

The Witness

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Advent Preparations

There is a deep and creative mystery which permeates the Advent Season. Advent is like the waiting and wondering that takes place during the months of a pregnancy as a father and mother and their families await the birth of the coming child. During those months of pregnancy both husband and wife are able to prepare for the coming changes in their lives. During Advent, we as disciples, get the chance to step back from the business of this time of the year and breathe in the wonder, the expectation, and the miracle of the coming celebration of the incarnation (God made flesh). The reality of Advent season is that it is difficult to celebrate the dynamics of the meaning of Christ birth if we do not take the time to prepare our hearts, our minds, and our spirits for Christ birth. NLIC will be providing three opportunities for Christ's disciples today to prepare during the Advent season for Christ's birth. Those opportunities are:

December 1, 2004	6:30 Advent Supper (Worship & Music)	7:15 Advent Worship
December 8, 2004	6:30 Advent Supper (All committees)	7:15 Children's Christmas program
December 15, 2004	6:30 Advent Supper (Stewardship & Finance)	7:15 Advent Worship

December Congregational Meeting December 12, 2004 -- 11:15 a.m.

The Church Council of New Life in Christ Lutheran Church has set December 12, 2004 at 11:15 a.m. as the day and time for our Fall Congregational meeting. The agenda for this meeting has also been established and will include:

I. Call to order and Opening Prayer.

II. Financial Considerations:

A. Consideration of the 2005 Spending Plan

B. Act on motion from May 2nd Congregation meeting:

"Parma Kersten moved and Tom Teske seconded that if at the end of the year there is an excess of funds, the council should consider giving it to the synod as benevolence, with the amount to be determined at the December Congregational meeting."

III. Appointments and Elections:

A. Elect a 2005 Nominating Committee.

B. Elect the NTNL Synod Assembly Voting Members from New Life in Christ Lutheran.

The assembly will be held from April 29th to May 1st at the North Dallas Hilton Lincoln Centre.

Elect one male voting member

Elect one female voting member

IV. Report from Pastor Bill.

V. Report from elections.

VI. Closing Prayer

2005 Offering Envelopes

From Stewardship/Finance Committee

We will be re-assigning Offering Envelope Numbers for 2005. This is necessary because we have the numbers strung out and as a result we have been ordering about three times the number of envelopes that we need.

We plan to have the new envelopes available the last two weeks of December. Also, those families that want Sunday School Envelopes for their children, please let the church office know so we can do that. Unless requested, we will not include any envelopes for children.

Progressive Dinner

December 4th -- beginning at 5:00 PM

A progressive Dinner will be held on Saturday, December 4th beginning at 5:00 PM.

Appetizers will be at Terry & Rocky Wing.

Salads will be at Patrice Pruitt

The Main course, dessert, and White Elephant game will take place at church.

The menu for the Progressive Dinner will include appetizers, salads, ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, corn and assorted desserts.

Maps and a sign up sheet are in the Fellowship hall.

Each attendee should bring a white elephant gift in a brown paper grocery bag.

Plan now to attend as it will be a great time.

Poinsettia Sale

Poinsettias go on Sale: Pick up an order form and envelope in the fellowship hall to submit your order for Christmas poinsettias. Orders will be taken on first come basis - we need 20 plants - and they must be submitted with a check (made out to NLIC) or cash (\$ 6.50 each) no later than December 19th. Please include information on who is being memorialized or dedicated with your donation. Monies with order sheets can be placed in the offering plate or on the secretary's desk. Your plant(s) need to be taken home after the last Christmas Eve service or your permission to dispose of them.

*There will be a pot luck after church service on Jan 2nd, 2005.
Being Married Is ... Sharing the Christmas Joy*



(Stolen Kiss Under the Mistletoe – Frederick Barnard)

Corbis.com

Find Some Mistletoe!

Christmas is a grand time of year! There are special presents to buy and warm events to attend with family and friends. And, there are often deadlines that must be met and not enough time. We are well aware that Christmas can become so busy that the joy is lost! Some even forget what the celebration is all about.

That's where love for each other comes in. Out of love for our spouses we can check on how they are feeling and listen to their stories. We can add a little unexpected romance to ward off the holidays blues with a hug, a hand squeeze or whatever. Solving the problems and meeting the deadlines of the season are no longer daunting tasks when they are sprinkled with signs of love from our spouses.

Tradition tells of stealing kisses under the mistletoe. Imagine mistletoe in every doorway of the house. Just think of all the possible kisses. What better expression of love can there be? What better fun? This is truly a joyous season. Remember we are celebrating "that God so loved the world ..." and share His love warmly.

Enjoy the Festivities Together!

Lutheran Marriage Encounter in DFW

<http://www.lme-dfw.org/>

Nest Weekends: Tentatively 2:11-13 (Valentines Day

Weekend) and late Summer

Herb and Betty Doller - 972-780-0920

HerbDoller@sbcglobal.net

Coffee Servers

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your response to be a coffee server. Listed below is the schedule for January, February and March 2005. Please look this over and if there is a conflict arrange a switch. Let the office know preferably a week in advance so that the bulletin may be updated accordingly.

The coffee servers need to be at church and have the coffee ready by 9:45 AM. Coffee servers are responsible for preparing the coffee and cleaning up after the 10:00 AM service. It is suggested that the coffee server bring some type of snack..... i.e. cookies, donuts. Please, do not leave any leftovers at the church.

If you have any questions feel free to contact anyone on the Parish Life Committee.

Thanks & Kindest Regards

Marion Teske, Pat Rhody-Gallatin, Patrice Pruitt, Pam Beran

Jan 2	Betty Doller	Feb 6	Barbara Aars	Mar 6	Sandy Roiger
9	Dana Alexander	13	Azella Dykman	13	Anita Hicock
16	Valerie Kelley	20	Jackie & Mandi Askelson	20	Rocky Wing

23 Catherine & Barbara Bartlett
30 Sandi Scott

27 Carrots Wroten

27 Pat Rhody-Gallatin

Celebrating with our Members

December Birthdays

Month/Day	Person
12/1	Dykman, Doug
12/1	Randall, Betty
12/6	Kelley, Alexander
12/12	Carey, Cindy
12/16	Cornwell, Kathy
12/16	Moore, Christian
12/20	Sims, Amber
12/22	Mierzwick, Pat
12/29	Kersten, Parma

December Baptisms

Month/Day	Person
12/1	Blackburn, James
12/1	Pruitt, Patrice
12/2	Green, Mary
12/9	Hanne, Kathy
12/10	Gallatin, James
12/15	Jensen, JoAnn
12/18	Adamson, Sally
12/21	Hicock, Anita
12/25	Johnson, Robert
12/26	Fitzgerald, Erin
12/30	Strickland, Judy

December Anniversaries

Month/Day	Person
12/18	Jerry and Parma Kersten
12/27	Robert and Mary Green

ATTENTION, ATTENTION: NLLO*

We have the opportunity and good fortune to be one of the first ELCA congregations to use a new evening communion liturgy written specifically for Lutheran students at the University of Texas. It is another liturgical service by Marty Haugen, composer of *Holden Evening Prayer* and *Now, the Feast and Celebration*. This new communion liturgy, will be used at our Epiphany service on Thursday, January 6th, 2005, when our Bishop, Kevin Kanouse, will be preaching here at NLIC and the entire South Dallas Conference has been invited to celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord with us. We want the sanctuary awash in candlelight and filled with joyful singers to help all of our visitors worship with this new liturgy.

You may ask, why another evening liturgy? Why not add communion to what we already use? The answer is that *Holden Evening Prayer* is a vespers service written specifically for evening, but not designed for communion.

NLIC is such a great singing congregation! Your NLLO* (New Liturgy Learning Opportunity) will be during Sunday School on Sunday, December 26th and Sunday, January 2nd. No grades will be given, only thanks from Barbara Palermo.

Thoughts for the Journey

"Is God Showing Through Your Life?" (Author Unknown)

A little girl, on the way home from church, turned to her mother and said,

"Mommy, the preacher's sermon this morning confused me."

The mother said, ***"Oh! Why is that?"***

The girl replied, ***"Well, he said that God is bigger than we are. Is that true?"***

"Yes, that's true," the mother replied.

"He also said that God lives within us. Is that true, too?"

Again the mother replied, ***"Yes."***

"Well," said the girl. ***"if God is bigger than us and He lives in us, wouldn't He show through?"***

I like that little girl's way of putting it. **If God lives in us, then there's no way of keeping Him from "showing through."** That's the essence of Christian living - living in such a way that people around will see God in our lives.

"Let your light so shine before men,

that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16).

**Is God showing through in YOUR life?
STAFF, COUNCIL & COMMITTEES**

PASTOR:	Bill Metting	bmetting@sbcglobal.net	972-298-2364
NLIC SECRETARY:	Andrea Bryan	nlic_secretary@sbcglobal.net	

NLIC Executive Committee:

		E-Mail	Home	Work
President	Jim Blackburn	duncanvillesooner@sbcglobal.net	972-283-1722	
Vice President	Tom Teske	tomteske@wt.net	972-937-7547	
Secretary	Phil Ward	wpwebw@sbcglobal.net	972-264-0464	
Treasurer	Terry Wing	terry.wing@risris.com	1-817-453-2284	

NLIC Council:

	E-Mail	Home	Work
Michael Aars	michaelaars@yahoo.com	214-760-4851	214-826-1425
Chris Bartlett	chrisab1981@aol.com	972-298-0831	
Doug Dykman	ddykman@sbcglobal.net	972-296-7971	214-670-3233
Greg Lain	glain972@sbcglobal.net	972-230-3824	817-467-9977

Council Liaisons:

Education	Glenn Nicholas
Evangelism	Michael Aars
Parish Life	Tom Teske
Property	Phil Ward
Service	Doug Dykman
Stewardship/Finance	Jim Blackburn
Worship/Music	Greg Lain
Youth	

NLIC Shepherds:

Greg & Christine Lain	972-230-3824
Pat Johnston	214-946-6707
Sandy Roiger	972-223-4086
Tom & Marion Teske	972-937-7547
Leah Carr	972-230-8151
Deborah Lewis	972-230-1001
Glenn & Debbie Nicholas	972-224-6309
Jerry & Parma Kersten	972-780-5978
Jim & Lucile Robbins	972-217-1657

NLIC Committees:

Education	Chair: Liaison: Members: Christine Lain, Sandi Scott, Cindy Carey and Elisa Moore
Evangelism	Chair: Michael Aars, (214-760-4851); Liaison: Michael Aars Members: Ralph Roberts, Jerry Kersten, Jim & Carolyn Blackburn, Judy Strickland, Jack Bartlett, Dawn Carter, Jack & Maudine Ruebman
Parish Life	Chair: Pat Gallatin-Rhody (972-296-2442); Liaison: Tom Teske Members: Marion Teske, Pam Beran, Patrice Pruitt

Property	Chair: Bill Strickland (972-296-5353) Liaison: Phil Ward Members: Carolyn Carr, Jim Gallatin, Pat Johnston, Robert Johnson, Jack Howell, Jack Ruebman, Dennis Roiger, Elwood Tweet
Service	Chair: Co-Chairs: Pat Johnston (214-946-6707) and Azella Dykman (972-296-7035); Liaison: Doug Dykman Members: Betty Doller, Doris Johnson, Mousie Kees, Jean Lehre, Linda Metting, Sandy Roiger & Carrots Wroten
Stewardship & Finance	Chair: Jim Blackburn (972-283-1722); Liaison: Jim Blackburn Members: Tom Teske, Jack Bartlett, Ralph Roberts, Chris Bartlett,
Worship/Music	Chair: Liaison: Greg Lain Members: Barbara Palermo, Jackie Askelson, Barbara Aars, Linda Tehee-Kees, Parma Kersten
Youth	Chair: Sandi Scott (972-723-1817); Liaison: Members: Jackie Askelson, Robert Johnson, and the Youth of NLIC

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWSBLAST

WHAT HAS HAPPENED!

Education Committee

Sunday School During October learned about Missions in Africa and helped prepare for the Taste of Africa by learning a song about Sierra Leone and making arts and crafts.

First Funky "Fridey" helped decorate for the Taste of Africa and made T-shirts to wear during the Festival, and of course ate Pizza!

THE TASTE OF AFRICA was held on Nov. 7th and was a great time to experience different cultures and food!

WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN!

First Funky "Fridey" will be meeting Dec. 3rd. 6:30 - 8:30pm. If you are 3rd-6th grade and want to get into the Christmas spirit, likes pizza and fun, bring \$3.00 for pizza, a friend and come join us!

The Christmas Program will be held one **DEC. 8TH**. We will be having a potluck at 6:30 sponsored by all the committees of NLIC followed by an interactive dinner theater presentation of **THE GIFT OF A SON**. If you are a Sunday School student and would like a part ahead of time please contact Cindy Carey. We encourage everyone to come and join in the fun!



<i>New Life in Christ Lutheran Church</i>				December 2004		
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
Dinner Theatre Meat - Ed & Youth Bread, drink - Evang. Salad - Property Veg.-potato -Wor Mu Desert - Service Cake - Parish Life			1 9:30 Adult Bible Study 6:30 Soup Supper Worship & Music 7:15 Advent Worship	2 9:00-12:00 VPL	3 6:30 Funky Friday	4 9:00-10:30 Women's Group 9:00-3:00 Stewardship Workshop-NLIC 5:00 Progressive Dinner
5 No Pot Luck 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship - Com. 11:30 Trim Tree	6 Meals on Wheels 5:30 LLC Board Mtg.	7 Meals on Wheels	8 9:30 Adult Bible Study Meals on Wheels 6:30 Dinner Theatre 7:15 Children's Christmas Program	9 Meals on Wheels 7:00 Parish Life	10 Meals on Wheels	11 8:00 Men's Group
12 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship - Com. 11:00 Cong. Mtg. 11:15 Youth Shopping and Dinner @ Parks	13	14 12:00 SDC study* @ NLIC 6:45 Exec. Comm. 7:15 Church Council	15 Senior High reg. gathering deadline 9:30 Adult Bible Study 6:30 Soup Supper Stewardship & Finance 7:15 Advent Worship	16	17 6:00 Whiz Kids Christmas Program	18
19 ARTICLES DUE 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship - Com. 11:15 Ed. - Youth	20	21	22 No Adult Bible Study	23	24 7:15 Worship & Candlelight 11:30 Communion & Candlelight	25 Christmas
26 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship - Com. 11:45 Evangelism	27	28 7:00 Service 7:30 Property	29 No Adult Bible Study	30	31	

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS
December '04

Form Revised 12/1/05

Date	Usher	Lector	Cantor	Communion Assistant	Acolyte	Coffee Server	Andrew Caller	Greeters	Alter Guild
Dec. 1st Wednesday 7:15 p.m.	John & Carol Dietz	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Dec. 5th Sunday	Jack & Maudine Ruebman	Bob Green	Belen Eck	Pat Johnston	Eliza Carey	Anita Hicock	Jack & Chris Bartlett	Pat Johnston Millie Howe	Jackie Aslelson Belen Eck
Dec. 8th Wednesday Time TBA	None CHILDREN'S	None CHRISTMAS	None PROGRAM	None	None	None	None	None	None
Dec. 12th Sunday	Terry & Rocky Wing	Jack Bartlett	Anita Hicock	Belen Eck	Christian Moore	Rocky Wing	Herb & Betty Doller	Pat Johnston Millie Howe	Jackie Aslelson Belen Eck
Dec. 15th Wednesday 7:15 p.m.	Jerry & Parma Kersten	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Dec. 19 Sunday	Dennis & Sandy Roiger	Ralph Roberts	Phil Ward	Jackie Askelson	Jennifer Carey	Glenn & Debbie Nicholas	Ralph Roberts	Pat Johnston Millie Howe	Jackie Aslelson Belen Eck
Dec. 24 Friday 11:30 p.m.	Tom & Marion Teske	None	None	Peter Eck	None	None	None	None	Jackie Aslelson Belen Eck
Dec. 26 Sunday	Jack & Barbara Bartlett	Leah Carr	Eric Megahan	Carolyn Carr	Alexander Kelley		Jerry & Parma Kersten	Pat Johnston Millie Howe	Jackie Aslelson Belen Eck

Date and Time Changes may be made directly to master calendar -include name of person making change 11-28-2004