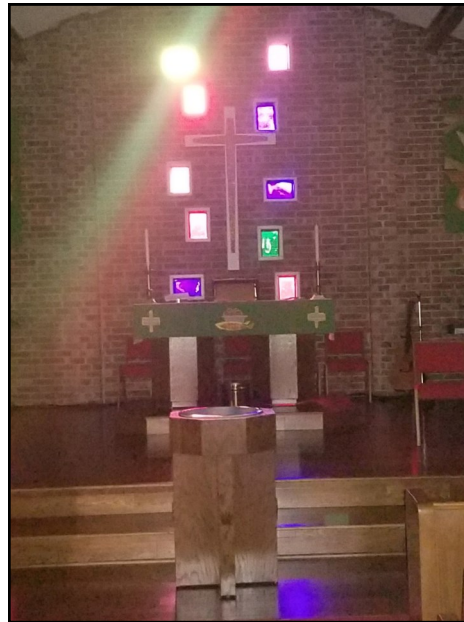




# All are Welcome

## NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

PEARLAND, TEXAS



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[newlifelutheran.com](http://newlifelutheran.com)

*God's Work. Our Hands.*

*2021 Annual Report to the Congregation*

February 20, 2022

**AGENDA      ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - February 20, 2022**

**NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH Pearland, Texas  
of THE TX-LA GULF COAST SYNOD and the ELCA**

**CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

**Mike Kiser, 2022 President**

Determination of Quorum (10%)

Blessing & Prayer

Pastor Tim Marquez

President's Address

Mike Kiser

Review & Approval of 2021 Congregational Meeting Minutes

3

Discussion and Acceptance of 2021 Ministry Reports

**ANNUAL REPORTS:**

Council President's Report for 2021

4

Pastors Report

5-7

Altar Guild

8

Bereavement Team

8

Earth Stewardship - Environews & Turtle Patrol

9

GLOW (God's Love, Our Work) Report & Prayer Chain Report

10

Prayer Chain

10

Meals on Wheels

11

Prayer Shawl Report

11

Property Team Report

12

Seniors Report (*Lutheran World Relief Efforts & Seafarer Center Shoeboxes*)

13

Women of the ELCA - Financial Info Available by Request

14

(*Lutheran World Relief Efforts*)

Youth Sunday School - 2022 Superintendent Needed

15

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**OLD BUSINESS:**

IRS Update

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Call Process Update

2021 Giving (details in Budget packet)

Adopt 2022 Narrative Budget (details in Budget Packet)

OPEN

Adjourn with The Lord's Prayer

New Life Lutheran Church  
2020 Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes  
February 9, 2021

**Meeting Start: 11:42am**

**Vice President, Mike Kiser confirmed a quorum was met**

Pastor Bill led congregation in prayer.

Mina Stagner, President, addressed the congregation.

Thanked the following members:

Thanked Rudy Moreno for his 4 years of Council Presidency.

Thanked each of the current council for their faithful service

Thanked all the committee members and leaders of these groups

Thanked all the volunteers in the office

Thanked the Pastor and Paid staff for their hard work and dedication

Motion to **accept the minutes** from last year's congregational meeting was made and seconded; all members were in favor

Motion to **accept the annual reports** was made and seconded; all members were in favor.

**Old Business**

IRS debt and possible penalty still not resolved. Advised funds raised were sitting in separate account from the general fund. CPA from Synod working directly with the IRS representative.

**New Business**

Call committee is being formed and will be working up a Mission Site Profile for the Synod to match Pastor Candidates.

Motion was made and seconded; all members were in favor to accept the Narrative Budget.

New Life was granted 13 Thrivent cards in 2020 totaling \$3,250. These cards seeded fundraisers and community activities (Concerts for CHH, Childrens parties, activities for Christmas and Easter, etc.)

**Motion to adjourn and seconded.**

**Adjourn at 12:10pm**

# President's 2021 Report to Annual Congregations Meeting 2022



## President's Report

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

After two long years of a pandemic, we are finally beginning to see a few things starting to normalize. More of us are attending church in person, which is so much more fulfilling than watching services on a screen. However, I am forever grateful for the technology that has allowed us to have that option and for the members who know how to put it all together! For those of you who remain at home for various reasons, we pray we will see your faces soon.

