

New Life News

New Life Lutheran Church & Little Bethany Lutheran Church

www.newlifeparish.net

New Life office hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

newlife@rtelnet.net or 218-867-6557

December Scheduled Events

December 2nd

9:00 am Little Bethany Annual meeting

December 3rd

8:45 am Worship at Little Bethany with Holy Communion

9:00 am Coffee at New Life

9:00 am Sunday School at New Life

10:00 am Worship at New Life with Holy Communion

11:00 am Youth Service Event

December 5th

10:30 am Bible Study

December 6th

5:45 pm Pop-up Supper

5:45 pm "Young" Women's Fellowship

6:00 pm Confirmation

7:00 pm WOW

December 7th

3:00 pm Communion in Pelican Rapids

December 10th - Sunday School Program

8:45 am Worship at Little Bethany

9:00 am Coffee at New Life

9:00 am Sunday School at New Life

10:00 am Worship at New Life **Sunday School Program**

11:00 am Youth Summer event parent meeting

December 12th

10:30 am Bible Study

December 13th

1:30 pm Quilting & meeting

6:00 pm Confirmation

December 14th

10:30 am American Legion Auxiliary

6:00 pm Lions Club meeting

December 17th

8:45 am Worship at Little Bethany

9:00 am Coffee at New Life

10:00 am Worship at New Life with
Holy Communion

12:30 pm Open house at Pastor Randy &
Mary Jo's home

Time TBD: Youth Christmas Party

December 20th

6:00 pm Confirmation

7:00 pm WOW

December 21st

Office Closed

December 24th - Christmas Eve

8:45 am Worship at Little Bethany

4:00 pm Candlelight Worship at New Life

December 25th - Christmas Day

Private family gathering

December 31st - New Years Eve

8:45 am Tentative worship at Little Bethany

9:00 am Coffee at New Life

10:00 am Worship at New Life

Pastor Randy is on vacation
December 25th - January 2nd.

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NLLC COUNCIL MEMBERS

Bruce Brenden, President
218-731-6559 kbrenden@hotmail.com

Brandon Langfeld, Vice President

Kristin Torgerson, Secretary
218-205-2281 knotorgerson@gmail.com

Joyce Peterson, Evangelism, Family Life &
Social Concerns Committee
218-770-4006 mjpeterson@rothsay.us

Jennifer Honer, Worship & Music Committee

Stephanie Olson, Education Committee
218-867-2546 stepholson80@gmail.com

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

Kevin Brenden, Stewardship Committee
218-849-1124 klbrenden@rothsay.us

Marlowe Rasmusson, Property Committee
218-770-1045 marlowe@rtelnet.net

SERVICE GROUP LEADERS

December	Chris Buckingham & Terri Anderson Nathan & Patrice Ziegler
January	Mike & Linda Haarstad Pat Nelson

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

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

Perhaps my favorite Christmas song is not one of the traditional Christmas hymns. No, my favorite Christmas song was written by an American composer, Katherine Kennicott Davis, in 1941. Originally titled "Carol of the Drum," it now is known as, "The Little Drummer Boy."



Little Drummer Boy

Come they told me, pa rum pum pum pum
A new born King to see, pa rum pum pum pum
Our finest gifts we bring, pa rum pum pum pum
To lay before the King, pa rum pum pum pum,
Rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum,

So to honor Him, pa rum pum pum pum,
When we come.

Baby Jesu, pa rum pum pum pum
I am a poor boy too, pa rum pum pum pum
I have no gifts to bring, pa rum pum pum pum
That's fit to give the King, pa rum pum pum pum,
Rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum,

Shall I play for you, pa rum pum pum pum,
On my drum?

Mary nodded, pa rum pum pum pum
The ox and lamb kept time, pa rum pum pum pum
I played my drum for Him, pa rum pum pum pum
I played my best for Him, pa rum pum pum pum,
Rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum,

Then He smiled at me, pa rum pum pum pum
Me and my drum.

I love this song because it's simple, yet so very powerful, as it speaks of the heart of our loving God. This God who created the wonder and majesty of this world and the vastness of the universe which surrounds it, is not so mighty that he forgets the tiny specks that we, essentially, are within this massive and beautiful creation. Instead, knowing our frailty, desperation, and need, he chooses to enter into his own creation to be here with us. And he doesn't come arrayed with all the trappings of a God or king, and the layers of security that would keep us at more than an arm's length. He comes, instead, in the vulnerability of a babe, born in a foul-smelling stable, to a poor peasant girl and her humble carpenter husband, in a dry, dusty corner that was little more than nowhere.

