

The Witness

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NLIC Congregational Meeting -- May 15, 2005 -- 11:15 am ***Do we want another Learning/Day Care Center at New Life?***

By Jim Blackburn

Pastor Bill, the Council Executive Committee and the Church Council have been approached by another couple who would like to operate another Learning Center/Day Care in our church. The Church Council discussed this matter at our March meeting.

In council discussions we determined that the issue of having another Day Care center in our facility is one that the Congregation needs to decide. Some of the thought that the council felt would be key to making a decision are listed below:

1. We feel a paid coordinator would be necessary, as this person could then be the liaison between the congregation and those operating the center in our facility.
2. Would housing a day care center be a community outreach project?
3. We discussed our concern that having the building serve a dual usage would increase the maintenance needs of the building and be a future strain on our building.
4. Because of our past experiences, we have questions about the viability of housing a day care center and whether it would be the outreach that we are called to do?
5. Because of our last experiences, we struggle with the realization that we view housing a day care center as outreach while those running the facility as a "for profit business".

The council felt that before entering into an agreement with anyone the congregation needed to be a part of setting the direction of our ministry, *consequently the council voted to bring the issue before the Congregation at our May Congregational Meeting.* We plan to provide an opportunity for the congregation to discuss the issue and to vote on the issue.

Please spend some time thinking and prayerfully considering the issue "**should NLIC have another Learning/Day Care Center in our facility**".

*"And I heard the voice of the Lord saying: **Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?***
*Then I said, **Here am I! Send me.**"* (Isaiah 6:8) **Time and Talent Sunday - April 3, 2005**

"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few ... pray therefore the Lord of the Harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." On April 3, 2005 the family of faith at New Life in Christ Lutheran Church will be having our *time and talent Sunday.* On Time and Talent Sunday each member is given the opportunity to respond to God's call to his people to serve him. *How are you going to respond?*

Jesus never called upon his followers to prop up their feet, pop chocolates, and wait for someone else to be involved in service to others. Jesus himself washed his disciple's feet as a way of revealing to them the importance of service. The time and talent survey sheets are available in the Fellowship Hall and there is one enclosed in this newsletter. We ask that each person fill out one of the surveys.

In addition, we ask that every person prayerfully consider the activities that they are willing to help with during 2005 and 2006 in the ministry of our Lord. Please come to worship with your survey completed.

Thoughts for the Journey

I am a Soldier in God's Army -- (Author Unknown)

I am a soldier in the Army of my God.
The Lord Jesus Christ is my Commanding Officer.
The Holy Bible is my code of conduct.
Faith, prayer, and the Word are my weapons of warfare.

I have been taught by the Holy Spirit,
trained by experience,
tried by adversity and tested by fire.

I am a volunteer in this Army,
and I am enlisted for Eternity.
I will either retire in this Army at the Rapture
Or die in this Army;
But I will not
get out, Sell out, Be talked out, or pushed out.

I am faithful, reliable, capable, and dependable.
If my God needs me, I am there.
If He needs me in the Sunday School,
To teach the children, work with the youth,
Help adults or just sit and learn.
He can use me because I am there!

I am a soldier. I am not a baby.
I do not need to be pampered,
petted, primed up, pumped up,
picked up or pepped up.

I am a soldier. No one has to call me,
Remind me, write me, visit me,
Entice me, or lure me.

I am a soldier. I am not a wimp. I am in place,
Saluting my King, obeying His orders,
Praising His name, and building His kingdom!
No one has to send me flowers,
Gifts, food, cards, candy, or give me handouts.

I do not need to be cuddled, cradled,
cared for, or catered to.
I am committed.

I cannot have my feelings hurt
bad enough to turn me around.
I cannot be discouraged enough to turn me aside.
I cannot lose enough to cause me to quit.
When Jesus called me into His Army, I had nothing.
If I end up with nothing, I will still come out ahead.

I will win. My God has and will continue
to supply all of my needs.
I am more than a conqueror. I will always triumph.
I can do all things through Christ.

Devils cannot defeat me.
People cannot disillusion me.
Weather cannot weary me.
Sickness cannot stop me.
Battles cannot beat me.
Money cannot buy me.
Governments cannot silence me
and Hell cannot handle me.

I am a soldier. Even death cannot destroy me.
For when my Commander
calls me from this battlefield,
He will promote me to Captain
and then allow me to rule with Him.

I am a soldier in the Army,
And I'm marching claiming victory.
I will not give up. I will not turn around.

I am a soldier, marching Heaven bound.
Here I stand! Will you stand with me?

Question is, which part of the service are you in:

1. *Active Duty:*

Serving the Lord faithfully, daily, and on duty 24-7?

2. *Reserve Status:*

Serving only when called upon or twice a year, Christmas and Easter?

3. *Guard Status:*

Backing up the Active Duty group? or

4. *A.W.O.L.!*

Absent without the Lord?

Think about it!

Celebrating with our Members

April Birthdays

Month/Day	Person
4/14	G., Charlie
4/20	K., Matalois
4/24	E., Peter
4/25	A., Lacey
4/25	G., Pat
4/26	D., Herbert
4/30	A., Nicole
4/30	J., Patricia

April Baptisms

Month/Day	Person
4/1	B., Carolyn
4/1	C., Michael
4/1	K., Matalois
4/8	M., Marcia
4/9	A., Jim
4/15	H., Terry
4/17	J., Melissa
4/21	D., Laura
4/29	W., Caryn

April Anniversaries

Month/Day	Person
4/28	James and Pat G.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWSBREAK

WHAT HAPPENED

THE YOUTH VISITED a Catholic Church, an Episcopal Church, a Baptist church and a Church of Christ. Thank you Barbara and Rallin Aars for giving the youth such a great opportunity to learn about all religions!

THE YOUNGER YOUTH learned about Jesus' sacrifice by making Easter Story cookies.

YOUTH DAY OUT was celebrated by playing games at Putt Putt golf (Putt Putt was postponed because of cold weather!)

NIV BIBLES were given to *Anna Scott* and *Ashleigh Moore* on Palm Sunday.

WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN

THE YOUTH ARE GOING TO VISIT, Church of the Nazarene, Church on the Rock and a Mormon stake.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – Circus Spectacular -

will be held July 10th thru July 15th, 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Teachers and helpers for Pre-K thru 1st; 2nd – 3rd; 4th – 6th and adults. We also need Adults for Food, Publicity, Registration and whatever else comes up. Soooo if you would like to have a great time and help with Vacation Bible School please contact Parma Kersten. We are in the planning stages already so please sign up. Thanks

IF YOU KNOW A HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE GRADUATE please let Cindy Carey or Sandi Scott know by May 1st.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH NEEDS YOU! Please sign up on the sheet by the coffee pot to help with Children's Church. We need to have 2 people every Sunday. If you would like to help with this great program but are unsure what it involves please ask Cindy Carey and she will give you the scoop!

SUMMER CHURCH CAMP – don't forget to talk to Jackie Askelson about the Send a Kid to Camp Program.

WANTED: Items for the nursery. As our younger population grows we are needing to restock our nursery with safe toys which are in good shape. We also have a need for a high chair and a booster chair or any other items which are in good shape that can make the lives of our youngsters and their families a little easier while they are at NLIC. If you have questions ask anyone on the Education Committee. Thank you for your help!

Garage Sale The Garage Sale is sponsored by the Youth Group and takes place at the Askelson's home on April 16, 2005. 1143 Rocky Brook, Cedar Hill, TX 75104. Thanks for your support.



**Mothers *IN* Love + Fathers *IN* Love = *Families IN Love*
Give Your Kids The Best Gift They Can Get ...**

Parents With A Great Marriage!

Your whole family deserves the love Mom and Dad discover on a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend! Marriage Encounter is a 44 hour event in which Husbands & Wives can get away from jobs, kids, chores and phones – and focus only on each other. If you'd like greater depth, growth, enrichment and a little extra romance in your relationship, you'll like the difference a Marriage Encounter Weekend can make!

Go on a Weekend and all your kids will get is a whole lot of extra Love!

The next Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend is:

April 15-17, 2005

7 p.m. Friday till 5 p.m. Sunday

(Applications after 30 days before the Weekend are accepted as space is available)



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

For more information contact: Herb & Betty Doller, 972-780-0920, HerbDoller@sbcglobal.net

Allen & Jeannine Gray, 817-246-9560, AllenGray817@MyBlueLight.com

To apply contact: Mike & Suzanne Heffner (469-441-9874, Application@lme-dfw.org).

SERVICE COMMITTEE NEWS

Blood Drive

Our semi-annual Blood Drive will be held April 24, 2005, from 9 AM – 11:30 PM at NLIC. We need donors and people to provide healthy snacks. Sign-ups will take place on the two Sundays prior to the drive, April 10 and April 17. Look for a smiling service committee member in the fellowship hall to help you sign up. Remember the blood we collect not only helps members of NLIC but helps where blood is needed in our local area. Currently, there is an urgent need for blood due to flu, colds, low donor turnout and increased usage, so please truly give of yourself. Thanks.

CROP Walk

The annual Duncanville Community CROP Walk is scheduled for April 17, 2005. Our host for the CROP Walk is Trinity United Methodist Church located at Clark and Daniieldale (across from Albertson's). CROP Walks are open to all ages, young and old. Just put on your walking shoes and join in on the fun raising money for Church World Services to help stop world hunger. Strollers, wagons and wheel chairs are allowed and encouraged, but please no roller skates or roller blades. In the past, NLIC has been well represented with at least 20+ walkers. The walk is approximately 2 miles long and is great for those who walk for exercise. Some folks run the course and others take a leisurely walk; it's up to you. You can also bring along your family dog for a good workout. Look for further details in the fellowship hall and pick-up a registration packet from Linda Metting or Azella Dykman.

News from the Music Director!!!!

LADIES LADIES LADIES LADIES LADIES LADIES LADIES LADIES

Final Jeopardy answers:

- (a) My voice isn't good enough.
- (b) I don't have time to make a weekly commitment to choir.
- (c) We're not in town for Christmas or Easter.
- (d) I can't read music.
- (e) My committee always meets on Wednesday.
- (f) Any combination of the above.

The correct question is: What reasons and/or excuses will not work when it comes to Ladies Choir? Now that you know what excuses won't work, this is why I would love to have you come sing in the Ladies Choir. We will only practice two Wednesdays, April 6th and April 13th, at 7PM and then we'll sing on Sunday, April 17th. If you can only come to one practice, that's okay because you can still learn the music in one evening. This is just a very short commitment, so try it, you may like it. You don't have to read music to sing with us. Just as many hands make light work, so, too, do many voices raised to God make beautiful music together. Please come – I look forward to seeing you!

Barbara Palermo