

The Witness

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Lenten 2006-- Disciples of Jesus Pray

The focus of the 2006 Lenten series will be on Prayer. It was Jesus' disciples who after observing the renewed strength, purpose, and vitality that Jesus got from his own prayer time, asked him to teach them the pray. Jesus taught them and subsequently us, the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6). One of the most powerful prayers in the Bible is Jesus High Priestly Prayer (John 17). During the 2006 Lenten Season we will be using both Lord's Prayer and Jesus High Priestly prayer as models for our own prayer life as disciples.

Date	Service	Theme	fellowship
March 1, 2006	Unfailing Light	Disciples Pray	No meal
March 8, 2006	Holden Evening Prayer	Disciples pray with authority	Service
March 15, 2006	Holden Evening Prayer	Disciples pray for daily needs	Parish Life
March 22, 2006	Holden Evening Prayer	Disciples pray for God's coming kingdom	Evangelism
March 29, 2006	Holden Evening Prayer	Disciples pray for forgiveness	Stew/Finance
April 5, 2006	Holden Evening Prayer	Disciples pray in the midst of temptation	Education
April 13, 2006	Unfailing Light	Disciples pray for deliverance	No meal
April 14, 2006	Service of Darkness	Disciples pray with power	No meal

March 5, 2006

Time and Talent Survey

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) **How is God inviting you to participate with him in ministry?** Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in Matthew 9 told his followers of all ages about the tremendous harvest that our Heavenly Father has prepared (Then Jesus said to his disciples, *"The Harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few ... pray therefore the Lord of the Harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."* Matthew 9:37-38). Jesus told us to pray that there be more laborers working on that harvest. In our 2006 Time and Talent Survey the members of New Life in Christ Lutheran are being invited to join with the prophet Isaiah in saying: *"Here I am! Send me."*

A thought to ponder as we approach Time and Talent Sunday is: A church member waiting to be asked to serve in his own church is just like the member of a family waiting to be invited to pull weeds in front of the house where he lives.

A Copy of the 2006 Time and Talent Survey is enclosed with this newsletter.

NLIC Congregational Meeting -- March 26, 2006 -- 11:15 am

Committee Chairs are to submit their Committee Reports to the office by March 15, 2006.

Agenda

- I. Call to Order and Declaring a Quorum
- II. Opening Prayer
- III. Reports
 - A. President of the Congregation
 - B. Education and Youth Committee
 - C. Evangelism Committee
 - D. Parish Life Committee
 - E. Property Committee
 - F. Service Committee
 - G. Stewardship and Finance Committee
 - H. Worship and Music Committee
- IV. Elections
- V. Adjourn

The Five Finger Prayer Guide

1) Your Thumb is nearest to you So begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you. They are the easiest to remember. To pray for our loved ones is, as C.S. Lewis once said "**sweet duty.**" While praying for our loved ones is easy the Bible also tells us to pray for our enemies who, in a negative way, are also near us. "**Love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you.**" (Matthew 5:44) And again, "**Don't repay evil for evil. Don't retaliate when people say unkind things about you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God wants you to do, and he will bless you for it.**" (1 Peter 3:9) God wants us to pray for our enemies and let Him handle them, "**I will repay those who deserve it.**" When we pray for our enemies something beautiful and almost indescribable happens: Jesus takes that which is terrible and transforms it into that which is wonderful. He gives us beauty for ashes (Isaiah 61:3). With His help all the restlessness, all the anger that has built up for so long, will wash away like waves turning back into the ocean. He will, just as He promised, give us peace.

2) The next finger is the Pointing Finger Pray for those who teach, instruct and heal. This includes teachers, doctors, and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction. Keep them in your prayers. These men and women have great influence on society and we should pray that they display and teach godly principles in all they do.

3) The next finger is the Tallest Finger It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the president, leaders in business and industry, and administrators. These people shape our nation and guide public opinion. They need God's guidance. When the king of Nineveh prayed to God he saved his nation from destruction (Jonah 3:6-10). We should pray that our decision makers repent and seek God's will as they lead us.