This is the God I see in the song "The Little Drummer Boy"—a God who meets us where we are. A God who accepts us as we are—rich or poor, refined or rough, young or old, happy or sad, black or white or red or brown or yellow. None of that matters. And, he doesn't expect magnificent wonders from us. But, when in our humility we "play our best for him"—whatever our gifts or talents might be, this God cannot help but smile.

What are your gifts, your talents? Are they fit for this King? You, like the little drummer boy, may not think so, but they are—whatever they may be. And there is nothing better than when you choose to share your gifts with him.

Today, we may not find him in a stable, but all we need to do is look around and we will find him. . .



Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who 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 brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' [Matthew 25: 34-40]

My prayer for each of us this Christmas is that we might find a way to play our best for "Him" wherever we find him.

Then he smiled at me, pa rum pum pum pum, me and my drum.

Take care, God bless, and have a truly, wonderfully joyful Christmas!

Pastor Randy

New Life Lutheran Church

Unapproved minutes from November 8th, 2023

The New Life Lutheran Church council met November 8th, 2023 at 6:35pm. Members present; Brandon Langfeld, Kristin Torgerson, Patty Ziegler, Renae Froslee, Mary Brandt, Joyce Peterson, Steph Olson, Jennifer Honer, Marlow Rasmusson, Bruce Brenden, Jessica Nelson, Pastor Randy Whitehead.

The meeting was opened with devotions done by Steph Olson.

1.0 Approval of agenda: Motion made by Joyce Peterson, seconded by Brandon Langfeld. Motion carried.

2.0 Approval of October 2023 Council minutes: Motion made by Jessica Nelson, seconded by Steph Olson. Motion carried.

3.0 Treasurer's report October 2023: Motion made by Jennifer Honer, seconded by Steph Olson. Motion carried.

4.0 Ongoing business:

4.1 Technology update: Few glitches and wiring to be done.

4.2 Staff reviews: Reviews went well.

4.3 2024 Budget: Executive committee will meet prior to Dec meeting to discuss and give a recommendation.

4.4 Harvest Festival: Reviewed who's bringing stuff.

4.5 Community Thanksgiving service/Save the cook: Service at the Baptist church and Pastor Randy will be preaching. Dinner at New Life 5:30-6:30

4.6 Advent & Christmas Worship: There will only be one service Sunday Dec 24th and will be at 4pm for Christmas Eve. Working on special music for Christmas and possibly 12/17 as well.

4.7 Annual meeting: February 4th, 2024. January 18th is the deadline for special reports.

5.0 New business:

5.1 Correspondence: Received a thank you from the Barnesville food shelf.

5.2 Upcoming events:

November 9th – Tai Ji Quan & American Legion Auxiliary

November 11th – Rothsay Lions meeting

November 12th – Harvest Festival & Youth movie

November 13th – Tai Ji Quan

November 14th, 21st, & 28th – Bible Study

November 15th – Confirmation & WOW

November 19th – Save the cook dinner &

Thanksgiving Worship at RBC

November 20th – Lions club meeting

November 23rd – Private family gathering

November 26th – Christ the King Sunday

November 29th – "Young" women's fellowship &

Confirmation

December 5th – Bible Study

December 6th – Confirmation, Pop-up Dinner, & WOW

December 7th – Communion in Pelican Rapids

December 10th – Sunday school program.

December 24- Christmas Eve worship 4pm.

5.3 Contemporary Worship resignation: Natacha Evans submit a letter of resignation. Worship and music to look over job description before posting opening.

5.4 Snow removal: Discussed upcoming snow removal.

5.5 Lenten Season: Discussed doing the round robin with the Pastors again.

6.0 Pastor's report: went to the synod stewardship, had a lot of helpful tools available and will be shared with the stewardship committee. Started discussing confirmation retreat this winter.

7.0 Youth Director's report: Turkey trot brought in 241lb of food for the food pantry. Nov will have dinner and movie; the 19th is their service event for save the cook. Dec 3rd making cookies of gratitude. Have had good attendance.

8.0 Office Manager's report: renewed the po box, reminder for newsletter deadline.

9.0 WELCA: At the October meeting, they could not find new officers so it was voted on for WELCA to disband at the end of the year after gifts have been given and the remaining funds will be donated to the church. Discussion on a new group to be formed with Mary Brandt as the lead role and others as "helpers". This group is still working out the logistics.

