

# SIGNS OF NEW LIFE



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## Reformation Sunday



# Jazz



Sunday, October 29 at 8:00 and 10:30 AM  
followed by a Fellowship Lunch (brats and hot dogs)



## Walk in Newness of Life Pastor Clayton Faulkner

I have many favorite hymns. I'm sure you have as much trouble picking a favorite as I do. There are so many great ones, it becomes hard to choose. I want to share the text of one you may be less familiar with. It's called "God Is Here!" with lyrics written by Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000).

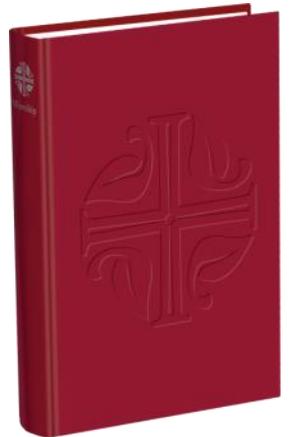
*God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,  
may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.  
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts  
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.*

*Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace;  
here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place.  
Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,  
here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.*

*Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold;  
here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old.  
Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore  
what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.*

*Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt,  
keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.  
Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive;  
we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!*  
(Text © 1979 Hope Publishing Company)

There is so much for reflection in this text! You could unpack the meanings and words for hours, which is what makes it such a great hymn. The reason why I share it with you is because this hymn is number 526 in Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW), the last hymnal produced by the ELCA and published in 2006. I'm excited to share that this hymnal will be found in our pews in the months ahead. It will be replacing the Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW) that was published in 1978. "God Is Here!" is just one of hundreds of new treasures you will find in ELW.



You may wonder why we are changing the hymnals at all. We won't be picking them up very often in worship. We will still produce our own bulletins every week and use PowerPoint for all the lyrics. In fact, the worship planning that takes place currently uses ELW as our primary hymnal. So not much changes, except the color of the books in the pews.

One thing to know is that the pastor and church council are constitutionally expected to promote and use ELCA resources. The council duties include "to recommend and encourage the use of program resources produced or approved by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America." (12.04.i) But most importantly, the hymnal is a great resource and tool for our spiritual nourishment as people of faith.

ELW contains a wealth of resources, and we will discover them together over the coming months. The new hymnal contains:

- Ten different settings of the liturgy, providing variety and including some new settings and some familiar settings.
- A growing collection of hymns and songs that honor our Lutheran tradition and join our voices with those from different cultures and backgrounds.
- All 150 psalms for singing.
- Expanded prayer resources.
- A service of healing.
- Liturgies for baptism, affirmation of baptism, weddings, funerals, and Holy Week services.
- Luther's Small Catechism.
- A list of daily lectionary readings.
- And more.

It is a remarkable hymnal and I think you'll enjoy getting to know it. Perhaps you'll find a new favorite hymn in it as well! The story of how we received these hymnals is also remarkable and a great testament to stewardship that I will share later. Ultimately, the ELW hymnal will be a tool that we use to renew our worship and draw us deeper into the mission God has for us of blessing the world.

**God Is Here!**

1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer  
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long  
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's  
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of

praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure  
 need of grace: here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;  
 flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,  
 change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;

what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the  
 here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -  
 Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants  
 help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's

world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts  
 ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,  
 of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore  
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;

wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts,  
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each,  
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore,  
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000  
 Music: ARBORESCULE, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-1991  
 Text © 1991 Hope Publishing Company  
 Music © 1942, rev. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Cincinnati, OH 60158. All rights reserved. Use by permission.

## NOTES



*from Rebecca*



## Notes from Rebecca

### Rebecca McDonald, Director of Worship and Music

THANK YOU!

A big thank you to everyone who helped to make music on September 10<sup>th</sup> (God's Work Our Hands Sunday). Our **New Life choir** sang in worship under my direction for the first time and did a beautiful job. Thanks to our dedicated choir members: Helen Beckman, Nancy Bryars, Elna Ritter, Cheryl Robinson, and Laura Strickland. Thanks also to Peter Weber for playing the flute with us.

After worship that day, a group went to **Trinity Oaks** Assisted Living facility, just a couple of miles away from New Life, to sing lots of traditional hymns. The residents really enjoyed singing with us and sharing snacks. Thanks to everyone who helped make it a special visit: Nancy Bryars, Lisa Hitchcock-Weber, Elna Ritter, Laura Strickland, Holly Tatuaca, and Peter Weber (who also played flute). We hope to arrange another visit to Trinity Oaks again soon.



## REFORMATION JAZZ

Be sure to mark your calendars and plan to be in worship on Reformation Sunday, **October 29<sup>th</sup>**. We will be having jazz services at both 8:00 and 10:30 that day, with your favorite hymns played in jazz styles, and even jazz liturgical pieces. Our very own Peter Weber (saxophone), Jill Olson (bass), and Jon McDonald (drums) will be joined by two other jazz musicians on trumpet and trombone. Sparky Koerner is well-known in the Houston and Galveston areas as a jazz trumpet player and the leader of Sparky's Jazz Express, and Richard Birk is a music professor at Brazosport College as well as being the leader/founder of two Christian jazz groups, Jazz Sunday and Third Stream (at St. John Lutheran in Angleton). We'll be playing Richard's wonderful arrangements of the hymns and liturgy, and are thrilled to have Sparky and Richard joining us. We hope you'll wear red, come enjoy the music, and sing along with us. You won't want to miss these very special Reformation services!

## ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

The week after Reformation Sunday is All Saints' Sunday, a day in the church year when we remember all those who have gone before us. On **November 5<sup>th</sup>** everyone is invited to bring a photo or special memento to honor a loved one you've lost. We'll have a special table set up where you can place your items. Please help us to honor and remember all of our beloved saints.

## OUR NEW HYMNAL

As Pastor Clayton has announced, we are delighted by a generous

donation of new hymnals. Beginning in December, we'll start delving into the **Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal (ELW)** and exploring its rich resources.

However, you actually already know lots of hymns and songs from the ELW. Of course it contains all of the "old favorite" hymns like Blessed Assurance, Softly and Tenderly, How Great Thou Art, and so on. And surprise, some of the hymns and songs we've been learning the past few months also come from the ELW, such as Toma O Dios Mi Voluntad (Take My Life), The Trumpets Sound the Angels Sing, As the Grains of Wheat, and One Bread One Body.

Now that we will have this resource in the pews, Pastor Clayton asked me if there are some specific ELW songs I want to teach the congregation. I said, "Oh, there are about thirty!" At last count, my list is actually up to 34. One of the things I love about the ELW is how well it embraces the principles of cultural diversity through a variety of music. You have already done a great job singing Toma O Dios in Spanish, and we'll be learning more songs in other languages as well as Spanish, like Somos Uno en Cristo (from Central America), Jesu Tawa Pano (Shona language from Zimbabwe), and Siyahamba (Zulu language from South Africa). And even if we are only singing a hymn in English, the ELW reminds us of the music's heritage by often including just one verse in the language of origin. Some examples include a German verse of Silent Night (Stille Nacht) and a Swedish verse of Children of the Heavenly Father (Tryggare kan ingen vara).

In the season of Advent you can look forward to learning at least two new songs from the ELW. "He Came Down" is a song that uses a traditional tune from Cameroon (Central Africa). The joyful melody is easy to sing and helps us look forward to the birth of Christ. In contrast, "Come Now, O Prince of Peace" is a haunting melody from Korea. Like my own father, the composer of this hymn grew up in Seoul, South Korea, during and after the Korean war. This beautiful song is a reflection of his wish for reconciliation and a longing for Jesus, the one who can bring true peace.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments about our new ELW hymnals, or any aspect of music and worship. I am excited for all of the music ahead as together we sing familiar songs, learn new ones, and most of all, lift our voices to God. See you in worship!

**Come Now, O Prince of Peace**  
*Osuhi, usuhu*

O su su e su su, peace has at in, you  
1. Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y  
2. Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y  
3. Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - or  
4. Come, Hope of a - ni - ty, make us one bod - y

he - ni - ty, hope - ness, e - ver - so, but - so - on,  
Come, O Lord, Je - sus, the son of the vir - gin, the  
Come, O Lord, Je - sus, the son of the vir - gin,  
Come, O Lord, Je - sus, the son of the vir - gin.

**He Came Down**

1. He came down that we may have love, he came down that we may have love,  
2. He came down that we may have light, he came down that we may have light,  
3. He came down that we may have peace, he came down that we may have peace,  
4. He came down that we may have joy, he came down that we may have joy.

he came down that we may have love,  
he came down that we may have light,  
he came down that we may have peace,  
he came down that we may have joy.

had - le - lu - jah fra - ges - sa - mus.

## Upcoming Events

**New Member Class:** Sunday, October 1 at 11:30 AM. Make plans to join us if you are ready to make New Life your church home!

**Senior Lunch:** All Seniors 55+ are welcome to join us for lunch October 4 in the fellowship hall 12:00PM—1:00PM. Join us for food and fellowship, as well as an informative presentation on legacy giving from our special guest, John Roalson, Gift Planner for the ELCA Gulf Coast and Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest.

**WELCA Lunch Out:** All women of the church are welcome to join us for lunch at Burger Tex (3006 Broadway St) on Wednesday, October 11 at 11:30 AM.

**Mary and Martha Bible Study:** All women of the church are welcome to join us for a Bible study in the fellowship hall on Wednesday, October 18 at 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM.

**Bible Discovery Class:** Sunday, October 22 at 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall (includes lunch). A time for 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students and their parents to discover more about the Bible and receive a gift Bible from the church. Please contact Pastor Clayton via email ([pastor@newlifelutheran.com](mailto:pastor@newlifelutheran.com)) or phone at the office (281-485-1818) to sign up.

**Blood Drive:** Sunday, October 22 from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Sign up to give online: [https://www.commitforlife.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/371802](https://www.commitforlife.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/371802)

**Family Halloween Party:** Saturday, October 28 from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Activities, games, crafts, and food for kids and families. Candy donations are needed – please drop off Halloween candy in the narthex or church office!

**Reformation Sunday Jazz and Lunch:** Join us on Sunday, October 29 for special Jazz music in both the 8:00 and 10:30 AM worship services. Following the service we will have brats and hot dogs on the grill for a fellowship lunch and fundraiser for our youth attending camps next summer.

**Orange Street Cleanup:** Saturday, November 4 at 8:30 AM. Join a team to pick up litter in our neighborhood!



## 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

Thank you to everyone who helped the month of September with this fantastic ministry!

Doug Barron, Lynn Barron, Helen Beckman, Lynn Cope, Bubba Flowers, Marlene Heinrich, Becky Homerstad, Tamsey Mims, Donna Patschke, Cheryl Robinson, Carole Wright, Walt Wright, and the Scott Family!

\*A special Thank You to Cheryl Robinson for delivering 4 different days!

Our next delivery will be November 13-17. Check your calendar to see if you might be available to help (so Cheryl doesn't have to do multiple days). :-)

Also, I am working on how long our church has been doing Meals on Wheels (starting with St. Stephen). If you have any information, please share with me.

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

Barbara Flowers  
713-817-1012 - [barbaraflowers\\_55@yahoo.com](mailto:barbaraflowers_55@yahoo.com)



## Thank You! From Church Council and Staff

- Pastor Clayton for providing breakfast tacos for the church on God's Work, Our Hands Sunday (Sept. 10).
- All God's Work, Our Hands volunteers! Including Fernando M. for the outdoor cleanup.
- All God's Work Our Hands project leaders: Cheryl R., Nancy B., Kate F., Karen D., Cathy S., Pastor Clayton, Lynn B., Helen B., Diane T., and Rebecca M.!
- Rebecca M. and the New Life musicians who led music for our neighbors at Trinity Oaks Retirement Home for God's Work, Our Hands Sunday!
- Ryan S. for his presentation of an Eagle Scout project to the church council.
- John R. for his presentation of an endowment plan to the church council.
- Terri K. for volunteering in the church office and repairing our computers.

*We appreciate you ALL so much!*

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## Financial Snapshot

Giving in Sept 2023 (through Sept 27)	= \$17,876.98 (70%)
Giving needed per month	= \$25,328.00
Giving January—September 2023	= \$191,952 (84.2%)
Giving needed January—Sept 2023	= \$227,952.00

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## Senior Lunch Participants Assemble LWR School Kits on September 6, 2023



## Environews Helen Beckman



Thanks to Deanna Owens, Cheryl Robinson, and Helen Beckman for participating in our adopt-a-spot cleanup on E. Orange St. from N. Main to Schleider Dr. on Saturday, September 23. In 1 ½ hours we collected 2 bags of trash, ½ bag of recycling, 128 cigarette butts, a very nice ball point pen, and \$1.25. Our next cleanup will be the Fall Sweep Cleanup, November 4. Youth volunteers can get volunteer credit for school and organization requirements.



