

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

SIGNS OF NEW LIFE



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*Cover artwork by
Tucker and Hattie Moore*



Walk in Newness of Life Pastor Clayton Faulkner

One of the things that has historically taken place during the season of Lent is a focus on discipleship. In fact, for the earliest Christians, Lent was the season of final preparations for baptism. Baptism was the entryway and gate for full participation in the church. In some settings, unbaptized participants in worship were dismissed before communion which was only received by the baptized. Those who were unbaptized were dismissed in order to receive further instruction and training in the ways of discipleship. That whole process is what is known as catechesis.

On Wednesday evenings during Lent we will gather for midweek worship and Bible study. During that time, we'll be picking up this old pattern of instructing and training in the ways of discipleship. Our time will be spent studying a familiar passage, John 4:1-42. It's the story of the Samaritan woman that Jesus encounters at the well. This is a fascinating story that only occurs in the gospel according to John. Each week I will teach on a different piece of the story as we progress our way through the whole passage. You're invited to come and learn what this story has to teach us about discipleship.



Discipleship is a fancy church word that always needs defining. It means to follow in the way of Jesus. Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life" (John 14:6). The earliest followers of Jesus were given a label. It wasn't "church" or "Christian" or even "disciple." They were called those "who belonged to the Way" (Acts 9:2). That tells us a couple of very interesting things. One, the experience of encountering Jesus was characterized by following a path known as the Way, not just thinking, confessing, or believing anything. Two, the participants in the Way were identified by how they belonged to it.

Belonging is the title for our Lenten sermon series on Sundays. It is a word that is worth pondering. How do you belong to something? Is it about signing up, filling out paperwork,

attending meetings or services, or volunteering? At what point do you know that you belong? How do you belong to a church? How do you belong to God?

You could make an argument that when some of those earliest Christian communities dismissed the unbaptized from worship before communion it was harsh and unwelcoming. You might wonder how such a policy ever allowed a group like that to grow or flourish at all. My hunch is that there is something else going on in that restrictive environment. And it has to do with belonging.

I think the earliest Christians wanted to make sure that every new convert fully belonged and understood what that meant. They wanted them to know what it means to fully belong to God through baptism in Jesus' death and resurrection by the power of the Spirit. They wanted them to know what it means to fully belong to one another as a group who shared a communal life. Belonging didn't mean dropping in on Sunday morning when it was convenient. Belonging means a deep, abiding way of doing life together and holding each other in prayer through joys and sorrows.

Here is the point. When you hear the gospel, you are experiencing the words and actions of Jesus. When you experience Jesus, you are meeting the living God. And when you meet the living God you should not expect to walk away the same person as before. Every encounter you have with Jesus through the gospel is potentially a life-altering reorientation of your soul. If you will open your heart and receive him with a willing spirit. Who knows what might happen?

God welcomes and invites you to belong to God. You experience belonging to God through the word and sacraments (water, bread, and wine). Belonging to God is also belonging to the community of God's people. You are baptized into a body. You are fed and nourished at the table with all God's saints. You belong to God.





Souper Bowl of Caring Scores Big for CHH Judy Foucheaux

In addition to the 800 lbs. donated to Christian Helping Hands food pantry from Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday, another 495 lbs. were donated during the month of February. A big thank you to Lynn and Doug Barron for taking the food donated at church, but also purchasing food from money given toward food for CHH. Also thank you to Robin and Vince Gottlieb for the purchasing of food from money given toward food for CHH.


THANK YOU!

New Life Lutheran's 2023 Collection

raised:


800 lbs. of food

Thanks to your efforts this year, more dollars have been raised, more lives have been changed, and the nation has seen the impact of people working together to help those in need. Thank you for working to transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.



TACKLE HUNGER

February 13, 2023



Alison Reese
Executive Director
Tackle Hunger: Home of the
Souper Bowl of Caring



Mission Trip Update

Korie Williams

As most of you know I have put a lot of effort into planning a mission trip that would benefit the high school class. Originally, I set out to plan a trip that would not only involve fun moments of play, but also moments of work to which we would return with memories knowing we helped people who needed it. As time went on, I did not get the response from the high schoolers, which I hoped, leading to a slight change of plans.

About a month ago I sat down with Pastor to have a conversation about a few things, and the mission trip was brought up. He informed me he would not be able to join us on this trip. I then asked him if he minded if I took the entire thing over, and he agreed and gave me resources to churches in New Orleans. I also explained that I had noticed a lack of excitement within the high school class, and I felt like I was planning a trip for just me. We talked about that, and I explained an idea I had, and we both agreed it was the best I could do.

