FEBRUARY 2021 Volume 21, Issue 2



NLLC COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mike Heidecker, President

701-866-7235 mheidecker@rdoequipment.com

Jessi Colby, Vice President 218-329-7496 jessibcolby@gmail.com

Brenda Balken, Secretary 701-771-0004 brendamae88@vahoo.com

Joyce Peterson, Evangelism, Family Life & Social Concerns Committee mipeterson@rothsay.us

Diane Kunze, Worship Committee 218-671-0885

Stephanie Olson, Education Committee 218-867-2546 blahbob@yahoo.com

Jessica Nelson, Youth Committee 701-412-6512 jessica.l.krick@gmail.com

John Reber, Stewardship Committee 218-770-8145 john.reber@gmail.com

Gayla Western, Property Committee 218-770-2950 gaylahaukos@gmail.com

NEW LIFE & LITTLE BETHANY WORSHIP OPPORTUNTIES

Sunday Worship Times

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

Holy Communion:

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

Sunday each month

Coffee Fellowship:

Cancelled until further notice

Sunday School

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

Youth Group at NLLC

Check the Youth Page

WELCA/Bible Studies:

Cancelled until further notice

ANNUAL MEETING IN THE PARKING LOT

10:45 am Sunday, February 7th

YOUTH CLOSE-UP CHALLENGE VIA ZOOM

8:00 pm Sunday, February 7th

CONFIRMATION VIA ZOOM

5:30 pm Wednesday, February 10th 7:00 pm Wednesday, February 10th

NLLC COUNCIL MEETING

6:30 pm Wednesday, February 10th

FIRST INDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE

11:00 am Sunday, February 14th

ASH WEDNESDAY - ONLINE

Wednesday, February 17th

YOUTH GROUP ZOOM

8:00 pm Sunday, February 21st

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY - ONLINE

Wednesday February 24th

SERVICE GROUP LEADERS

February Glenn & Tammy Lankow

Doris & Wayne Moen

March Alan & Mary Brandt

Eric & Kim Larson

Office Manager Hours

Tuesday - 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Wednesday - 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Thursday - 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

* Bold are just to help differentiate each individual and their contact information.

(If you are on this list and your information is incorrect or missing please contact Patrice in the office)

Committee	Name	Email	
Christian Education:	Hillary Langfeld Missy Amundson Nikki Oien	hillary_johnson@hotmail.com meshelman@hotmail.com n_august16@hotmail.com	
Church Property:	Brian Buchholz John Kunze Jon Reber	btbuch81@rrt.net	
Evangelism, Family Life, & Social Concerns:	Marlowe Rasmusson Nancy Aaberg	marlowe@rtelnet.net	
	Tracy Buchholz Faith Waldoch Linda Haarstad Gail Reber	btbuch81@rrt.net waldochf@yahoo.com haarstad.linda@gmail.com gail.reber@gmail.com	
Stewardship:	Tammy Lankow Bruce Brenden Kristen Heidecker	tmoenlankow@gmail.com kbrenden@hotmail.com kheidecker@rothsay.k12.mn.us	
Worship & Music:	Heather Reber Jennifer Honer Steph Curtis	hreber@rothsay.k12.mn.us stacyandjen@yahoo.com scurtis@rothsay.k12.mn.us	
outh:	Kari Carlsrud Kellie Barry Heather Nelson	jkcarlsrud@yahoo.com kopsahl11@icloud.com Heather.Nelson@state.mn.us	
NLLC Foundation Board:	Julie Brenden Eric Nelson Mike Heidecker Chris Heie r	jbrenden@rtelnet.net enelson58@gmail.com mheidecker@rdoequipment.com	
Council Representative:	John Reber	john.reber@gmail.com	
NLLC Cemetery Board:	Harry Opsahl Kim Lang Tom Jensen Kevin Watterud Alan Brandt Warren Helgeson	kskj@rothsay.us	
Service Group Coordinators:	Elaine M Balken Tracy Buchholz Deb Opsahl	ewbalken@rtelnet.net btbuch81@rrt.net dopsahl59@icloud.com	
Nominating Committee:	Steph Curtis Doris Moen Heather Reber Mary Jo Gaugler Bruce Brenden Lynn Brenden	scurtis@rothsay.k12.mn.us wadomoen@prtel.com hreber@rothsay.k12.mn.us cupajo28@hotmail.com kbrenden@hotmail.com	
Audit Committee:	Arnie Moen Dan Froslie Natacha Evans	amoen@rtelnet.net danfroslie@gmail.com	
Synod Assembly Delegates:	Marlowe Rasmusson Faith Waldoch	marlowe@rtelnet.net waldochf@yahoo.com	

