

SIGNS OF NEW LIFE



Holy Week Schedule

Maundy Thursday, April 6 - 7:00 PM

Good Friday, April 7 - Fish Fry 4:30-6:30 PM, Worship 7:00 PM

Family Easter Party and Egg Hunt, Saturday April 8 - 11:00 AM

**Easter Sunday, April 9 - Worship 8:00 and 10:30 AM,
Brunch at 9:15 AM**

Join us for worship in Holy Week! We have services on Thursday, Friday, and Sunday morning. The Good Friday Fish Fry menu includes fried fish, coleslaw, french fries, and hush puppies. Free will donations will be accepted to support summer camps for youth. Our Easter Egg Hunt and party will be on Saturday, April 8 at 11:00 AM. Get a photo with the Easter bunny! Easter Sunday brunch is at 9:15 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Coffee, juice, and pastry items will be provided. You're welcome to bring other breakfast food to share. Free will donations to support summer camps for youth will be accepted. He is risen!

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Walk in Newness of Life Pastor Clayton Faulkner

Holy Week is a significant time for followers of Jesus. Time becomes transfigured, set apart, and holy. During Holy Week we remember that we are entering the most important week in the life of the church. This is the focal point of our Christian calendar.

Holy Week offers us a chance to put ourselves on the pathway beside Jesus. We walk through the last supper, the betrayal, the crucifixion, and the glorious resurrection. We have the chance to pattern our time in the same flow of Jesus' last earthly days. The services this week are also called the Three Days. They consist of three different services, but they interconnect and form one cohesive liturgy that spans three separate days.

Palm Sunday. Before the Three Days, things get kicked off with a street parade celebration. But there is more than meets the eye. Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem is a parody. When Roman emperors entered a town, they were greeted with pomp, prestige, and accolades announcing the grand reign of the empire. Instead of powerful horses pulling a carriage, Jesus enters on a young donkey. The God of the poor and friend of the weak has arrived.

Maundy Thursday. The name comes from the Latin word *mandatum*, from which we get the English word mandate. We remember the last supper where Jesus reinterpreted the Passover feast. We remember Jesus washing the disciples' feet, taking the place of a servant. We remember the new commandment (or mandate) that Jesus gave. Love one another, just as I have loved you. People will know you by how you love. It begs the question, "How are you offering love to your neighbor?"

Good Friday. The name is somewhat oxymoronic. How can such a tragic, devastating event be labeled good? We remember the betrayal. We remember the arrest. We remember how all of the disciples deserted Jesus, abandoning him and denying his acquaintance. We remember the crucifixion, the horrible, shameful, cursed execution. We remember the burial and Jesus' end.

Easter Vigil. Some churches also gather for worship on Saturday evening of Holy Week. The Vigil begins outside,



around a fire. The gathering begins around a fire because people have gathered around fires since the beginning. The fire is a sign of how we have survived as long as we have as a species. The fire is the place of gathering and sharing stories and memories about the way things used to be.

The fire is also a subtle nod to where Peter found himself as he uttered the very words he swore he would never say. The Easter Vigil is also a service of baptism. It takes the stories of creation, renewal, rebirth, and resurrection, and, at the font, pours them over the baptismal candidates, immersing them in water and the word. In baptism we are connected to the death and resurrection of Christ. If you've ever attended an Easter Vigil service, you know how meaningful they can be. Perhaps New Life will offer one in the future.

And then comes Easter and the glorious resurrection and victory of Jesus Christ. The surprise is revealed. When God appeared to be defeated and Jesus was at his weakest, God's true power was on display. When Jesus was at his humanly weakest point, God was providing the strength to recreate the entire world.

The news is so good and so surprising that we need 50 days to celebrate. It took 40 days of Lent to prepare for this, and now we need even more time to rejoice in it. Welcome to the surprising season of Easter, more than one day can contain. And then comes the Ascension. And Pentecost.

I know it might not be possible to participate in every event during Holy Week, due to work, family, and other commitments.

But let me pastorally encourage you to do what you can to be present for the most significant week in the life of the church. Be present for what Jesus goes through. Listen to the crowds cheering. Taste the last supper. Watch and wait at the foot of the cross. Peek inside the tomb where the stone is rolled away.



Welcome Our New Church Staff!

This month we have two new staff members joining our New Life team! Rebecca McDonald is our new Director of Worship and Music. Marissa Zuniga is our new administrative assistant.

Rebecca McDonald began working as a church pianist at the age of 14, and has served numerous congregations as a musician and/or worship director, including Kinsmen, Celebration, and Covenant (all Lutheran churches in Houston). She also worked as office manager and administrative assistant to the Bishop in the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod. Rebecca holds a bachelor's in piano, summa cum laude, from Baylor University. She runs a piano studio from her home and loves to play music with her husband, Jon. In their spare time, Rebecca and Jon also enjoy being a part of the Houston Dash Drummers, and spending time with their dogs, Dingo and Moo.



Marissa Zuniga writes, "It is a pleasure to introduce myself to New Life Lutheran Church as your new administrative assistant. Thank you for entrusting me with the position your church family has been in search of. I will give my 100% here to assist in any capacity my job entails. I have over 10+ years of experience working in an administration role with most of those years being in a variety of church organizations, something that I am well familiar with! I am happily married to the love of my life, Ivan Zuniga, and together we have built and continue to build a life we absolutely love! We have a 4-year-old son who keeps us young and very much active! We love serving our local church as assistant pastors and love our family quality time. I am excited for this next chapter in my career at New Life Lutheran Church."



Happy 100th Birthday to Sarah Martin!

New Life Lutheran was so blessed to host Sarah Martin's 100th birthday celebration! Thank you to Diane Tanksley for putting her name on the marquee, Cheryl Robinson for the beautiful decorations, Bubba Flowers for the wonderful entertainment, and Linda Stavinoha for renting the fellowship hall.





Thank You Note from Marjorie Wilcoxson

My church family,

Thank you so very much for your prayers, cards, and loving thoughts. It helped and meant more than words can say. You are all the greatest.

*Love,
Marjorie*

Thank You Diane Tanksley!

Thanks to Diane for purchasing and planting the new shrubs outside the sanctuary.



Quilters

New Life Quilters are still hard at work creating quilts to sell and to send to Lutheran World



Relief. They meet every Tuesday at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall and all are welcome to help make quilts and have fellowship with the ladies.

Quilting is a year-round activity and once the quilts are sent to LWR, the work of creating more for next year begins.

Meals on Wheels Ministry at New Life

We will be delivering meals this month on Monday, April 3rd – Thursday, April 6th.

We are NOT delivering on Friday, April 7.



Thank you to everyone who helps with this fantastic ministry! Our church has been a part of MOW for a long time and I hope that we are able to continue for even longer.

Future Dates:

May 29*-Jun 2 (*no delivery on the 29th)

July 24-28

September 18-22

November 13-17

If you are thinking you might want to help with one of the above dates, please let me know. We can do on the job training.

**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

Thank You! From Church Council and Staff

- T. Pineda for her service to New Life.
- R. Moreno for his service to New Life.
- All who donated for the new water heater in the Fellowship Hall kitchen.
- Pastor Clayton and A. Castillo for their leadership of GriefShare on Monday evenings.
- R. Moreno for his help with installation and electrical work with the new water heater.
- D. Barron for volunteering to organize and cook for the Good Friday fish fry.
- All who brought soups and other food for our Midweek Lenten services.
- K. Williams for providing fun children's messages on Sundays.
- Office Volunteers: L. Stavinoha, C. Thurman, T. Kiser, J. Watkins, L. Barron, and all others who help out.
- J. Olson, B. Flowers, B. Scott, A. Castillo, E. Ritter and all the houseband members for providing musical leadership in worship.
- S. How, K. Weber, and R. McDonald for being our contract musicians for traditional worship.
- L. Stavinoha for preparing the children's Easter party.
- A. Castillo for preparing the confirmation and first communion Seder Meal.
- F. Marcha for cooking food for our mission trip fundraiser on Saturday, April 22.
- C. Robinson for ordering flowers for the altar every week.
- Council members T. Mims, K. Williams, B. Bradford, J. Watkins, V. Rincones, M.A. Marcha, and E. Ritter for their commitment to and unwavering support of the church.
- Pastor Clayton for his guidance and direction to the council.
- L. Stavinoha for sending Senior Lunch reminders and cards of care and concern to members.

We appreciate you ALL so much!

Financial Snapshot

Giving in March 2023 (through Mar 25)	= \$15,897.39 (62.7%)
Giving needed per month	= \$25,327.46
Giving January—March 2023	= \$66,082.00 (86.9%)
Giving needed January—March 2023	= \$75,982.38

Lutherhill Summer Camp Registration is Open!

Lutherhill Summer 2023

BEST . WEEK . EVER .



FAITH • AFFIRMATION • COMMUNITY • ADVENTURE

FIND YOUR **Camp!**



Week 1 | June 11-16

Alpha | Youngn | Yearling | Jr. High Adventure | LYLE 1

Week 2 | June 18-23

Youngn | Yearling | Jr. High | Sr. High Adventure | LYLE 1
Onsite Day Camp

Week 3 | June 25-30

Camp at Your Church! Connect with Lutherhill to bring a Day Camp to your community!

