

# New Life News



## NLLC COUNCIL MEMBERS

- Mike Heidecker, President
- Jessi Christ, Vice President
- Kristi Pfingsten, Secretary
- Joyce Peterson, Evangelism, Family Life and Social Concerns Committee
- Diane Kunze, Worship Committee
- Stephanie Curtis, Education Committee
- Jessica Nelson, Youth Committee
- John Reber, Stewardship Committee
- Lorin Hansen, Property Committee

## SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM

10:00 am Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>

## NEW LIFE CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY

1:30 pm Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>

## LITTLE BETHANY WELCA BIBLE STUDY

2:00 pm Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>

## NLLC COUNCIL

6:30 pm Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>

## ADVENT WORKSHOP

5:00 pm Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

5:00 pm Tuesday December 24<sup>th</sup>

## NEW LIFE & LITTLE BETHANY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### Sunday Worship Times

Little Bethany - 8:45 a.m.  
New Life Lutheran 10:00 a.m.

### Sunday School

Kids Power in Christ at NLLC  
9:00 a.m. Sept-May

### Holy Communion:

Little Bethany ~ First Sunday each month  
New Life ~ First and Third Sunday each month

### Youth Group at NLLC

Check the Youth Page

### WELCA/Bible Studies:

2nd Tuesday of the Month  
1:30 NLLC  
2:00 Little Bethany

### Coffee Fellowship:

9:00 a.m. at NLLC  
9:35 a.m. at LBLC, 1st Sun. only

## SERVICE GROUP LEADERS

- |                 |                                  |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>December</b> | Joel & Amy Meyer<br>Avis Wiese   |
| <b>January</b>  | Jessi Christ<br>Jon & Gail Reber |

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



Grace to you and peace in the name of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Roused from their sleep in the middle of the night, warned that armed men were on their way--coming to kill them, their first thought was simply to get away. So, they quickly gathered up their toddler child and what they needed, picking up only what they could carry on their backs, and they left. They left silently, secretly to rouse no suspicion, to draw no attention.

Why must they go? They didn't really know. All they knew is that their lives were in danger. For some reason they were considered a threat—maybe seen as rebels, radicals. But, it wasn't because of anything they had said or done, but simply because they were--they existed. This young family was in danger because they were seen as not one of "them"—whoever "they" were—those seeking the lives of this young family. So they, father, mother, and child, ran. They ran as fast as their feet could carry them.

Eventually the initial panic must have eased enough for them to consider, "Where is it that we are running to? Where should we go? Where is a place that might be safe for us? Where is a place where we might stand a chance at regaining our balance, a chance at making a life for ourselves again? Where can we go?"

They were a family of faith—believing in a loving God. Obviously, they must have prayed seeking an answer. Did the answer come in some definitive way, perhaps by some angelic messenger? Did it come in a dream or through some vision that could not be misinterpreted? Or, could it have come in a more common way--through thoughtful and faithful examination of their options, like: "What direction must we go to get away? How far can we make it if we have to? What is the terrain like? What are our present resources? Where might be a place that we could possibly fit in once we are there? Who might accept us and understand our situation? Where might be a place that has the resources available to take in refugees and allow us a new chance at building a life for ourselves? Where would our best chances lie? Where can we go and still be ourselves while still allowing others to be themselves? Where can we possibly become productive members of a community? Where is hope to be found and embraced? Where . . . where can we go?"

The answer, however it came to them, was Egypt. Joseph, Mary, and their toddler son, Jesus, traveled on foot hundreds of miles south through rough, desolate, and dangerous terrain. Their desperate hope was to find a place of safety, welcome, and opportunity.



I often wonder what they found when they arrived in Egypt. Was it a place of safety, or did they live in fear their whole time there? Were they greeted with compassion and welcomed, or were they looked at with suspicion, anger, and scornful disdain? Were they able to fit in and carve out some semblance of a life for themselves, or did they have to fight for scraps and beg for crumbs? What, I wonder, was the Son of God and his family subjected to? As refugees, what did they experience? Imagine, this young family, Mary likely little more than a child herself, not out of her teens. And who knows about Joseph? Fleeing to save their child.

The Bible is silent on what occurred in Egypt. We know nothing about it. But, if we truly at the Bible, what the Bible is not silent on is how the holy family **should** have been treated. They should have been treated like anyone else in need, then or now—with care, compassion, and love. On this the Old Testament and the New Testament are clear:

So now, O Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you? Only to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments of the Lord your God and his decrees that I am commanding you today, for your own well-being. Although heaven and the heaven of heavens belong to the Lord your God, the earth with all that is in it, yet the Lord set his heart in love on your ancestors alone and chose you, their descendants after them, out of all the peoples, as it is today. Circumcise, then, the foreskin of your heart, and do not be stubborn any longer. For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. [Deuteronomy 10:18-19]

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your

Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. [Matthew 5:43-48]

“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. . . . Whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.” [Matthew 10:40, 42]

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ [Matthew 25:34-45]

The part of the Christmas story where Jesus and his family become refugees [Matthew 2:13-24] is often forgotten or neglected by us and our society. In the rush of the Christmas season it gets pushed to the back of the burner. But, I wonder if in the midst of our current national conversations, this story doesn’t have something important to say to us?

Indeed, God has blessed our nation. Of this, there is no question. But there is a question about the nature of this blessing. That question is really twofold. First, are we blessed because somehow, as a nation and a people, we are special over and above others? We want to say “yes,” but then the people Israel were chosen specifically because they were **not** anything special. Why? So that all would recognize the true source of that blessing—God and his grace. That should give us pause before we answer yes as to the question about our being special. Second, are we blessed just to be “the blessed?” Or, “Are we blessed for a purpose?”