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,



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

Eric Kolbell writes:

Four months after our 14-year-old daughter Kate was hit by a car and nearly killed, we had to return to the hospital for some follow-up surgery. It was a triumphal return of sorts because by all accounts she never should have survived the accident. But not only did she survive, her recuperation had been nothing short of miraculous, and her prognosis was good.

The day after the surgery, when she was understandably woozy and recuperating in the pediatric ICU, a funny thing happened. One by one, totally independent of one another, the medical staff who had treated her came to her bedside, each saying essentially the same thing. "Kate, you wouldn't remember me," they'd tell her, "but I worked with you when you were here this (past) summer. It's good to see you." Nurses, doctors, therapists, clergy, social workers, even volunteers joined the queue until, after about a dozen or so had come by, I pulled one of them aside.

"Nancy, it's wonderful that you've all taken the time to come by—it means a great deal to us." I told the nurse, "but I get the sense there's something more going on here than meets the eye. I get the sense that you folks need to do this."

"We do," she told me. "You see, for every ten kids who come to us as seriously injured as she was, there's maybe one Kate, one kid who beats the odds and makes it through." She told me that they needed to see her because it's that joy that sustains them through all the pain and sadness they see the rest of the time. "It's what keeps us coming back and doing our job."

As I read this story, tears welled up in my eyes as I thought about all the doctors, nurses, various hospital workers and staff, and the EMTs, police, and other first responders who have to deal with such catastrophic events daily, weekly, or monthly. I recalled, years ago in a community I used to serve, my agreeing to meet with some first responders who were going through some difficulties. I was expecting perhaps one or two might show up, but then being stunned when the whole crew of 8-10 members showed. Some had come just to support the others, but most shared stories of sleepless nights as they kept reliving the trauma of certain calls they had gone out on. They shared also about the anxiety, distraction and mood swings they were experiencing, and the resulting difficulties in their relationships. These rescuers and healers who were doing so much for others in their community were hurting. They were showing classic symptoms of post-traumatic stress. And they knew it. But, because there were so few of them and there was no one else to go out to face future emergencies, they continued to try to keep on working despite the symptoms—to, hopefully, help save lives. These men and women were living on the edge—and that was when times were considered normal. Imagine, now, how it is for the men and women all across the board, in hospitals, in nursing homes, on first responder calls, and all the rest imagine how much harder it has to be with thousands upon thousands of added suffering and deaths due to COVID. Please keep these people in your prayers.

It's not just those 65 and older or those with pre-existing conditions whose lives are affected by the COVID virus. (Though, it seems to me that this should be enough to keep us masking and social-distancing.) COVID's web is much greater. The idea that I keep hearing that we should just forget about the masks, the social distancing and the other precautions, that we should just go on about our normal routines and let nature take its course, seems terribly naïve to me. The impact from this crisis reaches much deeper into our society. And the affects will have repercussions for years to come. I know our COVID numbers are down in our area, but not so in many other states. If we fail to remain vigilant, our numbers too could again rise and threaten to overwhelm. Please take those commercials with doctors and nurses pleading with us to wear our masks in public and to continue social-distancing seriously. Let's give our medical people and our more vulnerable people the best chances they can get. They all deserve more than just our prayers. Thank you all in advance!

Take care and God bless!

Yours in Christ,

Fastor Randy

New Life Lutheran Church Council met at 6:30 pm on January 13th, 2021 at NLLC in Rothsay MN and some virtually. Present were: Mike Heidecker, Jessi Colby, John Reber, Diane Kunze, Jessica Nelson, Steph Olson, Gayla Western, Randy Whitehead, Renae Froslie, and Patrice Ziegler.

The meeting opened with devotions from Steph.

