

# *The Witness*

311 S. Cockrell Hill Road  
Duncanville, TX 75116  
nlic\_secretary@sbcglobal.net

Bill Metting, Pastor  
972-296-2035 (office)  
email: bmetting@sbcglobal.net

[www.newlifeinchrist.org](http://www.newlifeinchrist.org)

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## *Congregational Meeting April 20, 2008*

The regular Semiannual Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, April 6, 2008 at 11:15 A.M.. This meeting is for the purpose of electing Congregational Council members followed by election of President, and shall include reports by Council, Committees and other Organizations of the Congregation, and such other business as shall be deemed necessary by the Congregation Council or brought properly to the floor of the meeting by any voting member. The following is the planned Agenda:

1. Call to Order & Declaring a Quorum Agenda
2. Opening Prayer
3. Reports
  - A. Minutes from the December 2, 2007 meeting
  - B. President's
  - C. Education/Youth
  - D. Evangelism
  - E. Parish Life
  - F. Property
  - G. Service
  - H. Stewardship/Finance
  - I. Worship and Music
  - J. Church Health Team
4. Elections
  - A. Council Nominees
    - Keith Clique** (Three Year Term) Council Liaison to Education and Youth Committee
    - Arthurine Wade** Three Year Term Council Liaison to Parish Life Committee
  - B. President of Congregation Nominees
    - Charles Skeels** One Year Term
  - C. Congregational Treasurer
    - Bill Strickland** One Year Term
5. Discussion concerning visuals at worship.

*All Voting Congregational Members are urged to be present for this important meeting.*

## *Celebrating with our Members*

### April Birthdays

Ira Hodges 4/2  
Virginia Espinoza 4/11  
Charlie Grindstaff 4/14  
Eric Larson 4/20  
Peter Eck 4/24  
Zach Hill 4/24  
Lacy Alexander 4/25  
Pat Gallatin 4/25  
Herb Doller 4/26  
Nikki Askelson 4/30  
Pat Johnston 4/30

### April Baptisms

Carolyn Blackburn 4/1  
Michael Carr 4/1  
Chuck Skeels 4/1  
Marian Holcomb 4/2  
Marcia Mitchell 4/8  
Jim Adamson 4/9  
Terry Hicock 4/15  
Melissa Justice-Clique 4/17  
Emily Larson 4/25  
Caryn Westergaard 4/29

### April Anniversaries

Jim and Pat Gallatin 4/28

## **LADIES LADIES LADIES LADIES LADIES LADIES**

When was the last time you called up your girlfriend, neighbor, mother/mother-in-law, sister/sister-in-law, daughter/daughter-in-law, aunt, cousin or niece and said "Come to ladies choir practice with me?" Obviously the answer to that question is NOW. Now is the time to make that call, and bring your heart and voice to enhance our worship.

We're going to practice Wednesday, April 9th and April 16th at 7PM and sing on Sunday, April 20th. Remember, 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

### *Note from Jo Ann Jensen*

I would like to thank you all for your prayers, cards and flowers during my surgery and recovery.

God bless you all,  
Jo Ann Jensen

## **GUARDIAN ANGEL**

Forward this message the same day you received it.

It may sound ridiculous, but it is right on time.

We believe that something is about to happen. Angels exist; only sometimes they haven't got wings, and we call them friends; you are one of them. Something wonderful is about to happen to you and your friends.

Tomorrow at 11:00 am somebody will address you and tell you something you have been waiting to hear.

# *Thoughts for the Journey –*

## "The Trouble Tree"

(Author Unknown [edited])

The carpenter I hired to help me restore an old farmhouse had just finished a rough first day on the job. A flat tire made him lose an hour of work, his electric-saw quit, and now his ancient pickup truck refused to start. While I drove him home, he sat in stony silence.

On arriving, he invited me in to meet his family. As we walked toward the front door, he paused briefly at a small tree, touching the tips of the branches with both hands.

After opening the door, he underwent an amazing transformation. His tanned face was wreathed in smiles, and he hugged his two small children and gave his wife a kiss.

Afterward, he walked me to my car. We passed the tree, and my curiosity got the better of me. I asked him about what I had seen him do earlier.

*"Oh, that's my trouble tree," he replied. "I know I can't help having troubles on the job, but one thing for sure, troubles don't belong in the house with my wife and the children. So I just hang them up on the tree every night when I come home. Then in the morning, I pick them up again."*

*"Funny thing is," he smiled, "when I come out in the morning to pick them up, there aren't nearly as many as I remember hanging up the night before."*

APPLICATION: As Christians, we know that we've got something even better than a "*trouble tree*," we've got Jesus, whom we can give all our daily burdens. And what's better, is we don't have to (and probably shouldn't) take them back! Have a bad day at work? Give it over to your Jesus who loves you, and let it go, and start fresh anew the next day. The more we give our burdens to Jesus, the lighter our loads and the better our relationships with others.

## *The Timing of Easter*

This year, Easter will be celebrated on Sunday March 23rd and it will be among the rarest of Easter's. It is the earliest date that Easter will be celebrated in our entire lifetime.

The last time Easter was celebrated on March 23rd was in the year 1913 which means that only those who are 95 years or older would have previously experienced Easter on March 23rd. The next time Easter will be celebrated on March 23rd will be 220 years from now in the year 2228.

The earliest possible date that Easter can be celebrated on is March 22nd. That happened last in 1818 and Easter won't happen again until the year 2285 (i.e. in 277 years).

So now you know why on Sunday March 23, 2008 we will be celebrating one of rarest Easter's of all time.

# ***MEN MEN MEN MEN MEN MEN MEN MEN MEN MEN***

Did you think (or hope) I forgot about Men's Choir? Did you have a nagging suspicion throughout the winter sports season that something was missing, but weren't quite certain what? Don't worry because I could never forget about you!

Please come to practice on Wednesday, April 23rd and April 30th and we'll sing on Sunday, May 4th. I hope to see (and hear) you then.

Barbara Palermo

## **Tattoo Of The Year**



# *Rose*

The first day of school our professor introduced himself and challenged us to get to know someone we didn't already know. I stood up to look around when a gentle hand touched my shoulder. I turned around to find a wrinkled, little old lady beaming up at me with a smile that lit up her entire being. She said, 'Hi handsome. My name is Rose. I'm eighty-seven years old. Can I give you a hug?' I laughed and enthusiastically responded, 'Of course you may!' and she gave me a giant squeeze. 'Why are you in college at such a young, innocent age?' I asked. She jokingly replied, 'I'm here to meet a rich husband, get married, and have a couple of kids...' 'No seriously,' I asked. I was curious what may have motivated her to be taking on this challenge at her age. "I always dreamed of having a college education and now I'm getting one!" she told me. After class we walked to the student union building and shared a chocolate milkshake. We became instant friends. Every day for the next three months, we would leave class together and talk nonstop. I was always mesmerized listening to this 'time machine' as she shared her wisdom and experience with me.

Over the course of the year, Rose became a campus icon and she easily made friends wherever she went. She loved to dress up and she reveled in the attention bestowed upon her from the other students. She was living it up. At the end of the semester we invited Rose to speak at our football banquet. I'll never forget what she taught us. She was introduced and stepped up to the podium. As she began to deliver her prepared speech, she dropped her three by five cards on the floor. Frustrated and a little embarrassed she leaned into the microphone and simply said, 'I'm sorry I'm so jittery. I gave up beer for Lent and this whiskey is killing me! I'll never get my speech back in order so let me just tell you what I know.' As we laughed she cleared her throat and began, 'We do not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing. There are only four secrets to staying young, being happy, and achieving success. You have to laugh and find humor every day. You've got to have a dream. When you lose your dreams, you die. We have so many people walking around who are dead and don't even know it! There is a huge difference between growing older and growing up. If you are nineteen years old and lie in bed for one full year and don't do one productive thing, you will turn twenty years old. If I am eighty-seven years old and stay in bed for a year and never do anything I will turn eighty-eight. Anybody can grow older. That doesn't take any talent or ability. The idea is to grow up by always finding opportunity in change. Have no regrets. The elderly usually don't have regrets for what we did, but rather for things we did not do. The only people who fear death are those with regrets.' She concluded her speech by courageously singing 'The Rose.' She challenged each of us to study the lyrics and live them out in our daily lives. At the year's end Rose finished the college degree she had begun all those years ago. One week after graduation Rose died peacefully in her sleep. Over two thousand college students attended her funeral in tribute to the wonderful woman who taught by example that it's never too late to be all you can possibly be. When you finish reading this, please send this peaceful word of advice to your friends and family, they'll really enjoy it!

These words have been passed along in loving memory of ROSE. REMEMBER, GROWING OLDER IS MANDATORY. GROWING UP IS OPTIONAL. We make a Living by what we get. We make a Life by what we give. God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage. If God brings you to it, He will bring you through it. 'Good friends are like stars.....You don't always see them, but you know they are always there.'

THESE WILL MAKE YOU SMILE!



*Boy Genius!*



## *April 2008 – Worship Assistants*

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

	<b>April 6</b>	<b>April 13</b>	<b>April 20</b>	<b>April 27</b>
<b>Usher</b>	Bartlett Family	Clicque Family	Roiger Family	Aars Family

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**Greeter** ----- Chuck Skeels Family -----

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<b>Lector</b>	Ral Aars	Jack Bartlett	Laura Blackburn	Marty Hill
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<b>Cantor</b>	Valerie Kelley	Phil Ward	Anita Hicock	Olen Story
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<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Ed Anttila	Belen Eck	John Johnston	Peter Eck
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**Acolyte**

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<b>Coffer Server</b>	Carrots Wroten	Betty Doller	Sandy Roiger	Carol Dietz
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**Altar Guild** -----Carolyn Blackburn, Belen Eck -----

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## *Prayer for April*

Dear Lord God,

Thank you for the many gifts you have given us. We have food to eat, shelter to protect us from the storm, health to keep us ready for your service, and most of Your Son to provide eternal life. He promised on the cross that in His mansion of many rooms there is a place for us. Lord, keep us mindful of what you would have us do. Keep us strong to do your will. In Jesus name, Amen.



# NLIC Staff, Council, and Committees

<b>Pastor</b>	Bill Metting	<a href="mailto:bmetting@sbcglobal.net">bmetting@sbcglobal.net</a>	972-298-2364
<b>Secretary Editor</b>	Pat Blankenship Betty Doller	<a href="mailto:nlic_secretary@sbcglobal.net">nlic_secretary@sbcglobal.net</a> <a href="mailto:nlic_editor@sbcglobal.net">nlic_editor@sbcglobal.net</a>	

## Council Executive committee

Position	name	email	home	work
<b>President</b>	Phil Ward	wpwebw@sbcglobal.net	972-298-0831	
<b>Vice President</b>	Azella Dykman	adykman@comcast.net	972-296-7035	
<b>Secretary</b>	Valerie Kelley	richila@swbell.net	972-780-9098	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Bill Strickland	strickland007@sbcglobal.net	972-296-5353	

## Church Council

Person	email	home	work
Chris Bartlett	chrisab1981@aol.com	972-298-0831	
Nancy Coleman	<a href="mailto:nancycoleman@sbcglobal.net">nancycoleman@sbcglobal.net</a>	972-572-2181	
Jerry Kersten	parma1229@yahoo.com	972-780-5978	
Ralph Roberts	n/a	972-298-2449	
Chuck Skeels	<a href="mailto:tigerkitty25@sbcglobal.net">tigerkitty25@sbcglobal.net</a>	972-299-5772	

## Council Liaisons:

Committee	Council Liaison
Education / Youth	Chris Bartlett and Azella Dykman
Evangelism	Ralph Roberts
Parish Life	Jerry Kersten
Property	Chuck Skeels
Service	Nancy Coleman
Stewardship / Finance	Bill Strickland
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

<b>Education and Youth</b>	<b>Chair</b>	chair: Jeri Smith (972-554-2711) vice chair Dorinda Collins-Knight (214-339-5863); Liaison: Chris Bartlett-Azella Dykman
	<b>Members</b>	Cindy Carey, Jackie Askelson, Melissa Justice-Clique, Jennifer Hill, Arthurine Wade, Sandi Scott, and the NLIC youth
<b>Evangelism</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Liaison: Ralph Roberts</b>
	<b>Members</b>	Jerry Kersten, Judy Strickland, Jack Bartlett, Betty Doller, Herb Doller, Phil Ward, Michael Aars
<b>Parish Life</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Pat Gallatin-Rhody (972-296-2442); Liaison: Jerry Kersten</b>
	<b>Members</b>	Sue Polinski, Pam Beran, Patrice Pruitt, Jackie Askelson, Leah Hedgepeth, Ruby Wade, Arthurine Wade
<b>Property</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Olen Story (817-307-0655); Liaison: Chuck Skeels</b>
	<b>Members</b>	Jim Gallatin, John Johnston, Ray Beran, Dennis Roiger,
<b>Service</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Pat Johnston (214-946-6707) &amp; Linda Metting (972-298-2364) Liaison: Nancy Coleman</b>
	<b>Members</b>	Jean Lehre, Sandy Roiger, Carrots Wroten
<b>Stewardship &amp; Finance</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Jim Blackburn (972-283-1722) Liaison: Bill Strickland</b>
	<b>Members</b>	Jack Bartlett, Bill Strickland, Jim Robbins
<b>Worship &amp; Music</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Parma Kersten (972-780-5978); Liaison: Valerie Kelley</b>
	<b>Members</b>	Barbara Palermo, Barbara Aars, Belen Eck, Lucile Robbins, Linda Metting, Anita Hicock
<b>Church Health Team</b>		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 Tuesday thru Friday, normal hours from 8:30 am until 12:00 (noon).  
Pat Blankenship Tuesday (8-12), Wednesday (11-1), Friday (8-12).

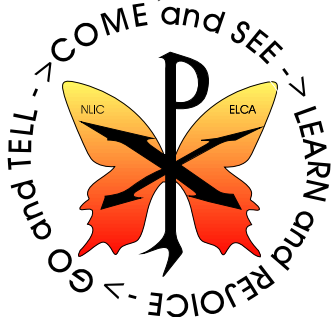
## Procedures and Deadlines

- Notifications:** Pat Blankenship 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 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday.
- Bulletin:** Pat Blankenship will do the bulletin on Tuesday and Wednesday. On Wednesday she 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](mailto:nlic_editor@sbcglobal.net) or hard copies placed on the secretary's desk. Betty Doller is our 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.

# The Witness

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New Life in Christ Lutheran Church  
311 S. Cockrell Hill Road  
Duncanville, Texas 75116



*April 2008*

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