God is quite clear in the Bible when it comes to Israel. They were not chosen just to be the chosen. They were chosen to make God’s love known to all peoples, that they too might turn to God and his mercy.

I don’t know how Jesus and his family, a refugee family, were accepted in Egypt some 2,000 plus years ago. Today, that doesn’t really matter. However, what does matter today is whether **we** accept him, and **how** we accept him.

Christmas is a wonderful season meant to assure us of God’s love. It’s also a season that challenges us to be part of his coming reign, here and now.

I hope you all have a very Merry Christmas, full of blessings—both received and given. And may this “God with us” spirit lift and inspire us and our nation throughout the coming years.

Take care and God bless!

*Pastor Randy*



**New Life Lutheran Church  
Unapproved Minutes  
October 9, 2019**

New Life Lutheran Church Council met at 7:30 p.m. on November 13, 2019 at NLLC in Rothsay, MN. Present were: Mike Heidecker, Jessi Christ, Kristi Pfingsten, John Reber, Steph Curtis, Jessica Nelson, Lorin Hansen, Joyce Peterson, Julie Brenden, Jen Honer, Heather Reber, Pastor Randy, Avis Wiese, and Char Boe

The meeting opened with devotions from Jessi

1.0 Joyce made a motion to approve the agenda, Jessi seconded it, motion carried.

2.0 John made a motion to approve the minutes from August 2019, Jessi seconded it, motion carried.

3.0 John made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, Joyce seconded it, motion carried.

4.0 Ongoing Business

4.1 Milestone Ministry

Thursday morning 4-6 students, Thursday afternoon 8 students, Wednesday afternoon 2 students.

4.2 iPad or camera upgrade

No discussion

4.3 Sound System staffing

Gavin Larson has expressed an interest in taking on this task

4.4 Job Descriptions

Need to update the job descriptions. Mike asked Char and Avis to help with the janitorial job duties.

4.5 Chair Update

WELCA has raised enough funds for the new chairs. Kristi will open a business account at Sam's and purchase the chairs. City of Rothsay will purchase the old chairs for \$4 each.

4.6 Employee Reviews

Need to have accurate job descriptions before reviews can take place.

4.7 Richland/Wilkin Food Pantry Representative

Council is still looking for someone to man this position. It requires attending their annual meeting.

4.8 Meatball Supper

There was a discussion on items that the coordinators would like to see happen for next year. The council also asked them to write down their wish list with estimated costs and to prioritize the items.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Luthercrest is asking each member congregation to give \$750 towards the camp for their 75th anniversary.

5.2 Upcoming events

December 8 Sunday School Christmas Program

December 11 Advent Workshop

December 24 Christmas Eve Service 5:00

5.3 Stewardship Campaign

The stewardship committee has decided to utilize Parish Publishing for their stewardship campaign. They will start temple talks on Sunday November 27th with the last talk on December 8th. There will be 5 mailings the first will go out next week.

6.0 **Pastor's Report-**

Randy will be taking December 29th as a vacation day. Jessica will lead the service and John will read the sermon. Advent lessons will deter from the Lectionary schedule. Barb Nitz and Arnie Moen have volunteered to prep items for the Advent Workshop. Randy will be doing the sermon Thanksgiving Eve.

**7.0 Youth Director's Report -** Sunday School attendance is approximately 6 students. Students are bringing in the devotions for Sunday School. Camps are being considered for next summer rather than a mission trip. Youth will be fund raising for camp and the national youth gathering in two years. Lock-in the Friday and Saturday before Thanksgiving. There will be a Bible based and church based photo scavenger hunt. Turkey trot was rescheduled. Dec. 8th is the youth part and service event. Save the cook dinner on Thanksgiving eve will be a potato bar.

**8.0 Office Manager's Report-** Jim Boyce has graciously offered to make the magazine rack. Kristi and Trent Friederichs have transferred their membership to Little Bethany. Undesignated memorial money will be going to the Foundation.

**9.0 WELCA -** see 4.5

**10. NLLC Foundation Report-**\$800 will go towards the WELCA chair fund. \$600 was given to WELCA for supplies. A drum kit was purchased for \$180. Another round of scholarships will be available. January is the deadline for these scholarships.

**11. Committee Reports**

Worship and Music: They are looking into special music for Christmas Eve. They will decorate Nov. 24th for the advent season. Plan on having hymns to sing during communion.

Education: Program in on December 8th. Set up a date to sing consistently in church. Calendar for when they have days off, sing in church, and snacks.

Evangelism and Mission/Family Life and Social

Concerns: Angel tree will be in Nov and Dec. We have 2 families with 10 children. 4 in one and 6 in the second. Limit of \$25. Everything needs to be back by December 15th. January Soup/Sandwich and a movie. Looking into a health talk about dementia.

Church Property: Lightbulb replaced in the sanctuary. Robbie Steiner has been called to fix the outside lightbulb in the parking lot.

Stewardship: See 5.3

Meeting closed at 9:25 with the Lord's Prayer. Council meetings will be held at 6:30pm starting next month.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kristi Pfingsten



## Advent Workshop

Wednesday, December 11

4pm-7pm

Children can come create gifts for a family member, teacher or friend.

NLLC is sponsoring two families this year.

Choose one of the angels from the tree and sign it out.

Spend at least \$25.