- **1.0 Approval of Agenda:** Diane made a motion to approve the amended agenda, Steph seconded it, motion carried.
- **2.0 Approval of December 2020 Council Minutes:** Jessi made a motion to approve, Steph seconded it, motion carried.
- **3.0 Treasurers Report:** Still unknown if the Payment Protection Plan is forgiven at this time, so it remains unused. John made a motion to approve the December treasurer's report, Diane seconded, motion carried.

4.0 Ongoing Business

- **4.1 Budget update:** The meeting closed at 6:40 p.m. Randy, Jess, and Patrice were asked to excuse themselves since staff reviews haven't been completed yet. The meeting reopened at 7:04 pm. John made a motion to bring the proposed budget for 2021 to the annual meeting for approval, Diane seconded, motion carried.
- 4.2 Smart Team update: The SMART team met January 9th. It was discussed since COVID cases are on the decline and a vaccine is beginning to be distributed that it may be time to open for indoor worship. The SMART team recommended to the council that we have a trial service with staff and council members on Jan. 31st, and hold the first indoor service for members on February 14th. This service would be held at 11:00 am following the parking lot worship service. Reservations are recommended. John made a motion to move forward with the SMART teams recommendation, Diane seconded, motion carried.
- **4.3 Technology update:** John got Patrice's laptop is up and running minus a few kinks. John purchased a new cable to see if it will help with feedback for the parking lot worship service.
- **4.4 Annual Meeting:** There was discussion about how the annual meeting will be held. Council decided that an outdoor meeting would be the best avenue. Annual meeting reports will be available for members to pick up on January 27th. Annual reports can be delivered per request. President and Vice president terms are incorrect, they should be changed to 1 year terms, instead of 2 years as currently listed.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Correspondence: N/A

5.2 Upcoming events:

January 24th - Youth Bob Ross in a box

January 27th - Confirmation February 10th - Confirmation February 17th - Ash Wednesday

5.3 Lenten season: Will focus on the Gospel of Mark. See 6.0 for more details.

- **6.0 Pastor's report:** Randy has been busy working on the south sacristy railing. On average there are 35 views on the weekly YouTube sermon, and 15 vehicles for the parking lot worship. The council decided that Ash Wednesday would be posted online, families can pick up little packets of ashes if they would like to continue with the tradition at home. Lenten services will begin online and if COVID conditions lessen will be moved into in person services. We are in need of 2 representatives to attend the assembly in Fergus Falls on March 7th at 2pm via zoom. There is also a need for 1 male representative to attend the Churchwide Assembly in 2022 in Ohio.
- **7.0 Youth Director's report:** Jessica held a Kahoot zoom with youth on the 10th. It was great to be able to have some time with the youth even if we can't be in person during this time. The next youth event will be Bob Ross in a box, youth can pick up a box consisting of a canvas, 3 random paints, paintbrushes, and snacks. They will meet via zoom and follow a Bob Ross video. The paintings will be posted on line for members to vote on their favorite. The top 3 will get a prize. Jessica led confirmation on the 6th.
- **8.0 Office Manager's report:** Elizabeth, Julianna, & Alivia Ringquist have requested transfer. Patrice has printed giving statements to be mailed to congregation members.

9.0 WELCA: No Report

10.0 NLLC Foundation report: No Report

11.0 Committee reports:

<u>Worship & Music –</u> Committee has been working with the SMART team to reopen for indoor worship.

Education – No Report

Evangelism & Mission/Family Life & Social

Concerns - No Report

<u>Church Property</u> – No Report

<u>Stewardship</u> – John had been busy at work so we didn't get the mailing out that we had discussed at the last meeting. John passed out a sheet that listed total monthly offerings throughout the years. It shows that a decline began to happen once shut down hit in March. There wasn't any major differences this year vs. last year except for 3 months.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:09pm with the Lord's Prayer. Respectfully Submitted,

Patrice Ziegler

Tentative Indoor Worship

Tentatively we are planning to hold our first indoor worship service of the year on

February 14, 2021 at 11:00 am

We appreciate your cooperation and willingness to follow the guidance provided to us from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH). Without everyone's compliance the indoor worship services will not be allowed to continue. Here are the practices that will allow us to have indoor worship:

