

SIGNS OF NEW LIFE



MARINARA



MELODIES

Join us on Saturday, May 6 at 5:30 PM for a spaghetti supper and music recital featuring the talented students and members of New Life. A free will offering will be received to send our students to summer camp.

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Walk in Newness of Life Pastor Clayton Faulkner

May 1 is a very special, memorable day for me. It's the day that you, the people of New Life Lutheran Church in Pearland, called me to be your pastor. May 1 marks one year of time since we began our journey together as pastor and people of God.

I can't help but go back to the first things I said to you after that vote. They are words that I thought about well in advance of that congregational meeting. They are words that I will possibly revisit every year, as a reminder about how I felt when everything started. Here is what I said.

"I am making you three promises. One, I will love you as a pastor. I will do my best to be there for you when you need a pastor. I will offer you my listening ear whenever you need it. I will pray with you and remind you that God loves you when you are facing the unknown.

The second promise is that I will tell you the truth. Sometimes you'll ask me my opinion about something, or you'll come to me seeking advice. When you do, I will tell you the truth, putting it as gently as I can. I will speak the truth to you even when it is difficult to hear.

The third promise is that I am going to mess up. It is important for you to hear this from the beginning of my ministry with you: I am not going to be perfect. Don't put me on a pedestal as your pastor. I am human like every one of you. I am going to make mistakes.

I may make choices that you don't like. Sometimes these choices will be mistakes on my part, which was my third promise to you. Other times choices you consider to be unfavorable will be an attempt to bring new life to New Life. Gardeners know about the pruning process. I can't imagine that the plant enjoys being pruned, but it is sometimes necessary to create the conditions where new life and growth can occur. Be patient and trust God."

I still whole-heartedly believe in all of that. I also believe that I have kept all three of those promises. This first year has had its challenges and conflicts. Some of those were unavoidable and needed to occur. Some of the challenges faced were the remnants of previous years of ministry, the pandemic, and a long stretch of interim time.



Where New Life sits today is totally different than it was one year ago. And with the Spirit's guidance, a year from now we will be totally different than we are today. That is what following Jesus does. It provokes us to examine the things in our life that need pruning and take calculated risks in order to grow into something more fruitful.

What are you willing to do to be a more fruitful church for God? What does it look like for New Life to be faithful in the ministry Jesus has entrusted to us? Where is the Spirit beckoning us to step out and trust without having all the clarity we might hope for?



These are all questions we wrestle with and discuss together. As I write, we are approaching the Church Huddle on April 29. I expect that to be a very exciting, hopeful meeting. We will spend time listening to God's word and to each other. We will consider the disappointments and hope-filled days of New Life's history. We will think about a vision for the future ministry of New Life, a mission that God is calling us to, and the core values that will guide our choices. We will think about strategies to move us forward.

These are all things that can't be accomplished by any single one of us. It takes the whole church, each part, from the least to the greatest. Everyone has a part to play and gift to offer. Days of joy and blessings are ahead.





Mission Trip to New Orleans Korie Williams

In June, I will be joined by other members of the church which include Bryan Bradford, Elna Ritter, Mary-Ann Marcha, Louis Marcha, and Jackie Torres on our church mission trip.

I wanted to bring something to New Life that had a lesson attached. So, I set out on a rigorous mission to research and find an organization where we could help. I eventually found SBP. SBP is an amazing non-profit organization which was founded in 2006 after Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans. After the founders, Liz McCartney and Zach Rosenburg realized Katrina had done more damage than they had imagined they moved permanently to New Orleans and started SBP. Now they have different locations throughout the U.S. In 2017, they added one right here in Houston to help with the damage we all experienced after Hurricane Harvey. They are still here and help coordinate projects within Houston and surrounding cities.

Because SBP is a non-profit organization they do not charge the people they help. They rely on the help of volunteers. I reached out to them in early January and was connected to a wonderful lady named Lalibela Walto. Lalibela and I have talked over the phone and through numerous emails and every time she expresses her gratitude that we are willing to come to New Orleans and help them out. Lalibela also told me about how they don't just help families affected by natural disasters, but also low-income families who don't have the money to go through realtors but are in desperate need of housing. During one of our conversations, she asked "would you rather help low-income families or ones affected by natural disaster?". I told her it didn't matter we were there to serve anyone who needed a little help. No matter what we do we will do it with a smile.

Outside of our participation with SBP, we will be doing the usual New Orleans activities like swamp tours and of course the cemetery tours! Don't worry, we will definitely be trying our fair share of their beignets and New Orleans cuisine.

There is a lot of time, effort, love, and patience that has been put into this trip and I hope it can lead as an example of what is possible for us here at New Life. When we leave New Orleans, I hope we can leave with a glad heart and an appreciation of the rich New Orleans history.