Wrap the package with the angel attached to the present.

Return the gift by December 15th.

Share an angel with a friend to help defray the cost.

Pick more than one with the same ID#.

Let's see if all the Angels return as wrapped gifts with blessings and smiles.

If you would prefer to donate money and let someone else do the shopping talk to Joyce, Faith, Linda, Marlowe, or Tracy.

Thank you for your participation



## Attention Christmas Shoppers!!!



The holiday shopping season is upon us and we need your help! We are accepting new items to put together raffle baskets for our Meatball Dinner Fundraiser. We all love a great deal so please be on the lookout for items to donate to make our baskets great! Here is a list of items we are currently looking for:

### Snow Day Fun

Toboggan  
Saucer sled  
Snowball maker  
Igloo maker  
Snow paint  
Chap stick  
Hot chocolate  
Marshmallows  
Hand warmers  
Boot warmers  
Mittens (adult and children)  
Hats (adult and children)  
Gloves (adult and children)  
Scarves

### Winter Survival Kit

Collapsible Shovel  
Hats  
Scarves  
Mittens  
Hand warmers  
Boot warmers  
Matches  
Flashlight  
Granola Bars  
Jumper Cables  
Small galvanized can and candle  
Blanket  
First aid kit  
Spare Batteries for flashlight  
Pencil and paper  
Red bandana

### Movie Night

Microwave popcorn  
Flavored popcorn salts  
Family friendly movies  
Comedy movies  
Western movies  
Pop  
Movie candy  
Popcorn bowl  
Popcorn bags  
Snuggly Blanket

### Kid's Creation

Washable Markers  
Paints  
Paint brushes  
Playdough  
Crayons  
Construction Paper  
Kids scissors  
Glue sticks  
Coloring books  
Stickers  
Googly eyes  
Pipe cleaners  
Foam shapes  
Drawing paper

### Spa at Home

Basket  
Lotions  
Bath salts  
Bathrobe  
Fluffy slippers  
Facial Kits  
Massage oils  
Pedicure kit  
Manicure kit  
Bath gels  
Bath poofs  
Loofa scrubs  
Relaxation candle  
Relaxation CD  
Any items for self-pampering!!!

### Wrap it up!

Christmas wrapping paper  
Birthday wrapping paper  
Baby wrapping shower paper  
Wedding wrapping paper  
Bows  
Assorted Ribbon (tulle, satin, etc.)  
Scissors  
Scotch tape  
Gift bags  
Tissue paper  
Gift tags

### Baker's Dream

Rolling pin  
Rolling board with cloth cover  
Assorted cookie cutters  
Cookie stamps  
Cookie scoops  
Measuring cups  
Measuring spoons  
Cookie Sheets  
Bundt cake pan  
Cake pan  
Sprinkles  
Colored sugars  
Cupcake liners  
Cupcake tin  
Flat spatula  
Apron  
Oven Mitts  
Mixing Bowl  
Hand held mixer  
Assorted extracts

### Game Night

Board games – Adult and children's games  
Card games – Adult and children's games  
Regular decks of cards  
Dice  
Dice shaker  
Snacks – chex mix, microwave popcorn  
Pop  
Small note pads for score keeping



If you come across great deals on other items such as electronics, small kitchen appliances, etc. those make great raffle items too!!

There will be baskets available at the church for you to leave your donations. Keep your receipts to turn them into the church office to get your last minute tax deductions.

**“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”**

Angels, Once in a While  
Barb Irwin

In September 1960, I woke up one morning with six hungry babies and just 75 cents in my pocket. Their father was gone. The boys ranged from three months to seven years; their sister was two.

Their Dad had never been much more than a presence they feared. Whenever they heard his tires crunch on the gravel driveway they would scramble to hide under their beds. He did manage to leave 15 dollars a week to buy groceries.

Now that he had decided to leave, there would be no more beatings, but no food either. If there was a welfare system in effect in southern Indiana at that time, I certainly knew nothing about it.

I scrubbed the kids until they looked brand new and then put on my best homemade dress. I loaded them into the rusty old 51 Chevy and drove off to find a job.

The seven of us went to every factory, store and restaurant in our small town. No luck. The kids stayed, crammed into the car and tried to be quiet while I tried to convince whomever would listen that I was willing to learn or do anything. I had to have a job. Still no luck.

The last place we went to, just a few miles out of town, was an old Root Beer Barrel drive-in that had been converted to a truck stop. It was called the Big Wheel. An old lady named Granny owned the place and she peeked out of the window from time to time at all those kids. She needed someone on the graveyard shift, 11 at night until seven in the morning. She paid 65 cents an hour and I could start that night.

I raced home and called the teenager down the street that baby-sat for people. I bargained with her to come and sleep on my sofa for a dollar a night. She could arrive with her pajamas on and the kids would already be asleep. This seemed like a good arrangement to her, so we made a deal. That night when the little ones and I knelt to say our prayers we all thanked God for finding Mommy a job.

And so I started at the Big Wheel. When I got home in the mornings I woke the baby-sitter up and sent her home with one dollar of my tip money--fully half of what I averaged every night. As the weeks went by, heating bills added another strain to my meager wages. The tires on the old Chevy had the consistency of penny balloons and began to leak. I had to fill them with air on the way to work and again every morning before I could go home.

One bleak fall morning, I dragged myself to the car to go home and found four tires in the back seat. New tires! There was no note, no nothing, just those beautiful brand new tires. Had angels taken up residence in Indiana? I wondered. I made a deal with the owner of the local service station. In exchange for his mounting the new tires, I would clean up his office.