**Saturday, October 7 is a shredding event at Stella Roberts Recycling Center (SRRC),** 5800 Magnolia Pkwy. from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Keep Pearland Beautiful (KPB) members may shred up to 4 boxes for free. Non-member residents have a minimum total of \$5 up to 17 lbs. and \$0.30 per additional lb. Non-member business is \$0.55 per pound.

**Thursday, October 12 is Garden Lecture Series** on KPB Facebook Live at 7 P.M. The topic is “Shade Loving Perennials” presented by Linda Ulmer, Brazoria County Master Gardener. If you miss it, you can get it a week later from Facebook @keeppearlandbeautiful, along with other past lectures.

**Saturday, October 21 is the Fall Native Plant Sale at Stella Roberts Recycle Center (SRRC)** from 9:00 AM until sold out or 1:00 PM. There **will not** be a plant sale at the Plant Thyme Fall Lunch in November.

**Friday, November 3 is the annual Plant Thyme Fall Lunch at First Church Pearland,** 1850 E. Broadway. Doors open at 11:00 AM. Lunch tickets are \$25.

This event is now more of an educational event than a fundraiser. The silent auction is moved to a spring event. The theme is trees and there will be a panel of three speakers: Jerry Bradshaw, Pearland’s own urban forester, Barry Ward from Trees for Houston, and Paul Johnson from Sustainable Forestry Initiative.

In addition to speakers, and lunch provided by Casa Ole, are the gift card hat raffle and a tree giveaway. Come learn, eat, and enjoy the fellowship with other tree lovers. Plant a tree to clean the air and provide beauty and shade.



### **New Life Lutheran Church**

3521 E Orange St.

Pearland, TX 77581

Phone: (281) 485-1818

Website: [NewLifeLutheran.com](http://NewLifeLutheran.com)

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

### **Church Staff**

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Clayton Faulkner  
([pastor@newlifelutheran.com](mailto:pastor@newlifelutheran.com))

Director of Worship and Music: Rebecca McDonald  
([music@newlifelutheran.com](mailto:music@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



# October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8am - Traditional 9:15am - Sunday School 10:30am - Contemporary 12pm - Word Fellowship	2 6:30pm - Girls Scouts 8pm - AA Meeting (Co- 8pm - Al-Anon @	3 9am - Quilters Workshop 7pm - Word Fellowship	4 12pm - Senior Lunch @	5	6 6pm - WOW - Women of	7 10:30am - Phoenix Group 4pm - Word Fellowship
8 8am - Traditional 9:15am - Sunday School 10:30am - Contemporary 12pm - Word Fellowship	9 Columbus Day Indigenous Peoples' Day 6pm - Church Council 6:30pm - Girls Scouts 8pm - AA Meeting (Co- 8pm - Al-Anon @	10 9am - Quilters Workshop 7pm - Word Fellowship	11 11:30am - WELCA Lunch	12 10am - Pearland Area	13 Family Retreat at Lutheran Hill @ Lutheran Hill 6pm - WOW - Women of	14 10:30am - Phoenix Group 4pm - Word Fellowship
15 Family Retreat at 8am - Traditional 9:15am - Sunday School 10:30am - Contemporary 12pm - Word Fellowship	16 6:30pm - Girls Scouts 8pm - AA Meeting (Co- 8pm - Al-Anon @	17 9am - Quilters Workshop 7pm - Word Fellowship	18 9:30am - Mary Martha	19	20 6pm - WOW - Women of	21 10:30am - Phoenix Group 4pm - Word Fellowship
22 8am - Traditional 9:15am - Sunday School 10:30am - Contemporary 11:30am - 5th Grade 12pm - Word Fellowship	23 6:30pm - Girls Scouts 8pm - AA Meeting (Co- 8pm - Al-Anon @	24 9am - Quilters Workshop 7pm - Word Fellowship	25	26	27 6pm - WOW - Women of	28 10:30am - Phoenix Group 11am - Halloween Party 4pm - Word Fellowship
29 8am - Traditional 9:15am - Sunday School 10:30am - Contemporary 12pm - Word Fellowship	30 6:30pm - Girls Scouts 8pm - AA Meeting (Co- 8pm - Al-Anon @	31 Halloween 9am - Quilters Workshop 7pm - Word Fellowship	1 First Day of American 12pm - Senior Lunch @	2	3 6pm - WOW - Women of	4 10:30am - Phoenix Group 4pm - Word Fellowship