONS OF FUN AND
COMMUNITY OUTREACH!

KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY 2025



Thank you very much for all the ladies who helped with organizing, setting up, picking up our pizzas, helping with crafts, working the kitchen, and cleaning up.



A big thank you to the youth for all your help and with BINGO to make this so much fun. This would not have been possible without our Special Guest, **Santa Claus.**



Last a Big Thank You to **Bob Leach** for his continued support for seed money for making this event so successful and so much fun.

Linda Stavinhoa



WOMEN OF THE ELCA CHRISTMAS PARTY



VOLUNTEER CHRISTMAS PARTY



Seafarers Project 12-3-25



QUILTERS



We made and contributed the above quilts to Lutheran World Relief in 2025 who handled:

- **803,181 quilts and kits** delivered to 15 countries
- **Neighbors in the U.S. reached** coast-to-coast: Hurricanes Helene and Milton, California wildfires, severe weather across the South and Midwest, and flooding in Central Texas
- Over **\$1 million in cash grants** distributed to local partners, restoring dignity and strengthening community partnerships to help them build back stronger.



OUR MEMBERS: MINISTRY

Membership Contact Information



We want to thank **Charlotte Thurman** for spending many hours every week making sure that our written and digital records keep up with the many church functions and dates of **Marriages, Births, Baptisms, First Communion, Funerals,** and **Address changes.**



Pearland Meals on Wheels:

Another year has come and gone. A huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who helped make this a wonderful year! We are starting early this year with our first delivery right around the corner (**Jan 5-9**).

Future dates to keep in mind are: **Mar 2-6; Apr 27-May 1; June 22-26; Aug 17-21; Oct 12-16; Dec 7-11.** If you find you have a “burning” desire to help with any of these dates, you can let me know at any time. Also, if you know someone who might benefit from this program, you can call Pearland Meals on Wheels @ 281-485-5081 for information.

Barbara Flowers
713-817-1012
barbaraflowers_55@yahoo.com

Prayer Shawl Ministry 2026



We make **Prayer Shawls, Baby Afghans, and Baptismal Cloths** for services in our church. We are always **looking for additional people** to help us keep this ministry going.

Thank you to those who have or will help us by crocheting, knitting, donating or giving us supplies, so we can continue to do this work. Please contact **Julie Watkins** for more information at **832-289-4298** or **auntjuliesings@yahoo.com.**

Community

Senior Luncheon

Seniors 55+ - Please join us for a Potluck lunch and great fellowship! Starts at 12:00 noon in the *Fellowship Hall* on the first Wednesday of every month. Bring your favorite food item to share. This month we will be playing **BINGO** !!



BIBLE STUDY:

Mary Martha
Bible Study Group

Wednesday Jan. 21st - 9:30am.

Everyone is Welcome to come to join us

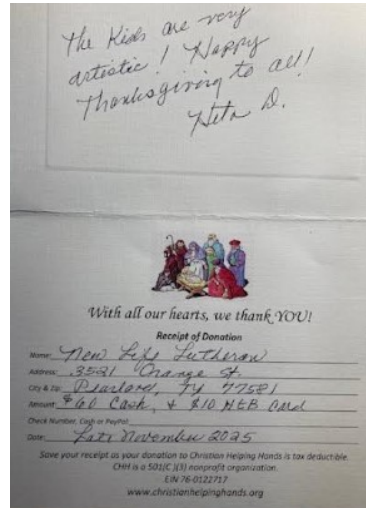


CHRISTIAN HELPING HANDS

Please **donate food** for the families food pantry. We volunteer at *Christian Helping Hands* weekly by bagging food into carts for families in need. Donate by bringing us cans, boxes of food, egg cartons and used grocery bags. Check your pantry to see if you have items you do not need. Our donation Basket is OUTSIDE BY THE FELLOWSHIP HALL.

In 2025 New life Lutheran church gave over 1300 pounds of food to Christian Helping Hands. The volunteers at the food pantry really appreciated seeing the food.

CHRISTIAN HELPING HANDS THANK YOU CARD



CHHS is so thankful for small and large favors to help feed families. The Thank you card shows the appreciation for all donations that they receive.

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH: January 2026 NEWSLETTER

January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 NEW YEARS DAY	2 6pm (WOW)- Women of Worth - Potluck & Games Fellowship Hall	3 10:30am - Phoenix Group (Women's AA) 4pm- Word Fellowship
4 9:30-Trad Worship 10:30am - <i>Immortal Diamond</i> by R.Rohr. 12 Word Fellowship	5 Meals on Wheels 8pm - AA Meeting (Co-Ed) - Fellowship Hall 8pm - Al-Anon Meeting	6 Meals on Wheels 9:30 am - Quilters Workshop 7pm - Word Fellowship	7 Meals on Wheels SENIOR LUNCH 12:00pm Sr. Lunch - BINGO !	8 Meals on Wheels 10am-1pm Retired Teachers - Fellowship Hall	9 Meals on Wheels 6pm (WOW)- Women of Worth - Potluck & Games Fellowship Hall	10 GAME NIGHT 10:30am—AA Women 9:30am - Ungreening 6-8pm GAME NIGHT HERE FOR EVERYONE
11 9:30-Cont Worship 10:30am - <i>Immortal Diamond</i> by R.Rohr. 12 Word Fellowship	12 COUNCIL MEETING 6:00pm- Coun. Mtg. 6:30 pm- Girl Scouts 8pm - AA Meeting (Co-Ed) - Fellowship Hall 8pm- Al-Anon Mtg.Kitch	13 9:30 am - Quilters Workshop 7pm - Word Fellowship	14 WELCA LUNCH 11:30 WELCA Lunch - Central Texas BBQ 4110 Broadway St, Pearland, TX 77581	15	16 6pm (WOW)- Women of Worth - Potluck & Games Fellowship Hall	17 10:30am - Phoenix Group (Women's AA) 4pm- Word Fellowship
18 9:30-Trad Worship 10:30am - <i>Immortal Diamond</i> by R.Rohr. 12 Word Fellowship	19 6:30 - Girl Scouts 8pm - AA Meeting (Co-Ed) - Fellowship Hall 8pm - Al-Anon Meeting - Sanctuary Kitchen	20 9:30am - Quilters Workshop 7pm - Word Fellowship	21 9:30am Mary Martha Bible Study	22	23 6pm (WOW)- Women of Worth - Potluck & Games Fellowship Hall	24 10:30am - Phoenix Group (Women's AA) 4pm- Word Fellowship
25 Congreg Meeting 9:30- Cont Worship After service - Congreg. Meeting 12 Word Fellowship	26 6:30 - Girl Scouts 8pm - AA Meeting (Co-Ed) - Fellowship Hall 8pm - Al-Anon Meeting - Sanctuary Kitchen	27 9:30 am - Quilters Workshop 7pm - Word Fellowship	28	29	30 6pm (WOW)- Women of Worth - Potluck & Games Fellowship Hall	31 10:30am - Phoenix Group (Women's AA) 4pm- Word Fellowship