I remember it took me a lot longer to scrub his floor than it did for him to do the tires.

I was now working six nights instead of five and it still wasn't enough. Christmas was coming and I knew there would be no money for toys for the kids. I found a can of red paint and started repairing and painting some old toys. Then I hid them in the basement so there would be something for Santa to deliver on Christmas morning. Clothes were a worry too. I was sewing patches on top of patches on the boys pants and soon they would be too far gone to repair.

On Christmas Eve, the usual customers were drinking coffee in the Big Wheel. These were the truckers, Les, Frank, and Jim, and a state trooper named Joe. A few musicians were hanging around after a gig at the Legion and were dropping nickels in the pinball machine. The regulars all just sat around and talked through the wee hours of the morning and then left to get home before the sun came up.

When it was time for me to go home at seven o'clock on Christmas morning I hurried to the car. I was hoping the kids wouldn't wake up before I managed to get home and get the presents from the basement and place them under the tree. (We had cut down a small cedar tree by the side of the road down by the dump.) It was still dark and I couldn't see much, but there appeared to be some dark shadows in the car--or was that just a trick of the night? Something certainly looked different, but it was hard to tell what.

When I reached the car, I peered warily into one of the side windows. Then my jaw dropped in amazement. My old battered Chevy was full--full to the top with boxes of all shapes and sizes. I quickly opened the driver's side door, scrambled inside and kneeled in the front facing the back seat. Reaching back, I pulled off the lid of the top box. Inside was a whole case of little blue jeans, sizes 2-10! I looked inside another box: It was full of shirts to go with the jeans. Then I peeked inside some of the other boxes: There were candy and nuts and bananas and bags of groceries. There was an enormous ham for baking, and canned vegetables and potatoes. There was pudding and Jell-O and cookies, pie filling and flour. There was a whole bag of laundry supplies and cleaning items. And there were five toy trucks and one beautiful little doll.

As I drove back through empty streets as the sun slowly rose on the most amazing Christmas Day of my life, I was sobbing with gratitude. And I will never forget the joy on the faces of my little ones that precious morning. Yes, there were angels in Indiana that long-ago December. And they all hung out at the Big Wheel truck stop.

I BELIEVE IN ANGELS! They live next door, around the corner, work in your office, patrol your neighborhood, call you at midnight to hear you laugh and listen to you cry, teach your children, and you see them everyday without even knowing it!



Circle Meetings

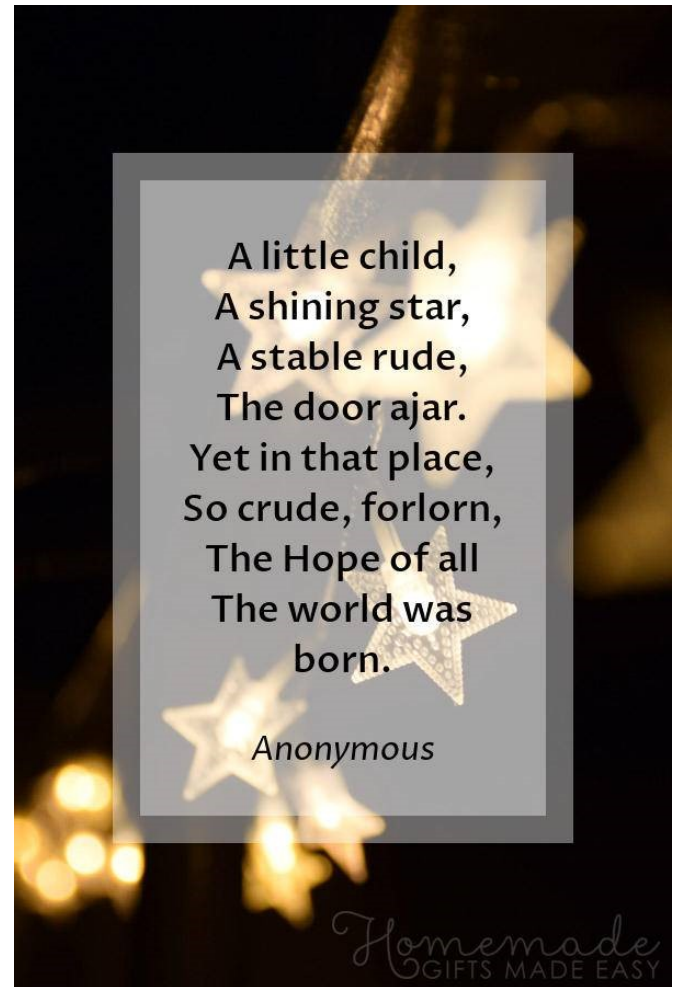
**Little Bethany WELCA**  
2:00 pm Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>

**NLLC WELCA MEETING**  
1:30 pm Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>



*"We are better throughout the year for having, in spirit, become a child again at Christmastime."*

