

New Life Lutheran Church
PO Box 278
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Rothsay, MN 56579



DISCIPLES OF JESUS,
GROWING DISCIPLES OF JESUS.

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



NEW LIFE NEWS
DISCIPLES OF JESUS,
GROWING DISCIPLES OF JESUS



New Life Lutheran Church & Little Bethany Lutheran Church
www.newlifeparish.net
New Life office hours:
Wednesday's 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
newlife@rtelnet.net or 218-867-6557

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

Adm. Assistant: Lori Ryan

Youth Director: Jessica Nelson

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www.newlifeparish.net

Find us on Facebook at New Life Lutheran Church

Download sharefaith app from google play or the app store. Open sharefaith app, church is NLLC Rothsay



- 4:03: Lydia Umlauf
- 4:05: Henrick Schmidt
- 4:08: Clifford Moen
- 4:09: Weston Langfeld
- 4:14: Debra Opsahl
- 4:18: Erin Aaberg
- 4:18: Lori Tillman
- 4:18: Lee Westerberg
- 4:21: Tanya Ackert
- 4:22: Kali Brandt
- 4:29: Julie Boyce



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.



- 4:11: Jeffrey a & Tulsa-Leigh Kugler
- 4:22: Michael & Kristen Heidecker
- 4:29: Charles & Nia Neuleib

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.

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*There will be an Easter Play as part of worship, Jen Honer and others are helping to put together. Please let Jen or Jess know ASAP if you're willing to play a part, there is room for **all ages!**

*Easter Breakfast will be served from 8:30-9:45 in the fellowship hall. Join us for egg bake, fruit, and muffins prior to worship! If you are willing/able to donate food items, use this link!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044EAFA92BA0F49-62965364-easter>

*Confirmation service will be on April 12th during worship

*Planning meeting for Vacation Bible school- April 19th following worship

*April 19th service event- Cemetery clean up with ice cream to follow 2:30-4:30

SERVICE GROUP LEADERS	
April	Matt & Missy Amundson Chad & Heather Nelson
May	Nicholas & Nancy Aaberg Casey & Stephanie Curtis
June	Joel & Amy Meyer Wayne & Doris Moen

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

TAKING DONATIONS
TO BE DISTRIBUTED IN MAY

- LAYETTES**
- SCHOOL KITS**
- PERSONAL CARE KITS**

See complete list on bulletin board



APRIL 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29 8:45 am LB Worship 9:00 am Coffee & fellowship at NL 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship at LB 10:00 am Worship at NL 11:00 am Hanson Family Easter	30 9:00 am Tai Ji Quan Class	31 Quilted Footprints Private Group	1 5:15 pm Confirmation	2 9:00 am Tai Ji Quan Class 7:00 pm Maudy Thursday @ Little Bethany	3 7:00 pm Good Friday Worship @ Baptist Church	4 Pastor Randy on vacation 9:00 am Curtis/Albertson Baby Shower
5 Confirmation Sunday 8:45 am LB Worship 9:00 am Coffee & fellowship at NL 10:00 am Worship @ NL 11:00 am Olson Confirmation	6 9:00 am Tai Ji Quan Class	7 Quilted Footprints Private Group	8 10:00 am Mission Quilters 6:00 pm Confirmation Rehearsal 6:30 pm NLLC Council Meeting	9 9:00 am Tai Ji Quan Class	10 Tour of Tables	11 Tour of Tables
12 Pastor Randy on vacation 8:45 am LB Worship 9:00 am Coffee & fellowship at NL 10:00 am Worship at NL	13 Quilted Footprints Private Group 9:00 am Tai Ji Quan Class	14 Quilted Footprints Private Group	15 Quilted Footprints Private Group	16 Quilted Footprints Private Group 9:00 am Tai Ji Quan Class	17 Pastor Randy on vacation	18 Pastor Randy on vacation 9:00 am Curtis/Albertson Baby Shower
19 Pastor Randy on vacation 8:45 am LB Worship 9:00 am Coffee & fellowship at NL 10:00 am Worship at NL	20 Pastor Randy on vacation 9:00 am Tai Ji Quan Class 6:30 pm Lion's Club	21 Pastor Randy on vacation	22 Pastor Randy on vacation	23 Pastor Randy on vacation 9:00 am Tai Ji Quan Class	24 Noon Buckingham Baby Shower 5:00 pm High School Prom Supper	2
26 8:45 am LB Worship 9:00 am Coffee & fellowship at NL 10:00 am Worship at NL	27 9:00 am Tai Ji Quan Class	28	29	30 9:00 am Tai Ji Quan Class	1	2

