



LIFE LINE

New Life Lutheran Church Newsletter

March 2019



Our Journey through Lent; Together

We will be joining with Joyful Spirit Lutheran Church for many combined Lenten experiences. This will be an opportunity to learn together about the events leading up to Easter Sunday by focusing on the Stations of the Cross. We hope to see you at as many opportunities as possible.

◆ Stations of the Cross: March 6 – April 14 in the Fellowship Hall

Stations of the Cross represent Jesus' passion journey. Each station focuses on a specific event. Our stations are represented with a modern image that embodies that station. You are invited to personally walk through the Stations of the Cross at any time and meditate on Jesus' journey. Stations will be on display in the Fellowship Hall throughout the season of Lent. There is a booklet to help guide you with some thoughts and prayers. You are welcome to take these booklets home. Pictures of each station will also be posted on our website if you would like to "walk" through this at your home.

◆ Lenten Blessing "Stations": Collecting items March 6-March 24

This is a combined service project of both congregations. We will be collecting items to fill goodie baskets for the Bolingbrook fire stations and police officers. The list of items to donate will be available through a link on our website. You can sign up to bring one or many items at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080b49a8a62ca5f58-donation1> (similar to our Gods Work Our Hands project). For help, contact the church office. Items can be dropped off in narthex.

April 13 at Joyful Spirit at 9:30 am

We will be gathering as a group to assemble these baskets and deliver them to the stations that day. This is an all ages opportunity.

◆ Remember Your Baptism Pool Party

March 10 from 6:30-8:30 pm

Bolingbrook Rec Aquatic Center

All ages from both congregations are invited to join in this celebration of water. You can swim or you are welcome to hang out on the pool deck to connect with others, have fun and pretend it is summer. Feel free to bring snacks to share.

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A Journey Through Lent

♦ **Lenten Prayer: From Darkness to Light**

March 13 at 7:30 pm at Joyful Spirit Church, 260 Sunshine Dr. Bolingbrook

As a group from both congregations, we will go through Stations 1-7 together. This will be followed by a conversation led by Pastor Rakel.

March 20 at 7:30 pm at New Life Church

As a group from both congregations, we will go through Stations 8-14 together. This will be followed by a conversation led by Pastor Dave Elliott.

♦ **Pulpit Swap**

March 24, Pastor Dave Elliott will be leading worship at both 8:15 and 10:15 am

Pastor Rakel will be leading worship at Joyful Spirit that day.

♦ **Lenten Blessing Community: Collecting items March 24-April 14**

This is our Annual Food Baskets for families in our community. This food brings hope to families that are experiencing difficult times. There will be a poster in the narthex to sign up to donate an item. Our Confirmation youth will be packing the baskets on April 14 at 9:15 am.

♦ **Lenten Photos: Images of Hope—Week of March 24-31**

Lent ends on a high note with the resurrection of Jesus. This week we want to focus on the hope that comes because of that resurrection. Even in our broken world today, there are things that represent hope and light. Everyone is invited to share their photos based on pre-determined topics that represent this hope and light. Topics will be announced during that week.

♦ **Bible study: April 3 at The Nest Restaurant, Bolingbrook Golf Club at 7:30 pm**

Both congregations will gather to focus on the Passion. Food and drink are available for purchase, optional.

♦ **Palm Sunday & Cantata: April 14 at both 8:15 and 10:15 am**

Our adult choir will be presenting a beautiful new piece called Calvary's Love. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite someone to experience worship thru music.

♦ **Maundy Thursday—April 18 at 7:30 pm**

♦ **Good Friday—April 19 at 7:30 pm**

♦ **Annual Easter Egg Hunt: April 20 at 11:30 am**

This is a fun event for our young families and their friends. More information will be posted on website soon.

♦ **Easter Worship: April 21 at 6:30, 8:15 and 10:15 am**

♦ **Easter Breakfast**

April 21 at 7:15 – 10:15 am

Our high school youth will be preparing and serving breakfast. A free will offering is available to help fund our youth activities. See the article later in this newsletter about their upcoming summer mission trip!