- *Masks must be worn at all times inside the building along with social distancing (maintaining 6 feet between household groups).
- *Attendees will need to keep your coats and personal items with you as you enter the sanctuary and are seated.
- *All people entering the building will need to sign in and provide a contact number. This is for contact tracing should the church be informed that someone attending has been diagnosed with COVID-19.
- *Congregational singing will not be allowed due to added risk of the spread of COVID-19. We may incorporate some special music, but this will be very limited and highly regulated according to MDH guidelines.
- *No food or beverages served, and no fellowship time, before, during or after the worship service.
- *Offering plates will not be passed. Offerings can be dropped in the offering containers as you enter or leave the sanctuary.
- *At least 3 volunteer staff will be needed for each service. One to assist with the signing in process, one to direct people, one to serve as the Compliance Officer (the state mandated person charged with ensuring everyone in attendance is complying with the rules—sort of a "saintly" church bouncer type.)

Please also note that MDH guidelines continue to discourage vulnerable people from attending indoor worship services even with the above precautions. Vulnerable people are defined as those 65 years old and older, and/or those with pre-existing conditions.

- For all those uncomfortable with the higher risk of exposing yourselves or others to COVID-19 in such an indoor group setting, we will continue our drive-in, parking lot worship services at 10 am each Sunday, and our online worship services.
- Thank you for your continued patience and understanding in these challenging times!

A more in-depth letter will be sent to congregation members in the following week, please be on the look out for that. We ask that you read through the letter thoroughly before resuming indoor worship services.

NLLC Annual Meeting

The NLLC annual meeting will be held on **February 7, 2021** following the parking lot worship service. We ask that you remain in your vehicles in the parking lot following worship.

Reports are available in the church lobby for members to pick up.

Office manager hours are Tues., Wed., & Thurs. 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Otherwise feel free to stop by when Pastor Randy's vehicle is outside.

If you are uncomfortable coming inside, give the church office a call and someone will bring a copy out to your vehicle.

You must be present at the meeting in order to vote.

Lenten Season

Lent this year will be an online bible study. Videos will be posted on the NLLC Facebook page and on the website at newlifeparish.net.

We are looking for 8-16 people who would be willing to come in and record a chapter reading from the book of Mark for these bible study's.

There will be packets of ashes available to pick up in the church lobby beginning February 1st for anyone that wants to participate in the placing of the ashes on your forehead at home, during the Ash Wednesday Bible Study. Ashes may be limited and will be first come, first served.



8:45 am at Little Bethany Lutheran Church

10:00 am at New Life Lutheran Church
(Tune in your radio to 101.3, online
bulletins available at newlifeparish.net)

Please feel free to bring a lawn chair to sit outside, you can also bring an umbrella or canopy for shade.

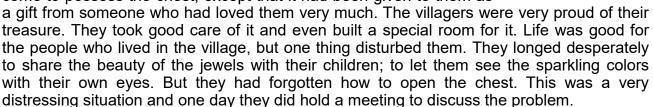
Feel free to wave or yell "Hello" to others while practicing social distancing and maintaining 6 feet away from those not in your immediate household.

Masks are not required but are encouraged if you are sitting outside of your vehicle.

If you are unable to access the online version of the weekly bulletin for the parking lot worship service and would like a copy mailed to you please call Patrice in the church office at 867-6557. If no one is available please leave your name, number, and mailing address on the answering machine and we will add you to the list. Once there was a little village nestled securely in a valley between two mountains. Its people were very advanced compared with those who lived in the neighboring villages.

They had learned how to build bridges, how to farm the slopes of the mountains, how to make laws to govern themselves, and how to write poetry about the beauty that surrounded them.

The villagers had a special treasure ... a chest filled with beautiful jewels. No one could remember just how or when the village had first come to possess the chest, except that it had been given to them as



Everyone agreed how very important it was for the children to be able to see the jewels

with their own eyes, but when they got around to discussing how the chest might be opened, no one felt qualified to open it or had the time to try. Each year they passed a resolution about how important it was for their children to see the jewels with their own eyes. And yet each year no one felt qualified to open the chest or had the time to try.

The moral of this story is if you don't take time, it will take you. The trail of broken promises and commitments in our lives is paved with the excuse of not having time. Stewardship is the experience of turning intentions into actions.



NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH FINANCIAL INFORMATION

December 2020

December Income	\$ 21,458.93
December Disbursements	(\$ 15,809.50)
December Less in/out Income	<u>\$ 1,857.50</u>
December Net Income	\$ 7 506 93

January 2021 Giving Outlook 100% Giving 3-Jan 1,223 10-Jan 2,313 80% 17-Jan 1,863 24-Jan 888 60% 31-Jan e-giving 1,495 40% **Monthly** 16,728 Goal: Giving 20% Total: 7,782 Goal 47% 0%

Grow Old Along with me The Best is Yet To Be

The following is a list of our members who are either in a nursing home or are homebound. We understand that during this time you may not be able to stop by, but a phone call may go a long ways! You can always call ahead and see if a visit would be welcomed.

Berdella Sogn ~ 394 Woodland Dr. #211, Fergus Falls. (Phone 998-7241)

Debbie Faulkner ~ 1131 Mabelle Ave. Room B-209 Fergus Falls (Pioneer Care)

Lonny Western ~ 117 E Hilltop Dr. Fergus Falls (218-739-5613)

Delores Lerbakken ~ Rosewood on Broadway, 1351 N. Broadway, Fargo, (701-277-7999)

Phyllis Balken ~ 1315 S. Mable Ave. Fergus Falls, MN 56537 (218-998-9974)

Eleanor Opsahl ~ 215 E. Mill Ave. #101 Pelican Rapids, MN 56572

Donna Nord ~ 2401 11th St. S #109 Moorhead, MN 56560

If you know of someone who should be on this list, please call Patrice at the church office at: (218) 867-6557.



Circle Meetings

TENTATIVE DATES -SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Little Bethany WELCA
Cancelled until further notice

NLLC WELCA MEETING
Cancelled until further notice

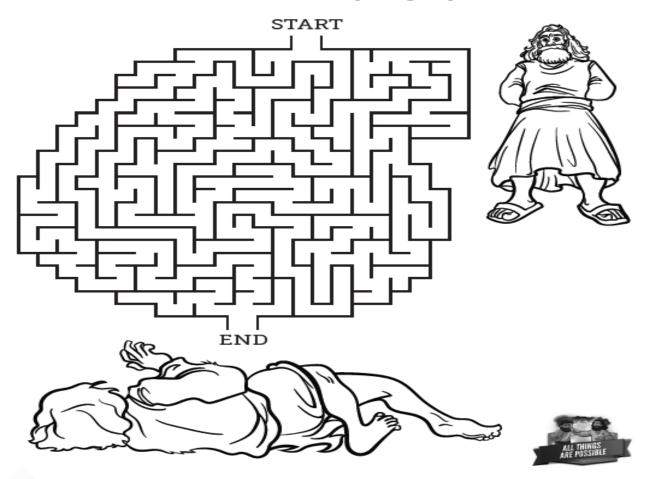
There will be NO WELCA "Love Day" in February.
The WELCA board plans to meet in March to
assess the COVID-19 situation along with state
mandates and guidelines. This will help them
determine how/when to move forward.



Quilts for sale! Made by the women of New Life Church! All sizes and price ranges. A great gift for Christmas. On display at the church or by appointment. If interested, you can stop by the church Wednesday afternoons or call: Elaine Balken, 218-867-2352 or Dar Rose, 218-867-2276.

ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE

Guide Jesus to the young boy.



Pencil In On Your Calendars

Close-up Challenge via Zoom

February 7th

8:00 pm

Take three random photos of random objects throughout your home and send them to Jess by Friday, Feb., 5th. Jess will edit them to make them close-ups. During youth group everyone will try to guess what the objects are. The winner (whoever guesses the most correctly) will win a prize!

We will also be sharing our highs and lows.

Zoom meeting ID for both meetings: 355 966 9286

Password for both meetings: NLLCyouth

Youth Group Zoom

February 21st

8:00 pm

Packets will be prepared with a few activities and hot chocolate. These will be available for you to pick up from the church beginning February 14th.

We will spend the evening reflecting together on the Lenten season and what it means/will bring while we color and chat!

