

# New Life News

New Life Lutheran Church & Little Bethany Lutheran Church  
[www.newlifeparish.net](http://www.newlifeparish.net)  
 New Life office hours  
*Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm*  
[newlife@rtelnet.net](mailto:newlife@rtelnet.net) or 218-867-6557

## February Scheduled Events

### February 1st

3:00 pm Communion in Pelican Rapids

### February 4th

8:45 am Worship in Little Bethany with  
 Holy Communion  
 9:00 am Coffee and fellowship at New Life  
 9:00 am Sunday School at New Life  
 10:00 am Worship at New Life with  
 Holy Communion  
 11:00 am New Life Annual Meeting  
 1:15 pm Youth SkyZone

### February 7<sup>th</sup>

6:00 pm Confirmation  
 6:30 pm NLLC Council meeting  
 7:00 pm WOW

### February 10th

9:30 am "Young" Women's Fellowship  
 Time TBD Youth Sub making

### February 11<sup>th</sup>

8:45 am Worship in Little Bethany  
 9:00 am Coffee and fellowship at New Life  
 9:00 am Sunday School at New Life  
 10:00 am Worship at New Life – Sunday School  
 sings & Noisy offering

### February 14<sup>th</sup> - Ash Wednesday/ Valentine's Day

1:00 pm Women's Quilting  
 5:30 pm Lenten Dinner  
 6:45 pm Lenten Worship

### February 18<sup>th</sup>

8:45 am Worship in Little Bethany  
 9:00 am Coffee and fellowship at  
 New Life  
 10:00 am Worship at New Life with  
 Holy Communion

### February 19<sup>th</sup> - Presidents' Day

6:30 pm Lions Club meeting

### February 21<sup>st</sup>

5:30 pm Lenten Spaghetti Dinner  
 6:45 pm Lenten Worship

### February 25<sup>th</sup>

8:45 am Worship in Little Bethany  
 9:00 am Coffee and fellowship at  
 New Life  
 9:00 am Sunday School at New Life  
 10:00 am Worship at New Life

### February 28<sup>th</sup>

5:30 pm Lenten Dinner  
 6:45 pm Lenten Worship

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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

<b>February</b>	Dan & Renae Froslic Kim & Stacey Lang
<b>March</b>	Travis & Stephanie Olson Gayla Western

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

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

It's a rarity when Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day fall on the same day, as they do this year. In fact, after this year, the next time it is due to happen will be on February 14, 2086—62 years from now! Needless to say, I won't be around when it happens again. But, when it happens, what is a person of faith supposed to do? Do you celebrate Valentine's Day or observe Ash Wednesday? In the minds of most people, it would be hard doing both on the same day. As I heard one person say, "Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday have very different sentiments attached to them. One is about romance, the other is about sin, repentance, and reminding us of our mortality, . . .and death has a way of sucking the life out of romance.

Back in the year 2018, the last time Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday fell on the same day, a few days before it was due to happen, I was in a store and I overheard a couple people talking about the mash up of the two days, neither was happy about it. One complaining to the other said, "Why does the Church always have to push its agenda, always interfering, and now stealing Valentine's Day?" I smiled to myself as I passed by them, as for the briefest moment I considered stopping and mentioning to the two that both Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day began as relatively ancient Christian religious observances. Valentine's Day was set by the Church to commemorate the Christian martyr Saint Valentine (actually there were at least three Christians by the name of Valentine or Valentinus all of whom died as martyrs of the faith.) Ash Wednesday was set as the beginning of the 40 day period of Lent which was a time set aside for people to prepare themselves for the celebration of Easter. It was somewhere around the 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century when St. Valentine's Day started to take on a romantic sentiments as cards and gifts began to be shared. And that sense of romance has grown since then, and perhaps has largely supplanted its religious origins and focus.

"Okay, thanks for the history lesson, but really, we don't care. What we want to know is which we should celebrate or observe this year."

My answer is . . . both, because both are important, and both are based in and on love. Because God first loved us, we can love each other. All three of those ancient Christians named Valentine/Valentinus who gave their lives in martyrdom did it out of love for others. The current ethos around Valentine's Day is romance which is based in love for another. That needs to be celebrated. Ash Wednesday, too, is about love. It's about calling us back to God who is love itself. It's about turning away from anything and everything that distracts us from the love we are being called into. That ashen cross we receive upon our skin may remind us of our mortality, that we will someday die, but it's also a reminder that death doesn't have the last word—God does. And that word is that death has been conquered by God who rose from the dead promising that we too will rise when we trust in him and his word of love.

