



NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

SIGNS OF NEW LIFE

May 2026



Gospel

John 19:25–27 — Jesus Provides for His Mother: While on the cross, Jesus sees his mother and the beloved disciples, instructing them to care for each other, establishing the importance of honoring mothers.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR :

Senior Lunch: Wed. May 6th, 12:00pm, Potluck, please join us and bring a friend.

Happy Mother's Day: Sun. May 10th, Youth are selling Mother's Day Flowers.

Welca Lunch: Wed. May 13th, 11:30am. Please join us at Burger Tex!

Youth Carwash: Sun. May 17th, Fundraiser for the youth Mission Trip.

Mary Martha Bible Study: Wed. May 20th, 9:15am. Join us for lively bible study.

Women's Luncheon: Sun May 31st, 11:00am, Luau Theme, Potluck, Wear tropical casual attire if you wish. There will be fun activities after lunch.

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](#).

May 2026

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CHURCH FUNCTIONS

2026 New Life Council



Left to Right: Lorraine Walls, Elna Ritter, Brenda Pritchett, Jenaro Castillo, Nancy Bryars, Laura Strickland, Ryan Strickland, and Cheryl Robinson.

President: Laura Strickland

Vice President: Nancy Bryars

Treasurer: Brenda Pritchett

Secretary: Elna Ritter

Council At Large: Jenaro Castillo, Cheryl Robinson, Lorraine Walls and **Student Representative:** Ryan Strickland

As a council, we welcome any and all feedback. Please feel free to reach out to the us with ideas, suggestions, or concerns to president@newlifelutheran.com.



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



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:

April Funds Giving:	\$23,335.00
Needed for Month	\$18,628.00
Yearly General Funds Giving Thru April :	\$76,150.00
Needed for the Year Thru April Budget:	\$74,512.00
Thank you for your generosity, Stewardship Team, Church Council	

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/>

VOLUNTEERS



Godly Play Youth Refresh

It is with great joy that Godly Play is officially moving into an area near the sanctuary. We will start in the sanctuary and after the morning prayer, we will move into the Godly Play classroom. The kids will return when the congregation participates in the Sharing of the Peace.

It is exciting to be back with the kids. It's a multigenerational opportunity to share the knowledge of the gospel with our

children in a new and exciting way, in the retelling of the old old stories that we old old people learned so many years ago.

Special thanks this month to both Karen Dahse for putting together the beautiful bag that holds the Lenten lesson and Cheryl Robinson for her help in moving the first two shelves from the old classroom into the new. Godly Play cannot exist in our congregation or any other congregation without the love, prayers and support of the congregation itself!



THANK YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS:

To all who helped with Kids Easter Party, *Linda Stavinoha* and team, plus *Brenda, Elna* and the Boy Scouts.

To all donators of candy and plastic eggs for Easter party.

To *Nancy* for ordering the palms and Easter lilies.

To All purchasers of Easter lilies.

To Men who cooked for the fish fry and *Lynn Barron* for making the cole slaw.

To All who contributed deserts for the Fish Fry.

To *Aimee and Helen* for facilitating the Seder Meal and to all who attended.

To *Vince* for painting the Godly Play room and nursery and to *Robin* for reorganizing both.

To *Vince* for cleaning and resealing the gutters on all of the buildings.

To *Vince* for unclogging the ladies bathroom sink in the Fellowship hall.

To *Vince and Diane* for putting out ant killer around the church.

To *Vince* for cleaning out the AC clog in the Admin building.

To *Karen and Diane* for weeding and replanting flower beds around the sign and Fellowship hall.

To *Bubba* for playing and singing during the Lenten services.

To *Evelyn* for all her work and enthusiasm in resetting up the new Godly Play room.

May, 2026 Environews by *Helen Beckman*

Saturday, May 9 from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. is the monthly Paper Shredding Event at Stella Roberts Recycling Center (SRRC). KPB members get shredding for up to 4 boxes free and non-members are charged \$5 for up to 20 pounds.