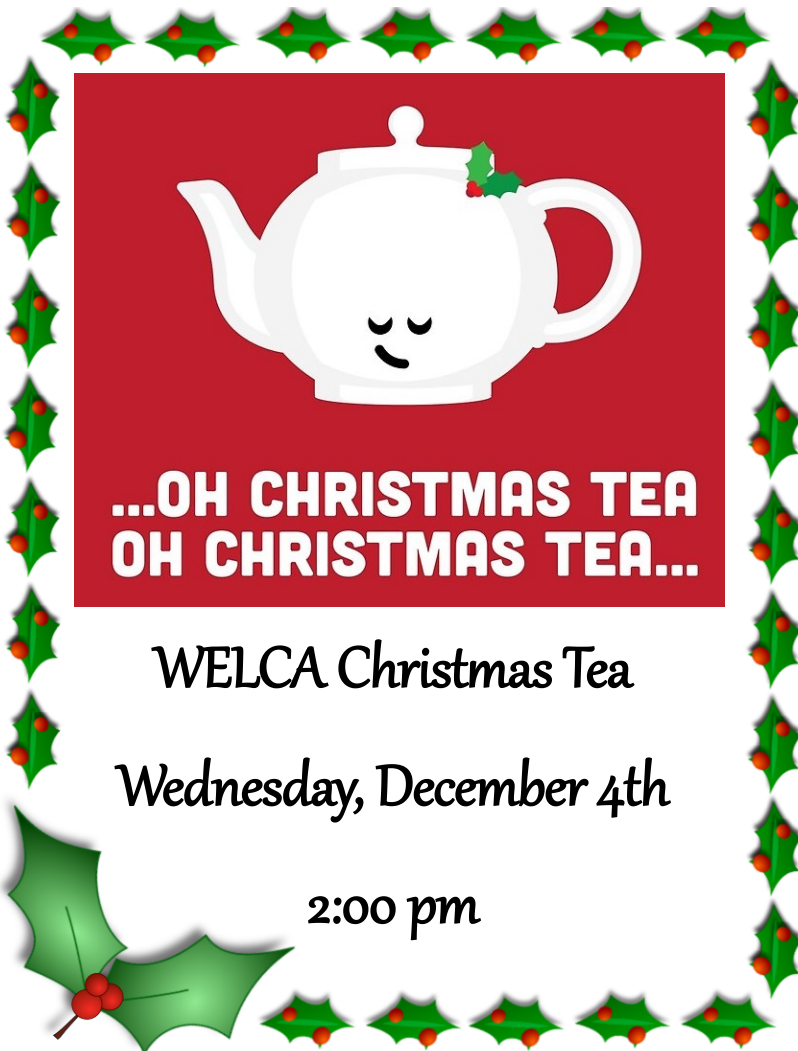
*- Laura Ingalls Wilder*



A little child,  
A shining star,  
A stable rude,  
The door ajar.  
Yet in that place,  
So crude, forlorn,  
The Hope of all  
The world was  
born.

Anonymous

*Homemade*  
GIFTS MADE EASY



**...OH CHRISTMAS TEA  
OH CHRISTMAS TEA...**

**WELCA Christmas Tea**

**Wednesday, December 4th**

**2:00 pm**

**Christmas is coming!  
Birthdays?  
Special Occasions?**



**Pick up a WELCA Quilt  
Donation of \$50.  
Check them out in the narthex.**



## Applying Bible Principles

Two men were visiting a factory where they were shown the rooms where huge machines were operating. Inside those rooms, the noise level was extremely high. Then the guide showed them a smaller room which was very quiet. One of the men commented that there was not much going on in this particular room. To which the guide replied, "This is the most important room in the entire plant. This is where the power comes from to run the huge machines. We call this room 'The Quiet Room.'" In the same way, the "power room" of the Christian life is the place where we daily meet and commune with God. It's where we find strength and power to meet the challenges that await us. Why don't we do that more often? Why for many of us is our private time of devotions sort of "hit and miss," with a greater emphasis on the "miss" than on the "hit"? Could it be that we do not sense our need of spending time alone with God each day?

The apostle Paul wrote, "Not that we are competent of ourselves to claim anything as coming from us; our competence is from God" (2 Cor. 3:5). In other words, on our own, we cannot live the Christian life. We are powerless to be what God wants us to be and to live as God wants us to live. "Our competence comes from God." That is why it's important for us to make time in our busy schedules for time alone with God.

Horatio Bonar, a minister who lived in the 1800s, knew this truth. This is how he expressed it in one of his hymns:

*Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face; Here would I touch and handle things unseen;  
Here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace, And all my weariness upon Thee lean.  
Here would I feed upon the bread of God, Here drink with Thee the royal wine of Heaven;  
Here would I lay aside each earthly load, Here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.  
I have no help but Thine; nor do I need Another arm save Thine to lean upon;  
It is enough, my Lord, enough indeed; My strength is in Thy might, Thy might alone.*

Think about this: There is no demand made upon your life or mine which isn't a demand upon the life of Christ in us. Only as we spend time alone with him, meditating upon the Word of God, bringing our requests in prayer, and receiving fresh strength can we be the kind of Christian God wants us.

Do you want to be effective in serving the Lord here at New Life? Do you want to do more than just go through the motions of Christian service? Do you want your efforts to make an impact on people for the sake of the Gospel and for eternity? Then realize that your strength and power come only from the "power room" of spending time daily in the Lord's presence so that you will have all that you need for the day ahead.

### **An Early Morning Prayer**

*I come before you, O Lord.  
As the sun rises may your hope rise up in me.  
As the birds sing may your love flow out of me.  
As the light floods into this new day,  
May your joy shine through me.  
I come before you, O Lord  
And drink in this moment of peace,  
That I may carry something of your hope, love and joy  
Today in my heart.  
  
Amen.*

### **Workplace Prayer**

My Heavenly father, as I enter this workplace I bring your presence with me. I speak your peace, your grace, your mercy, and your perfect order in this office. I acknowledge your power over all that will be spoken, thought, decided, and done within these walls.

