

The Witness

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www.newlifeinchrist.org

Lent 2007

“Life is about Choices”

Our Lenten journey for 2007 continues in March as we continue to focus on the choices that we made. During the last days of our Lord’s life, He and the disciples made choices daily. We too make choices every day ... lots of choices. Our lives are really a selection of choices, from what we are going to get angry about or be hurt by, to how we will treat other people. Jesus has plenty to teach us about making good choices in our relationships with others, and the Lenten Season is a good time for us to set aside some time to reflect on our choices in life.

Jesus’ message is not just that we should believe that God has a deep and lasting love for us. **His message is also about how to live and how to act.** As we listen to what Jesus says and watch what He does, we see that following Him isn’t easy, because it will lead us to the cross. But living and acting in the truth of God’s deep love for all of us will also lead us to the New Life of Easter. If we listen closely to Jesus during this Lenten Season, He will speak to our hearts and teach us how to make good choices, even if no one else notices a change in our lives.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Scripture</i>	<i>Meal</i>
March 7, 2007	Will I choose to sleep/stay awake?	Mark 14:32-42	Service
March 14, 2007	Will I Choose to Deny my Friend?	Luke 22:54-62	Parish Life
March 21, 2007	Will I choose to Run Away?	Mark 14:50-52	Stew/Finance
March 28, 2007	Will I choose to Crucify Him?	Matthew 27:15-23	Education
April 4, 2007	Jesus chooses a towel and Basin	John 13:1-11	No meal
April 5, 2007	Truly This Was the Son of God	Matthew 27:51-54	No meal

Our Lenten Services are held each Wednesday evening beginning at 7:15 PM, services from February 28th through March 28th will be preceded by Lenten Suppers that begin at 6:30. The Soup for the suppers will be provided by our NLIC committees. These services will be informal, so come dressed casually as we stand beneath the Cross on which he died.

Taize Worship Experience

March 4, 2007

On Sunday, March 4th, the 10:00 worship service will take on a new dimension. The worship service on March 4th will be on in the Taize worship style. The Taize style of worship began in 1940 in a Monastery in France. 1940 was a disturbing time for people living then. Jews and other refugees were fleeing their homes for safety. The Taize style of worship made it possible for Jews, Christians, and those confused about the future to gather together in worship.

Our worship service on March 4th will follow the Taize style of worship and will focus on the future, through prayer, meditation, discernment, hymns and communion. The focus for the worship experience comes from our Church Health Team and with their assistance we will be looking intently at the future as we experience the gifts of God’s spirit in our midst and through the spirits guidance set a course for the future of New Life in Christ Lutheran Church. Come prepared to experience a different style of worship with the Spirit of God leading us in special ways.

Thank You

from the NT-NL Synod Council

"It is possible to give away and become richer! It is also possible to hold on too tightly and lose everything. Generous people shall be rich, by watering others they water themselves." Proverbs 11:24-25

May all the care and kindness you give so freely to others come back to warm your heart.

A+++ Thank you for taking such great care of us! Blessings

Bishop Kevin S. Kanouse, Tyna Oslie, Ron Meyer, Irma Godiz, Dona Preble, Karen Dentsen, Ronald Gould, Rudy Wallace, Erin Farley, Pastor Don Kingman, Gail Pearce, Pastor Nancy Fisher, Michael Weir, Pastor Stan Meyer, Pastor Merle Bolte, Helen Beaujour, Russell Vardell, Dean Quadi, Dan Whittington, Janet Folstaedt, Parma

March 2007 – Worship Assistants

*If you cannot fulfill this appointment, please arrange for a substitute and then notify the church office.
Bulletin is printed on Wednesday.*

	March 4	March 11	March 18	March 25
Usher	Chris & Jack Bartlett	Dennis & Sandra Roiger	Ralph Roberts Jerry Kersten	Greg Lain Authurine Wade
Lector	Peter Eck	Pat Johnston	Greg Lain	Ralph Roberts
Communion Assistant	John Johnston	Greg Lain	Jerry Kersten	Bill Strickland
Cantor	Jerry Palermo			
Coffer Server	Judy Rosebrock	Barbara Aars	Sue Polinski	Sandy Roiger
Altar Guild	----- Carolyn Blackburn and Belen Eck -----			