This is to inform everyone that this trip will no longer be for the High school class. I have reached out to the people who spent time, money, and resources to support me with the fundraisers I put together and asked if they would like to join me instead. As of now I have 10 people who are interested and 10 is the max I can take with me.

I have reached out to an organization in New Orleans and have talked over the phone with one of the ladies who helps run it. I registered us, New Life Lutheran, with their organization for June 10. This organization builds homes for low-income families who are first-time homeowners and rebuilds homes for families who have experienced natural disasters free of charge. They rely on the help of volunteers and have expressed their gratitude that a group of us is willing to help in any way we can. I hope by going and helping rebuild somewhere else we can see the beauty in coming together to rebuild and make someone's house a home. I have other things lined-up and other organizations that I have reached out to.

I wanted to give transparency in the change of who is going. You gave your money with a good heart, understanding that the money you were donating was being used to send high schoolers on this trip. While I will be there representing a part of the youth/high schoolers here at this church I want everyone to know I will not be wasting this money or opportunity you have given me.

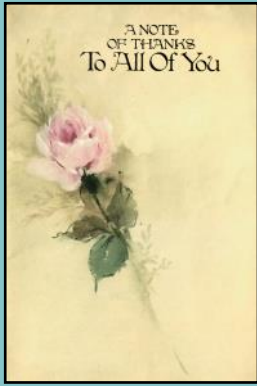
The support from everyone here is the reason I know I can get this done. With the money you have donated to each fundraiser of mine, I will be able to take 10 people to New Orleans. With that money we will be making a difference in the lives of strangers, and we will not only be building homes, but we will be building relationships and partnerships that can strengthen us as a church.

I hope you all understand the change of plans. Thank you for always supporting me in anything that I do. The high schoolers may not be going on this trip anymore but the group of people who have filled those spots have given time, money, support, love, and everything in between to making all the fundraisers I did possible and a little easier and without them everything would have been a lot more difficult, so I am glad and excited to have them come on this trip with me.

I would also like to say, any money that is not used after the trip will be donated to the organizations we helped serve. And if we are unable to go on this trip, in the event of any emergencies, the money will be donated to faith-based organizations within New Orleans that I am in touch with currently.

If the people who are lined up to go cannot make it and must cancel, and you would like to go, please talk to me about going, I can put your name down in the event someone cancels. If there are any questions on your mind pertaining to the trip, please talk to me so we are all on the same page. If there is any concern or you want to know how you can help in any way again, find me, talk to me. Thank you.





**Thank You Card
from Ronnie and Linda Stavinoha**

We would both like
to take this opportunity
to thank everyone
for the prayers
which evidently
worked in our
recoveries from our
health misfortunes.

Linda + Ronnie
Stavinoha

This extra-special "thank you note"
For all of you today
Holds more appreciation
Than any words can say
For you're the grandest kind of folks
This world has ever known
And you'll never be forgotten
For the thoughtfulness you've shown

Thank You So Much



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

For the month of February we had 17 different volunteers who served 160 meals to 32 clients over 5 days! I am grateful for the following people who helped make sure that all of the clients received their meals. They are always willing to help with this great ministry (sometimes more than one day)!



Thank you: Doug Barron, Lynn Barron, Helen Beckman, Laura Cole, Lynn Cope, Becky Homerstad, Carol Jackman, Tamsey Mims, Donna Patschke, Cheryl Robinson, Barbara Scott, Matt Scott, Samaira Sirajee, Mary Anna Vance, Carole Wright, and Walt Wright.

We are always in need of a few more people. There are times when one or more of the above mentioned people are unable to help for the week. When this happens, it is nice to have some substitute volunteers who can help. Remember – this is ONE day every EIGHT weeks. If you would like some more information or think you might be interested in helping, please call (or text) Barbara Flowers @ 713-817-1012 (I am always willing to do On the Job Training).

NEXT DELIVERY DATE IS: April 3 – 6, 2023
No delivery on April 7 Good Friday)

**If you know someone who might benefit from this program, you can call Pearland Meals on Wheels @ 281-485-5081 for information.

Thank You! From Church Council and Staff

- L. H-Weber, who served on Council from January 2022 through Jan 29, 2023. We are grateful for your leadership.
- Pastor Grant Housewright for presiding and preaching for worship while Pastor Clayton was away attending a retreat in Tulsa, OK.
- Property Team: C. Gaevert, W. Wright, D. Barron, T. B-Pineda, R. Moreno and others who volunteer to keep up with the facilities. They tend to an ongoing lengthy list of “To Do’s,” prioritizing the list, and seeking volunteers for the various tasks.
- Office Volunteers: L. Stavinoha, C. Thurman, T. Kiser, J. Watkins, L. Barron, and all others who help out.
- C. Robinson for the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall themed decorations and ordering of flowers.
- K. Williams, C. Robinson, B. Flowers, L. and D. Barron for coordinating Souper Bowl of Caring and the delivery to Christian Helping Hands and the Congregation for the non-perishable items.
- Senior Luncheon volunteers and participants.
- A. Castillo and Pastor Clayton for the GriefShare Class held on Mondays.
- Church Council for hosting and cooking for the Shrove Tuesday meal.

**We appreciate you
ALL so much!**



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



President's Report March 2023

Dear Siblings in Christ,

I trust all are doing well. This past month was fast and crazy. We are definitely closer to hiring an administrative assistant. We will begin the interview process the week of March 6th. With fingers crossed, we may also hire the music director this month.

Some of you may already know that the fellowship hall has hot water again. A new 40 gallon water heater was installed and there will be no more heating water on the stove. Yea! Tamsey Mims took the lead and started a fundraiser. Several people pitched in and donated to the cause. This was a great idea. We got a much needed item and it did not affect our budget. Thank you to all that made this happen.

We come here so often that we do not always notice things that may need attention. If you see anything that may need attention please make me or the property team aware. Thank you.

Your feedback, concerns or any opinions you may have concerning this church are always welcome. Please feel free to approach me or any council member. This is our church and we want it to be the best possible experience for all.

In Christ

Rudy Moreno

Environews Helen Beckman

Thanks to Diane Tanksley, Cheryl Robinson, Ryan Strickland, and Helen Beckman for picking up litter along Orange Street on February 4. In 2 ½ hours they picked up three bags of trash, a half bag of recycling, and 216 cigarette butts. Ryan earned volunteer credit toward his boy scout conservation badge. Our **next cleanup** is the “**Don’t Mess with Texas Cleanup**” on the **first of April**. It’s the annual highway cleanup of Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT), who coined the phrase “Don’t mess with Texas” for its anti-litter campaign. TXDOT is the registered owner of the phrase and its intended purpose is to keep the roadsides clean. In addition to its anti-litter program, TXDOT also plants wildflowers along the highways. Keep Pearland Beautiful always schedules a clean-up to coincide with Don’t Mess with Texas. Plan now to participate with our clean-up on April 1.

Thanks to the Arbor Day tree give-away, we have two red mulberry trees ready to be planted. I’d appreciate suggestions of location and help digging the hole. We will not be planting them close to the sidewalk or parking lots where berries could stain the sidewalk or cars.

I was asked about the clear cutting of trees to make way for the school at the corner of Liberty Drive and Broadway. When trees are cut down to make way for development, the developer is required by city ordinance to replace the trees on site or at another location or pay into the city’s tree fund. Pearland is registered with Arbor Day Foundation as a tree city and had to meet and continue to meet certain requirements such as having an urban forester on staff, having a tree ordinance, provisions for planting trees with new development and preserving, increasing, and keeping inventory of the city’s current tree canopy.

Thursday, March 9 is Garden Lecture at 7 P.M. on KPB’s Facebook. The topic, Wild About Wildflowers, will be presented by master gardener Kimberly Mayer.

Saturday, March 11 from 7:30 to 10:00 A.M. is Keep Pearland Beautiful Waterway Cleanup in Centennial Park. Meet at Lone Star Pavilion for breakfast and supplies.

Saturday, April 1 is Don’t Mess with Texas Litter Cleanup at 8:30 A.M. Meet at the church to participate in our adopt-a-spot cleanup. Snacks and supplies will be provided. Youth participants can get volunteer credit for school or scouts.



Upcoming Events

Sermon Series for Lent: This season of Lent will feature a sermon series entitled, “Belonging.” Together we will ponder what it means to belong to and participate in the body of Christ.



February 26 – “Born Identity”
March 5 – “Born Anew”
March 12 – “Beyond Belief”
March 19 – “Being Found”
March 26 – “Beyond Resurrection”

Senior Adult Luncheon: Wednesday, March 1 at Noon.

GriefShare Support Group: Meets on Monday nights at 6:00 PM. You can still join and encourage others to try it.



WELCA Lunch Out: All women of the church are welcome to join us for lunch on Wednesday, March 8 at 11:30 AM at Panera’s in the HEB Center on Pearland Parkway and Broadway.