Holy Week Pictures





**Thank You Notes
from Charlotte Thurman**

Dear friends,

What a beautiful prayer shawl
with hat! And my favorite colors!
I'm wrapped up in it now and
feel the love and warmth.

Thanks so much for your talent,
prayers, and thoughtfulness in
gifting this shawl to me.

Love,
Charlotte Thurman

Dear friends at New Life,

Thanks to all of you who came together,
again, for me and my family. Thank
you for the use of New Life for Jimmy's
Memorial service. As always, the food
was sooooo great. Thank you to all the
cooks, the ladies who worked in the
kitchen, then cleaned up. Thank you to
Cheryl for her decorations setting up the
Fellowship Hall, the behind-the-scenes
preparation, placing flowers in the right
place, and taking care of them for a few
days. Jimmy was cremated, and in case
you didn't notice, he was with us -- sitting
in the middle of his blue tackle box!

I'm so grateful to each of you for
your concern & love.

Charlotte Thurman & family

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 April we had 16 different volunteers who provided 123 meals to 31 clients over 4 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!



Thank you:

Doug Barron, Lynn Barron, Helen Beckman, Carol Jackman, Tamsey Mims, Donna Patschke, Amanda Patschke, Cheryl Robinson, Bubba Flowers, Michael 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) me:

Barbara Flowers @ 713-817-1012 (I am always willing to do On the Job Training).

NEXT DELIVERY DATE IS: May 29*-Jun 2, 2023
*No delivery on Monday the 29th (Memorial Day)

**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

- Fish Fry Team for their food and hospitality on Good Friday.
- The ladies of the church for their desserts on Good Friday.
- The clean-up crew for their help after the meal.
- Pastor Clayton for his worship leadership during Holy Week.
- L. Stavinoha for her organization and leadership of the children's Easter party.
- The special guest Easter Bunny!
- K. Williams for her leadership of the children's sermons.
- C. Robinson for her decorations in Holy Week and the flowering of the cross.
- D. Tanksley for her organizing and planting the shrubs outside the sanctuary.
- A. Castillo and H. Beckman for organizing and leading the Seder Meal on Holy Tuesday.
- R. and J. McDonald for their help with the sound system and band equipment.
- A. Patschke for her beautiful solo on Easter Sunday.
- The Property Team for their efforts around the facility.
- Everyone who helped provide brunch on Easter Sunday.
- Our Sunday School teachers: S. Schmidt, M. Oliver, L. Walls, J. Sweet, H. Beckman, Pastor Clayton, B. Bradford, and K. Faulkner.
- L. Cope and D. Barron for filling our council vacancies.

We appreciate you ALL so much!

Financial Snapshot

Giving in April 2023 (through April 25)	= \$18,320.32 (72.3%)
Giving needed per month	= \$25,327.46
Giving January—April 2023	= \$89,331.66 (88.1%)
Giving needed January—April 2023	= \$101,309.84

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



NOTES



from Rebecca



Notes from Rebecca Rebecca McDonald, Director of Worship and Music

Greetings! I'm so excited to be your new Director of Worship and Music. Thank you to everyone for such a warm welcome and for making feel right at home these past few weeks. Watch this space every month for worship and music information. You won't want to miss these upcoming events!

Mariana and Melodies

Everyone is invited to a very special event on Saturday May 6th at 5:30. After sharing a delicious spaghetti dinner, we'll hear a concert of great music, featuring talented student and adult members of the congregation. There will be something for everyone to enjoy, including sacred, jazz, and classical music... and of course, spaghetti! All proceeds will help send our young people to summer camps, including Lutherhill and Lutheran Summer Music. Please be sure to RSVP and we'll see you on May 6th!

Pentecost Choir

Do you enjoy singing? Have you always wondered what choir is about? Would you like to help us celebrate Pentecost? Then please join us for a special one-rehearsal, one-day choir experience. No experience necessary! On Saturday May 27th we'll meet in the sanctuary from 10:00 to 11:00 AM to learn an anthem as well as some basic vocal techniques. Then we'll sing during worship the following day. You may choose to sing at the early or late service, or both. In the fall, I'll be able to rearrange my teaching schedule and plan to restart regular choir practice on Wednesday evenings. But in the meantime, come join us for this special choral experience!

Worship Opportunities

One of my primary goals moving forward is to involve lots of folks in worship. There are many opportunities for everyone to share their gifts. If you are musical, I am always looking for folks to play or sing an offertory at either service. All musicians are welcome, even beginners! As mentioned above, choir will be restarting weekly in the fall. We also have more specialized openings in the Houseband, and the tech team can always use more members (training provided!).

"But, Rebecca, I'm not musically inclined or tech savvy" (I can hear you saying). That's ok, there are plenty of ways to get involved, such as communion assistants, ushers, assisting ministers, and altar guild. And if anyone has artistic abilities, I'd love your help in bringing more visual elements into worship.