Lunch and Learn: April 7 at 11:30 am

The CARE team will be hosting this lunch. Our speaker will be John Beaugard who recently traveled to the Holy Land. This trip was organized by the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago. It included visits to over twenty archaeological and holy sites in Israel/Palestine and Jordan. The theme was The World of the Bible: Ancient Sites and Current Struggles. What an engaging topic during Lent and right before Palm Sunday. This is another great opportunity to invite a friend or neighbor to join you at worship, then for lunch and learning. Please mark your calendar to join us.

High School Summer Mission Trip

One of the biggest upcoming youth ministry events is the summer workcamp. New Life youth have been participating in these workcamps for many years. We are fortunate to have youth willing to take one week out of their summer to experience first-hand the amazing power of serving a community to accomplish God's work. Through the workcamp, youth will be providing home repairs at no cost for elderly, disabled, and disadvantaged people who need their help. Project crews typically serve the same resident for the entire trip, creating an environment where meaningful relationships develop. In six short days, these teens might have rebuilt a porch, installed a wheelchair ramp, painted, weatherize a home, installed handrails or other repair projects. This year youth will be traveling to Worthington, Minnesota on July 6 – 13. Youth attending this year are: Allison Brown, Marysa Cristofaro, Gabrielle Cristofaro, Hailey Dehnert, Haiden Dehnert, Hannah Ritz, Justin Schmidt. In addition, Zach Weitendorf will be attending as a young adult. Our adult male chaperone is Steve Ritz. We are still in need of a female chaperone. If you would like to experience a local mission trip and are energized about being around youth, this is your opportunity. You do not need to be a parent. For more information, please contact Pastor Rakel.

SUPPLY Plant Sale

Spring is coming, eventually. One way to help you start thinking spring thoughts is the annual SUPPLY plant sale. Order forms are available now in the narthex, on our website or in the church office. Please share with your neighbors, friends, and co-workers. Orders will be due April 7. Plants will be delivered Saturday, May 11, right before Mother's Day. **A couple of notes about this year's sale:** NEW – We will offer GALLON size vegetables! You can buy assorted Sweet Peppers or assorted Small Tomatoes. We will offer herbs again, but only 5 varieties. Basil, Chives, Mint, Stevia, and Tarragon.

Youth Education News

All Youth Classes are in session each Sunday this month. SPARK (elementary) – 10:15 am; SUPPLY (high school) – 10:15 am; H2H (Junior high) – While the Sunday evening classes have finished, this group is still actively participating. We have a group of 7 youth attending the Confirmation Retreat at Lutherdale on March 15-17. Confirmation youth are a part of our worship service by serving as acolytes, reading the litany, or communion assistants.

Winter Youth Offering: The organization selected by our youth to receive their offerings is Lutheran Child and Family Services. This agency provides hope through adoption and foster care services. The winter offering will wrap up this month and the ministry for the spring youth offering will be announced shortly. Youth envelopes are available from Susan Brown or at the Welcome Spot in the back of the sanctuary. Offerings can be given during youth education class or placed in the basket on the altar during worship.

New Members

We have enjoyed meeting new guests who visit our church. All are welcome to become official members of the New Life family. We would love to help get you acclimated and answer any questions. After Easter, we will be offering personal visits to anyone interested in joining New Life. We are planning one group discussion to explore Christianity and Lutheranism tentatively scheduled for May 5. And officially welcome and receive all new members on May 19. We are excited to help you discover the active community of New Life.

Cross Bearer

You may have noticed a new part to our worship service. We have recently received a wooden processional cross by our very own Mike Niemiera. This is another opportunity for you to participate in worship. The Cross Bearer – one who lifts high our processional cross as we enter worship and end worship – is open to all. Don't worry, it's not heavy. It is a simple process to learn and you can even watch a video training if that would be helpful. If you are willing to serve in this role, please let the church office know or just approach the worship assistant on Sunday morning.

Blood Drive: April 7 from 8:00 am - Noon

Every day, Heartland Blood Centers needs to see at least 600 donors to meet the demands of our hospitals. Help us meet our goal of 16 donors. This is a great opportunity to invite a friend to join you to donate and experience worship at New Life. Sign up for your preferred time at https://ht.heartlandbc.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/5570635. Walk-ins are welcome as well. Students who are 16 years old are able to donate with parental consent. Anyone who donated in January would be eligible again for this drive.