In the spring, we lifted the mask mandate and the strict attendance requirements. We held Clean Up Days completing work on the grounds, the buildings, and the storage sheds. Altar Guild, Meals on Wheels, and Christian Helping Hands volunteers continued their work. Sunday School started up again and was kicked off with a fun Rally Day. The Carolers were back in December cruising the neighborhood with song. In case you missed them, the Children's Christmas Party and Christmas Program were both delightful!

Numerous fund-raisers were held throughout the year to support our financial obligations and many folks helped sponsor those events with Thrivent cards. The Church Council worked diligently to manage the finances of the church, beginning with renegotiating the copier contract, looking for other ways to reduce expenses, and ending the year in the black. Best of all, we made our final payment to the IRS for the back taxes, interest, and penalties that we owed!

The church buildings survived the Winter Freeze of February 2021 with only a small amount of damage to some outdoor pipes. Thanks to those who discovered the leak and who fixed it in that extraordinarily cold weather! During the year, the Property Team was at work as usual, with general maintenance as well as roof, air conditioning repairs, etc. And we received a generous donation of a new kitchen refrigerator after the old one quit.

In the April-May timeframe, Church Council selected a Call Process Committee. They have been working hard ever since to prepare for the search for a new full-time pastor. When you see them, please let them know you appreciate their efforts! In the meantime, we were blessed to have our interim Pastor Bill Schwertlich for most of the year and blessed once again with Pastor Tim Marquez.

In May, after Sang Kim left to take on a full-time position, Johnny took on the task of creating and delivering the Children's Message each Sunday, and Tiffany began making the worship service slides. I am grateful for both as well as Karen, who are continuing to work reduced hours and with fewer wages. Our bookkeeper, Rachel, is also doing a great job. I sincerely appreciate all of their support, help, and patience this past year as I tried to figure out what I was doing.

I especially want to thank the multitude of volunteers who help with so many things around the church all the time. Thank you to all the faithful givers without whose financial support we would be unable to continue the work of New Life. And thank you to the Church Council for working through the tough times, making the hard decisions, and supporting me in so many ways this past year. Your commitment is amazing and essential!

Please pray for the 2022 Church Council President Mike Kiser and for all of those serving as council members.

*Mina Stagner*

May God Bless New Life,

2020-2021 Church Council President  
903-279-8241

## **REPORT OF THE BRIDGE PASTOR to the CONGREGATION**

*"Christ Church seeks to be a caring congregation, worshipping God and encouraging one another, as we serve outside the walls of our congregation in the name and spirit of Jesus Christ."*

The term "Bridge Pastor" at times can be misleading for during this time it is considered by some as a "place holder" for the "Fulltime" minister who is to come. Nothing could be more misleading. Time and again the leadership of the church have recognized that during the interim time or in my case "bridge ministry" even for a short time a congregation needs to make progress towards her transitional goals, which is vital to the success of the incoming minister. I thank God for permitting me to share and add more to the following "five goals of interim ministry" that we have worked on these past months together.

1. *"Claiming and honoring the congregation's past and at the same time reflecting on healing its griefs and conflicts."*
2. *"Clarifying the congregation's unique identity: its strengths, its needs and its challenges."*
3. *"Piloting the shifts in leadership that occur during the times of transition and or change."*
4. *"Renewing connections, discovering resources within and looking at the promising horizon ahead."*
5. *"Enabling the congregation to renew its vision, strengthen its stewardship, and engage its future with great anticipation and zest."*

In the interim and bridge period the congregation again reclaims its fundamental calling that the future of the church belongs to its membership. Whether it moves forward or back, whether it grows or withers, whether it thrives or try to survive for lack of assistance. No one else is more responsible for the life, witness, and ministry of New Life Lutheran Church for that accountability is placed on the shoulders of each member of the church.

I believe that after this interim time the congregation is now ready to greet your next pastor. A minister with a strength and vision, skills and energies that may be wholly distinct and spiritually motivating from what the congregation experienced in the past. That is our hope and prayer that the future may bring rather than an attempt to replace the past.

At first, I'm not sure if this congregation was prepared for a "Bridge Pastor" though reformed but with a different theological background and church orientation. Be that as it may we have spent nearly almost a quarter together, and it was such a blessing to be here with you. The congregation's welcome, hospitality and affability extended to me, and my family was such a wonderful experience.

I know that the coming days will be exciting for all of you. As your committee will discover what ministers interested in your congregation hope to find here, and somewhere in that conversation it is my hope and prayer a good match will be made. Again, the ministry and the mission of this congregation is in your hands as each of you will make a strong personal investment in the future of this congregation.

I appreciate all our church members who participate in the life of our congregation through their worship attendance (in person or online), those who I had the pleasure of meeting over the phone, offering valuable volunteer hours and financial support of our congregation. I especially want to thank the leadership of our council member group of 2021 and 2022, the women's group, quilters group, and our office staff for their support and unwavering commitment to serve even in this challenging times of the pandemic. I also want to mention members who took the time to remember me during the Christmas season for their generosity and well wishes.

Dearest friends, thank you and may God bless us all!

*Pastor Tim*

**A list of statistics and official pastoral acts at New Life in 2021 (under Rev. Bill Schwertlich), includes:**

**Births:**

12/08/21 Jackson Albert Creighton, Brad & Stephanie Creighton (Gottlieb),  
grandparents – Vince & Robin Gottlieb  
8/13/2021 Jaxon Ray Johanson , Jacob & Dara Johanson, brother James, 8lbs 1 oz, 22 in.

**Baptisms:** 0

**New Members:**

10/31/2021 Cathy Scott & Diane Tanksley

**Confirmations:** 0

**Weddings:**

2/26/2021 Stephanie Gottlieb & Bradley Creighton - not performed at New Life/  
or by Pastor Bill

**Deaths: (Bold = member of New Life)**

12/11/2021 Ginny Kaiser Thatcher – Leeta Sanger’s sister  
12/03/2021 **Larry Magers**  
11/25/2021 Theresa Ann Heisler Breuer – Barbara Scott’s mother  
11/08/2021 Diane Foster Carver – Judy Foucheaux’s sister (& former member)  
11/01/2021 Florene Teinert – Viola Patschke’s sister  
10/29/2021 Kathy Hill Coler – Linda Stavinoha’s sister  
10/14/2021 Ramiro Jose’ Marcha Jr. (Ray) – Fernando Marcha’s brother  
10/14/2021 Claudia Wallace – John Wallace’s mother  
09/??/2021 Hattie Marie Moore – Mason Moore’s grandmother  
08/20/2021 **Don Purdum**  
08/02/2021 Esperanza Segovia – Fernando Marcha’s mother  
06/30/2021 **Barbara (BJ) Brown** – former member  
06/28/2021 Joshua Xavier Sandoval (28) - Aimee Sandoval’s brother  
05/10/2021 **Terry Lynn Brown** – Floyd Brown’s wife – Tiffany and Brandi’s  
mom  
01/10/2021 **Janet Porter** – Mike Porter’s wife

**Official Transfer out:** 0





## Altar Guild's Annual Report for 2021

New Life Lutheran's Altar Guild members for 2021 were Lynn Barron, Nancy Bryars, Barbara Flowers, Donna Patschke, Cheryl Robinson and Susie Wellman. Their gifts of time, talent and dedication are greatly appreciated.

Altar Guild typically works in groups of 2 to 3 people on a month to month basis. The duties of the Altar Guild include preparing the Sacraments of Holy Communion, refilling the Altar and Pastoral candles, polishing the metal candle sticks and putting out the pitcher of water for Baptisms. We also change the paraments to match the colors of the Church year and we wash and press the communion cloths and robes. Additional duties are provided as needed during the Church seasons of Lent/Easter (such as setting up the wooden cross with the crown of thorns, organizing the palms for Palm Sunday, stripping the Altar and draping it in black cloths for Good Friday and picking up and placing the Easter lilies around the Altar), and of Advent/Christmas (such as setting up the Advent wreath, preparing the hand held candles for the Christmas Eve candlelight services and picking up and arranging the Poinsettias around the Altar).

In 2021 services continued with limited seating and Covid protocols. Communion elements are now individually packaged and handed out before each service while signing in. Yellow card usage was discontinued for everyone as bulletins went to mostly screen views.

The Altar Guild is always looking for new volunteers; men and couples are also welcomed to become part of this quiet behind the scenes service as an avenue for you to help your church and serve your Lord. Training is provided.