Sunday, May 10 from 4 to 6:30 P.M. is Mother's Day Walk and Wellness Celebration at Shadow Creek Ranch Nature Trail, 1810 Kingsley Drive, Pearland. Parking is available across the street at the Sports Complex. Come by after dinner and enjoy a leisurely family outing in nature.

Thursday, May 14 is the monthly Garden Lecture on KPB Facebook live with Brazoria County Master Gardeners. **The topic is Propagation,** led by *Jo Anne Knodel*, beginning at 7 P.M. Recordings of past lectures can be found on U Tube.

Thanks to Boy Scouts *Isaac Weinstein, Zachariah Poulouse* and their Asst. Scout Leader, *Jenaro Castillo* for helping *Cheryl Robinson, Walt Wright, and Terri Kiser* pick up litter on our Adopt-a-Spot, E. Orange Street. With the youthful assistance, it took just 1 ½ hours to collect a full bag of trash, 1/3 bag of recycling and 301 cigarette butts. Our next cleanup will be in September. The exact date will be chosen in June.

The fruit and drain flies came early this year. There are 3 types of flies that one may see at this time of year: fruit flies, drain flies, and fungus flies. Most often in the kitchen are fruit and drain flies. My apology for not responding quickly enough to the infestation we experienced last month. Thanks to *Brenda Pritchett* for emptying the compost and trash and washing all the waste and recycling receptacles. She also bought an environmentally safe spray, STEM, which she left in the kitchen and seems to be quite effective.

Fruit flies are attracted to apple cider vinegar, stale beer, wine, and of course rotting fruit. Any of these can be used to make a trap. Pour a little apple cider vinegar in a small glass, add a few drops of dish washing detergent to break the surface tension and sink the flies, and add a trap door, either a piece of plastic wrap stretched across the top and secured with a rubber band or a cone rolled from a sheet of paper. Poke holes in the plastic wrap.

Drain flies breed in the residue of the pipes from the drain. Be sure to keep your drain clean. Run your disposal regularly and be sure to turn on the cold water before turning on the disposal and continuing briefly after turning it off.

Wash any produce that you leave on the counter, such as bananas on a rack or apples and oranges in a bowl. I promise to be more diligent about removing the compost bucket. I always wash it with hot soapy water before returning it to the church and I sincerely hope we will avoid any further infestations.

Helen Beckman

NEW LIFE SIGN DEDICATION



A Reflection of Faith in Action

We are pleased to share that New Life Lutheran Church recently celebrated the dedication of our new church sign—an exciting and meaningful milestone for our congregation.

This project has been several years in the making and stands as a testament to the faithfulness and generosity of our church family. Through your continued support and contributions, we have been able to bring this vision to life, creating a welcoming presence that reflects our mission and identity in the community.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all who contributed to this effort. We would like to offer special recognition to the Gottleib family (in memoriam of Mr. Kiser, Robin's father), Tamsey Mims, and the Napoleon/Strickland family for their significant support in making this project possible.

This new sign is not only a physical addition to our campus but also a symbol of God's work among us. It represents our hope and prayer that more people will be drawn to our church and experience the love and grace of Christ.

Thank you for your continued faithfulness and commitment to New Life Lutheran Church.

Laura Strickland

Council President | New Life Lutheran Church, Pearland, TX , Cell: (832) 922-8675, Email: president@newlifelutheran.com, Website: <https://www.newlifelutheran.com>



SEDER MEAL



This week at New Life Lutheran Church, we gathered for a special Seder Meal, beautifully hosted by our own Aimee Castillo. What has traditionally been a learning experience for our confirmands was opened to the entire congregation this year—creating a powerful opportunity for all ages to deepen their understanding of Holy Week.

The Seder meal is a sacred Jewish tradition that remembers God's deliverance of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. Through symbolic foods, prayers, and storytelling, participants reflect on themes of freedom, remembrance, and God's faithfulness.