Week 4 | July 2-7

Family Camp | LYLE 2

Week 5 | July 9-14

Yearling - Art Camp | Jr. High - Art Camp | LYLE 2 | Onsite Day Camp

Week 6 | July 16-21

Alpha | Youngn | Yearling | Jr. High - Amazing Race | LYLE 1

Week 7 | July 23-28

Alpha | Youngn | Yearling | Jr. High Adventure | LYLE 1

Week 8 | July 30-August 4

Youngn | Yearling | Jr. High | Onsite Day Camp

ALPHA | Completed 1st Grade (3 Night Stay)
YOUNGN | Completed 2nd or 3rd Grade
YEARLING | Completed 4th, 5th or 6th Grade
JR. HIGH | Completed 6th, 7th or 8th Grade
SR. HIGH | Completed 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th Grade
LYLE 1 | Completed 9th or 10th Grade
LYLE 2 | Completed LYLE 1, 10th or 11th Grade

Ready to Register?

Visit us at: lutherhill.org



Max Castillo was Lazarus during the Children's Sermon on March 26, 2023!



Family Easter Party

Saturday, April 8

11:00 AM

Food, crafts, games, prizes, and
egg hunt!

Free for all! Invite your neighbors!



Environews Helen Beckman

Saturday, April 1 is Don't Mess With Texas Trash-Off. We will be participating with our quarterly Adopt-a-spot litter cleanup of Orange Street. Meet at the church at 8:30 AM. Supplies and snacks are provided. It usually takes us about two hours. Students can get volunteer hours for school or scouts.

Thursday, April 13 at 7 PM is Garden Lecture. The topic is **Improving Home Gardens.** You can watch on Keep Pearland Beautiful Facebook live, or watch videos on KPB Facebook of past lectures.

Saturday, April 22 is Earth Day! Some of us remember the mid-20th century when air pollution was quite visible with smoky inner-city skies, soot on window sills, cars, and shrubbery from incinerators and coal fires, cars and trucks belching exhaust. The word "smog", a combination of smoke and fog, was coined to describe Los Angeles. Our roadsides and fields became littered and dumps for our increase in disposables. Industries found it convenient to dispose of waste in rivers or nearby pits. Rachel Carson's book, Silent Spring, in 1962 made the general public aware of the connection between pollution and health. There were always individuals and groups who acted for a cleaner safer environment, but to be really effective their goals needed to be more mainstream and more universally accepted.

Senator Gaylord Nelson, junior senator from Wisconsin is known as the founder of Earth Day. Growing up he had enjoyed being in the outdoors and had developed a fondness for nature. He had a growing concern about the deteriorating environment in the United States and especially after witnessing the effects of a massive oil spill in California. He announced the idea for a teach-in on college campuses to the media and persuaded conservation-minded Republican congressman Pete McCloskey to serve as co-chair. They recruited a young activist, Denis Hayes to organize the campus teach-ins and chose April 22, a date between Spring Break and Final Exams. They developed a staff to promote all the events and included a wide range of organizations and faith groups. They called it Earth Day and with a great deal of media attention inspired 20 million Americans to demonstrate publicly against many forms of pollution. It became a coalition of activist groups fighting against pollution through education, research, demonstration and lobbying for increased anti-pollution legislation. In the 1990's, Earth Day became a global effort and through the years, as public awareness catches up to science new goals have arisen. Currently the need to address climate change, its effects, and humankind's part in it has become quite urgent.



Let's celebrate Earth Day in Pearland with the following events.

Earth Day from 10 AM to 2 PM at Centennial Park on Harkey Rd. is the city-wide family celebration of Earth Day with games, vendors, and a general good time. It's also Drug Take Back Day at the Stella Roberts Recycling Center at the same time.

So, you can clean out your medicine cabinet and drop off unused meds at the SRRC on your way to the Earth Day Celebration. See you there.

Upcoming Events

Holy Week Schedule:

- Maundy Thursday, April 6 – Worship at 7:00 PM
- Good Friday, April 7 – Fish Fry at 4:30-6:30 PM; Worship at 7:00 PM
- Easter Party, Saturday, April 8 – Food, fun, egg hunt, and games at 11:00 AM
- Easter Sunday, April 9 – Worship at 8:00 and 10:30 AM; Brunch fundraiser at 9:15 AM

Orange Street Clean Up: Saturday, April 1, meet at the church from 8:30 to 10:30 AM. Snacks and supplies are provided. Students can get volunteer credit for participation. Your help is needed.

Senior Adult Luncheon: Wednesday, April 5 at Noon.

WELCA Lunch Out: All women of the church are welcome to join us for lunch on Wednesday, April 12 at 11:30 AM at Chicken Salad Chick near Pearland Parkway and Barry Rose Road.

Mission Trip Fundraiser: Everyone is invited to a Mexican food dinner and silent auction on Saturday, April 22 at 4:00 PM that will raise money for the mission trip to New Orleans. Hear music from Bubba Flowers! See Korie Williams to volunteer.