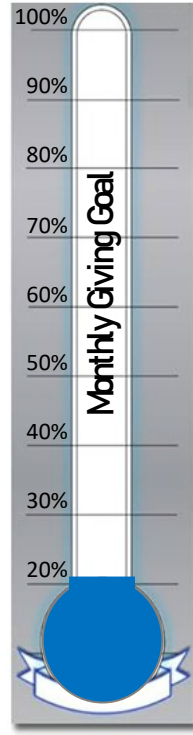
**NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH
FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

February 2026

February Income \$16,051.85
February Expenses \$19,039.92
February Net Gain \$-2,988.07

February 2026 Giving Outlook

Week	Giving
February 1st	\$1,523.00
February 8th	\$2,325.00
February 15th	\$3,788.00
February 22nd	\$1,757.00
E-Giving	\$1,757.00
Total:	\$11,150.00
Goal:	\$15,409.00
Difference:	-\$4,259.00



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



SCRIPTURE READERS FOR APRIL

April 5th:
April 12th:
April 19th: Carol Balk
April 26th: Jodi Rurup



We are always looking for volunteers for future readings. **If you would like to volunteer, please contact the church office at 218-867-6557 or email newlife@rtelnet.net.**



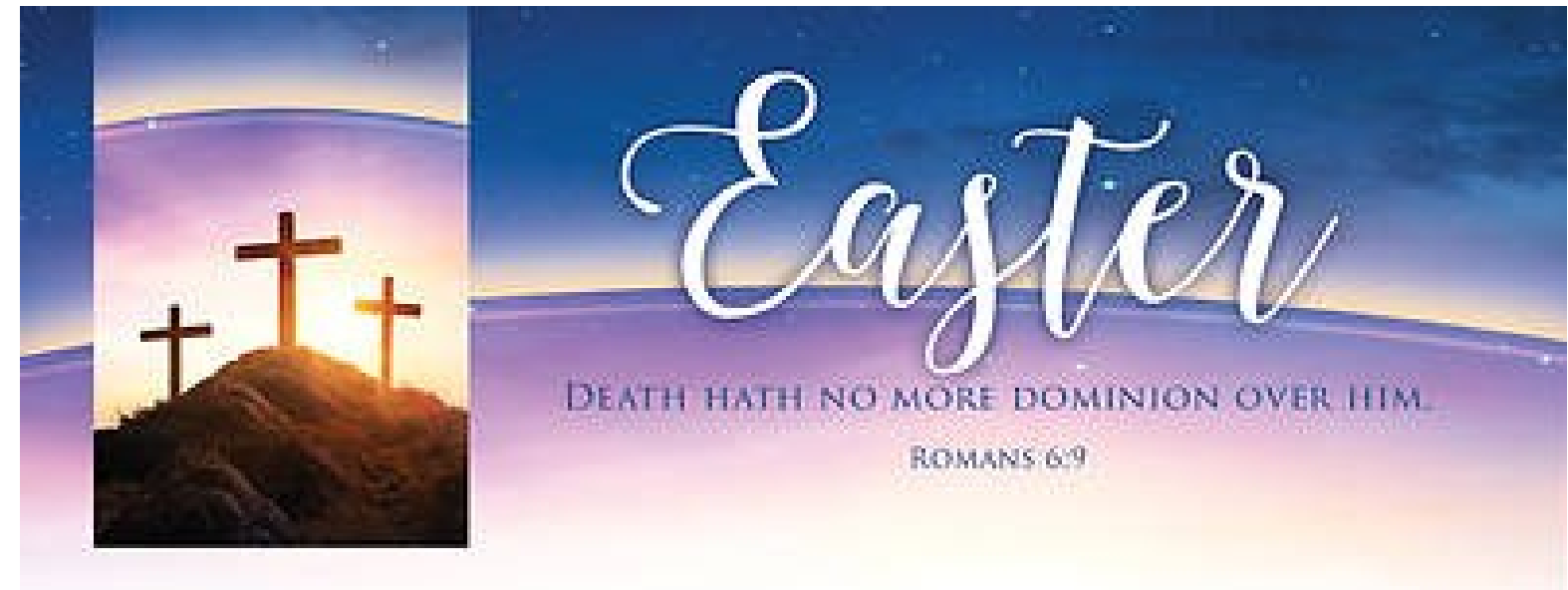
SOUND SYSTEM OPERATORS FOR APRIL

April 5th: Jessica Nelson
April 12th: John & Heather Reber
April 19th: Jennifer Honer
April 26th: Stephanie Olson

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.

New Life Lutheran Church Scholarships

Three scholarships are available for NLLC student members. **Arne S. Brenden Christian Education Scholarship** provides financial assistance to students of a Christian college or seminary, or who are pursuing a career in the ministry or Christian education. The **Thor Sorum Lutheran Seminary Scholarship** provides financial assistance to students at any Lutheran Seminary in the US. The **Hamar-Haas Scholarship** is available one time to any full-time post-secondary student who is a member of New Life Lutheran Church. All three scholarships require students to be enrolled in the subsequent term. **Deadline for application is Friday, May 1** and applicants will be notified by June 1. Application is available at the church office.



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

“Safety consists not in the absence of danger but in the presence of God.” [Author unknown]