So there are a multitude of ways you can contribute to the worship life of our congregation. If you'd like to serve but aren't sure what would be your best fit, please talk to me. Worship and service are part of our response to God's gift of love. Thanks to the many people who already serve in worship, and thanks in advance to everyone who will contribute in the future. See you in worship!

Environews Helen Beckman

Thursday, May 11 at 7 P.M. is the monthly Garden Talk Facebook Live Lecture. The topic is “**Tips for Growing and Caring for Plumerias**”. You can watch it on Keep Pearland Beautiful Facebook live or watch videos on KPB Facebook of past lectures.

Keep Pearland Beautiful is now taking applications for Youth Environmental Council (YEC) from entering sophomores, juniors, and seniors at all 4 Pearland area high schools: Glenda Dawson H.S., Pearland H.S., Shadow Creek H.S., and Robert Turner College and Career H.S. Go on line to pearlandrecycles.com/yec-application/ for further information.

Recycle update. Plastic film is now accepted at Stella Roberts Recycling Center (SRRC) for recycling. This includes all plastic bags, wraps, cereal box liners, newspaper sleeves, dry cleaner bags, bubble wrap, and plastic e-commerce mailers. They must be dry and free of food and organic residue.

Aluminum recycling doesn't have to be clean, including anything made of aluminum, cans, pans, plates, and foil. Aluminum is the easiest and least expensive to return to the form where it can be reprocessed into new products. An aluminum can may be back on the grocery shelf within 45 days. So, go ahead and recycle those greasy pans from your barbecue. Just don't let them contaminate other kinds of recycling that need to remain clean, such as paper and cardboard. We collect aluminum separately at church for the youth fund.

Pizza boxes can be recycled with the cardboard if you cut out food contaminated parts. I usually just rip off the covers if they are clean.

Thanks to Teri Kiser for helping me pick up litter on Orange Street. We completed the most time-consuming part, but I still have to finish to Schleider Drive. I will give a complete report next month. Dianne Tanksley who usually helps was unable to because of a recent minor surgery. She came anyway to cheer us on, make coffee, and check out ant hills for Amdro treatment.

April, Earth Month, was an amazing time for me. There was so much information available on radio, TV, newspapers, magazines, internet, and KPB, culminating in Earth Day at Centennial Park. I hope that those of you who did get to the celebration learned something and had a good time. The weather was perfect. I still have information to share but I'll continue next month. In the mean time please praise God and thank him for all our wonderful Earthly gifts. Reduce. Reuse. Recycle. Rejoice!



Upcoming Events

“Marinara and Melodies”: Join us on Saturday, May 6 at 5:30 PM for a spaghetti supper and music concert featuring the talented students and members of New Life. A free will offering will be received to send our students to summer camp.

Confirmation Sunday: On Sunday, May 7 our confirmation students will share their formation essays at 9:15 AM in the sanctuary followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall. Two students will be participating in the rite of affirmation of baptism at 10:30 AM: Ryan Strickland and Austin Tatuaca.

WELCA Lunch Out: All women of the church are welcome to join us for lunch at Emma’s Mexican Grill (5906 Broadway) on Wednesday, May 10 at 11:30 AM.

Mother’s Day: On Sunday, May 14 every woman will receive a carnation flower in celebration of all who provide motherly care. Additional carnation arrangements will be available for a free will offering supporting our students attending summer camps. Carnations can be placed on the living cross in memory or honor of a mother before or after worship services.

Graduate Recognition Sunday: On Sunday, May 21 join us for worship as we celebrate all those who are graduating from High School, College, Graduate School, Trade School, Boot Camp or any other accomplishment. In preparation of this special recognition, please let the church office know if you or a loved one are graduating soon. Please send the following details: name, date of graduation, school or accomplishment, and any future plans or endeavors to pastor@newlifelutheran.com.

Christian Helping Hands News

Judy Foucheaux

For March, 434 lbs. of food was donated and taken to CHH.

As of April 20, 169 lbs. has been donated and taken to CHH.

Christian Helping Hands is in the process of constructing a new building at 4305 Magnolia, Pearland. This building is approximately twice the size of their present facility. SEVA clinic will share this building with CHH. Weather permitting the building should be ready by August. The present CHH property has been sold (CHH would be able to occupy the present building until Dec. 2023).



Thank you for all the food and monetary donations.

Thank You Note From Linda Stavinoha

It is such a blessing to be a part of such a loving and caring church. Pastor Clayton announces we need candy and plastic eggs and these came to our rescue



immediately: Elaine Baldauf, the Barrons, Helen Beckman, Bryan Bradford, Ria Clark, Lynn Cope, Karen Dahse, the Foucheaux, Janice Kolosseus, Mary Ann Marcha, Sheila Martain, the Meyers, Dolores McCafferty, Tamsey Mims, Deanna Owens, Donna Patschke, Brenda Pritchett, Elna Ritter, Linda Stavinoha, Diane Tanksley, and Julie Watkins.

A big thank you to Rylynn Cope, Donnie Leach, Cheryl Robinson, Charlotte Thurman, and Korie Williams for toys, DVDs, stuffed animals and items for door prizes and bingo prizes. This event could not of happened without the generous cash donations made by Bob Leach and Marjorie Wilcoxson. Thank you Bob Leach for our new Bunny Costume.

It was so amazing seeing the youth step in and help: Chloe and Elliott Baldauf, Rylynn Cope, Lilly and Grant Ritter, Ryan Strickland and Emily and Jocelyn Weber.

Thanks to all these that helped either stuffing eggs, hiding eggs, working before, after and during the party: the Barrons, Lynn Cope, Karen Dahse, Terri Kiser, Tamsey Mims, Diane Tanksley, Brenda Pritchett, Elna Ritter, Cheryl Robinson, Julie Watkins, Korie Williams and Carol Ann Zann. Thanks Easter Bunny for hopping by. Parties are so much fun when you have such wonderful, caring and loving people helping, thanks guys I love you all so much. What a wonderful church family we have. If I left anyone out on thanking them, I am so sorry.





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

President: Bryan Bradford

Vice President: Doug Barron

Secretary: Mary Ann Marcha

Treasurer: Julie Watkins

At Large: Lynn Cope, Vanessa Rincones, Tamsey Mims, Elna Ritter, Korie Williams

Pictures from Mission Trip Fundraiser on April 22



May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3:30pm - Music Rehearsal @ 30	FIRST DAY OF AZIAN PASCIFIC 6pm - Grief Shared @ Conference 6:30pm - Girls Scouts Troop 8pm - AA Meeting (Co-Ed) @ 8pm - AI-Anon @ Sanctuary	9am - Quilters Workshop @ 7pm - Word Fellowship Christian	12pm - Senior Lunch @ Fellowship		Cinco de Mayo 6pm - WOW - Women of Worth @	10:30am - Phoenix Group 4pm - Word Fellowship Christian 8:30pm - Marina and Melodies -
Confirmation Sunday 8am - Traditional Worship @ 9:15am - Sunday School 10:30am - Contemporary Worship 12pm - Word Fellowship Christian	7 6pm - Church Council Meeting @ 6pm - Grief Shared @ Conference 6:30pm - Girls Scouts Troop 8pm - AA Meeting (Co-Ed) @ 8pm - AI-Anon @ Sanctuary	9 9am - Quilters Workshop @ 7pm - Word Fellowship Christian	10 11:30am - WELCA Lunch Out @	11	12 6pm - WOW - Women of Worth @	13 10:30am - Phoenix Group 4pm - Word Fellowship Christian
Mother's Day 8am - Traditional Worship @ 9:15am - Sunday School 10:30am - Contemporary Worship 12pm - Word Fellowship Christian	14 6:30pm - Girls Scouts Troop 8pm - AA Meeting (Co-Ed) @ 8pm - AI-Anon @ Sanctuary	16 9am - Quilters Workshop @ 7pm - Word Fellowship Christian	17 9:30am - Mary Martha Bible Study	18	19 Synod Assembly @ The 6pm - WOW - Women of Worth @	20 Synod Assembly @ The 10:30am - Phoenix Group 4pm - Word Fellowship Christian
Graduate Recognition Sunday 8am - Traditional Worship @ 9:15am - Sunday School 10:30am - Contemporary Worship 12pm - Word Fellowship Christian	21 6:30pm - Girls Scouts Troop 8pm - AA Meeting (Co-Ed) @ 8pm - AI-Anon @ Sanctuary	23 9am - Quilters Workshop @ 7pm - Word Fellowship Christian	24	25	26 6pm - WOW - Women of Worth @	27 10am - Pentecost Choir Rehearsal 10:30am - Phoenix Group 11am - Koris Williams Graduation 4pm - Word Fellowship Christian
Pentecost Sunday 8am - Traditional Worship @ 9:15am - Sunday School 10:30am - Contemporary Worship 12pm - Word Fellowship Christian	28 Memorial Day 6:30pm - Girls Scouts Troop 8pm - AA Meeting (Co-Ed) @ 8pm - AI-Anon @ Sanctuary	30 9am - Quilters Workshop @ 7pm - Word Fellowship Christian	31 First Day of LGBTQ+ Pride Month	1	2 6pm - WOW - Women of Worth @	3 10:30am - Phoenix Group 4pm - Word Fellowship Christian