Midweek Worship During Lent: Every Wednesday evening we will gather for a community meal and fellowship followed by Bible study and worship. Join us for soup supper at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall (sign up sheets are in the narthex). At 7:00 PM we gather in the sanctuary for worship. You’re invited to bring a canned food or pantry item as your offering to these services.

First Communion Class: If your child is ready to begin receiving holy communion, make plans to join the class on Sunday, April 2 at 11:30 AM.

Seder Dinner: All church members are invited to experience this sacred meal on Tuesday, April 4 at 6:00 PM.

Maundy Thursday: Join us for worship on April 6 at 7:00 PM.

Good Friday: Join us for worship on April 7 at 7:00 PM.

Children’s Easter Party: Everyone is invited to the Easter Party on Saturday, April 8 at 11:00 AM. Candy donations are appreciated!



Theo Bradford was baptized on February 26, 2023.



Chloe Baldauf received her first communion on February 26, 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)

Church Council

President: Rudy Moreno (281-734-5019)

Vice-President: Tiffany Pineda

Secretary: Mary Ann Marcha

Treasurer: Julie Watkins

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

Helping Hands in Worship

	5-Mar	12-Mar	19-Mar	26-Mar
Assisting Minister 8:00	Helen Beckman	Elna Ritter	Nancy Bryars	Cheryl Robinson
Assisting Minister 10:30	Evelyn Baldauf	Cheryl Robinson	Bryan Bradford	Bryan Bradford
Communion 8:00 Assistant	Doug Barron	Vince Gottlieb	Doug Barron	Vince Gottlieb
Communion 8:00 Assistant	Lynn Barron	Robin Gottlieb	Lynn Barron	Robin Gottlieb
Communion 10:30 Assistant	Merideth Oliver	Merideth Oliver	Barbara Flowers	Linda Hudgens
Communion 10:30 Assistant	Nancy Bryars	Tamsey Mims	Linda Hudgens	Nancy Bryars
Ushers 8:00	Charlie Gaevert			Doug Barron
Ushers 10:30	Cathy Scott	Barbara Flowers	Cathy Scott	Jenaro and Max Castillo

March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 8a Traditional Worship 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Contemporary Se 12p Word Fellowship Chri	27 6p GriefShare Support G 8p AA Meeting (Co-Ed) 8p Ala-non	28 9a Quilters Workshop 7p Word Fellowship Chri	1 12p Senior Lunch 6p Lenten Soup Supper 7p Midweek Lenten Wors	2 6p Property Team Meetin	3 Office Closed 6p WOW - Women of Wo	4 10:30a Phoenix Group (V) 4p Word Fellowship Chri:
5 8a Traditional Worship 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Contemporary Se 12p Word Fellowship Chri	6 6p GriefShare Support G 8p AA Meeting (Co-Ed) 8p Ala-non	7 9a Quilters Workshop 7p Word Fellowship Chri:	8 11:30a WELCA Lunch 6p Lenten Soup Supper 7p Midweek Lenten Wors	9	10 Office Closed 6p WOW - Women of Wo	11 10:30a Phoenix Group (V) 4p Word Fellowship Chri:
12 8a Traditional Worship 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Contemporary Se 12p Word Fellowship Chri	13 6p Church Council Meeti 6p GriefShare Support G 7p CHH Board Meeting 8p AA Meeting (Co-Ed) 8p Ala-non	14 9a Quilters Workshop 7p Word Fellowship Chri:	15 9:30a Mary Martha Bible 6p Lenten Soup Supper 7p Midweek Lenten Wors	16	17 Office Closed St. Patrick's Day 6p WOW - Women of Wo	18 10:30a Phoenix Group (V) 4p Word Fellowship Chri:
19 8a Traditional Worship 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Contemporary Se 12p Word Fellowship Chri	20 6p GriefShare Support G 8p AA Meeting (Co-Ed) 8p Ala-non	21 9a Quilters Workshop 7p Word Fellowship Chri:	22 6p Lenten Soup Supper 7p Midweek Lenten Wors	23	24 Office Closed 6p WOW - Women of Wo	25 10:30a Phoenix Group (V) 4p Word Fellowship Chri:
26 8a Traditional Worship 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Contemporary Se 12p Word Fellowship Chri	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 Wors	30	31 Office Closed 6p WOW - Women of Wo	1 April Fool's Day 6a Turtle Patrol Begins 10:30a Phoenix Group (V) 4p Word Fellowship Chri: