



LIFE LINE

New Life Lutheran Church Newsletter

March 2018



I have always been passionate about being vulnerable. In fact, I have led a few forums since recognizing the significance of vulnerability and the underlying hope that comes from being vulnerable with other people. It's something that we fear in society; the fear of what to expect and how will people react after being vulnerable in the moment. We wonder if we will be accepted and if we are worthy after this experience of being open and honest with one another. I think it's quite courageous to embrace this vulnerability and to cele-

brate our imperfections as human beings.

"How do we learn to embrace our vulnerabilities and imperfections so that we can engage in our lives from a place of authenticity and worthiness? How do we cultivate the courage, compassion, and connection that we need to recognize that we are enough – that we are worthy of love, belonging, and joy?" These are the questions that Brené Brown asks while discussing vulnerability and it is the reason I have felt so passionate about this topic. Dr. Brené Brown is a research professor at the University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work, as well as the author of the #1 New York Times bestselling book, *Daring Greatly: How the Courage to Be Vulnerable Transforms the Way We Live, Love, Parent, and Lead*. She has spent the past twelve years studying vulnerability, courage, worthiness, and shame. I first saw Brené Brown's inspirational work on a TED talk while in seminary and it blew me away. In her TED talk, she confesses about how she's been able to embrace her own vulnerability and she explains how vulnerability really works in our society. If you haven't heard her TED talk, I highly suggest you look into it or read her book. There is just so much to say about being vulnerable and the connection you build once you've gone past the fear of shame and being truthful and sincere with other individuals.

Once I acknowledged how precious it is to be vulnerable with individuals, I realized the change and impact it can have on so many lives and the way in which we love one another. Discussions become deeper, emotions start to surface, and connections between people become even more meaningful. In order for this wonderful connection, we have to allow ourselves to be seen and that means being willing to be vulnerable. This is the moment that we start to understand that we are enough, that we are worthy, and that we are deserving of love. Once you see how valuable and important this vulnerability is, then you will be introduced to a world of courage, compassion, connection and most importantly hope. "Courage to be imperfect. Compassion to be kind to ourselves and others. Connection as a result of authenticity. What makes us vulnerable makes us beautiful." –Brene Brown.

- Vicar Chelsey Olson

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Imagine our Jubilee Campaign

March is an important month in our Imagine our Jubilee Campaign. There have been lots of discussions, meetings, education, communication, and events to help get us to this point. There have been lots of volunteers that have stepped forward to help lead this effort. There have been many exciting pledges already made to get us started. And March represents the opportunity for everyone to be involved. We hope you will take the time to learn about this important initiative for the future of New Life ministry.

The campaign goals are to raise the funds required to retire the debt, repair and replace HVAC systems, renovate and update the narthex and sanctuary and increase our emergency repair fund for future maintenance. Yes, there is money involved to meet each of these goals. But the bigger picture is what reaching these goals allows for the future of New Life.

- Retiring our debt frees up tens of thousands of dollars annually to invest in growing our staff and enhancing/expanding our ministry programs to meet the needs of our congregation and community. Imagine the Possibilities!
- Repairing/replacing our aging HVAC systems will create savings from more energy efficient systems and creating a welcoming space for the New Life family and community whether it's 100 degrees or -10. Imagine the Possibilities!
- Enlarging and updating the narthex will create more room for fellowship, better ways to communicate New Life's mission and ministries to everyone who enters and a space where people feel welcome and comfortable. Imagine the Possibilities!
- Updating our sanctuary will create a vibrant, beautiful space with better visuals for everyone to see and participate in worship. Imagine the possibilities!
- Planning to meet the continuing needs of maintaining God's house through an emergency repair fund will give us peace of mind that we can care for the building and property in such a way to provide a safe and sound space to meet. Imagine the possibilities!

If you haven't been contacted about making a pledge yet, this is your month! As part of Commitment Sunday, on March 4, volunteers from New Life will be available in the fellowship hall to fully explain our campaign, answer your questions and to ask you to prayerfully consider your campaign commitment. We are also celebrating New Life's 48th anniversary so be sure to stop by for some food, fun and fellowship. In addition, volunteers will be visiting members in their homes and/or by phone starting this weekend. Our goal is to give everyone the opportunity to make an informed decision about making a pledge. So please join our growing list of supporters and do your part to help assure our campaign's success by considering how you've been blessed and how you can be a blessing to others through your gift. Everyone has different gifts and every gift makes a difference.

You can find more detailed information about our needs, hopes and dreams for this campaign on our website. The campaign video and brochure are also available on our website. Copies of the brochure are also available in the narthex. There is a banner displaying our pledges received to date. This number will be growing each week so be sure to follow our progress! Our donor banner is up! Everyone who makes a gift, including adults and youth, will be individually represented. We hope to add your name soon!

The outcome of this campaign is important to imagining the possibilities as we minister to the needs of our congregation and community. If you have questions, you can contact the church office, or you can fill out a question card in the narthex and place in the box. Chances are someone else has the same question as you. Everyone is encouraged to consider an uplifting gift to be a part of this campaign for New Life's future needs and ministry. Your generosity is sure to be richly blessed.

Easter Basket Collection

This year New Life will be hoping to make Easter a time of new and heartwarming beginnings by donating contents for 12 Easter baskets for families in need in DuPage Township. A sign up sheet is in the narthex, upon bringing in the items please put a check mark by your name. All items must be here by March 25 at 8:15 AM service, as baskets will be compiled between services by the youth of the congregation.

Recycling at New Life for Earth Month

Earth month - April and Earth Day - April 22 is just around the corner so wanted everyone to be aware of what items New Life will be recycling to decrease out trash and footprint on the Earth. Collection boxes for the items listed will be in the Fellowship Hall AFTER Easter!

Here is the list and where items will be recycled or used again (definition of recycling!):

1. worn out American flags to be disposed of properly
2. old, worn out tennis shoes to be recycled into playground surfaces
3. eyeglasses or hearing aids for Lions Club to be reused
4. ink cartridges taken to Best Buy to recycle
5. round small batteries ONLY - recycled at Batteries + in Bolingbrook
6. cell phones with all data deleted to be recycled at Best Buy
7. Video DVD games for Feed My Starving Children to be reused
8. new or gently used jeans any size infant to adult for male or female - to be reused at Daybreak Center in Joliet - NO OTHER CLOTHING PLEASE
9. empty medicine vials to be reused at Christian Bolingbrook Clinic
10. wash cloths, hand towels or bath towels - no holes and no threads(strings) for geriatric patients with memory loss to fold and stack

Any questions contact Nancy Leiting - this is being sponsored by New Life Care Team

SUPPLY Plant Sale

The annual plant sale is back! Time to start thinking about planting flowers, vegetables and herbs. Adding herbs is an exciting change this year with 9 different varieties for sale! Another exciting change is an educational piece on a "Save the Bees" campaign. Look for information as to the best plants to encourage a healthy and necessary bee population. In addition, there are many patio pots and hanging baskets in many varieties and colors. Order forms are available in the narthex from now thru April 2. Orders will arrive on Saturday, May 12—just in time for Mother's Day or teacher appreciation gifts or to satisfy your own green thumb.

This fundraiser supports our high school youth group, specifically the individuals attending the ELCA National Youth Gathering in Texas this summer.

Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack Success

Care team participated in the Mobile Pack event for Feed My Starving Children at North Central College on Saturday evening February 17.

We had 13 participants out of the over 600 people who packed at that shift. What an awesome way to spend a Saturday evening!!

Over 800 boxes were packed which is enough food for over 500 children for 1 year. A big THANK YOU to all who participated! Look forward to another FMSC event to be planned in the summer at the Aurora facility in conjunction with the Bolingbrook mosque.



Ever Wonder . . .

What do you do if you have a prayer request and it's not Sunday? We are happy to share your prayer requests any day of the week! You can submit your prayer

request through our website www.newlifebolingbrook.org. The Prayer Chain is located under "Resources" tab. Or you can always call the church office as well. Prayers can go on the prayer chain anonymously if you would like and all prayers are handled with respect.

What if you want to be one of the people praying for others? Our prayer chain is a group of members who pray for the concerns of the New Life community. They receive prayer requests via email as needed. This is a ministry of New Life and you can be a part of it too. If you would like to be added to the list for this ministry, sign up on the Prayer Chain page of our website or contact Monica Baxter in the church office.



Spotlight on Committees: Care Team

This is a new feature for our newsletter that we are hoping to have monthly that focuses on the important work that various groups of volunteers provide our church. It will help you to know who these groups are, what their focus is, who is currently volunteering and how you can use your time and talents to get involved.

The Care Team covers a broad area of needs. Their ministry strives to provide care and compassion to our congregation, our community and the world around us. No small task! We want people to see where they can be connected to God's work with their hands. This allows for individuals to choose where their heart and treasures lie to make the greatest impact as well as opportunities to grow in faith.

Here are just some of the ministries that fall under this team.

- Speaker luncheons with subjects like drug addiction and being an organ donor.
- Collections of donations for Dupage Township Food Pantry, Veterans Hospital and Individual Advocacy Group homes.
- Service projects like Feed My Starving Children and blood drives
- Honoring our past and present military personnel on Veterans Day
- Recycling Events and education to care for creation

Upcoming opportunities to be God's hands and feet include Easter Food Basket collection going on now, Speaker Luncheon on Autism on April 15, and Blood Drive on April 15

Through volunteers, we can address several of the needs of our congregation and community. If you have a special interest in this type of ministry or specific event, please contact Chair Dorothy Dominiak at ddominiak@aol.com or call the church office. It is likely that almost every member can find some part of this ministry that speaks to their heart.

Members of this committee are Dorothy Dominiak-Chairperson, Mallory Diepen, Nancy Leiting, Norma Sabine, Suzanne Schorsch and Alyson Wold. Meetings are generally the third Thursday of the month 7:00-8:30 pm.



**March
Anniversaries**

Bob & Marilyn Lamont	3/1
Tara & Jeff Lauer	3/13
John & Jackie Schmidt	3/18
John & Amy Beaugard	3/22
Greg & Sherry Krabbenhoft	3/24
Kevin & Amanda Leiting	3/24
Jon & Jessica Kueper	3/27
Brian & Kristen Valerugo	3/29

Have you moved or changed your phone number recently? If so, it is important that the church office is contacted so we can update our records. Thank you.

Empowered: Value of Women

This past month junior high girls came together to learn and talk about real issues that real girls experience. They went home with lots of resources. The evening also featured making bracelets, nail care, “super” prop photo booth and visit from Super girl, Vicar Chelsey. This is just another way we use a faith-based approach to real world living.



Mac N Cheese Bake Off

We had a wonderful event filled with cheesy goodness, kids craft stations, a fun photo booth and awards. Our attendance was well over 50 people! It was an exciting time and many awards were given on behalf of the SUPPLY Youth Group. Mary Wood was the winner of the 50/50 Raffle and she so graciously gave it all back to the youth group. The total count raised from this raffle was \$667 and with added donations, the Mac N Cheese Bake Off brought in around \$800!!! We had a fantastic variety of Mac N Cheese dishes: the 3rd Prize winner was Garrett Snedden, the 2nd Prize winner was Randy and his son Michael Mucha, and the 1st Prize winner was Stephen Tomsy.

Thank you for coming out and supporting your SUPPLY Youth Group, as well as a special thank you to all who helped with set up and clean up for the event! It was so amazing to see everyone encourage our SUPPLY Youth Group and help them reach their financial goal for the Summer National Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas. This trip only happens once every three years! It is a time for youth and adult leaders to gather together and express their faith. We hope you enjoyed this event as much as the youth did!



There are many ways to volunteer at New Life!

March Worship Leaders

Worship Assistant:

8:15 George Sanchez

10:15 Carie Mackey (Rose Nickles—March 11)

Greeters:

8:15 Chris & Art Arellano

10:15 Shirlee Pergler

Ushers:

8:15 Spencer Gerke, Jennifer & Larry Calloni

10:15 Lisa & Ian Mustonen, Stephanie Ludemann

Volunteers are always needed to help with worship. Interested?

Contact the church office at 630-759-7636 or of-
ficemgr@newlifebolingbrook.org

Care Team Christmas Cards & Lights

Now that Christmas is in the past - just wanted to let everyone know that 96 Christmas strings of lights and 1 electrical cord were recycled and 10 pounds of greeting cards were sent to Saint Jude Ranch for Children in Boulder City, Nevada to be repurposed as new cards that can be purchased online. Thanks to all for reducing, reusing and recycling.

Souper Bowl Results

The Super Bowl may seem like a distant memory (the Eagles won!). But the generosity of our donations for our Souper Bowl have made a lasting impact. The \$296.38 that was collected was given to the Power Connection. This is the organization selected by our Confirmation youth to help feed the hungry. Power Connection is in Romeoville and hosts a food pantry for any Illinois resident. In addition, they also offer a clothing pantry and job training.



You can help support New Life by simply shopping on Amazon!

Every time you make a purchase AmazonSmiles donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to New Life.

Just visit smile.amazon.com, search for New Life Lutheran Church, Bolingbrook, IL and shop while Amazon gives!