When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, there was no absence of danger. In fact, he knew this ride would bring about a concerted plot to end his life and ministry. He knew he was about to suffer greatly. He knew he would very soon die on a cross. And this terrified him, as it would any human being. But, Jesus climbed up on that donkey, and took that ride, never-the-less, because he knew God the Father was with him. He knew that God the Father was way bigger, way greater than any pain that could and would assault him (Jesus). Jesus knew that it was the will of God that he was fulfilling. He knew it was for your sake and for mine that it must be done. So, Jesus rode into Jerusalem to face the unimaginable accompanied by the incomprehensible God of all. And the death that seemed so powerful was swallowed up by life.

So, now we, you and I, have true freedom. We can choose to follow Jesus or to follow the world. We can choose to face the danger and vulnerability of living compassionately, of treating others like we would like to be treated, or we can choose to live in a very worldly way, a me-first way. We can choose love or judgment. We can choose humility or arrogance. We can choose to embrace Easter (trusting God and seeing one another as brothers and sisters), or Good Friday (trusting the world and seeing one another as rivals for limited resources). In Jesus God says, “Choose wisely, . . .choose life!”

Tomb, thou shalt not hold Him longer;
Death is strong, but Life is stronger;
Stronger than the dark, the light;
Stronger than the wrong, the right;
Faith and Hope triumphant say,
Christ will rise on Easter Day.

[Phillips Brooks]

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Randy

New Life Lutheran Church March 2026 Unapproved minutes

March 11, 2026, Meeting 6:30 PM In attendance Stacey Hone, Stephanie Curtis, Heather Nelson, Brad Schmidt, Heather Reber, Fatih Waldoch, Renae Froslic, Lori Ryan, Randy Whitehead, Marlow Rasmusson, Jessi Lehn, Jessica Nelson

1.0 Approval of agenda- Motion made by Stephanie Curtis, seconded by Heather Reber

2.0 Approval of Minutes- Motion made by Brad Schmidt, seconded by Jessi Lehn

3.0 Treasurer's report February 2026: Notes: \$3,000 in the negative. Electricity bill has been higher (rate increases) and was \$1,200 last month and March is looking to be about \$1,400. Salaries were paid with a retroactive raise, and Portico Randys health insurance came out in the very beginning of March. Jessi Lehn Approved the report and Heather Reber seconded.