As ELCA Lutherans, we observe the Seder not as a replacement for its Jewish meaning, but as a way to better understand the roots of our Christian faith. The Last Supper that Jesus shared with his disciples was a Passover meal, and experiencing elements of the Seder helps bring deeper meaning to that moment and to the gift of Holy Communion.



It was a night filled with learning, reflection, and connection—reminding us of God's saving work throughout history and in our lives today.

Thank you to Aimee for leading us so thoughtfully, and to everyone who joined us for this special evening!



MAUNDY THURSDAY



Pastor Kim washing Helen Beckman's

What happened on Maundy Thursday?

On **Maundy Thursday of Passion Week**, *Jesus* calls *Peter and John* to make preparations for the Passover meal. During the meal, *Jesus* breaks the bread and pours out the cup to represent His broken body and His shed blood.

The word "**Maundy**" comes from the Latin word, *mandatum*, which means "commandment". It is referring to both *Jesus'* command to "love one another as I have loved you" and also with regards to the communion: "*This is My body, which is for you, do this in remembrance of me*".

Lutheran's observe **Maundy Thursday** with a special worship service that includes observing the Lord's supper and washing each other's feet.

During the meal, the disciples had arguments about who was the greatest. To resolve this argument, **Jesus does something unexpected: He kneels down and takes on the role of a servant and washes the disciple's feet.**

This was to be an example for the disciples to have a heart of submission and service, rather than focus on being greater than others.

(John 13:1-17, Luke 22: 24 - 30)

(At the end of the service the Altar is stripped and draped in black in transitioning for the Good Friday Service.)

FISH FRY



Our *Good Friday Fish Fry* was a wonderful success and a meaningful start to our Holy Weekend. This special event supported our youth mission trip this summer, and we are deeply grateful to everyone who contributed their time, resources, and energy to make the evening possible.



A heartfelt thank you goes out to our dedicated volunteers—especially our hardworking cooks—who helped create a warm and welcoming environment for all. It was a joy to gather together for an evening of delicious food and fellowship.

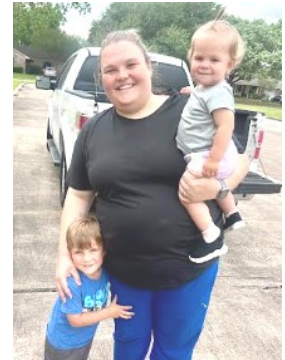
Following the meal, we transitioned into a powerful and reflective *Good Friday* service, reminding us of the significance of the day.

Laura Strickland

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FISH FRY (con't)



New Life Easter Party



As we prepared our hearts for *Easter*, *New Life's Easter Party* was a joyful celebration filled with laughter, connection, and community. The afternoon included crafts, an Easter egg hunt, games, bingo, and a special visit from the Easter Bunny—all bringing smiles to so many children and families. What made this event especially meaningful was the

opportunity to welcome families from the broader community. While many attendees were new to New Life, it was a wonderful outreach moment—sharing hospitality, joy, and the love of Christ beyond our walls.

Even in the midst of the fun, we remembered the true meaning of the season—the hope, love, and promise we have in Jesus Christ as we looked to Easter morning.

This event was truly a team effort, and we are deeply grateful to everyone who helped make it such a success.

A special thank you to *Linda Stavinoha* for her leadership, time and dedication, and to *Bob Leach* for his generous financial support.

We also extend our sincere appreciation to the many volunteers who gave their time and energy: *Brenda, Pritchett, Elna Ritter, Julie Watkins, Aimee Castillo, Jenaro Castillo, Max Castillo, Cheryl Robinson, Diane Tanksley, Austin Tatuaca, Ryan Strickland, Laura Strickland, Linda Hudgens, Pastor Kim, Reggie Minja, Zachary Minja, and the Scouts* from Troop 464.

It was a joy to see so much excitement and so many smiling faces. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped create such a meaningful and welcoming celebration.

We look forward to continuing to share God's love with our community.