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1. Scan this QR code:
(If you don't have a QR code scanner app, go to your device's app store and search for "Instant Church Directory.")
2. Enter your email as it's listed in our church directory.
3. Enter the assigned password into the app to begin syncing.



Recycle Year-Round!

A monthly recycling focus for March:
Bath towels—Naperville Humane Society



Shopping Cart Ministry March Focus

Canned fruit and vegetables;
Diapers and wipes.

MARCH 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
NA at 7 pm	AA 7:00 pm	Al Anon 7 pm	NA 10 am AA 7 pm	Ladies AA 7 pm	PANN 7 pm	Al Anon Study 8:45am Al Anon 10 am
				1 Lenten Dinner Church—6:00 pm Worship Commi—6:30 p Executive Comm—7:15 p Mariachi—6:30-9 pm Christ Center of Hope 7p Mutual Ministry—8 pm	2 Oasis Choir Practice—8 pm Oasis Prayer Service—10 pm	3 Prayer Circle—7am - 10:45 am Celebration Band Rehearsal—10 am
4 Commitment Sunday Worship—8:15 & 10:15 am Head2Heart 5:30 pm	5 Mariachi—4-6 pm Men's Basketball—6:30 pm	6 Mariachi—4-6:30 pm Oasis—7 pm Tutoring—7 pm	7 Bible Study—10 am Mariachi—4-6 pm Tutoring—6:30 pm	8 Lenten Dinner Church—6:00 pm Mariachi—6:30-9 pm Christ Center of Hope - 7p	9 Oasis Choir Practice—8 pm	10 Celebration Band Rehearsal—9 am
11 Daylight Savings Begins—Spring Forward Worship—8:15 & 10:15 am Head2Heart 5:30 pm	12 Mariachi—4-6 pm Men's Basketball—6:30 pm	13 Mariachi—4-6:30 pm Oasis—7 pm Tutoring—7 pm Church Council—7 pm	14 Bible Study—10 am Mariachi—4-6 pm Tutoring—6:30 pm	15 Lenten Dinner Church—6:00 pm Mariachi—6:30-9 pm Christ Center of Hope - 7 p Care Team—7 pm Stewardship—7:30 pm	16 Oasis Choir Practice—8 pm	17 Celebration Band Rehearsal—9 am
18 Worship—8:15 & 10:15 am Head2Heart 5:30 pm	19 Mariachi—4-6 pm Men's Basketball—6:30 pm	20 Primary Election Voting—6 am—8 pm Mariachi—4-6:30 pm Oasis—7 pm Tutoring—7 pm Outreach—7 pm	21 Bible Study—10 am Mariachi—4-6 pm Tutoring—6:30 pm	22 Mariachi—6:30-9 pm Christ Center of Hope - 7 p Property—7 pm	23 Oasis Choir Practice—8 pm	24 Celebration Band Rehearsal—9 am
25 Palm Sunday Worship—8:15 & 10:15 am	26 Mariachi—4-6 pm Men's Basketball—6:30 pm	27 Mariachi—4-6:30 pm Oasis—7 pm Tutoring—7 pm	28 Bible Study—10 am Mariachi—4-6 pm Tutoring—6:30 pm	29 Mariachi—6:30-9 pm Christ Center of Hope - 7p Maudy Thursday Worship—7:30 pm	30 Oasis Choir Practice—8 pm Good Friday Kids' Worship—5 pm Good Friday Worship—7:30 pm	31 Celebration Band Rehearsal—9 am Easter Egg Hunt—11:30 am

Manage Your Giving Online!

New Life is excited to announce that you can now manage your giving online! Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet.

Simply follow these easy steps:

1. Visit www.newlifebolingbrook.org.
2. Click on "Giving" on the top right side of the page.
3. Click on "Donate/Pay Online" to schedule your recurring or one-time contributions. You may also scan this QR code to immediately access the online giving page.

If you already give via Simply Giving, your profile will link automatically when entering your email address, and you can manage your contributions online at your convenience.



Where everybody is somebody, and Jesus Christ is Lord!

New Life Lutheran Church
249 N. Bolingbrook Drive
Bolingbrook, IL 60440

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Sunday Worship

8:15 & 10:15 AM

New Life Lutheran Church

249 N. Bolingbrook Drive
Bolingbrook, IL 60440

(630) 759-7636

officemgr@newlifebolingbrook.org

Visit us on the web at
www.newlifebolingbrook.org