Lord, I thank you for the gifts you have blessed me with. I commit to using them responsibly in your honor. Give me a fresh supply of strength to do my job. Anoint my projects, ideas, and energy so that even my smallest accomplishment may bring you glory.

Lord, when I am confused guide me. When I am burned out infuse me with the light of the Holy Spirit. May the work that I do and the way I do it bring faith, joy, and a smile to all that I come in contact with today.



## A King

© SANDRA HEARTH

*Christmas, a time of wonder and joy,  
A time to celebrate the birth of a baby boy.*

*A child innocent and true,  
A child sent as a gift to save me and you.*

*This wondrous story has reached all corners of this globe.  
A king is born but one who doesn't wear a royal robe.*

*He will grow to teach and to love.  
He will spread the word of his father above.*

*His gentle ways and his touch will turn water to wine.  
This newborn child is wondrous and divine.*

*His word will be placed in a book for all to read.  
His words will help heal all those who are in need.*

*This is the gift, no price to ever be given,  
And even after death he will be risen.*

*His cries can be heard by all living things.  
This beautiful baby will grow to be king.*

[MORE BY SANDRA HEARTH](#)

## NLLC FOUNDATION NEWS



The applications for college scholarships are due before January 4, 2020.

### HAMAR-HAAS SCHOLARSHIP

is available one time, to any full time post-secondary student who is a member of NLLC and provides proof of successful completion of at least one semester and is enrolled in the subsequent semester.

### ARNIE BRENDEN

#### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

is available for students attending a Christian college or seminary or pursuing a career in the ministry or Christian education.

#### The THOR SORUM SEMINARY SCHOLARSHIP

is available to a student who has completed at least one semester at a Lutheran seminary and is enrolled in the subsequent semester.

For applications, contact Kristi at the church office or on the website at <https://www.newlifeparish.net/forms/>

### Office Manager Opening

Looking for a little extra cash, part time hours, and/or an outlet for your creative tendency? Have we got the job for you!! New Life and Little Bethany Lutheran Churches are looking for a new secretary/office manager.

Some of the Job Requirements (for a full list contact the church office):

- Create weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters utilizing Publisher
- Record member giving and attendance with Icon Rubrics
- Answer mail, phones and emails
- Update member information
- Create certificates for Baptisms and Confirmation

Please send a resume and letter of interest to:

New Life Lutheran Church  
102 Main Ave. W  
Rothsay, MN 56579  
Email: [newlife@rtelnet.net](mailto:newlife@rtelnet.net)





# ABC'S OF CHRISTMAS

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 8**

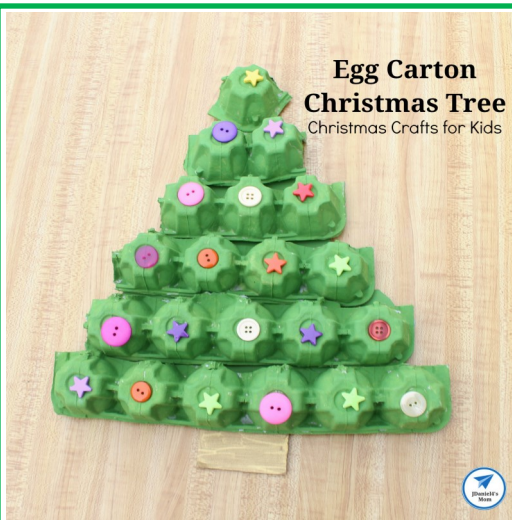
**10:00 AM**

PRACTICE FOR THE PERFORMANCE

SATURDAY DECEMBER 7

9:30-11:00AM

GRADES 2-5



### Directions

You will need to gather the following supplies

- [Green Acrylic Paint](#)
- [Gold Acrylic Paint](#)
- Scissors
- Two Egg Cartons Per Child
- Glue
- Buttons
- [Star Pony Beads](#)
- A piece of cardboard 13 inches by 11 inches in size.



The first thing you will need to do is cut out your tree shape. The tree section is 11 1/2 inches tall and the trunk is 1 1/2 inches tall. You will see below that I made the base of the tree wide and rest of the tree is a triangle. You don't have to copy what we did.

Next, you will need to cut out the six egg carton sections. The bottom row will use one side of the egg carton base. (It has six egg cups.) The row above it will need five egg sections or cups. Then the next row will need four egg sections. A three section row will come next. You will use the section left over from the four section row for the two section row. The top section is the leftover piece from the five section row.

### Painting the Egg Carton Tree

There three sections of the tree to paint. You will want to start with the sections that you need to paint green. All of the backs of the egg carton pieces need to be painted green. The tree part of the cardboard tree will also need to be painted green.

While they are drying, your children can paint the trunk of the tree gold. Gold paint will add a little shimmer to their Christmas crafts.

### Gluing the Tree Together

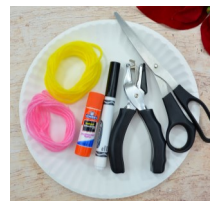
Each of the egg carton rows will need to be glued onto the tree. You can glue them all on a once or wait until a section is dry before adding another row. Once you have all the sections glued on, you may want to place a book on top of the finished tree or trees. It will press then egg carton sections onto the tree and help them to adhere.