Thoughts for the Journey - GOOD SAMARITAN

A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan, in which a man was beaten, robbed and left for dead. She described the situation in vivid detail so her students would catch the drama. Then, she asked the class, *"If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?"* A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence, *"I think I'd throw up."*

News Briefing

Congregational Newsletter Insert – Please forward to all interested persons – March 2007

A DiscipleLife Synod: Northern Texas – Northern Louisiana Synod, ELCA

Sowing and Growing Disciples of Jesus

Show Your “DiscipleLight” at the Synod Assembly

Every congregation in the NT-NL Synod has a story to tell about the way they are making a real impact on their neighborhood and community. It’s the congregation’s way of “letting its light so shine that others see their good works.” How does your congregation’s *DiscipleLife* show itself as **DiscipleLight**? Pancake suppers for the neighborhood? Community speaker forums? After school programs? Elder care? Gen X worship? Outreach to HIV/AIDS patients? At this year’s Synod Assembly (April 27-29 at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Irving) each congregation is invited to bring a display that tells the story of their DiscipleLight. Bring pictures, literature, or anything else that illustrates your congregation’s outreach story. If your display is on a poster board, we will provide a table or a tripod to put it on. Five congregations with truly special stories to tell will be invited to host a forum time during the lunch hour on Saturday at the assembly, so they can explain and answer questions about their ministry. What a great way to learn from each other about the ways we are already living the *DiscipleLife*.

Visitors Welcome at Assembly

Every year a couple hundred visitors sit in with the 300 voting members of the synod assembly. Join them as they listen to the presentations, participate in the table conversations, walk among the displays, talk to leaders in other congregations, enjoy Saturday’s banquet and show and be blessed by the inspiring worship services. The whole package, including the five meals, is \$100 per person (without meals \$30). Register online now (by credit card or e-check) at www.NTNL.org.

Synod Home Companion Show

Saturday evening at the Synod Assembly is shaping up to be a memorable one. Borrowing on the humor and unmistakable style of Garrison Keillor and his radio show, *A Prairie Home Companion*, our own Don Kingman will help us laugh at ourselves and enjoy the whimsicalness of being Lutheran (and Norwegian, Swedish, or German). Even the banquet food will remind us of ourselves. At the banquet we will feast on fun, honor those who have reached significant milestones in ministry, sing some of the old Gospel favorites, and tell the stories yet again of the way we are the Family of God.

Resolutions (New Business) at the assembly can only be submitted by persons who are voting members and who are registered. The deadline for submission is April 13th so the Committee for Reference and Counsel can prepare the resolutions for consideration. Submit them using the online form at www.NTNL.org/resolutionsubmittal.htm.

FYI... March Emphasis: Mosaic & Clifton Lutheran Sunset Home

v This year’s Synod Assembly will include a presentation on the **DiscipleLife Strategic Priorities** – the action plan for the NT-NL Synod for the next six years. The plan will set the course for action and programming within the synod.

v The **Parish Lay Ministry Academy** graduated 14 on January 27. They will be commissioned for service in their congregations. The PLMA helps lay leaders deepen their understanding of their faith and expand their skills. Info contact www.PLMACademy.org.

v **Coal-fired Power Plants** are much in the news these days. Texas Impact (an ecumenical advocacy group in Austin that the NT-NL Synod helps support) has information and suggestions for action at their web site www.TexasImpact.org (click on “Action Center”).

v Did you know that the **Women of the ELCA** meets in Austin on April 27-28, 2007? The gathering is one of three *Act Boldly* events that invite women to focus on their values, passions and opportunities for action.

v The ELCA’s **2007 Global Mission Event** is set for July 19-22 at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. The event is an eye-opening way to see the amazing work that the ELCA engages in worldwide. Info contact www.ELCA.org/gme.

v The **Disciple Project** is a leadership training event for youth (and adults) on June 25-29 at Texas Lutheran University. This year’s theme, *At All Times*, draws on Psalm 34:1-3. Info contact www.SoggyShoes.org.

v Five NT-NL congregations are now enrolled in the **Cherish Our Children** initiative. The program helps congregations pray for, support, educate and minister to children and their families. Info contact Nancy.Fisher@ntnl.org.

Celebrating with our Members

MARCH Birthdays

Justice, Savannah 3/2
Meyer, Minnie 3/4
Aars, Christian 3/6
Johnson, Doris 3/7
Tharp, Michael 3/7
Draper, Scott 3/12
Smith, Jeri 3/14
Carr, Carolyn 3/19
Mitchell, Marcia 3/23
Robbins, Jim 3/24

MARCH Baptisms

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

MARCH Anniversaries

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

Summer Camp

Information on summer camp is in. If you have completed second grade through high school, you may attend. Registration is due by March 30th. If you need more information please see Jackie Askelson or Sandi Scott. Please remember to use your "send a kid to camp" cards from Krogers and Tom Thumb. These cards help supply funds for the kids to attend camp. Thanks for your continued support.

Men's Bible Study

There will be no men's Bible study in the month of March. We will all be celebrating Missy and Keith's morning wedding. The next men's Bible study will be April 14. Hope to see you on the fourteenth.

Mount Olive Food Pantry

Thank you for the gifts of money and food for the Mount Olive Food Pantry. They greatly appreciate all that was given. Please don't forget that their need is continuous so bring more items especially the healthy kind. Thanks. The Service Committee.

The Synod Meeting

Thank you one and all who helped make the Synod Meeting such a success. Thanks to those who prepared the building. Thanks to Parish Life that brought, prepared, served, and cleaned up the food. Thanks also go to the Worship Committee that prepared the worship service. The whole day could not have been better.

YOUTH NEWS ----- WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN-

ALL AGE YOUTH OUTING - SUNDAY, 2/25/07 AFTER CHURCH. Bring money to eat at Sam's Pizza in Duncanville followed by Bowling (bring \$5 for bowling) Everyone is invited! If you are in 3rd grade or younger be sure to bring someone older than you so they can have fun too!

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH OUTING - FRIDAY MARCH 30TH Sleep over at the Askelson's followed by a day trip of team bonding activities - rope course, repelling etc. Texas Tactical on Zion Rd. in Weatherford Tx. on MARCH 31. We will have waiver forms to be signed by parents prior to going. Waiver forms will be in an envelope hanging on the Youth Room door. Please wear long pants, sneakers or rubber soled shoes, pull hair back and avoid wearing baggy clothing. BE SURE TO INVITE FRIENDS FOR THIS FUN PACKED EVENT FOR THE LOW, LOW PRICE OF \$10 a person.

WANTED VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL COORDINATOR We are thinking of having Vacation Bible School the week of 7/8 sooo you will have plenty of time to be creative and rest assured that you will get plenty of help from the Education Committee. If you are interested please talk to Sandi Scott or Cindy Carey. If you are interested but have another time frame in mind talk to us because we are very flexible!

EASTER BREAKFAST BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE YOUTH FOLLOWING SUNRISE SERVICE AND FLOWERING OF THE CROSS DURING THE SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR (and of course our famous Easter Egg hunt)!

Being Married Is ... Making Sacrifices For Each Other ... With Joy And Thanksgiving!

To understand sacrifice in terms of a loving relationship, Christians start with John 3:16, "For God so loved the world ..." God's desire to be in a loving relationship with us drove Him to humble and humiliate Himself and become one of us.

Marriage is commitment to love ... "For we so love each other ..." we are willing to give up some of our individuality, some of our own wants and make an effort to please each other for the sake of LOVE.

Our understanding of sacrifice ends with Jesus prayer that the "cup would pass ..." It could not and He with foreknowledge enters Jerusalem. He dies with forgiveness in his breath and knowing that to gain a more loving relationship with us it was worth it. Thus, any loss did not matter because it was completely outweighed by what was gained. As it is with husbands and wives who are in a relationship with a foundation of love.

Sacrifices Are About Wonderful Gains!