4.0 Ongoing business:

4.1 Mission Quilters Request: Ministry group that makes quilts to be distributed locally and globally through Lutheran World Relief Looking to become an auxiliary committee to the church which would allow them to use the church tax exempt id number. They would hold a checking account requiring two signers and would submit a report to the annual meeting and the audit committee each year. Steph motions to allow the group to be granted auxiliary status and Faith Waldoch seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4.2 Summit (fire protection) Company came back with a contract and quote for inspection and installation of updated equipment: dedicated Starlink fire monitoring system. Motion was passed in January to proceed with the contract as written.

5.0 New business:

5.1 Correspondence: Newsletter from the Women of the ELCA, copy available on the bulletin board.

5.2 Upcoming events:

-March 21st: Swedish Meatball Supper/
NWMN Synod Event

-April 2nd: Maundy Thursday Worship at
Little Bethany

-April 3rd: Good Friday Worship at Rothsay Baptist

-April 5th: Easter Worship at New Life

-April 10th & 11th; Tour of Tables

-April 12th: Confirmation Sunday

-April 17th to 23rd: Pastor Randy on Vacation

-May 11th: Special Mother's Day

-May 17th: Senior Recognition (10am New Life)
& Baccalaureate (7pm New Life)

5.3 Boomers Bash: June 20th 2026

- New Life will be serving a breakfast (8-9:30am) if we can find someone to head up the organization. There is a "bible" with all dates and details to make it a success we just need someone willing!

- The pedal pull (9am) will be on or very close to church property

5.4 Signers on checking and savings account and Operating loan

Supply Account Debit Cards: Jessi Lehn made a motion and Steph Curtis seconded the motion to add Jessica Brandt to the New Life Lutheran Church supply account and to remove Kristen Hanson as a signer. The signers on the general supply account will be Renae Froslic, Jessica Brandt and Randall Whitehead.

Operating Loan: Faith Waldoch made a motion and Heather Reber seconded to approve Renae Froslic as a signer on loan documentation for New Life Lutheran Church.

6.0 Pastor's Report- We finished our (six session) Noontime Bible Study "Embracing the Prophets in Contemporary Culture" on February 19. We showed a DVD presentation each week followed by a discussion. The DVD is a very powerful, enlightening, and thought-provoking resource. I'd love to have an evening or weekend Bible Study, using this same resource, and gear it toward our younger members. I'll be sending around a clipboard during some upcoming worship services (and putting the interest sheet online, as well) to see if there is interest, and when interested people are most available. I am also thinking about sending a clipboard around gauging interest in a one session Funeral Planning Seminar sometime in the near future. I'd like the Council's thoughts on this. We did have one funeral service this past month. It was for Char Boe, on Saturday, Feb. 28. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers. Attendance has been very good at our Wednesday evening Lenten Supper/Worship services. The confirmation kids have been doing well in presenting the skits. The one issue is that none of the microphone jacks in the fellowship hall are working. I'm not sure, but I wonder if somehow those jacks were disconnected when the church was temporarily rewired to accommodate the outdoor services during the COVID epidemic months. It would be nice to have this fixed before next year's Lenten season rolls around. I know I mentioned that last year, but amidst all the other things going on, that got forgotten. I haven't gotten a chance to draw up plans for the mobile Puppet Ministry cabinet yet, but I think we might want to make the dimensions a little smaller than I suggested before. I think the fire marshal might have some issues with something that large placed near the emergency exit door. In planning for the worship service on March 29, I've decided to make it a purely Palm Sunday worship service rather than a combined Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday worship service. I haven't yet registered for the Great Northwestern Minnesota Synod Get Together in Bemidji, on Sat., March 21—the same day as our Meatball Supper. That Get Together includes our Spring Conference Meeting and has a keynote speaker that I think will have some good information on reaching out to the younger generations. If I go, I'd plan to leave the meeting right after the keynote speaker finishes, but that would mean I wouldn't get back to Rothsay until about 5:30 pm (after the supper starts, and wouldn't be available to help earlier in the day. Again, I'd like the Council's thoughts on whether I should attend that meeting. Maundy Thursday is scheduled for April 2, at Little Bethany, and Good Friday is scheduled for April 3, at Rothsay Baptist Church. I'm scheduled to preach there. I did meet with one of their lay leadership members.