One way to celebrate both is to separate the days. Who says that romance must be reserved for that one day? Who says that repentance can only be expressed on that one day. In a relationship, both of those should be a daily thing. Another way is to celebrate the two observances the same day, interpreting both as the expressions of love they have always been meant to be. So, all it really takes is a little creativity, and an abundance of love.

May your Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day be filled with meaning and loving! Take care and God bless!

*Pastor Randy*

# New Life Lutheran Church

## Unapproved minutes from November 29th, 2023

The New Life Lutheran Church council met January 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Members present: Bruce Brenden, Pastor Randy Whitehead, Jennifer Honer, Brandon Langfeld, Kevin Brenden, Jessica Nelson, Joyce Peterson, Kristin Torgerson, Patty Ziegler, Steph Olson

Marlowe Rasmusson joined at 6:41pm

Devotions: Jessica

**1.0 Approval of agenda:** Motion made by Kevin Brenden with the addition of the meatball supper (5.5), seconded by Joyce Peterson. Motion carried.

**2.0 Approval of November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Council minutes:** Motion made By Steph Olson, seconded Jess Nelson. Motion carried.

**3.0 Treasurer's report November & December 2023:** \$1,557.48 from making budget for yr end. Motion made by Joyce Peterson, seconded by Kristin Torgerson. Motion carried.

### 4.0 Ongoing business:

**4.1 Technology update:** Working on finding a fix for the sound during live streams. Also getting screens correlated.

**4.2 2024 Budget:** see report. There maybe a few new calculations. All staff have declined any raises due to the financial state of the church. Motion made to present recommended budget by Jen Honor, seconded by Kristin Torgerson. Motion carried.

**4.3 Annual meeting:** Nominating committee is pretty set on filling open positions. Questions on if all open seats need to be filled and questioned on reducing the number of people on some committees, that would have to be an update to the constitution.

**4.4 Contemporary Worship Coordinator position:** no applications yet.

**4.5 Snow removal:** working on communication.

**4.6 Lenten season:** Pastor rotation will be happening again. The following is schedule of serving meals; Pastor Randy 2/14, Youth 2/21 & 3/20, Care 3/6, council 2/28. Dorris Moen and daughters 3/13.

### 5.0 New business:

**5.1 Correspondence:** Reviewed mail

### 5.2 Upcoming events:

January 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation Retreat

January 15<sup>th</sup> – Lions Club meeting

January 17<sup>th</sup> – Women's fellowship, Confirmation, WOW

January 18<sup>th</sup> – Annual Report deadline

January 21<sup>st</sup> – Youth Bowling

January 24<sup>th</sup> - Confirmation

January 31<sup>st</sup> – Confirmation

February 4<sup>th</sup> – Annual meeting

February 7<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation & WOW

February 8<sup>th</sup> - Pastors Conference meeting

February 14<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday

**5.3 Prairie Days Breakfast:** discussed serving breakfast before the parade on 7/13.

**5.4 February Devotion schedule:** Jen-Feb, Kevin-Mar, Jess/Kristin (treats)-April, Branden-May, Bruce-June, Joyce-August, Marlowe- Oct, Steph-Nov, Patty-Jan 2025

**5.5 Meatball Supper:** Steph will be coordinating, date to be determined.

**6.0 Pastor's report:** see report. No sunrise service for Easter.

**7.0 Youth Director's report:** see report. 6/21-6/28 for camp. Will be doing fundraising.

**8.0 Office Manager's report:** see report. Reminder when school is cancelled the church office is closed.

**9.0 NLLC Foundation report:** meeting 1/21/24.

### 10.0 Committee reports:

Worship & Music (Jennifer): continuing to find special music. Meeting soon to figure out additional training. Will be doing the Easter Garden. Also brought up about doing a church deep cleaning day for members.

Education (Steph): Sunday school will be singing on Feb 11<sup>th</sup>.

Youth (Jessica): See 7.0

Evangelism & Mission/Family Life & Social Concerns (Joyce): packed 40 plus bags and delivered to homebound members.

Church Property (Marlowe): replaced light bulbs and added down spouts.

Stewardship (Kevin): getting together 1/14.

**12.0 Adjournment:** Meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer at 9pm. Next meeting is 2/7 6:30.

*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.

Valentine's Day Party at  
Westrom Apartments on  
Monday, February 12th. Join us  
for dessert and coffee at 3 p.m.  
All senior citizens are welcome  
to attend.  
Hosted by Rothsay Women's  
Club.

### Quilting Opportunity

There will be a Women's quilting group  
meeting at New Life on Wednesday, February  
14th beginning at 1:00 pm.

The quilting group is in need of items for  
layettes; clothes sized 6-24 months, jackets,  
shirts, bottoms, cloth diapers, gentle bar soap,  
and hand towels. Monetary donations are  
welcome and helpful also.

Contact Mary Brandt (218-867-2693) if  
you have any questions. There is a box in the  
quilting closet marked Layettes for your  
donations.

Thank you,  
- Quilters

## Never Enough



A concert pianist one evening gave a stellar performance, receiving a standing ovation as the curtain fell. Afterwards, a reception was held in his honor. As the crowd gathered around him, one woman, who was a pretty good pianist in her own right, gushed, “Oh, I’d give anything to play as you do!” The concert pianist looked at her and slowly replied, “No, I don’t believe you would.” A hush fell over the room. “Yes, I would,” insisted the woman.

The pianist continued, “No, you really wouldn’t. If you wanted to pay the price, you could play as well ... possibly even better than I. It has taken me seven or eight hours a day, seven days a week for at least seven years to play as well as I do. You would give anything to play as well as I do, except the time. When you say you would give anything, you don’t really mean it.”

Are we really willing to do whatever it takes to help? Or, do we sometimes think, “Enough is enough. No more help. No more for missions. No more time for the church. It has to stop!”

But as Jesus’ actions make clear, enough is never enough. Jesus is filled with compassion (as we usually are too), and then he acts on that compassion by being willing to help. The willingness to help, however, must be reinforced by our doing whatever it takes to help others.



### **NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

#### 2023 Final Budget

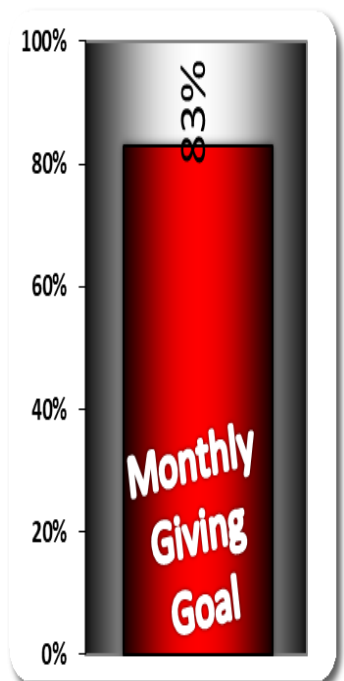
2023 Income	\$ 199,149.81
2023 Disbursements	(\$ 199,363.54)
2023 Less in/out Income	(\$ 1,343.75)
2023 Net Loss	(\$ 1,557.48)

### **January 2024 Giving Outlook**

Week	Giving
7-Jan	\$2,907.00
14-Jan	\$1,050.00
21-Jan	\$6,102.89
28-Jan	\$881.00
e-giving	\$1,490.00

<b>Goal:</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$12,430.89</b>

83%



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



## Lenten Season

This year the Lenten season begins on Wednesday, February 14. Yep, this year Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day fall on the same day. Don't blame me, I'm just the messenger!

As in past years, we will be having a Lenten Supper and a worship service each Wednesday evening during Lent—from February 14<sup>th</sup> thru Mar. 20<sup>th</sup>. Last year's Lenten Round Robin (area Lutheran pastors rotating between the churches) was quite popular, so the area pastors and their church councils decided to do it again this year. This year's theme is:



Each pastor is developing a worship service and sermon around a Psalm that he or she has chosen. She or he will take that with her or him to each Church as the rotation occurs. All our New Life Parish midweek Lenten worship services will be at New Life Lutheran Church in Rothsay. The Lenten Suppers will run from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Different Groups or families will be providing and serving the meals each week. The worship services will begin at 6:45 pm and you can expect them to last 35 to 45 minutes. Each pastor will be leading his or her own congregations on Ash Wednesday and on Wednesday, March 20. The schedule for February 21<sup>st</sup> thru March 13<sup>th</sup> at New Life Lutheran Church is as follows:

Feb. 21	Pastor Phillip Tobin of Central Lutheran Church, Pelican Rapids
Feb. 28	Pastor Julie Carlson of Foxhome and Vukku Lutheran Churches, Foxhome
Mar. 6	S.A.M. Jerry Peterson of Augustana, Aastad, and Rock Prairie Lutheran Churches, Elizabeth and Fergus Falls
Mar. 13	Pastor Ale Tulu of Breckenridge Lutheran Church, Breckenridge.

Please join us for the blessings of good food and the worship of our gracious, always loving God in this Lenten season at New Life!

## "Young" Women's Fellowship

NEW: TIME, DATE, & PLACE!

Young Women's Fellowship will meet on Saturday, Feb 10th.

At 9:30AM at Jennifer Honer's house.

Please join us for fellowship, fun and treats!  
No homework necessary.

We are reading, "You Matter More Than You Think" by Leslie Parrott.

Contact Jennifer or Mary Jo for the address.

Hope to see you there!

## Annual Meeting

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

Reports are available for pick up!

## Easter Garden

Spring flowers will once again adorn our church this Easter season. A sign up table will be set up in church and order forms available beginning February 11th, 2024.

**Orders will be taken through March 11th, 2024. We cannot assure flowers will be available for any orders received after that date.** Flower choice and pricing is being determined.

Please reach out to Jennifer Honer for any questions or details - 218-731-9432

## Confirmation

Confirmation will continue through lent though it will look just a little bit different...

Confirmands will be required to be at church and ready to meet no later than 6:25 pm.

A shortened class time will be held in the yellow Sunday school room. Students should bring their journals (filled out and updated). After meeting we will attend worship together beginning at 6:45.

We would prefer parents attend worship services with their students but Jess will be there each week to sit with students who might be attending alone.

Dinners will be held each week if you and/or your student would like to be there early enough to enjoy dinner before class.

We look forward to going through this season of lent alongside all of you.

Please let Pastor Randy or Jessica know if you have any questions or concerns.



## Sign up for CAMP!!!

Youth in grade 6-12 have the opportunity to attend Luther Crest Bible Camp THIS SUMMER June 23rd- June 28th.

If registered by February 14th the cost will be \$725 after February 14th the cost increases by \$100 per camper. There is scholarship money and fundraising opportunities available. Please contact Jessica with any questions.



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## Upcoming Youth Events (Grades 6-12)



February 4th:

We will be heading to SkyZone. We will leave Church at 1:15pm. Jump from 2-3pm. Return to Church about 4pm. Cost is \$18 with socks \$23 if you need to purchase socks. We will NEED parent volunteers to help with transportation

### **FUNDRAISER:**

Youth will be selling Super Bowl Subs.

Cost is \$8/each or 5 for \$35:

- Ham and American
- Ham and Cheddar
- Turkey and American
- Turkey and Cheddar

Orders in By February 7th.

Youth will meet on February 10th to make subs and they will be available for pick up on the 11th before and after church. Funds used to get kids to camp or for other youth related activities.

### **Service Event:**

Serving Lenten Dinner February 21st: Spaghetti, salad, bars. Sign up for serving and food donations on the website. Looking for one Parent Volunteer per shift (2 shifts)

# February 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 3:00 pm Communion in Pelican Rapids	2	3
4 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 Annual meeting at NL 1:15 pm Youth SkyZone	5	6	7 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm NLLC Council meeting 7:00 pm WOW	8	9	10 9:30 am "Young" Women's Fellowship Time TBD Youth Sub making
11 8:45 am Worship at LB 9:00 am Coffee at NL 9:00 Sunday School at NL 10:00 am Worship & <b>Sunday School Sings</b> at NL	12	13	<b>Ash Wednesday 14 &amp; Valentine's Day</b> 1:00 pm Quilting 5:30 pm Lenten Dinner 6:45 pm Lenten Worship	15 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	16	17
18 8:45 am Worship at LB 9:00 am Coffee at NL 10:00 am Worship at NL	19 <b>Presidents' Day</b> 6:30 pm Lions Club meeting	20	21 5:30 pm Lenten Dinner 6:45 pm Lenten Worship	22	23	24
25 8:45 am Worship at LB 9:00 am Coffee at NL 9:00 Sunday School at NL 10:00 am Worship at NL	26	27	28 5:30 pm Lenten Dinner 6:45 pm Lenten Worship	29		



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

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.



2/15 ~ Clifford & Marilyn Moen

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.

### SCRIPTURE READERS FOR THIS MONTH



- February 4th - John Reber
- February 11th - Lorin Hansen
- February 18th - Heather Reber
- February 25th -

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



- February 4th - Jennifer Honer
- February 11th & 14th - Stephanie Curtis
- February 18th & 21st - John Reber
- February 25th & 28th - 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.

Website/App

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



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

**Pastor: Rev. Randy Whitehead**  
**Office Manager: Patrice Ziegler**  
**Youth Director: Jessica Nelson**



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