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New Life Lutheran Church Little Bethany Lutheran Church

_	9	13	20	27	
Saturday					
Friday	KO	12	19	28	
Thursday	4	11	18	25	
Wednesday	e	5:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm NLLC Council meeting 7:00 pm Confirmation	Ash Wednesday Online Recording	24 Lenten Bible Study Online Recording	
Tuesday	GROUND GROUND	0	91	23	
Monday	-	ω	75 Manual	22	
Sunday		7 8:45 am Worship at LB 10:00 am Parking lot Worship at NL 10:45 am Annual Meeting at NL 8:00 pm Youth Close-up Challenge via Zoom	8:45 am Worship at LB 10:00 am Parking lot Worship at NL 11:00 am Indoor Worship at NL	8:45 am Worship at LB 10:00 am Parking lot Worship at NL 11:00 am Indoor Worship at NL 8:00 pm Youth Group via Zoom	28 8:45 am Worship at LB 10:00 am Parking lot Worship at NL 11:00 am Indoor Worship at NL



The following is a list of birthdays as listed in our church records for this month. 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.

2/01 ~ Roger Sundby	2/16 ~ Amy Meyer
2/04 ~ Bill Nitz	2/16 ~ Gene Nord
2/04 ~ Kristi Friederichs	2/18 ~ Mary Jensen
2/06 ~ Ron Amundson	2/21 ~ Connor Majerus
2/06 ~ Janice Rudh	2/22 ~ Phyllis Balken
2/08 ~ Pasha Boyce	2/22 ~ Jennifer Honer
2/08 ~ Korene Moore	2/22 ~ Kelly Nelson
2/12 ~ Frank Ringer IV	2/23 ~ Kristen Hanson
2/13 ~ Lynn Brenden	2/23 ~ Diane Haugrud
2/14 ~ Tanner Heier	2/25 ~ Noah Brenden
2/14 ~ Paul Ihland	2/26 ~ Cale Brandt
2/15 ~ Wyatt Curtis	2/26 ~ Ariana Hansen
2/15 ~ Betty Magnusson	2/27 ~ Cora Honer
2/16 ~ TyAnn Anderson	2/27 ~ Merlin Watterud
2/16 ~ Dana Holland III	2/28 ~ Shauna Schleeter
2/16 ~ Harold Larson	



~ DC12

The following is a list of Anniversaries as listed in our church records for this month. 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.

2/15 ~ Clifford & Marilyn Moen

SOUND SYSTEM OPERATORS FOR THIS MONTH

February 7 - Jennifer Honer **February 14** - Stephanie Curtis

February 14 - Stephanie Curtis



February 28 - Nathan Ziegler

We are always looking for volunteers to run our sound system. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the church office. Training is available.

SCRIPTURE READERS FOR THIS MONTH

February 7 -

February 14 -

February 21 -

February 28 -



We are always looking for volunteers for future readings. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the church office.

Website/Mobile Directory/App

Website: 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

NLLC Rothsay

Find us on Facebook at New Life Lutheran Church



New Life Lutheran Church PO Box 278 102 Main Ave. West

Rothsay, MN 56579



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

«FIRST NAME» «LAST NAME» «ADDRESS1» «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: Office Manager: Youth Director Rev. Randy Whitehead Patrice Ziegler Jessica Nelson

(218) 867-6557 e-mail: newlife@rtelnet.net www.newlifeparish.net

February Bible Reading Schedule:

Feb 1: Ex 7-9 Feb 15: Lev 8-10 Feb 2: Ex 10-12 Feb 16: Lev 11-13 Feb 3: Ex 13-15 Feb 17: Lev 14-15 Feb 4: Ex 16-18 Feb 18: Lev 16-18 Feb 5: Ex 19-21 Feb 19: Lev 19-21 Feb 6: Ex 22-24 Feb 20: Lev 22-23 Feb 7: Ex 25-27 Feb 21: Lev 24-25 Feb 8: Ex 28-29 Feb 22: Lev 26-27 Feb 9: Ex 30-32 Feb 23: Num 1-2 Feb 10: Ex 33-35 Feb 24: Num 3-4 Feb 11: Ex 36-38 Feb 25: Num 5-6 Feb 12: Ex 39-40 Feb 26: Num 7 Feb 13: Lev 1-4 Feb 27: Num 8-10 Feb 14: Lev 5-7 Feb 28/29: Num 11-13