Lutheran Marriage Encounter in DFW
<http://www.lme-dfw.org/>

Next Weekends (tentative dates) - Jun 16-17, Oct ?
Herb & Betty Doller - 972-780-0920

HerbDoller@sbcglobal.net

NLIC Staff, Council, and Committees

Pastor	Bill Metting	bmetting@sbcglobal.net	972-298-2364
Secretary Editor	Jonathan Metting Betty Doller	nlic_secretary@sbcglobal.net nlic_editor@sbcglobal.net	

Council Executive committee

Position	name	email	home	work
President	Jerry Kersten	Parma1229@earthlink.net	972-780-5978	
Vice President	Phil Ward	wpwebw@sbcglobal.net	972-298-0831	
Secretary	Laura Blackburn	nlurph@swbell.net	682-518-5196	
Treasurer	Jim Blackburn	duncanvillesooner@sbcglobal.net	972-283-1722	

Church Council

Person	email	home	work
Chris Bartlett	chrisab1981@aol.com	972-298-0831	
Azella Dykman	adykman@comcast.net	972-296-7035	214-253-2818
Valerie Kelley	richila@swbell.net	972-780-9098	
Greg Lain	glain972@sbcglobal.net	972-230-3824	817-467-9977
Ralph Roberts	n/a	972-298-2449	

Council Liaisons:

Committee	Council Liaison
Education / Youth	Chris Bartlett
Evangelism	Ralph Roberts
Parish Life	Jerry Kersten
Property	Greg Lain
Service	Azella Dykman
Stewardship / Finance	Jim Blackburn
Worship / Music	Valerie Kelley
Natural Church Development	Phil Ward

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
Bill and Judy Strickland	972-296-5353
Jean Lehre	972-272-3320
Carrots Wroten	972-296-9380

NLIC Committees

Education and Youth	Chair	Sandi Scott (972-723-1817) & Cindy Carey (972-723-1817); Liaison: Chris Bartlett
	Members	Cindy Carey, Jackie Askelson, Judy Rosebrock, Melissa Justice, Michelle Dietz, Jennifer Hill, Ruby Wade and the NLIC youth
Evangelism	Chair	Liaison: Ralph Roberts
	Members	Jerry Kersten, Judy Strickland, Jack Bartlett, Betty Doller, Herb Doller, Phil Ward, Michael Aars
Parish Life	Chair	Pat Gallatin-Rhody (972-296-2442); Liaison: Jerry Kersten
	Members	Sue Polinski, Pam Beran, Patrice Story, Jackie Askelson, Leah Hedgepeth, Ruby Wade, Arthurine Wade
Property	Chair	Bill Strickland (972-296-5353); Liaison: Greg Lain
	Members	Jim Gallatin, John and Pat Johnston, Jack Ruebman, Dennis Roiger, Elwood Tweet
Service	Chair	Pat Johnston (214-946-6707) & 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	Jack Bartlett, Ralph Roberts, Christ Bartlett, Dennis Roiger, Bill Strickland
Worship & Music	Chair	Parma Kersten (972-780-5978); Liaison: Valerie Kelley
	Members	Barbara Palermo, Barbara Aars, Belen Eck, Lucile Robbins, Linda Metting, Anita Hicock
Church Health Team		Ral Aars, Jim Blackburn, Jerry Palermo, Phil Ward
		Belen Eck, Melissa Justice, Ruby Wade

New Life In Christ Lutheran Church -Office Information

Office Hours

Pastor Bill Metting
Jonathan Metting

Tuesday thru Friday, normal hours from 8:30 am until 12:00 (noon).
Hours as needed

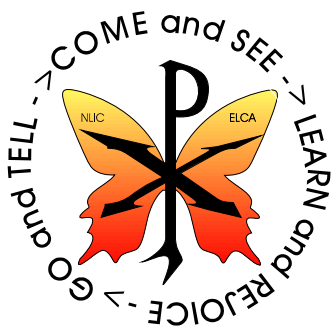
Procedures and Deadlines

- Notifications:** Jonathan 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:** Jonathan works on the bulletin on Tuesday and Wednesday. On Wednesday he finalizes the bulletin by 10:00 and runs the bulletin so that it can be folded on Friday.
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_editor@sbcglobal.net or hard copies placed on the secretary's desk. Betty Doller our new newsletter editor will put the publication 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 2007

9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion