

# The Witness

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## Natural Church Development Process begins at NLIC

February 8, 2006

by Pastor Bill

Natural Church Development is a process that helps churches discover where their areas of strengths and weakness are so that both may be strengthened. The process is based upon a simple and yet profound principle: The church is a living organism and will develop naturally and completely if it has everything it needs. But what does it need? Like a plant that has been healthy may suddenly show signs of stress how do you know what the plant needs in order to continue to grow. Does the plant need: more water, fertilizer, sunlight, a bigger container? The Natural Church Development Process is to help congregations discover the areas that the church needs to address in order to have it continue to grow. The NCD process has been used in over 33,000 churches (in many different denominations on five continents. The process focuses on eight quality characteristics of growing churches. Those eight characteristics are: Empowering Leadership, Gift-oriented Ministry, Passionate Spirituality, Functional Structures, Inspiring Worship, Holistic Small Groups, Need-Oriented Evangelism, and Loving Relationships. No quality characteristic is missing from growing congregations.

The process begins with a survey that is taken within the congregation. The results of that survey will indicate where we at NLIC are so far as our eight quality characteristics are concerned and then we can work on one of those areas for a year.

NLIC begins the NCD process on Wednesday, February 8, 2006. At 6:30 p.m. the Parish Life committee along with others will be providing a supper for our congregation. After supper Pastor Stephen Kanouse will do a brief presentation about the NCD process and then we will take the initial survey for New Life in Christ.

I want to encourage each of you to become a part of this NCD process. I have made commitments of my personal time to the process because I believe that now there is a way to identify need areas in congregations and to begin to address real needs. I hope to see you on February 8<sup>th</sup> as we begin this process together.

## Lenten Preview -- Disciples of Jesus Pray

The focus of the 2006 Lenten series will be on Prayer. The texts used for this service will be Matthew 6 and John 17. In those texts we have: Jesus teaching the disciples to pray using what we call the Lord's prayer and Jesus High Priestly prayer. The follow is a brief overview of what will be happening during our series:

March 1, 2006	Disciples Pray	Matthew 6:9 – John 17:1-5	No meal
March 8, 2006	Disciples pray with authority	Matthew 6:10 – John 17:6-8	Parish Life
March 15, 2006	Disciples pray for daily needs	Matthew 6:11 – John 17:9	Service
March 22, 2006	Disciples pray for God's coming kingdom	Matthew 6:10 – John 17:10-11	Evangelism
March 29, 2006	Disciples pray for forgiveness	Matthew 6:12 – John 17:12	Stew/Finance
April 5, 2006	Disciples pray in the midst of temptation	Matthew 6:13 – John 17:13-16	Education
April 13, 2006	Disciples pray for deliverance	Matthew 6:13 – John 17:17-21	No meal
April 14, 2006	Disciples pray with power	Matthew 6:14-15 – John 17:22-26	No meal

# *Thoughts for the Journey*

## *THE LIST*

How long would your list be if you took inventory of your blessings - all of that for which you can give thanks? For family? For friends? For faith? For health and the necessities of life? Did you know that some one million people will die this week ... how is your health? Those who have food, clothing and shelter have more than much of our world's population will ever possess. Do you have these necessities of living?

How long would your list be if you took inventory of your blessings ... and added one new item daily? Would you be amazed at the size of the list?

You have 1,140 minutes in every day. How would your life be different if you spent just 15 of those minutes daily giving thanks? Just 15 minutes filling your mind with concrete examples of how fortunate you are? Most of us would discover even after a few days that the exercise was life changing!

Poet Courtland Sayers put it this way:

*Five thousand breathless dawns all new;  
One million flowers fresh in dew.  
Five thousand sunsets wrapped in gold;  
One million snowflakes served ice cold.  
Five quiet friends, one baby's love;  
One white sea of clouds above.  
One June night in a fragrant wood;  
One heart that loved and understood.  
I wondered when I waked that day -  
In God's name - how could I ever pay?*

Christian mystic Meister Eckhart said, "*If the only prayer you say in your whole life is 'thank you,' that would suffice.*" I suspect he is right.

## *Service Committee*

The Spring Blood Drive will be on Sunday, 23 April 2006.

## *Celebrating with our Members*

### February Birthdays

Month/Day	Person
2/5	Butler, William
2/5	Moore, Ashleigh
2/6	Westergaard, Caryn
2/6	Wroten Carrots
2/9	Tweet, Elwood
2/11	Moore, Elisa
2/11	Smith, Peyton
2/12	Riffe, Travis
2/15	Holcomb, Robert
2/17	Metting, Jonathan
2/18	Rosebrock, Judy
2/20	Pruitt, Patrice

### February Baptisms

Month/Day	Person
2/5	Palermo, Barbara
2/10	Butler, William
2/14	Palermo, Jerry
2/23	Riffe, Ashely
2/26	Doller, Andrew
2/26	Wing, Chris

### February Anniversaries

Month/Day	Person
2/12	Mayelene & Elwood Tweet

## *Bon Appetit*

*Bon Appetit* is planning to attend a dinner theatre on Feb 11, 2006 in Waxahachie. The show is the "Fantastics", a singing and dancing group. Ticket cost is \$18 per person. Please sign up ASAP (sign-up sheet is hanging on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall) Please make your check out to WCT. For any questions contact Judy Strickland or Carrots Wroten. This has always been a fun evening!!!! *Please join us for an early Valentine celebration!!!!*

## *Worship Assistants*

We would like to take this opportunity and thank everybody in our congregation who so selflessly helps each and every Sunday with our Service. Without you we could not do it. The sign-up sheets are hanging in the fellowship hall by the coffee pot. It is important for our scheduling that the volunteers sign up in advance.

## *Telephone Prayer Chain*

*Volunteers* are needed for the *Telephone Prayer Chain*. If you are interested to help out and would like to get more information please call Carrots Wroten @ 972-296-9380. Thank you so very much.

# ***NEWSBLAST FOR THE YOUNG***

## **WHAT HAS HAPPENED**

The Swimming Party on Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> at the Lancaster Recreation Center was great fun for all ages! **THANK YOU JACKIE ASKELSON** for organizing and bringing snacks.

Sr. High Gathering was Jan. 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> and was attended by 4 of our youth. **A big fat THANK YOU TO MARTY HILL** for taking and staying with the youth all weekend. A thank you also goes out to Sandi Scott for organizing this fun weekend!

*Sunday School* has gotten back on schedule after the Holiday break. Come join us at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday.

## **WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN**

National Gathering will be held in San Antonio this July. Keep your eyes and wallets open for upcoming fund raiser such as a bake sale, barbeque dinner and of course our famous Easter breakfast. Thank you all in advance for all the support you give our youth!!

## ***Men's Bible Study***

The Men's Bible Study Group is studying "Solving the 24 Problems Men Face" ("The Man in the Mirror").

They do a chapter per month and meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the Month @ 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM with breakfast provided (Feb 11<sup>th</sup>).

We hope and pray that all the Men of NLIC would join us and invite another man outside of our church to come and study the word of God.

Please keep the Men's Bible Study in your daily prayers for its growth and outreach.

## ***Some Info about your cell phones***

In order to block telemarketers from calling your cell phones you can register your cell phone number by calling 1-888-382-1222 or you can register from your computer on the following website:

[www.donatcall.gov](http://www.donatcall.gov)

Thank you Velma Lingo for passing on this information.

# Lutheran Marriage Encounter

Being Married Is ...



Celebrating St. Valentine's Day with Your Spouse.

Ever wondered why we celebrate Valentine's Day? Did you know that it was about marriage and not only about love? A Christian priest, named Valentine, lived in third century Rome under the Emperor Claudius the Cruel who forbid engagements and marriages. The Emperor thought unmarried men would be more likely to sign up to be soldiers. However, men still did not join his army. Valentine believed strongly in marriage, and many young couples came to him to be married in secret. Valentine was caught and sentenced to death for defying the Emperor. The daughter of the jailer became a close friend. On the day Valentine was to die he sent a note to the jailer's daughter and signed it "Love from your Valentine." The note to the jailer's daughter may have started the tradition of sending cards to loved ones. Valentine died on February 14, 269 AD. Later he was declared a saint.

This sad, cruel story, of course, has a joyous ending. St. Valentine's Day or Valentine's Day celebrates love, especially between husbands and wives. What can you do with your spouse to let him/her know how important your marriage is to you?



Celebrate Your Love For Each Other!

Lutheran Marriage Encounter in DFW

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

Next Weekends - Apr 21-23 & Oct 6-8

**Herb & Betty Doller - 972-780-0920**

[HerbDoller@sbc.global.net](mailto:HerbDoller@sbc.global.net)

## Lutheran Counseling Services

**Lutheran Counseling Services** is reestablishing equilibrium after two counselors left, a new one joined us and another is taking clients again. Our present staff and their office locations follow. For our areas of expertise see our website at [lutherancounselingservice.com](http://lutherancounselingservice.com)

**Dr. Barbara Brunworth** - main office at LBJ and Webb Chapel

**Suzanne Grant** - Arlington office 1807 - A W. Park Row

**Sharron Thurlkill** - main office and Faith L C, 6000 Morriss Rd., Flower Mound

**Dr. Nina Rios -Doria** is taking clients again. She sees adolescents, individuals and couples at Crown of Life L C, 6605 Pleasant Run Rd., Colleyville

**Judith Martin** - Bethel LC, 11211 E.NW Hwy; Our Savior LC, 2708 Virginia Pkwy, McKinney; and Prince of Peace LC, 4000 Midway, Carrollton where she does play therapy with children

**Judith** is our newest counselor. She has many years experience as a teacher, school counselor, and parent educator. She is available as a speaker for parent/teacher events. We are happy to be able to provide the services of a therapist who can work with young children. Young children act out their feelings and concerns through play. Judith is able to observe and guide them in their play to enable them to work through fears, anger, and family crisis.

**Suzanne** can be reached at the Arlington office by calling **817-418-0116**.

**The rest of us can be reached at 972-247-7028**

# STAFF, COUNCIL & COMMITTEES

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

## NLIC Executive Committee:

		<b>E-Mail</b>	<b>Home</b>	<b>Work</b>
<b>President</b>	Jerry Kersten	Parma1229@earthlink.net	972-780-5978	
<b>Vice President</b>	Tom Teske	tomteske@wt.net	972-937-7547	
<b>Secretary</b>	Phil Ward	wpwebw@sbcglobal.net	972-264-0464	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jim Blackburn	duncanvillesooner@sbcglobal.net	972-283-1722	

## NLIC Council:

	<b>E-Mail</b>	<b>Home</b>	<b>Work</b>
Michael Aars	michaelaars@yahoo.com	214-760-9597	214-207-2134
Chris Bartlett	chrisab1981@aol.com	972-298-0831	
Doug Dykman	<a href="mailto:ddykman@sbcglobal.net">ddykman@sbcglobal.net</a>	972-296-7971	214-670-3233
Greg Lain	glain972@sbcglobal.net	972-230-3824	817-467-9977
Azella Dykman	adykman@comcast.net	972-296-7035	214-253-2818

### Council Liaisons:

Education / Youth	<u>Doug Dykman &amp; Chris Bartlett</u>
Evangelism	Michael Aars
Parish Life	Tom Teske
Property	Phil Ward
Service	Azella Dykman
Stewardship/Finance	Jim Blackburn
Worship/Music	Greg Lain

### NLIC Shepherds:

Carol Dietz	972-283-1835
Pat Johnston	214-946-6707
Jerry and Parma Kersten	972-780-5978
Sue Polinski	972-617-6194
Jim and Lucile Robbins	972-217-1657
Sandy Roiger	972-223-4086
<u>Bill and Judy Strickland</u>	972-296-5353
<u>Tom and Marion Teske</u>	972-937-7547
Carrots Wroten	972-296-9380

## NLIC Committees:

<b>Education &amp; Youth</b>	Chair: Sandi Scott (972-723-1817); Liaison: Doug Dykman and Chris Bartlett Members: Christine Lain, Sandi Scott, Cindy Carey, Jackie Askelson, Judy Rosebrock, Melissa Justice, Michelle Dietz, Jennifer Hill and the NLIC Youth
<b>Evangelism</b>	Chair: Michael Aars, (214-207-2134); Liaison: Michael Aars Members: Ralph Roberts, Jerry Kersten, Jim & Carolyn Blackburn, Judy Strickland, Jack Bartlett, Dawn Carter, Jack & Maudine Ruebman
<b>Parish Life</b>	Chair: Pat Gallatin-Rhody (972-296-2442); Liaison: Tom Teske Members: Marion Teske, Pam Beran, Patrice Pruitt, Jackie Askelson
<b>Property</b>	Chair: Bill Strickland (972-296-5353) Liaison: Phil Ward Members: Jim Gallatin, Pat Johnston, Robert Johnson, Jack Howell, Jack Ruebman, Dennis Roiger, Elwood Tweet
<b>Service</b>	Members: Co-Chairs: Pat Johnston (214-946-6707) and Linda Metting (972-298-2364); Liaison: Azella Dykman Members: Jean Lehre, Sandy Roiger & Carrots Wroten
<b>Stewardship &amp; Finance</b>	Chair: Jim Blackburn (972-283-1722); Liaison: Jim Blackburn Members: Tom Teske, Jack Bartlett, Ralph Roberts, Chris Bartlett,
<b>Worship &amp; Music</b>	Chair: Parma Kersten (972-780-5978) Liaison: Greg Lain Members: Barbara Palermo, Barbara Aars, Belen Eck







# New Life In Christ Lutheran Church -Office Information

## Office Hours

Pastor Bill Metting Tuesday thru Friday, normal hours from 8:30 am until 12:00 (noon).  
Secretary Andrea Bryan Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday normal hours from 9:00 am until 1:00 pm.

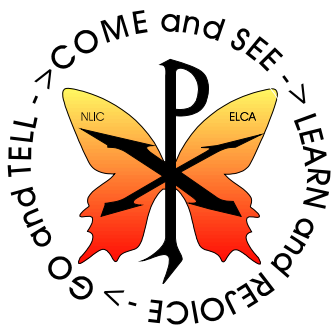
## Procedures and Deadlines

- Notifications: Andrea will send out notifications to Worship assistants on a monthly basis and then each week on Tuesday will either mail or email the list of Worship assistants to volunteers. If changes are to be made to the schedule, please notify the office by noon on Wednesday.
- Bulletin: Andrea works on the bulletin on Tuesday and Wednesday. At noon on Wednesday she finalizes the bulletin so that it can be run that afternoon.  
*Please be aware of our schedules and deadlines.*
- Newsletter: Articles are due in the church office the third Sunday of every month. Articles may be e-mailed to [nlic\\_secretary@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nlic_secretary@sbcglobal.net) or hard copies placed on the secretary's desk. The Secretary puts the newsletter together the last week so that our volunteer staff can put the newsletter together and have it ready to be picked up that last Sunday of the month.

# The Witness

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New Life in Christ Lutheran Church  
311 S. Cockrell Hill Road  
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## FEBRUARY 2006

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages  
10:00 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion

