

New Life News

New Life Lutheran Church & Little Bethany Lutheran Church

www.newlifeparish.net

New Life office hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

newlife@rtelnet.net or 218-867-6557

February Scheduled Events

February 1st

2:00 pm Joyce Peterson's 70th Birthday Open House

February 2nd

8:45 am Worship at Little Bethany with Holy Communion

9:00 am Coffee & 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 Annual Meeting at New Life

February 5th - 8th

Heritage room & Fellowship hall booked for private event

February 5th

5:30 pm Confirmation

February 8th

9:00 am Young Women's Fellowship at Julie Brenden's

February 9th

8:45 am Worship at Little Bethany

9:00 am Coffee & fellowship at New Life

9:00 am Sunday school at New Life

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

February 12th

10:00 am Mission Quilts

5:30 pm Confirmation

6:30 pm NLLC Council meeting

February 15th

8:45 am Worship at Little Bethany

9:00 am Coffee & fellowship at New Life

10:00 am Worship at New Life with Holy Communion

February 17th - Presidents' Day

6:30 pm Lions Club meeting

February 17th - 24th

Pastor Randy is on Vacation

February 23rd

8:45 am Worship at Little Bethany

9:00 am Coffee & fellowship at New Life

9:00 am Sunday School at New Life

10:00 am Worship at New Life

February 26th - March 1st

Fellowship hall booked for private event

February 26th

5:30 pm Confirmation

February Office Manager Hours:

Feb. 3rd - 6th: 1 pm to 3:30 pm

Feb. 10th - 13th: 1 pm to 3:30 pm

Feb. 18th - 20th 1 pm to 3:30 pm

Feb. 24th - 27th 1 pm to 3:30 pm

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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

February	Mike & Kristen Heidecker Brandon & Hillary Langfeld
March	Jeremy & Kari Carlsrud Eric & Kim Larson

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,



The New Life Lutheran Church Annual Meeting, this year, falls on Groundhog Day, a day on which the emergence of the groundhog from its burrow is said to forecast whether there will be an early Spring or not. Of course, the mention of Groundhog Day, brings to mind, for many of us, the 1990's movie by the same name, Groundhog Day. The movie is about a vain, self-absorbed television forecaster who reluctantly makes his way to Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, to report on and from the annual Groundhog Day festivities. As far as this weatherman is concerned, he can't get away from that "hick town" soon enough after he is done with his reporting. But rather than getting away from Punxsutawney, he gets snowed in there by a blizzard that he had forecasted wouldn't hit Punxsutawney. Most of the rest of the movie is about this weatherman waking up to the same day, everyday—Feb. 2, Groundhog Day. He's stuck in a time loop—where everything happens the same everyday. As the weatherman catches on to what is happening, he tries to use his foreknowledge of what occurs each day to manipulate things for his own advantage. Try as he might, though, he never manages to get his heart's ultimate desire. So, each day, sometimes in frustration, sometimes in excitement, sometimes in anger, sometimes in deep depression, he acts out, trying to change things, at times even killing himself in various ways. But always he wakes up the next day—to the same day. It isn't until he has done everything he could possibly imagine to escape the loop of the same day, and discovered that he can't, that he begins to truly take notice others. He sees that his foreknowledge allows him to be at the right place and the right time to help others, and he begins to do that. This doing for others brings about a change in him—he truly begins to enjoy life. But, he discovers that he can't help everyone. So, what does he do? He begins the long process of seeking the knowledge and training he needs to make a bigger impact on the lives of others. What the formerly self-absorbed weatherman discovers is that when his attention turns from himself to others, his life changes—he finds joy in each day and each relationship. In this new orientation in his life, he finds true purpose and meaning. That makes all the difference in the world, and he is at peace with his place in the world. And, you know what? Finally, the weatherman wakes up on a new day, Feb. 3, not Feb. 2, he is a new man, a changed man, and the world around him is changed for the better, as well.

Sometimes I think we, the church, are stuck in our own version of Groundhog Day. We're kind of stuck in a rut, a sort of time loop, in which we think the church today should look like the church of some golden time of the past. But, if we, the church, want to remain relevant, we can't stay the same. The world is changing, and we must as well.

Wasn't that what "The Reformation," five hundred years ago, was all about? The church had fallen into a rut in which its focus was, much more, on itself rather than on a world in need. Instead of setting captives free, the church was using fear to enslave them, and enrich the church hierarchy. Isn't that why Martin Luther and the other reformers insisted that the Church should always be "reforming" itself—to address the needs of a fallen world, and set captives free?

I think a lot of us are caught up in the vision that we must pull people back into the church (into the building and our present structure), for the sake of the church. The best research, however, is telling us otherwise. Instead, we need to find ways to take the Good News outside of the walls of our church buildings and into the lives of people who are "out there." We can't expect them to come to us. We must take Christ out to them. That happens through developing meaningful, transforming relationships--relationships that don't just transform them, but us. This is our challenge for a new day in the church. There are no promises that it will be easy and the process obvious. It means taking risks, becoming vulnerable, actively learning, purposefully growing, and realizing our bottom line is not our budget, but out mission.