4) The fourth finger is our Ring Finger Surprising to many is the fact that this is our weakest finger, as any piano teacher will testify. It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain. They need your prayers day and night. You cannot pray too much for them. The Bible tells us that all who believe in Christ are "**one body**" (1 Corinthians 12:12) and that we are to "**bear one another's burdens.**" We should "**pray for one another,**" James 5:16 tells us that, because "**the effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.**" Praying for others is a way of serving those around us and serving is what gives us purpose to life. We define ourselves in ways that describe how we serve others. I'm a husband, a father, a bible teacher...that's the "real" me and those labels speak of services I do for others. That's what gives my life purpose. "**If you love Me,**" Jesus said, "**feed My sheep.**" Praying for those in need is one way to feed Christ's sheep.

5) And lastly comes our Little Finger The smallest finger of all. Which is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others. As the Bible says, "**The least shall be the greatest among you.**" Your Pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively. When praying for ourselves we should first confess our sins because sin breaks fellowship with God and we don't want to be out of fellowship with Him. No matter how badly we've sin take heart and know that "**He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**" (1 John 1:9) Then we should give thanks for all the blessings we have been given, "**Offer to God thanksgiving, and pray your vows to the Most High**" (Psalm 50:14) And finally we lay out what is on our heart, the good and the bad, and we pray that God's will be done in our life. ***The Father loves you very much and will always do what is best for you. Trust Him and He will lead you and cause all things to work together for the good of those who love Him.*** (Romans 8:28)

Thoughts for the Journey

COOPXRATION

(Author Unknown)

Evxn though my typxwritxr is an old modxl, it works quitx wxll xxxcpt for onx of the kxys. I havx many timxs wishxd that it workxd pxrxfctly.

It is trux that thxrx arx forty-onx kxys that function wxll xnough, but just onx kxy not working makxs thx diffxrxncx.

Somxtimxs it sxxms to mx that our church is somxthing likx my typxwritxr --- not all thx kxy pxoplx arx working propxrlly.

As onx of thxm, you may say to yoursxlf, "Wxll, I am only onx pxrson, I don't makx or brxak thx church."

But it doxs makx a big diffxrxncx, bxcausx a church, to bx xffxctivx, nxxds thx activx participation of xvxy pxrson.

So, thx nxxt timx your xfforts arx not nxxdxd vxry much, rxmxmbxr my typxwritxr and say to yoursxlf, "I am a kxy pxrson in thx congrxgation and I am nxxdxd vxry much." This is what happxns to thx wholx church, and multiply this by many timxs --- thx whole thing just doxs not makx sxnsx!

So, don't be a broken key --- be a useful one. (The next time you believe one person can't (or won't) make a difference... remember this story!)

Celebrating with our Members

March Birthdays

Month/Day	Person
3/2	Justice, Savannah
3/4	Meyer, Minnie
3/7	Carrier, Lillian
3/7	Johnson, Doris
3/7	Tharp, Michael
3/12	Draper, Scott
3/14	Smith, Jeri
3/19	Carr, Carolyn
3/23	Mitchell, Marcia
3/24	Robbins, Jim

March Baptisms

Month/Day	Person
3/1	Cornwell, Clark
3/1	Lain, Christine
3/3	Ruebman, Jack
3/5	Hill, Jennifer
3/11	Anttila, Edward
3/14	Eck, Belen
3/20	Lain, Rachael
3/23	Klar, Helen
3/23	Metting, Jonathan
3/24	Metting, Linda
3/24	Moore, Ashleigh
3/26	Aars, Michael
3/26	Justice, Savannah
3/27	Aars, James
3/27	Draper, Daniel
3/31	Bartlett, Catherine

March Anniversaries

Month/Day	Person
3/21	Erik & Iselchyresse Megahan
3/30	Paul & Charlie Grindstaff
3/31	Terry & Anita Hicock

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWSBLAST

WHAT HAS HAPPENED!

YOUTH ROOM IS GETTING A FACE LIFT thanks to the hard work of the youth who helped touch up the paint on the walls, make pillows, rearrange the furniture, paint tables and set up the cappuccino machine !

THE BAKE SALE WAS A GREAT SUCCESS! Thank you to all who supported the Valentine Bake Sale, the youth was able to come \$230 closer to their trip to San Antonio for the ELCA Youth Gathering!

WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN!

THE NURSERY IS NOW AVAILABLE for children ages 0-4 years old. Please notify an usher if you are in need of using the nursery, they will be happy to ask one of the youth to assist you.

AN ALL YOUTH ACTIVITY will be scheduled for the first Sunday in March following the service.

COFFEE SERVERS

Dear Friends

Thank you for your response to be a coffee server. Listed below is the schedule for April, May and June 2006. 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 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 and Kindest Regards

Marion Teske

Pat Rhody-Gallatin

Patrice Pruitt-Story

Pam Beran

Jackie Askelson

April 2	Judy Rosebrock	May 7	Carol Dietz	June 4	Sandy Roiger
9	Betty Doller	14	Mayra Oza Espinoza	11	Valerie Kelley
16	Jackie and Mandi Askelson	21	Dana Alexander	18	Catherine and Barbara Bartlett
23	Leah Hedgepeth	28	Carrots Wroten	24	Sandi Scott
30	Andrea Bryan				

Extra: Anita Hicock, Barbara Aars and Azella Dykman

From Parish Life - Looking Ahead

Ladies Annual Tea - May 6th. Please mark your calendars ahead for this event. More information will be available as the time gets closer.

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

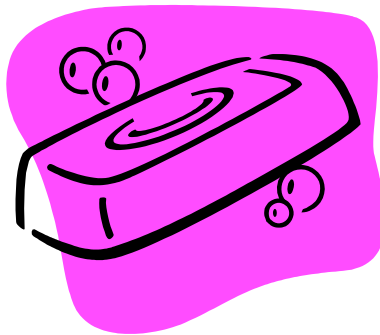
<http://www.lme-dfw.org/>

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

Herb & Betty Doller - 972-780-0920

HerbDoller@sbc.global.net

NEWS FROM THE SERVICE COMMITTEE



Once again this year the Service Committee will be collecting soap and clothing items during Lent to be sent to Lutheran World Relief. Please bring bars of soap. There will be a place to put them in the Fellowship Hall. The clothing items that are needed are as follows:

Light and medium weight clothing for men, children, and infants.

Sweaters and sweatshirts of all kinds for men, women, and children.

They will NOT accept the following:

Women's clothing except sweaters

Heavy winter clothing

Gloves, hats

Shoes, purses

Socks, underwear

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

NLIC Council:

	E-Mail	Home	Work
Michael Aars	michaelaars@yahoo.com	214-760-9597	214-207-2134
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
Azella Dykman	adykman@comcast.net	972-296-7035	214-253-2818

Council Liaisons:

Education / Youth	<u>Doug Dykman & 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:

Education & Youth	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
Evangelism	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
Parish Life	Chair: Pat Gallatin-Rhody (972-296-2442); Liaison: Tom Teske Members: Marion Teske, Pam Beran, Patrice Pruitt, Jackie Askelson
Property	Chair: Bill Strickland (972-296-5353) Liaison: Phil Ward Members: Jim Gallatin, Pat Johnston, Robert Johnson, Jack Howell, Jack Ruebman, Dennis Roiger, Elwood Tweet
Service	Members: Co-Chairs: Pat Johnston (214-946-6707) and Linda Metting (972-298-2364); Liaison: Azella Dykman Members: Jean Lehre, 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: 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.

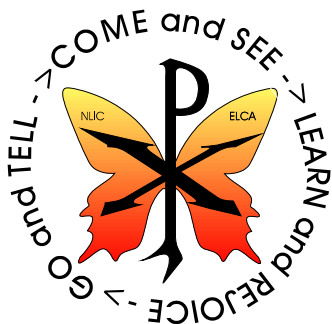
Procedures and Deadlines

- 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 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.

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MARCH 2006

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