Respectfully submitted by, *Cheryl Robinson*

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## Bereavement Team Report for 2021

The function of our committee is to help the bereaved on the day of the funeral by planning, preparing, and serving a reception after the funeral for all attendees. All the food is donated by church members to the family for the reception and is to be taken home afterwards for their use. About 45 people contributed this year in some way by organizing, shopping, cooking or baking, setting up, serving, clean up, or financing. Due to covid concerns we had a hiatus of over a year before returning to indoor gatherings for celebrating the lives of our members' loved ones. We prepared receptions for the funerals of Terry Brown, Barbara Brown, Esperanza Segovia, Kathy Hill Coler, Diane Carver and Theresa Breuer.

If anyone wishes to be added to the Bereavement Committee contact list, please contact Tiffany Pineda in the church office.

*Helen Beckman*



## Earth Stewardship Report for 2020

**Adopt-a-Spot:** In 2021 We picked up litter on Orange Street in February, April, September and November. In February one person worked 8 hours over 4 days. In September three not very young or fit people worked 1 ½ hours on a very warm day to cover the distance from the church to N. Main St. but not the area east of the church. One young healthy person could have made the difference. Many thanks to the 8 people in April and the 6 people in November. We no longer pick up litter in midwinter or summer to avoid extreme temperatures.

**Recycling:** Thanks to everyone who has participated in the city's green waste program by putting out yard waste on recycle day and taking your Christmas trees to the Stella Roberts Recycling Center for the dunes project. Unfortunately, the latest contract with Frontier Waste does not include yard waste pickup. It goes to the land fill. Please express your displeasure over this oversight to the mayor or any councilmember you know.

We continue to separate our waste at the church. Paper collected in bins in every building goes into the paper recycling dumpster in the parking lot. This year we had outdoor containers installed to collect trash and recycling so that people who use our back field have access and resist the temptation to put trash in our paper dumpster. Left over food stuff and coffee grounds are collected for composting and cardboard, plastic, glass jars, aluminum and other metal cans are collected for recycling.

We have plenty of reusable plates, bowls, stainless ware, cups, and glasses. So, there is no need to use disposable ones. Thanks to all of you who recycle, help manage the recycling, and wash dishes.

**Environeews:** This column appears in the Lifeline monthly to keep our congregation informed about events at the Stella Roberts Recycle Center, Keep Pearland Beautiful, and general environmental information.

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**Turtle Patrol:** Karen Sweet-Cheney, Terri Kiser and MaryAnn Marcha continue to patrol the beach from the 61st St pier to the Pleasure Pier each Friday morning from April 1st to July 15th. In 2021 we were able to start patrols in April, but got rained out a few times with high tides. When patrolling we are looking for turtles and their trails/tracks to find their nests. Once a nest is found the eggs are harvested and taken to a hatching barn at Padre Island. The turtles are then released once they have hatched. We look forward to our time on the beach which is very rewarding even though "we" have not located a nest or turtle yet (This will be our 6th year doing this). In addition, Barbara Scott and many others work with SurfSide at their beach clean-ups and Dunes Days. (using discarded Christmas Trees to refurbish the dunes. Thank you to everyone who participates in clean-ups, patrols and everything done to help the environment.

## **GLOW (God's Love, Our Work) Care Team Report 2021**

Created in February 2015, GLOW has continued to care for members of New Life (and beyond).

The purpose of GLOW is to provide New Life members/associates with the following:

Meet once a month to get up-to-date on current care recipients. (Currently via email)

Send cards to those who grieve, are sick, have had surgery, need encouragement or just need to know that someone is thinking of them.

Call individuals that have not been at church recently to check on them.

Provide communion to shut-ins or anyone that requests it for home visit or bedside.

Provide prayer as needed/requested.

Provide/organize meals for families who have a need for assistance due to surgery, birth, death, etc.

Unofficial duties are:

Keeping track of prayer shawl production/distribution (database)

Keeping track of baby shawl production/distribution (database)

Making sure production of baptismal cloths are keeping up with baptisms.

Distributing Grief book series as individuals are identified.

Calling those who do not drive at night to offer rides to meetings, services, events, etc. that are held in the evening.



The list of those to care for is one that we gather from prayers on the yellow count-me-in cards, from emailed requests, word-of-mouth, visits made, and many other sources. See Prayer-Chain info below.

More than 600 "touches" (above mentioned items) were made in 2020 by GLOW members who request to remain anonymous. This includes many check-up calls during the pandemic. Plus 1,000+ continuous prayers for New Life's 250+ families.

GLOW encourages anyone that would like to participate in caring for New Life members. Let Karen know if you would like to join. As soon as we are able to meet again we will post meeting days/times.

Although many more areas of care are needed, GLOW has been and will continue to adapt to changes in need. Other Care ministries may need to be created to revived to make sure all areas of care are covered.

Each month prayers submitted during the previous month are printed on the back of the groups meeting agenda. They are reviewed & updated as needed.

If you would like to be on the GLOW team, please contact Karen Sweet Cheney at 281-485-1818.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Sweet Cheney, Coordinator



### **Prayer Chain Report 2021 (part of GLOW)**

The Prayer Chain is made up of a group of people praying for the sick, the injured, the depressed, the grieving and all who have a need of extra special prayer. They are notified of prayer needs (and share with others) via email from prayer requests on yellow cards, emails and/or phone call requests. Once notified, the team prays for the individuals/need. They also forward to others (men's group, etc.) for additional prayer power. If you are interested in being part of this special and important ministry, please talk to Tiffany Brown [communitylife@newlifelutheran.com](mailto:communitylife@newlifelutheran.com) or 281-485-1818.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Sweet Cheney



## Meals on Wheels 2021 Annual Report

During 2021 (with COVID still going on), there were 24 different volunteers from New Life Lutheran Church (and beyond) who delivered approximately 790 hot meals. During the months of February, April, June, July, September, and November, the volunteers had the privilege of delivering to an average of 26 individuals. New Life is one of eight Pearland Churches that participates in the Meals on Wheels Ministry. Volunteers not only have the opportunity to provide a nutritious hot meal, but also provide a cheerful greeting to those who are in need. The individuals who receive this hot meal always seem to have a smile and a good word for the volunteers.

Meals on Wheels delivers two different routes (one on the west side and one on the east side). Each route usually has 10-14 volunteers a week. **The dedication of our volunteers is phenomenal!** New Life would not be able to be a part of this important ministry if not for these volunteers!

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Flowers

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### Prayer Shawl Ministry Report 2021

Prayer Shawls are knitted or crocheted by members of New Life Lutheran Church and given to those in need of comfort and prayer. A person makes a request for a shawl and while it is being made, prayers are offered for that person. Over the course of this ministry, hundreds of prayer shawls have been given to those in need, to many parts of the United States, reaching out to those facing trials in life.

Since the beginning of our Prayer Shawl Ministry in February of 2002, we have given out **762** Prayer Shawls. During the 2021 year, **16** prayer shawls were given out. They went to our friends and family in Pearland and other places in Texas.

In 2015, our Prayer Shawl Ministry started giving the parents of new born babies a baby prayer shawl. Since its inception, the "Baby Prayer Shawl Ministry" has given **41** new babies a prayer shawl.

Thank you to the ladies of the Prayer Shawl Ministry who knit, crochet, and pray!

If you are interested in becoming part of the Prayer Shawl Ministry at New Life, please contact Carole Wright 281-489-1101. Or cell phone: 713-826-8749. We could use your help.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole Wright, Coordinator



## New Life Property Team Report 2021

The Property Team was re-started in 2015 by Karen Sweet Cheney to help attend to the many areas of property care at New Life. The Property Team meets once a month for about an hour or via email to get up to date on current needs and address areas that need improvement, work done, supplies purchased, machinery maintenance / repair/ replacement, and contract renewals.

We are always looking for new members / helpers to join this team. You need not be an expert or even a novice to be on the team. Below is a list expertise areas we can always use help with:

Electrical	Roofing	Carpet
Plumbing	Painting	Tree Trimming
Contracts -	Dry Wall	Gardening
Reading/Renewing	General Maintenance	Work Day Help

Please consider helping on this team, as we always need new blood, even if it's just for a project or two. Or for clean up days or for a few hours here and there.

Our big project (still on hold) is to gut & remodel the Sanctuary Narthex, including the restrooms and Nursery. This area has been in bad shape for a while now due to roof leaks that were finally fixed in 2021. As funds and volunteer support permit, we still hope to tackle the Narthex re-do project this calendar year.

During 2021, New Life has had many issues with aging AC/Heater units. These issues continue in 2022, so please bear with us as we fix heaters and AC units with the changing weather. Mike Kiser fixed the sign in front of the property and got new logos to replace the faded ones. Mike repainted the Narthex double doors and threshold and put new sandpaper down where it had peeled up. Work started on the Hey! Wagon—it will be completed again soon. The February freeze took out some of our pipes that thankfully Rudy was able to fix and when the Fridge in the Fellowship Hall died, Rudy bought New Life a new one. New Life ladies cleaned out and reorganized the small shed for decorations and got some of the clutter out of rooms around the property. Helen Beckman purchased metal trashcans that were anchored to the parking lot by the ball field so that trash would not be placed in the recycle cans. Waste Management changed over to Frontier so we ended up with a smaller dumpster. Rodents got into the sanctuary and decided that they liked the communion cups. The Stavinoha's put out traps and many worked on fixing the entrance holes we located. No more fuzzies running around. Walt continually trims bushes/trees.

2022 property needs: 1) We are now taking on the back field again with our mowing service so the funding sheets were updated in the narthex to reflect that higher amount. If you are able to put something toward lawn care it would be greatly appreciated. 2) before the ground dries out, we need to remove most of our bushes on the orange side of the buildings. They are dead from the 2021 freeze and are now a hazard. 3) there is a small roof leak on top of the Fellowship Hall that will be addressed this year.

Property NEEDS are listed in the weekly bulletins as well as the monthly Lifeline newsletter. We are always in need of air filters and light bulbs. In addition, look up Thank Yous on the Property page and give those folks a pat on the back for their time and effort keeping up our church property.

As we move further into 2022, many changes to the way we “work on and fund” Church projects will start to happen. Keep your eyes out for help YOU can help!

If you would like to be on the Property Team, even for just working on Work Day cleanups (including Orange St clean-ups), we need your help and input! Please contact Karen in the office.

Respectfully submitted, *Karen Sweet Cheney* Coordinator

## New Life Lutherans Seniors Annual Report for 2021

The Seniors meet the first Wednesday of every month at noon for covered dish lunch and fellowship. After announcements, we celebrate birthdays and anniversaries and share a few jokes. A couple of months during the year we play white elephant Bingo. Participants may bring items from home that they don't need but may be of use to someone else. If no one wants it, they take it home again for their next garage sale.

In August we packed 75 health kits for WELCA (Women of the ELCA) for Lutheran World Relief and 248 school kits in October. In December we packed 106 Christmas gift boxes for the Seafarers Center at the Port of Houston. Bubba Flowers led us in a sing-a-long in November.

Due to the Covid pandemic and for the safety of our participants, we had to cancel our meetings for six months this year.

Our group is open to anyone 55 or over throughout our community. We encourage our participants to bring their friends and neighbors regardless of where they go to church. Our goal is to bless one another with food, fellowship, and fun and to be of service when we can.

Respectively Submitted by,  
Helen Beckman



Lutheran World Relief



Again in 2021, the "Easter Monday" ingathering was postponed to Saturday, November 6th. On Tuesday, November 2nd, the quilters and women of New Life boxed up the quilts that had been made along with school kits from last September 2021 and personal care kits. Boxes were loaded into the Flowers trailer and on November 6th, Vera White and Barbara and Bubba Flowers took the following to the In-Gathering: 129 Quilts, 248 School Kits and 75 Personal Care Kits.

December 2021, the seniors and wrapped 106 Christmas shoe boxes that were delivered to the Houston International Seafarer Center at the Port of Houston on that day, December 1st with 100's of magazines and 50+ puzzles. They were very grateful at the center to see the boxes!



## WOMEN OF THE ELCA (WELCA) OF NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

MISSION STATEMENT; Mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.

New Life women continue to lent their considerable talents and time to a variety of WELCA projects: Lutheran World Relief projects like quilts and health kits, Bible study, WOW meetings, a quilt sale, a valentine drive thru lasagna dinner, a Fish Fry with the help of the guys, a BBQ sandwich meal fundraiser and the annual Thankoffering Service in November.

WOW was formed in 2015 to offer monthly fun events. Although the group is very small, we continue to enjoy the fun and fellowship every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month. In addition some of the regular group meets weekly on Friday for a ladies movie or game night.



Bible study groups chose to use material published in ELCA's Gather magazine. Mary Martha is usually led by Helen Beckman on the third Wednesday mornings of each month.

Although the group is much smaller due to COVID constraints, the Quilters continue to quilt on Tuesdays morning at 9:30am. They are blessed by many years of leadership of Vera White, and a dozen pairs of skilled, patient hands. 10:30am is snack time with sharing and blessing the day's work and a few visitors. The ingathering was again delayed to November in 2021 from the normal Easter Monday time, but again this year 129 quilts were taken to the ingathering. Some were displayed and sold during fundraisers and the November WELCA Thankoffering Sunday. They would like to thank everyone who purchased quilts in 2021 – the money gathered was enough to purchase another set of batting and some sets of sheets for the backs of the quilts!

Quilters continue to gather quilt scraps into pillowcases and sew them shut to make dog beds. More than 40 beds were delivered to several animal shelters in SE Texas in 2021. Dog beds were taken to the Old Alvin Rd Animal Shelter with Epiphany gifts of food and supplies in January 2022.

In December 2021, 109 Seafarer Shoebox gifts were packed and wrapped by the New Life Quilters and a few Seniors. They were taken to the Seafarer center at the ship channel by Tiffany Brown-Pineda and Karen Cheney along with puzzles, books and magazines. Chaplains came out to help load them into the center and then they carry the boxes, puzzles and magazines to the docked ships from the end of November to mid-January.

For 2022, Quilts and Kits again will be sent to Lutheran World Relief, but we have not been informed as to when the ingathering will be. LWR Ingathering totals for November 2021 were as follows: 129 Quilts, 75 Personal Care Kits & 248 School Kits.

Thank you to Karen Sweet- Cheney and Tiffany Brown- Pineda for acting as Co-Coordinators, Terri Kiser as Treasurer, MaryAnn Marcha for acting as Mission Action Coordinators, Nancy Bryars and Cheryl Robinson for leading Altar Guild, Helen Beckman and Marjorie Schooley for leading the Bereavement team, Vera White for leading the Quilters, Karen Sweet Cheney and Tiffany Brown-Pineda for leading WOW, Carole Wright for leading prayer shawl ministry and Linda Stavinoha for leading Children's activities and parties. Many more work with the above teams and we thank you for your dedication in these areas as well. The Women of New Life are AMAZING!

A special Thank you to Linda Stavinoha for making sure the youth of New Life and the community got a Christmas Party this year. For those who were still quarantining, Linda and Korie made up bags of gifts that were either delivered or picked up.

**Thank you to the Congregation for your participation in and support of the above mentioned projects of love and service. Your donations make all gifts possible.**

Yours in Christ, Karen Sweet- Cheney & Tiffany Brown-Pineda  
Co-Coordinators of the New Life Women of the ELCA

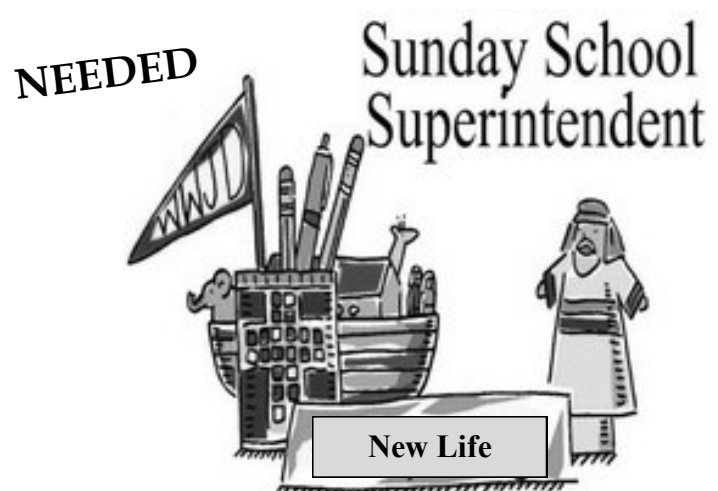




New Life is still in need of a Sunday School Superintendent. Please consider volunteering for this worthy position! See Mike Kiser, Church Council President for details.

Thanks to all the 2021 Sunday School teachers: Bryan Bradford, Beth Moore, Rebecca Reed, MaryAnn Marcha, Julia Sweet, Lorraine Walls, Helen Beckman, Korie Williams, Former Interim Pastor Bill Schwertlich and the many who lead the FellowShip Hall Bible Study group. Thank you for either coming to class or sending out information/materials and/or contacted their kids or prayed for them behind the scenes. Your faithful and loving actions honored the Lord and showed grace to our/your kids.

We hope that 2022 will offer more normalcy for Church and Sunday School classes/activities. In the meantime, continue to pray for the New Life Youth and Families.





**New Life Lutheran continues to support many  
Community Organizations.**

**Please consider donating your time and /or talent to the  
good works of this Congregation.**