10.0 NLLC Foundation report: N/A

11.0 Committee reports:

Worship & Music (Jennifer): will have a sign up for Christmas choir and working on having a choir for community worship. Continuing special music.

Education (Steph): Sunday school program is 12/10 and parts have been given.

Youth (Jessica): See 7.0

Community Care Committee (Joyce): continuing doing a few different things.

Church Property (Marlowe): yard clean up went well. Discussed replacing or fixing a water heater that is leaking.

Stewardship (Kevin): met last Sunday, reviewed giving and has improved and hopefully continues to improve. Discussed an update 12/3 during coffee and possibly sending out letters to discuss intentional giving. Hoping to do stewardship talks during worship.

12.0 Adjournment: next meeting is December 13th at 6:30pm. Meeting closed with the Lord's prayer at 8:12pm.

Respectfully submitted

Kristin Torgerson

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.

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

Marilyn Haarstad ~ 411 E. Everett Ave. Apt #155
Fergus Falls (218-736-7729)

Harold Larson ~ 1131 S. Mabelle Ave
Room C-205 Fergus Falls, MN
(Pioneer Care)

Betty Magnusson ~ 803 Mill St. S. Apt # 321
Fergus Falls (218-736-8824)

Steve (Bud) Magnusson ~ 1131 Mabelle Ave
Room C-211 Fergus Falls
(Pioneer Care)

Irene Melkert ~ 1131 Mabelle Ave. Room B-213
Fergus Falls (Pioneer Care) 218-998-4991

Phyllis (Hauger, Shirley) Morrill ~ 803 Mill St. S.
Apt # 323 Fergus Falls (218-770-8642)

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

Eleanor Opsahl ~ 119 N. Broadway # 109
Pelican Rapids, MN 56572

Elaine Amundson - 215 E. Mill Ave #200
Pelican Rapids, MN 56572

Gwen Jorgenson ~ 211 E. Mill Ave #313
Pelican Rapids, MN 56572 (218-863-9623)

Linda Froslic ~ 512 3rd Ave S. Room A-2
Moorhead, MN 56560 (218-233-1535)

Dorothy Knutson ~ 2401 11th St. S # 323
Moorhead, MN 56560

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.

WELCA Women's Fellowship

Notice to WELCA Ladies:

Oct. 15, 2023 vote was made to disband NLLC WELCA and to disperse monies as done last year, including gifts to NLLC employees and other non-profit organizations.

Also voted to order 2 rolls of batting to finish quilts. Left over monies will be transferred over the to NLLC.

Big thank-you out to all the ladies for your many years of volunteering and dedication!

- Secretary, Joyce Peterson

Quilting Opportunity

There will be a quilting group meeting at New Life on December 13th beginning at 1:30 pm with an inventory of supplies in the closet. The meeting will begin at 2:30 pm.

Following inventory we will be tying quilts. Anyone is welcome to join us in fellowship and making quilts!

If the weathers is bad on December 13th the back up plan is to meet on December 20th. Questions, please contact Mary Brandt.



Holiday shopping with ELCA Good Gifts

Wondering how to make a positive impact in the world right now? With ELCA Good Gifts, you can choose from more than 50 charitable gifts to give in honor of friends and loved ones. Each of these gifts makes a real impact in the world — one goat, water filter or school uniform at a time. Start your holiday shopping now and order free, customized cards for each gift. Give by Dec. 9 to ensure that your cards arrive in time for Christmas. Print-at-home and online cards are also instantly available at any time.

Christmas Giving Tree



Every child deserves to experience the joy of Christmas morning. The **Rothsay Lions Christmas Giving Tree** helps our community families each year. Please go to the Google form or scan the QR code by Friday 11/17/2023 for your gift tag to be added to the Giving Tree.



The Giving Tree will be located at the Rothsay Public school on the bulletin board by the office. If you would like to be one of our helpful elves, please take a gift tag off the tree. For more information please see waivers posted on the church bulletin board or at the school. Please drop off unwrapped gifts by Friday, 12/8/2023 or wrapped gifts by 12/12/2023. Thank you!

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH **FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

October 2023

October Income	\$ 21,639.33
October Disbursements	\$ 15,819.57
October Less in/out Income	(\$ 2,860.00)
October Net Income	\$ 2,959.76

Scan the QR code to
give to New Life
Lutheran Church
online!

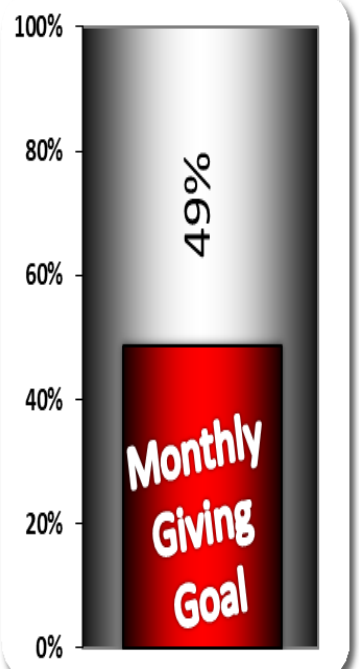


November 2023 Giving Outlook

Week	Giving
5-Nov	\$1,338.00
12-Nov	\$2,333.00
19-Nov	\$1,868.00
26-Nov	
e-giving	\$960.00

Goal:	\$13,346.15
Total:	\$6,499.00

49%





Who: You! (all ages welcome)

What: Supper at church

When: Wednesday, December 6
5:45-6:45pm

Why: To share a meal together

Cost: \$5 per person

What's for supper?
Baked mac and cheese bar
(homemade with your choice of toppings), tossed salad, breadstick, and Christmas goodies

Please RSVP by Friday, December 1. Email the church office at newlife@rtelnet.net or sign up on the form in the narthex.

Christmas is coming fast!

The Community Care Committee is looking for donations of CHRISTMAS GOODIES for Christmas gift bags that we plan to deliver - with your help - to our Senior congregational members and others in our community that are living in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, as well as those living at home, to remind them that we care and wish them a blessed Christmas.

Please have your goodies to the church by our DEADLINE of Sunday, Dec. 10, 2023, when we will be putting the bags together after the church service for delivery during that week.

A sign up list will be in the hallway for contributing treats as well as a separate list to sign up to volunteer to help with the deliveries.

Join us Dec. 10 for fellowship and packing bags after church!

Brunch Bible Study

Join Pastor Randy on Tuesdays, December 5th & December 12th at 10:30 am.

Brunch will be provided, feel free to bring a dish to share if desired.

"Young" Women's Fellowship

December meeting of the "Young Women's Fellowship" will coincide with the December Pop-up Dinner on Wednesday, Dec 6th.

We will have a quick "Make and Take" Nativity Advent project.

Hope to see you there!

The Little Bethany Annual meeting
is scheduled for Saturday,
December 2nd at 9:00 am.

Annual Meeting

The New Life annual meeting
will be held on February 4th
following worship.

Please get reports to
Patrice as soon as they are
available report deadline is
January 18th. Emailed
(newlife@rtelnet.net) or
digital copies preferred.

Advent Candle Lighting



We are looking for a
few people or family
units to light the ad-
vent candle on the
next few Sundays
during worship. If you
are interested please
call or email the church office to
get on the schedule.

We look forward to hearing from
you! 218-867-6557 or
newlife@rtelnet.net



**Mary Jo and Pastor Randy would like
to invite you to a Christmas Open House
at their residence near Lake Park on
Sunday, December 17,
from 12:30 to 3:00 pm.**

**Lunch will be served.
All are welcome!**

**Address: 17391 Beseau Lake Road
Lake Park, MN 56554**

We hope to see you there!



Christmas Eve Candlelight worship

Saturday, December 24th

4:00 pm

At New Life Lutheran Church



Sunday School Program

Practice for the Sunday school program will be held on Thursday, November 30th at 3:30 pm until 5:30 pm for grades 2nd through 5th grade. Transportation available from the school to the church. Please send us a Facebook message if your child needs a ride.

The Sunday school program will be held on Sunday, December 10th at 10:00 am, during our normal worship time at New Life. Come and support our Sunday school students!

Confirmation & WOW

Confirmation classes will take place on December 6th, December 13th, and December 20th at 6:00 pm.

WOW dates are as follows:

December 6th: Come for Pop-up dinner served by Julie Brenden & Jennifer Honer! Please see the Pop-up dinner information on page 7.

December 20th: 7pm Lasagna & garlic bread for dinner!

Everyone is welcome!

Confirmation Retreat

Parent's please take a look at the options below and let Pastor Randy or Jessica know which one you would prefer.

Option 1: Luther crest Bible camp

DATE(S): February 9-11, 2024

GRADES: 6-9

TIME: 5pm Friday - 1pm Sunday

COST: \$205/camper (\$50 Non-Refundable Deposit)

Option 2: Randy's place

DATE(S): January 12-14, 2024

GRADES: 7-8

TIME: 5pm Friday - 1pm Sunday

COST: \$30/person to cover food

Upcoming Youth Events

(Grades 7-12)

December 3rd: 11 am - 1 pm Service Event. We will be making cookies for someone meaningful in our lives and writing a letter of gratitude to go with them.

December 17th: Time TBD. Annual youth Christmas party. Bring a gift to exchange that is \$5.00 or less and 1 dozen of your favorite cookies. We will do a saran wrap ball as well as the exchanges.



December 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 9:00 am Little Bethany Annual meeting
3 8:45 am Worship at LB 9:00 am Coffee at NL 9:00 Sunday School at NL 10:00 am Worship at NL 11:00 am Youth Service Event at NL	4	5 10:30 am Bible Study	6 5:45 pm Pop-up Supper 5:45 pm "Young" Women's Fellowship 6:00 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm WOW	7 3:00 pm Communion in Pelican Rapids	8	9
10 8:45 am Worship at LB 9:00 am Coffee at NL 9:00 Sunday School at NL 10:00 am Sunday School program at NL 11:00 am Youth Parent meeting	11	12 10:30 am Bible Study	13 1:30 pm Quilting 6:00 pm Confirmation	14 10:30 am American Legion Auxiliary 6:00 pm Lions Club	15	16
17 8:45 am Worship at LB 9:00 am Coffee at NL 10:00 am Worship at NL 12:30 pm Open House at Pastor Randy & Mary Jo's home 6:30 pm Youth Christmas Party	18	19	20 6:00 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm WOW	21 Office Closed	22	23
Christmas Eve 24 8:45 am Worship at LB 4:00 pm Candlelight Worship at NL	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29	30
		Pastor Randy will be on vacation December 25th - January 2nd				
New Years Eve 31 8:45 am Worship at LB 9:00 am Coffee at NL 10:00 am Worship at NL						



This is the 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.

12/01 ~ Melissa Nord
 12/02 ~ Patricia Nelson
 12/03 ~ Irene Melkert
 12/05 ~ Jeremiah Ziegler
 12/06 ~ Emily Christ
 12/06 ~ Jacob Christ
 12/06 ~ Jenna Fabre
 12/06 ~ Jeffrey Melkert
 12/07 ~ Jacob Balken
 12/07 ~ Grace Carlsrud
 12/08 ~ Allen Flatin
 12/09 ~ Matt Amundson
 12/10 ~ Stacey Lang
 12/10 ~ Jerry Wigdahl
 12/11 ~ Nicholas Aaberg
 12/11 ~ Nathan Johnson
 12/11 ~ Poppy Steiner

12/12 ~ Carly Aaberg
 12/12 ~ Doug Lindberg
 12/15 ~ Holly Nord
 12/16 ~ Abigail Honer
 12/17 ~ Justin Kugler
 12/18 ~ Alexis Craig
 12/18 ~ Jasmine Ringquist
 12/20 ~ Connor Nelson
 12/21 ~ Elaine M Balken
 12/21 ~ Alan Brandt
 12/21 ~ Michael Haarstad
 12/21 ~ Dorothy Knutson
 12/28 ~ Braden Moen
 12/28 ~ Hans Ronnevik
 12/29 ~ Tracy Buchholz
 12/29 ~ Doris Jorgenson
 12/30 ~ Stephanie Curtis

12/30 ~ Jesse Helgeson
 12/30 ~ Dante March
 12/31 ~ Kim Brenden
 12/31 ~ Larry Teberg



This is the 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.

12/07 ~ Stacy & Jennifer Honer
 12/18 ~ Steve & Linda Frosilie
 12/26 ~ Douglas & Anita Lindberg
 12/27 ~ Jim & Julie Boyce
 12/27 ~ Michael & Linda Haarstad

SCRIPTURE READERS FOR THIS MONTH



December 3rd - Jessica Nelson
December 10th - Sunday School Program
December 17th - Sam Brusven
December 24th - John Reber
December 31st - Collin Jacobson

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



SOUND SYSTEM OPERATORS FOR THIS MONTH

December 3rd - Nathan Ziegler
December 10th - Heather Reber
December 17th - Worship & Music
December 24th - Jennifer Honer
December 31st - Stephanie Curtis

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.

Website/App

Website: www.newlifeparish.net



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**



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Rothsay, MN 56579

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.

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Office Manager: Patrice Ziegler
Youth Director: Jessica Nelson



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