### Decorating the Tree

You can decorate your tree with any Christmas themed odd and ends you have a home. We used buttons and star-shaped beads. You could also use any of the following:

- Holiday Stickers
- Beads
- Mini Ornaments
- Pom-Poms

# Kid's Page



### Supplies

- Paper plate
- Hole Punch
- Scissors
- Glue Stick
- Yarn - Try a fun Variegated Christmas yarn
- [Plastic Needle](#) (optional)
- Marker



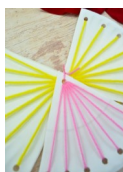
These little angel ornaments are so easy to make! They do require some adult setup. Here is how to prepare the project. Cut a paper plate into four equal sections.

From the top section cut out a circle for the head. Then cut out a small sliver from each side of the bottom section.



Now take your hole punch and evenly space holes out along the long sides of the three sections. Punch one hole near the tip of each section.

Lace the thread from the center hole to each of the outside holes on each of the sections.



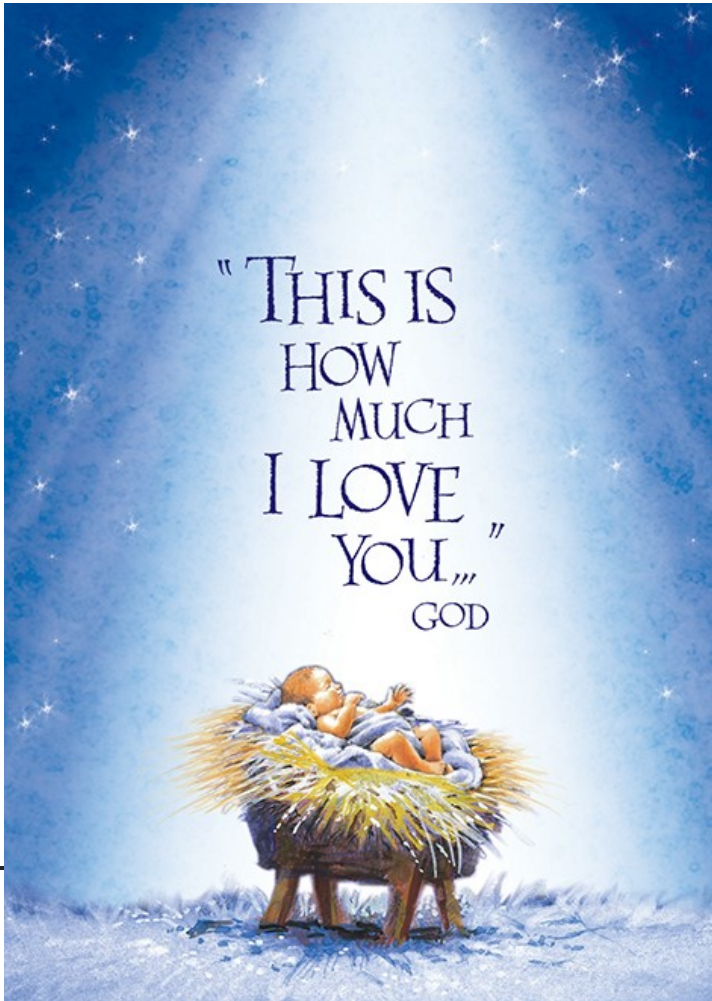
Next tie the three sections together.

Draw a face onto the circle, glue where the three sections meet.



- Let the kids lace [jingle bells](#) onto the angel.
- Color underneath the angels wings and body before lacing.
- Add glitter to the wings and body to add a fun touch of sparkle.
- Glue a trim around the edge, like ric rac or pom pom.
- Glue tissue paper underneath the lacing in pretty patterns, decoupage style.
- String a ribbon through the center hole to hang the angel from the tree.

Pencil in on  
your calendars



Christmas Potluck  
& WHITE ELEPHANT  
GIFT EXCHANGE

December 8th  
End of Year Celebration  
Christmas Potluck  
White Elephant  
Gift Exchange  
Crafting Christmas Cards  
Games

Service  
Opportunities

Winter Care Kits  
For the Homeless  
December 8th

Christmas Gift Suggestions:

- To your enemy, *forgiveness.*
- To an opponent, *tolerance.*
- To a friend, *your heart.*
- To a customer, *service.*
- To all, *charity.*
- To every child, *a good example.*
- To yourself, *respect.*

- Oren Arnold

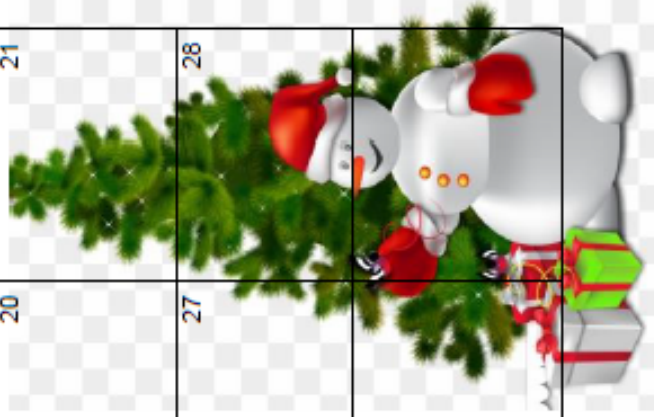
MESSAGES.365GREETINGS.COM



**New Life Lutheran Church**  
**Little Bethany Lutheran Church**

**DECEMBER**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:45am Worship at LB 9am Coffee Hour NL 10am Worship at NL	2 4:30 Tai Ji Quan	3	4 2 pm WELCA Christmas Tea 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm WOW 7:00 pm Confirmation	5 4:30 Tai Ji Quan	6	7 9:30-11:00 am Sunday School Christmas Program Practice 2 <sup>nd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Grades
8 8:45 am Worship at LB 9am Coffee Hour NL 9am Sunday School NL 10am Sunday School Christmas Program Youth Christmas Party 5:00 pm Lion's Club Meeting	9	10 1:30pm NLLC Ladies Bible Study 2pm LB Ladies Bible Study	11 4-7pm Advent Workshop 6:00 pm WOW 7:30 pm Council	12	13	14
15 8:45am Worship at LB 9am Coffee Hour NL 9am Sunday School NL 10am Worship at NL	16	17	18 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm WOW 7:00 pm Confirmation	19	20	21
22 8:45am Worship at LB 9am Coffee Hour NL 10am Worship at NL	23	24 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	25 Christmas	26	27	28
29 8:45am Worship at LB 9am Coffee Hour NL 10am Worship at NL	30	31				



## December Birthdays



The following is a list of the December birthdays as listed in our church records. If your name should be on the list and isn't (or is on the list and shouldn't be), please call the church office.

12/01~Melissa Nord	12/15 Charles Dupree IV
12/02~Patricia Nelson	12/15~Holly Nord
12:03~Stephanie Curtis	12/16~Amber Balken
12/03~Irene Melkert	12/16~Abigail Honer
12/06~Emily Christ	12/17~Jake Ihland
12/06~Jacob Christ	12/17~Justin Kugler
12/06~Natacha Evans	12/18~Alexis Craig
12/06~Jenna Fabre	12/18~Jasmine Ringquist
12/06~Jeffrey Melkert	12/20 ~ Connor Nelson
12/07~Jacob Balken	12/21~Elaine M Balken
12/07~Grace Carlsrud	12/21~Alan Brandt
12/08~Allen Flatin	12/21~Michael Haarstad
12/08~Cory Grunewald	12/21~Matthew Jensen
12/09~Matt Amundson	12/21~Dorothy Knutson
12/10~Greg Erickson	12/27~Deb Erickson
12/10~Stacey Lang	12/28~Braden Moen
12/10~Jerry Wigdahl	12/28~Hans Ronnevik
12/11~Nicholas Aaberg	12/29~Tracy Buchholz
12/11~Nathan Johnson	12/29~Doris Jorgenson
12/11~Berdella Sogn	12/29~Dorothy Jorgenson
12/12~Carly Aaberg	12/30~Jesse Helgeson
12/12~Doug Lindberg	12/30~Brian Opsahl
12/13~Gilman Nord	12/31~Kim Brenden
12/14~Tahren Petersen	12/31~Larry Teberg

## December Anniversaries



The following is a list of the December Anniversaries as listed in our church records. If your names should be on the list and aren't or are on the list and shouldn't be), please call the church office.

12/07 ~ Stacy & Jennifer Honer
12/18 ~ Steve & Linda Frosli
12/21 ~ Marcus & Brianna Erickson
12/26 ~ Douglas & Anita Lindberg
12/27 ~ Michael & Linda Haarstad
12/30 ~ Terry & Connie Hauger



### December SOUND SYSTEM OPERATORS

December 1  
December 8  
December 15  
December 22  
December 24  
December 29

### SCRIPTURE READERS FOR DECEMBER

December 1	John Reber
December 8	Heather Reber
December 15	Gavin Toso
December 22	Jessica Nelson
December 24	John Reber
December 29	



### Website/Mobile Directory/App

Website: [www.newlifeparish.net](http://www.newlifeparish.net)

Mobile Directory: <https://mobiledirectory.lifetouch.com/177579/new-life-lutheran-church>  
Access Code: **92017**



App: Download **sharefaith** app from google play or the app store. Open sharefaith app Church is



**New Life Lutheran Church**  
PO Box 278  
102 Main Ave. West  
Rothsay, MN 56579




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ROTHSAY, MN 56579**

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«CITY, STATE» «Z1P»

**New Life News** is a monthly publication of New Life Lutheran Church and Little Bethany Lutheran Church. Articles are due by the 15th each month.



**Pastor:** Rev. Randy Whitehead  
**Office Manager:** Kristi Pfingsten  
**Youth Director:** Jessica Nelson

(218) 867-6557  
e-mail: [newlife@rtelnet.net](mailto:newlife@rtelnet.net)  
[www.newlifeparish.net](http://www.newlifeparish.net)

**December Bible Reading Schedule:**

Dec 1: 1Cor 9-11	Dec 16: Ephesians
Dec 2: 1Cor 12-14	Dec 17: Philippians
Dec 3: 1Cor 15-16	Dec 18: 1 Timothy
Dec 4: 2Cor 1-4	Dec 19: Titus
Dec 5: 2Cor 5-9	Dec 20: 1 Peter
Dec 6: 2Cor 10-13	Dec 21: Heb 1-6
Dec 7: Acts 20:1-3; Rom 1-3	Dec 22: Heb 7-10
Dec 8: Rom 4-7	Dec 23: Heb 11-13
Dec 9: Rom 8-10	Dec 24: 2 Timothy
Dec 10: Rom 11-13	Dec 25: 2 Peter; Jude
Dec 11: Rom 14-16	Dec 26: 1 John
Dec 12: Acts 20:4-23:35	Dec 27: 2/3 John
Dec 13: Acts 24-26	Dec 28: Rev 1-5
Dec 14: Acts 27-28	Dec 29: Rev 6-11
Dec 15: Colossians; Philemon	Dec 30: Rev 12-18
	Dec 31: Rev 19-22