Church Huddle: Join us on Saturday, April 29 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Any and all who are passionate about the ministry of New Life are encouraged to attend as we revisit the past, consider the present, and dream for the future of our church. Lunch will be provided. Look for the RSVP form in the weekly email.



Good Friday Fish Fry

Friday, April 7

4:30 - 6:30 PM

Menu: fried fish, coleslaw, french fries, hush puppies

Cost: Free will donations to support summer camps for youth.

Granger Messenger was baptized on March 5, 2023





New Life Lutheran Church

3521 E Orange St.

Pearland, TX 77581

Phone: (281) 485-1818

Website: NewLifeLutheran.com

Facebook: [Facebook.com/NewLifePearland](https://www.facebook.com/NewLifePearland)

Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Clayton Faulkner

(pastor@newlifelutheran.com)

Director of Worship and Music: Rebecca McDonald

(music@newlifelutheran.com)

Administrative Assistant: Marissa Zuniga

(office@newlifelutheran.com)

Church Council

Secretary: Mary Ann Marcha

Treasurer: Julie Watkins

At Large: Vanessa Rincones, Tamsey Mims, Elna Ritter, Bryan Bradford, Korie Williams

Helping Hands in Worship

	4/2/2023 (Palm Sunday)	4/9/2023 (Easter)	16-Apr	23-Apr	30-Apr
Assisting Minister 8:00	Helen Beckman	Elna Ritter	Cheryl Robinson	Nancy Bryars	Elna Ritter
Communion 8:00 Assistant	Vince Gottlieb	Vince Gottlieb	Mary Ann Marcha	Lynn Barron	Doug Barron
Communion 8:00 Assistant	Robin Gottlieb	Robin Gottlieb	Lynn Barron		Lynn Barron
Ushers 8:00	Charlie Gaevert	Susie Wellman	Doug Barron	Doug Barron	Susie Wellman
Assisting Minister 10:30	Evelyn Balduaf	Lisa Hitchcock-Weber	Bryan Bradford	Cheryl Robinson	Nancy Bryars
Communion 10:30 Assistant	Linda Hudgens	Linda Hudgens	Barbara Flowers		
Communion 10:30 Assistant			Nancy Bryars		
Ushers 10:30	Cathy Scott	Cathy Scott	Cathy Scott	Jenaro and Max Castillo	Barbara Flowers

April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 8a Traditional Worship 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Contemporary Se 12p Word Fellowship Chi	27 6p GriefShare Support G 8p AA Meeting (Co-Ed) 8p Ala-non	28 9a Quilters Workshop 7p Word Fellowship Chri	29 6p Lenten Soup Supper 7p Midweek Lenten Wor	30 6p Property Team Meetin	31 Office Closed 6p WOW - Women of Wo 8:30a Orange St. Clean I 10:30a Phoenix Group (V 4p Word Fellowship Chri:	1 April Fool's Day 6a Turtle Patrol Begins 8:30a Orange St. Clean I 10:30a Phoenix Group (V 4p Word Fellowship Chri:
2 Palm Sunday 8a Traditional Worship 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Contemporary Se 11:30a First Communion 12p Word Fellowship Chi	3 6p GriefShare Support G 8p AA Meeting (Co-Ed) 8p Ala-non	4 Seder Tuesday 9a Quilters Workshop 7p Word Fellowship Chri:	5 12p Senior Lunch	6 Maundy Thursday	7 Good Friday Office Closed	8 10:30a Phoenix Group (V 4p Word Fellowship Chri:
9 Easter Sunday 8a Traditional Worship 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Contemporary Se 12p Word Fellowship Chi	10 6p Church Council Meeti 6p GriefShare Support G 8p AA Meeting (Co-Ed) 8p Ala-non	11 9a Quilters Workshop 7p Word Fellowship Chri:	12	13	14 Office Closed 6p WOW - Women of Wo	15 10:30a Phoenix Group (V 4p Word Fellowship Chri:
16 8a Traditional Worship 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Contemporary Se 12p Word Fellowship Chi	17 6p GriefShare Support G 8p AA Meeting (Co-Ed) 8p Ala-non	18 9a Quilters Workshop 7p Word Fellowship Chri:	19 9:30a Mary Martha Bible	20	21 Office Closed 6p WOW - Women of Wo 4p Mission Trip Fundraise 4p Word Fellowship Chri:	22 10:30a Phoenix Group (V 4p Mission Trip Fundraise 4p Word Fellowship Chri:
23 8a Traditional Worship 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Contemporary Se 12p Word Fellowship Chi	24 6p GriefShare Support G 8p AA Meeting (Co-Ed) 8p Ala-non	25 9a Quilters Workshop 7p Word Fellowship Chri:	26	27	28 Office Closed 6p WOW - Women of Wo	29 10a Church Huddle 10:30a Phoenix Group (V 4p Word Fellowship Chri:
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