New Life Lutheran Church March 2026 Unapproved minutes

They have been served by supply preachers since Pastor Jason took another call, but we thought there isn't a need for a supply person on Good Friday. The lay leadership is putting together the service. I'd like to extend a big "Thank You" to the Worship Committee and Jen Honer working on the Easter worship Skit that will be in the place of the sermon on Easter. If people feel a need to hear a sermon that day, I will be sharing an Easter sermon at the Little Bethany worship service at 8:45 am. Just a reminder of some scheduled vacation days for me on April 17—23. That includes Sunday, April 19.

7.0 Youth Director's report- 36 people showed up for tubing at Detroit Mountain! Sunday school has morphed into Easter Play practice and is so much fun! Will continue to meet as normal following Easter and Confirmation. We have successfully served two Lenten meals, thank you to all who came out! The youth committee will be meeting on March 15th to talk about the rest of this spring and summer plans.

8.0 Administrative Assistant's report: Questions about a Policy found in the desk and brought it to council to see if it is still relevant.

9.0 NLLC Foundation report- Meeting soon will report back next month

10.0 Committee reports:

Worship & Music (Heather Reber)- Jodi Rurup will find readers for worship. Looking into summer planting workshop still. Steph Curtis has been heading up the Easter garden. Jenifer Honer will produce an easter skit for Easter Sunday.

Education (Stacey Hone)- Going well, numbers have dwindled some since the fall. Looking to up engagement with parents and families moving forward.

Youth (Brad Schmidt)- Meeting Sunday. Lake day this summer potentially in the works. Able to add two youth to the committee Sophie Schmidt and Jeremiah Ziegler. Looking to start early planning for the next pig roast in the fall.

Community Care Committee (Faith Waldoch)- Served a Lenten dinner and were a bit short on food so will look for more volunteers next year, the money that was brought in from the dinner was donated to the church general fund. Bingo was such a successful fundraiser with over 60 people attending. Gearing up for another round of birthday bags, ingredient lists will be available alongside the meal in a bag recipes. Possible women's craft day at the church in June. Hoping to get together more often as a committee just to gather together for fellowship. Lots of dreaming and planning happening, future meetings will be held the same night as council.

Church Property (Marlowe Rasmusson): Sanctuary was being heated by propane the last year (or so) resulting in emptying the tank. There are a few pews with broken legs so they will be taken off and repaired. The dishwasher is having issues heating appropriately so that issue is being looked into. Call in to investigate water leaks in the mechanical room. Flashing lights in the parking lot, unsure of cause or frequency.

Stewardship (Steph Curtis): The Stewardship committee met on Sunday, March 8.

- Current pledges received – 22 totaling \$55,285. Renae will give an update if any more comes in.
- Discussed giving challenges. The Stewardship committee is planning to do a \$1,000 match on May 3.
- Would the council be willing to do another challenge in August?
- Bruce is going to ask the cemetery board to do one in June as summer months tend to be slow.
- We are going to focus on the online giving tools we offer to make giving easy if you can't attend worship.
- Planning to do a first quarter financial update in April in the newsletter and weekly bulletin after March financials are done.
- Can we put offering amounts in the weekly bulletin (from the week before).
- "Thriving in your Golden Years" had around 20 participants from our church and a few others from the area. Overall received positive feedback. Thrivent is willing to continue to offer support through classes and events.
- Working on scheduling Stewardship talks this spring going into summer months.
- Busy April (Palm Sunday, Easter, Confirmation) so will look at May dates.

11.0 Adjournment Motion made by Heather and seconded by Steph Curtis at 8:39

Submitted by Jessica Nelson

NLLC COUNCIL MEMBERS

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