Diaper Depot—March 10 and 24

We partner with the United Way of Will County for this ministry. They provide the majority of the items such as diapers, wipes, baby wash and diaper cream. If you want to be part of supporting this ministry, we would welcome your involvement.

- 1) Tell others about this resource. Invite families to visit the Diaper Depot. Share our Facebook posts about the Depot. Flyers are available from from Susan Brown in the office.
- 2) You can help by donating diapers. Larger sizes and pull-ups tend to be what we run out of first. Simply drop them off at church and we'll create the pre-packaged bundles.
- 3) Clip coupons for diapers or other baby products like wipes, baby wash and diaper cream and place in envelope on bulletin board in narthex. This helps families stretch their resources farther.

Diaper Depot is open on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month from 6:00-8:00 pm. The diapers are free and there are no residency restrictions or paperwork needed. Visitors can receive one pre-packaged bundle of diapers for each child per visit. Children need not be present to receive diapers.

New Life's 49th Anniversary

New Life is officially 49 years old this month. We were blessed to have so many of the New Life family come together for one worship on March 3. And it was a full house at the luncheon with every decade being represented. We were able to highlight some of our past (too much history for just one luncheon). We celebrated our present with stories about our Diaper Depot, Youth Education and current progress on our Imagine Our Jubilee campaign. And we are starting to imagine our future together with the big 50th anniversary next year and new possibilities in ministry as we continue to make progress on meeting the goals of the campaign. Pictures from day are posted on Facebook and our website.



March Anniversaries

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

*Have you moved or
changed your phone
number recently?*

*If so, please contact the
church office so we can
update our records.*

Thank you.

Imagine Our Jubilee Campaign

This month marks one year since we had our commitment Sunday for this campaign. We have been humbled by the 105 positive responses with a commitment or gift. Those responses have been making a positive impact.

Total Amount Pledged: \$535,375

Total Amount Received as end of February: \$252,907

Our mortgage balance at the beginning of this campaign: \$430,000

- 37% of the monthly mortgage check was going to interest (\$1,152.45 out of check total \$3,080)
- Additional payments made to our mortgage balance with campaign funds: \$150,000
- Current mortgage balance: \$235,232
- 20.6% of the monthly mortgage check will go to interest (\$637.09 out of check total \$3,080).

What an impact this is making! Decreasing our total interest costs and shortening our mortgage will take less money from our yearly operating expenses which would allow more resources for ministry.

Another blessing as a result of this campaign is our HVAC systems. During the polar vortex, one of our furnace's needed to be replaced. Due to the campaign, the funds were already available to quickly and efficiently replace that unit.

For 49 years, our church has been ministering to the needs of our community and families gathered at New Life. We strive to be a church that is open and available to our community, not just on Sundays. We share the resources we have and open our doors to support the needs in our community.

All these positive accomplishments listed above are because of you! You who made a pledge or gave a gift. You who are following through on those pledges. And as great as this start is, we aren't finished yet. Please continue your strong and faithful commitment to this campaign. It is making a difference.

If you were not able to make a pledge or gift last year, or you have recently joined the New Life family, it's not too late to be a part of building New Life's future. If you would like more information on this campaign or would like to make a pledge/gift, please contact the church office.

Adult Education

This wonderful opportunity to learn continues every Sunday morning from 9:15-10:15. This group meets in the Genesis Room across from the copier room. It is open to everyone to join at any time. They are currently studying The Life and Times of Flavius Josephus and will be starting a new topic soon. No prior knowledge is expected. And as an added bonus, they serve coffee and donuts.



There are many ways to volunteer at New Life!

March Worship Leaders

Worship Assistants:

8:15 Carolyn Yost

10:15 Ken McConnaughay

Greeters:

8:15 Chris & Art Arellano

10:15 Shirlee Pergler

Ushers:

8:15 Spencer Gerke, Jennifer & Larry Calloni, Brian Engel

10:15 Stephanie Ludemann, Lisa & Ian Mustonen, Julie Walters

Volunteers are always needed to help with worship. Interested? Contact the church office at 630-759-7636 or officemgr@newlifebolingbrook.org

COMING UP....

April is Earth Month Our Christmas lights recycling was a huge success with at least 72 strings of lights recycled. Also 12 pounds of greeting cards were mailed to St. Jude Ranch for Children to be made into new cards. Coming up is April Recycling where the CARE team makes a concentrated effort to help you recycle items and educate you on what can be recycled and where the other 11 months of the year. The following items will be collected at New Life during the month of April as these don't get put in your weekly recycling bin: 1. worn out tennis shoes for Nike save a sole program 2. worn out American flags to be disposed of properly 3. eyeglasses or hearing aids for Lions Club 4. small round batteries (only) to recycle 5. empty medicine vials to be repurposed 6. old cell phones (need to delete/remove all data) 7. children's preschool books for ages 5 and younger to be donated to families who attend the Diaper Depot

In addition, we will be hosting a ONE day electronics recycling event on a Sunday in conjunction with Earth Month. Date TBD (not including TVs, CRTs, flat screens or monitors.)

SAVE-THE-DATE: 1st Communion for 4th graders will be June 2

Summer Camp Lutherdale in Elkhorn, WI and Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center (LOMC) in Oregon, IL offer several options for youth camps over the summer. Please visit their websites for themes, dates, and costs. <https://www.lutherdale.org/> ; <http://lomc.org/summer/>

Your Council Members

Thank you to these members who agreed to serve the New Life congregation as a council member. They want to hear your input and ideas and can help answer your questions. So please reach out to one of them. And if you don't know them, introduce yourself! Jerry Streeky, President; Kim Passini, Vice President; Josh Schmidt, Secretary; Mark Arentsen; Lorie Cristofaro; Hailey Dehnert; Nancy Leiting; Josh Schmidt; Sharon Texley; Susan Thomas; Cyndi Torkelson



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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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 fruits & vegetables;
Diapers & wipes.

MARCH 2019

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 Oasis Choir Practice—8 pm Oasis Prayer Service—10 pm	2 Celebration Band Rehearsal—10 am Mariachi—10 am -12 pm
3 Worship—8:15 & 10:15 am King Purpose—2 pm	4 Men's Basketball—7 pm	5 Mariachi—4-6:30 pm Oasis—7 pm Tutoring—7 pm	6 Bible Study—10 am Mariachi—4-7 pm Tutoring—6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Worship—7:30 pm	7 Mariachi—4-9 pm Worship Commi—6:30 p Executive Comm—7:15 p Christ Center of Hope 7p	8 Oasis Choir Practice—8 pm	9 Celebration Band Rehearsal—10 am Mariachi—10 am -12 pm
10 Worship—8:15 & 10:15 am King Purpose—2 pm Diaper Depot—6-8 pm	11 Men's Basketball—7 pm	12 Mariachi—4-6:30 pm Oasis—7 pm Tutoring—7 pm Church Council—7 pm	13 Bible Study—10 am Mariachi—4-7 pm Tutoring—6:30 pm Adult Choir—7:30 pm	14 Mariachi—4-9 pm Christ Center of Hope 7p	15 Oasis Choir Practice—8 pm	16 Celebration Band Rehearsal—10 am Mariachi—10 am -12 pm
17 Worship—8:15 & 10:15 am King Purpose—2 pm	18 Men's Basketball—7 pm	19 Mariachi—4-6:30 pm Oasis—7 pm Tutoring—7 pm Outreach—7 pm	20 Bible Study—10 am Mariachi—4-7 pm Tutoring—6:30 pm Adult Choir—7:30 pm	21 Mariachi—4-9 pm Mutual Ministry—6:15 pm Christ Center of Hope 7p Care Team—7 pm	22 Oasis Choir Practice—8 pm	23 Celebration Band Rehearsal—10 am Mariachi—10 am -12 pm
24 Worship—8:15 & 10:15 am King Purpose—2 pm Diaper Depot—6-8 pm	25 Men's Basketball—7 pm	26 Mariachi—4-6:30 pm Oasis—7 pm Tutoring—7 pm	27 Bible Study—10 am Mariachi—4-7 pm Tutoring—6:30 pm Adult Choir—7:30 pm	28 Mariachi—4-9 pm Christ Center of Hope 7p Property—7 pm	29 Oasis Choir Practice—8 pm	30 Celebration Band Rehearsal—10 am Mariachi—10 am -12 pm
31 Worship—8:15 & 10:15 am King Purpose—2 pm						

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.



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

Where everybody is somebody, and Jesus Christ is Lord!

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PLACE
STAMP
HERE