Christ said our mission is to love one another—to love even those we deem unlovable, to be a light in the darkness, to bring hope where there is despair, to welcome the stranger, to care for the widow, the orphan, the needy. No, it will not be easy. It never has been. But, when we make this paradigm shift, allow Jesus' mindset to be our mindset, a new day will dawn.

Have a great Groundhog's Day, an awesome and happy Valentine's Day, and a terrifically blessed every day--all this February, . . . and each day after! Take care and God bless!

Pastor Randy

New Life Lutheran Church

Unapproved minutes from January 8th, 2025

NLLC council met January 8th at 6:30pm.
Members present; Bruce Brenden, Brandon Langfeld, Kevin Brenden, Jennifer Honer, Heather Nelson, Steph Olson, Joyce Peterson, Marlowe Rasmusson, Pastor Randy Whitehead, and Patrice Ziegler.

1.0 Approval of agenda: Motion to approve the agenda made by Heather Nelson, seconded by Steph Olson. Motion carried.

2.0 Approval of December 2024 Council minutes: Motion to approve the council minutes made by Jennifer Honer, seconded by Joyce Peterson. Motion carried.

3.0 Treasurer's report December 2024: There was a question about where to put the Sunday Fundy monies brought in, motion made by Steph Olson to put the money into the Youth account, seconded by Kevin Brenden, motion carried. Motion to approve the treasurer's report made by Jen Honer, seconded by Steph Olson. Motion carried.

4.0 Ongoing business:

4.1 Technology update: John and Patrice discussed replacing the current wi-fi box in the fellowship hall with a new one before moving forward with adding an extender for the Sunday school area.

4.2 Area strategy update: Most likely put on pause until March, due to Synod staff being on vacation.

4.3 Budget planning: Renae provided a copy of the proposed budget. With some additions into this years budget for upcoming expenses council decided it was an appropriate budget to bring forward to the congregation at the annual report. A motion was made by Jen Honer to bring the proposed budget to the Annual meeting, seconded by Brandon Langfeld, motion carried.

4.4 Staff reviews: Heather Nelson put together evaluation sheets for a few staff members. Council liked the lay out and asked Heather to finalize the evaluation forms to use for reviews.

4.5 Meatball supper: An article was published in the Newsletter seeking volunteers. Someone will reach out to the service group leaders to look for additional volunteers.

4.6 Annual meeting: Only 3 reports have been turned in. Please get reports in by the 15th.

4.7 Lenten Season: Randy proposed having the meal and Lenten worship held at the same time in the fellowship hall. Council agreed that it would be a good trial for this year.

5.0 New business:

5.1 Correspondence: Camp Joy, Ignite Leadership conference, and Ronald McDonald House.

5.2 Upcoming events:

January 8th-11th Quilted footprint in Fellowship Hall
January 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th - Confirmation
January 11th or 12th – Feed my starving children pack
January 15th - Quilters
January 19th – Youth Escape room
January 24th - 26th - Confirmation retreat
January 26th – Superbowl sub deadline
February 1st – Open house 70th Birthday Party for Joyce Peterson
February 2nd – Annual meeting at New Life
February 5-8th – Quilted footprints in the fellowship hall

6.0 Pastor's report: Suggested holding a committee night once the new committee members are voted in. Pastor Randy would like to begin preparations for VBS in February. See report.

7.0 Youth Director's report: 10 kids were at the Birthday party for Jesus event, everyone had a great time together. Jess will begin looking into Luther crest as an option for camp again this summer. Jess will also look into a VBS curriculum. Looking forward to the Escape room and Superbowl subs again this year. Jessica is working on transitioning her office into a nursing/new mom room.

8.0 Office Manager's report: The Newsletter is out for January. Continuing to work on the annual report and getting caught up from vacation.

9.0 NLLC Foundation report: Scholarship will be presented this coming Sunday. Working on finishing books for the annual meeting.

10.0 Committee reports:

Worship & Music (Jennifer): Working on gearing up for Easter. Will continue to use banners in the fellowship hall.

Continued on next page

January 8th Council minutes Continued

Education (Steph): N/A

Youth (Heather): Will be working on helping get things set up for Luthercrest.

Community Care Committee (Joyce): They have a meeting set up to plan the year.

Church Property (Marlowe): Brian Buchholz has a salt spreader if needed. One of the furnaces circuit board went out but has since been fixed.

Stewardship (Kevin): Have had a few time and talent sheets returned, hoping to gather more sheets and pledge cards. More info to come.

11.0 Adjournment: Joyce will do snacks and devotions for February. Meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer at 8:15pm. Next meeting is February 8th at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrice Ziegler

The Meatball supper is being planned for March 29th!

We need your help! We are looking for volunteers to help with the following areas to help the meatball supper have another successful year:

- Silent auction coordinator
- Bake Sale coordinator
- Volunteers to serve the meal
(we have two shifts)
- Volunteers to set up
- Volunteers to clean up
- Volunteers to clear tables
(we have two shifts)
- Volunteers to help recruit helpers
(for the jobs above)



If you are interested in any of the opportunities above to help make the Meatball Supper a success please contact Heather Nelson, Steph Olson, or contact the church office.

Time to bring out the Birthday Bag Program. Looking for donations or create your own bag!

Create a Bag:

- 1: Birthday gift bag
- 2: Party Paper Plates
- 3: Party Napkins
- 4: Candles
- 5: Ballons or other party novelty items.
- 6: Foil cake pan 9X13
- 7: Cake Mix
- 8: Pop
- 9: Forks

Be creative make it for boy, girl or a generic one. See sample in fellowship Hall!

Coming in March!!!!!!

Join us for Family Soup and Bunco (Fun dice game)

Time of fun fellowship and excitement!

Sunday March 9 after Church service.

Open House

Joyce Peterson is turning 70 years old!

You are invited to help celebrate Joyce with an open house in her honor!

When: February 1st

Time: 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Where: New Life Lutheran Church



Upcoming Youth Events (Grades 6-12)



**Please watch upcoming Bulletins and
the Youth Facebook page for
any upcoming Youth events!**

Mission Quilting

The Mission quilters group will meet on
February 12th, 2025,
from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.
Bring a sack lunch.
Sincerely, Ruth A.

Young Women's Fellowship

Young Women's Fellowship will meet
On Saturday, February 8th
At the home of Julie Brenden
At 9:00am
Please call or text for address.

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.

Joy Toso ~ 215 Skogmo Blvd # 203
Fergus Falls, MN

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

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

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

Doris Jorgenson ~ 1131 Mabelle Ave. Room C-218
Fergus Falls, MN (Pioneer Care)

Margaret Brenden ~ 1500 7th St. S #4212
Moorhead, MN 56560 (218-284-9114)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

New Life Annual Meeting

The New Life annual meeting will be held on
February 2nd following worship.

The New Life Nominating committee is looking for anyone who would want to volunteer for the following openings:

President

Vice President

Secretary

Committees:

Youth

Nominating Committee x 6

Synod Assembly Delegates for May 30th & 31st x 2

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH **FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

December 2024

December Income	\$ 31,720.25
December Expenses	(\$ 21,739.84)
December Net Income	\$ 9,980.41

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

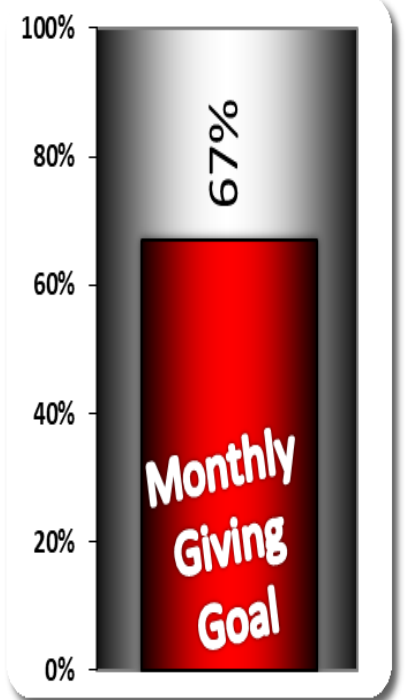


January 2025 Giving Outlook

Week	Giving
5-Jan	\$1,312.00
12-Jan	\$813.00
19-Jan	\$5,102.00
26-Jan	\$2,814.00
e-giving	\$455.00

Goal:	\$15,700.00
Total:	\$10,496.00

67%



February 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 2:00 pm Open House for Joyce Peterson
2 8:45 am Worship at LB 9:00 am Coffee at NL 9:00 am Sunday School at NL 10:00 am Worship at NL 11:00 am Annual meeting at NL	3	4	5 5:30 pm Confirmation	6	7	8 9:00 am YWF at Julie Brenden's home
			Fellowship hall booked for a private event Feb. 5th-8th			
9 8:45 am Worship at LB 9:00 am Coffee at NL 9:00 am Sunday School at NL Sunday School Sings 10:00 am Worship at NL	10	11	12 10:00 am Quilters 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm NLLC Council meeting	13	14 Valentine's Day	15 Newsletter Deadline
16 8:45 am Worship at LB 9:00 am Coffee at NL 10:00 am Worship at NL	17 President's Day 6:30 pm Lions club meeting	18	19	20	21	22
			Pastor Randy on Vacation Feb. 17th—24th			
23 8:45 am Worship at LB 9:00 am Coffee at NL 9:00 am Sunday School at NL 10:00 am Worship at NL	24	25	26 5:30 pm Confirmation	27	28	
			Fellowship hall booked for a private event Feb. 26th—March 1st			



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.

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



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.

2/15 ~ Clifford & Marilyn Moen

SCRIPTURE READERS FOR THIS MONTH

February 2nd - Doris Moen
February 9th -
February 16th -
February 23rd -



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 2nd - Nathan Ziegler
February 9th - Jen Honer/Heather Reber
February 16th - Steph Curtis
February 23rd - John Reber

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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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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