Laura Strickland

Council President , Cell: (832) 922-8675, president@newlifelutheran.com.
Pearland, TX



Easter Party Appreciation

Thank you to everyone who made the *Kids Easter Party* such a fun and successful event.

To those who purchased candy and plastic eggs, stuffed eggs, donated toys and craft items, decorated the fellowship hall, helped with the preparation and helped the day of the event.
Thank You very much.

I would like to personally thank *Brenda, Tamsey, Julie, Elna, Charlotte, Cheryl, Robin, Becky, Carol Ann Zann, Helen, Mary Ann, Linda Hudgens, Nancy, Donna, Aimee, Laura, Elaine, Elizabeth White, Tiffany, Travis, Carlos and Foster* for his hand made cars and trucks which I still had.



Pastor Kim we thoroughly appreciate you leading us in prayer and visiting with all our guests.

Cathy Scott thank you for picking up the pizzas.

It was so nice having the youth help the *Easter Bunny* hide eggs, help with the crafts, serve pizzas, clean up and call *Bingo* and all the extras we asked you to do.



A special thank you to our church youths *Austin, Max, Ryan, Reggie and Zachary. Jenero*, thanks for arranging *Boy Scout Troop 464*, *Max Castillo, Luke Starrett, Luke Laird, Issac Weinstein and Benjamin Radwanski*, to also help. They were a lifesaver.

All of this would not be possible without *Bob Leach* for seed money for our kids parties.

We are so blessed by all of you that we are able to have such wonderful events for the kids.

This event brought in 102 pounds of food which *Robin and Vince* delivered to *Christian Helping Hands*.

Linda Stavinhoa (New Life [Thanks Linda](#) for her hard work!)



God's Work Our Hands

We came together for a meaningful day of service during *God's Work Our Hands Sunday*. Members of all ages participated in a variety of *outreach and service projects* that reflected our shared commitment to living out our faith. A group visited Brookdale Nursing Home, offering music and companionship to residents.

Our youth contributed to environmental stewardship efforts by crushing aluminum cans as part of our recycling initiative. Other participants assembled 81 Health Care Kits and learned to tie quilts, supporting the mission of Lutheran World Relief. Additionally, a group worked on campus to plant palm trees, helping to beautify and enhance our church grounds.

Each project, whether large or small, made a tangible difference and demonstrated the power of working together as the body of Christ. We are grateful for everyone who participated and helped make the day a success. This day served as a meaningful reminder of our calling—to serve, to love, and to be the hands and feet of Christ in our community and beyond!

Laura Strickland Council President | New Life Lutheran Church, Pearland, TX Cell: (832) 922-8675
Email: president@newlifelutheran.com, Website: www.newlifelutheran.com



Ten members sang at Brookdale nursing home



Three youths crushed aluminum cans as part of our recycling



Nine members assembled **Health Care Kits** and four members learned to **tie quilts** for Lutheran World Relief.



Six members **planted palm trees**, helping to beautify and enhance our church grounds.



TRASH PICKUP

Adopt a Spot



♦ We thank our **Volunteers** for helping us to keep *Orange Street* in front of our church clean of litter and cigarette butts.

♦ We want to thank **Helen Beckman** (middle) for being very dedicated by organizing and sponsoring this project for years.



♦ We want to thank the **Boy Scouts** for participating and providing support to make this a special day.



QUILTERS



We make quilts for *Lutheran World Relief*. They gave quilts to 15 countries and victims of USA Hurricanes, California wildfires, severe weather and flooding

Please **come and join us** on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am to help us make quilts. It can be fun and simple as cutting, tying knots, eating snacks and having fun! (Snacks are provided)



INSIDE OUR QUILT ROOM



OUR MEMBERS: MINISTRY

Prayer Shawl Ministry 2026

We make Shawls, Baby Afghans, and Baptismal Cloths for comfort and worship. We are **looking for generous people** to help us keep this ministry going. Thank you to all who have helped us by crocheting, knitting, donating or giving us supplies, so we can continue to do this caring ministry. Please contact **Julie Watkins** for more information at **832-289-4298** or **auntjuliesings@yahoo.com**.



GAME NIGHT

Watch for our Game Night to be announced.

Adults and Children are welcome to join us for a fun evening!

We enjoy multiple games, free pizza and fun!



Pearland Meals on Wheels:

THANK YOU to everyone who **volunteered to deliver food to those who need us**. Future dates to keep in mind are: **June 22-26; Aug 17-21; Oct 12-16; Dec 7-11**. If you find you would like to help on any of these dates, call anytime. 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



BIBLE STUDY:

Mary Martha Bible Study Group

Wednesday May 20th at 9:30am.

All Women are welcome!

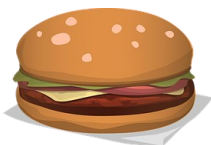
Please join us!

Snacks provided.



Senior Luncheon

Seniors 55+ - The first Wednesday of every month. Please join us this Month:



**Burger Tex
3006 Broadway St.
Pearland Tx, 77581**

CHRISTIAN HELPING HANDS

Please donate food for the Pearland Food Pantry. Our members 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**. Thank you so much for your donations !!!

In 2025 *New life Lutheran Church* gave over 3,588lbs of food of a value of \$6,422.00 to Christian Helping Hands!



NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH: May 2026 NEWSLETTER

May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 6pm (WOW) - Women of Worth - Potluck & LCR, Fellowship Hall	2 10:30am - Phoenix Group (Women's AA) 4pm - Word Fellowship
3 9:30-Trad. Worship 10:30-Film-Martin Luther 12 Word Fellowship	4 6:30pm-Girl Scouts 8pm - AA Meeting - Fellowship Hall 8pm - Al-Anon	5 9:30 am - Quilters Workshop 7pm - Word Fellowship	6 SENIOR LUNCH 12:00 pm - Lunch Spring Theme	7 PROPERTY MEETING 6:00pm Property Meeting	8 6pm (WOW) - Women of Worth - Potluck & LCR, Fellowship Hall	9 10:30am - Phoenix Group (Women's AA) 4pm - Word Fellowship
10 Mothers Day! 9:30-Cont. Worship 10:30-Film-Martin Luther 10:30 Mothers Day Flower Sale	11 COUNCIL Mtg. 6:00-pm Council Mtg. 6:30pm-Girl Scouts 8pm - AA Meeting - Fellowship Hall	12 9:30 am - Quilters Workshop 7pm - Word Fellowship	13 WELCA LUNCH 10:00am Worship Committee Mtg. 11:30am Welca Lunch – Burger Tex	14	15 Synod Assemb. 6pm (WOW) - Women of Worth - Potluck & LCR, Fellowship Hall	16 Synod Assemb 10:30am - Phoenix Group (Women's AA) 4pm - Word Fellowship
17 CAR WASH 9:30-Trad. Worship 10:30- CAR WASH - Youth Fundraiser 12 Word Fellowship	18 6:30pm-Girl Scouts 8pm - AA Meeting - Fellowship Hall 8pm - Al-Anon	19 9:30am - Quilters 7pm - Word Fellowship	20 BIBLE STUDY 9:15am Mary Martha Bible Study	21	22 6pm (WOW) - Women of Worth - Potluck & LCR, Fellowship Hall	23 10:30am - Phoenix Group (Women's AA) 4pm - Word Fellowship
24 9:30-Cont. Worship 12 Word Fellowship	25 Memorial Day 8pm - AA Meeting - Fellowship Hall 8pm - Al-Anon	26 9:30am - Quilters 7pm - Word Fellowship	27	28	29 6pm (WOW) - Women of Worth - Potluck & LCR, Fellowship Hall	30 10:30am - Phoenix Group (Women's AA) 4pm - Word Fellowship
31 WELCA LUNCH 9:30-Trad. Worship 11:00-Welca Mtg and Lunch 12 Word Fellowship						