



Life Line

February 2010

New Life Lutheran Church

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www.newlifebolingbrook.com

Where everybody is somebody and Jesus Christ is Lord!

EnVision"

This year, "New Life for New Life" will direct us on our Lenten journey by way of small groups and a 4 week discipline. The Visioning Process is now at the Discerning Phase and one method of our discernment includes "People of Salt and Light," the 4 week study that will invite small groups to share faith, inspire vision, and discern God's calling for our congregation at this time.



What you need to know for EnVISION:

- 1.) Leaders of Small Groups have been trained!
- 2.) Sign Ups for joining Small Groups are on the Graffiti Wall, outside of the sanctuary, beginning Sunday, January 24 through Sunday, February 14.
- 3.) Small groups will begin the week of Feb 21 on different days of the week, at different times, and at different locations and run for four weeks. Everyone is encouraged to sign up for a small group.
- 4.) Lenten Midweek Worship will begin with Ash Wednesday, February 17. The following Wednesdays will be times for several of the small groups to gather at church, begin with prayer and song, then break out into small groups.
- 5) The final Wednesday of Lent, March 24, will be a culmination experience in the Fellowship Hall, where all small groups and those not in small groups will join together for a time of sharing and prayer for "the vision."
- 6) The nursery will be available on all Wednesdays in Lent. Also, a craft/game time in the Fellowship Hall will be available on Wednesdays in Lent for any kids who want to participate Feb. 24 thru Mar. 24 from 7:30 to 8:30pm while parents are involved with a small group.

Do you know what sexting is?

I learned about it one year ago at a youth ministry conference I attended. It is texting sexually explicit photographs. Perhaps you've heard about the recent "sexting scandal" at Plainfield East High School where one female teen sexted a male teen, and that male teen forwarded on the picture to some friends and those friends forwarded that picture on to more friends and it didn't stop there.

Do you know that a "privacy" setting on your Facebook page is easily circumvented by computer whizzes (and it doesn't take much to be a whiz these days)?

I learned this at a breakout session at the Quake last April, which is a weekend long retreat put on by Youth Encounter for middle school youth. The coding for keeping webpages private is very "hack-able" and subsequently a lot more people can access "private" facebook, myspace, and other networking pages with a few key strokes.

Do you know that anything online is now saved, forever, and therefore always retrievable by future employers, future partners, and law enforcement?

I learned this at the Quake as well. Erased pictures are saved somewhere. Forever. So are search terms, "wall" postings, emails, texts, and youtube videos.

Why is Pastor Rakel writing about these things?

Two reasons.

One, I really care about youth and want them to have the information they need to make wise decisions. I also care about their parents and hope they are able to have tough conversations about texting, sexting, facebook and youtube in order to help their youth make the right decisions when the possible ramifications of 10 years down the road seem like they'll never arrive.

Two, New Life is hosting a panel on Internet and Cellphone Safety for all 6th-8th graders and their parents on Sunday, March 7th from 7-8:30pm. A police officer, litigation tech, psychologist and pastor will be on the panel to start/continue/strengthen the conversation between parents and youth on how to be safe while using the internet and cell phones. It's not about shutting off our cell phones and turning off our computers. It's about using technology at its best *and* being wise, firm, loving, and honest. No one wants the worst—smears on legal records, deep shame, or God-forbid, physical harm. We want the best—healthy young men and women, who feel the support of their faith community, and know what to do when problematic situations roll their way.

I hope you will join in the care and concern in this area.

If you have any questions, suggestions or comments, I'm all ears!

Pastor Rakel

Stewardship of Creation

water

Daily Scripture:

And God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water." So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. God called the expanse "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day. And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:6-10

It is in hope of God's promised fulfillment that we hear the call to justice; it is in hope that we take action. When we act interdependently and in solidarity with creation, we do justice. We serve and keep the earth, trusting its bounty can be sufficient for all, and sustainable.

From the ELCA Statement "Caring for Creation."

Fact:

In the lower 48 United States, 53 percent of wetlands have been lost in the last 200 years. Wetlands serve important ecological functions. They filter harmful chemicals, prevent flooding by storing water, and provide wildlife habitat.

Commitment:

Immediate- Though drinking bottled water is popular, the amount of waste generated from the disposal of plastic water bottles is astronomical! Today, purchase a reusable water bottle and commit yourself to using reusable bottles as much as possible.

Long Term- The average washing machine uses 40 gallons of water per load! Consider using a high efficiency washer, or combining laundry loads to use the washer less. Make a commitment to reduce the amount you use your washer!

Daily Prayer:

Holy God,

We, born of water and the womb, have long forgotten from where we have come. Help us to see you and ourselves in the crashing of waves, in the coolness of rain, in the sparkling blueness of our world. Amen.

Youth Ministry Calendar Winter-Spring-Summer 2010

More information on all events come out to respective groups as dates draw near. If you have any questions, please feel free to talk with identified youth ministry liaisons:

Tina Blumenstein and Joy Stella—Elementary Age Youth Coordinators (K-5th grade)

Amy Beaugard—J.A.B. Coordinator (6-8th grade)

Joe Moles—S.U.P.P.L.Y Coordinator (9-12th grade)

Sally Minor—Confirmation Leader

Julie Selep— Youth Education Coordinator

Ms. June

Pastor Rakel

January

8th-10th LOMC Retreat (Confirmation)

15th-16th LOMC Retreat (3-6 gr.)

10th SUPPLY youth group (HS)

17th Confirmation Class with Parents

24th J.A.B. Night: Food & Worship Stew

February

6th Family Valentine Celebration (Elem)

14th SUPPLY youth group (HS) 6:30pm

28th J.A.B. Night: Hunger

March

7th Safe Internet and Cellphone Usage Panel (J.A.B. & Confirmation)

12th-14th LOMC Retreat (Confirmation)

14th SUPPLY youth group (HS) 6:30pm

19th-21st SUPPLY Zone Weekend (HS)

28th J.A.B. Night: Thirst

April

1st Maundy Thursday Stripping of Altar (Confirmation)

3rd Easter Egg Hunt for age 1 thru 5th grade

4th SUPPLY Easter Breakfast (HS)

9th-10th J.A.B. Quake Weekend (JAB)

16th & 17th Vision Retreat (JAB and SUPPLY)

May

1st Mother's Day Sock Hop (Elem) 2-5pm

8th & 9th Possibilities Musical (a Sat. night performance and Sunday @ 11a.m.)

9th SUPPLY youth group (HS) 6:30pm

16th Confirmation Class with Parents

22nd J.A.B. @ Northern Illinois Food Bank 9-11 a.m.

23rd Last Day of Sunday School

June

4th First Communion Retreat (4th graders) 6-9:30pm

6th First Communion Sunday @ 10:30 service

19th-26th SUPPLY Summer Trip (HS)

27th J.A.B. Volleyball Game—5th graders invited—right after last worship

July

11th-16th Leadership Lab (HS)

19th-23rd Vacation Bible School (all ages)

SUPPLY

SUPPLY Youth Group Nights continue on the 2nd Sunday night of every month. In February we'll meet Sunday, February 14th from 6:30-8:00pm.

Reminder: Deposit for the ZONE Weekend (March 19-21) is due February 1st. Some part of \$75 (or all) is to be given to Ms. June, Pastor Rakel, or a youth leader. Checks can be made out to "New Life Youth Fund." More info is at youthencounter.org

JAB

Middle School Youth Group FOOD, HUNGER THIRST...a Bible Study

Happy (Belated) New Year!

Sunday, January 24 was our first in a series of 3 monthly Bible studies especially for JAB youth.

*The theme for the Bible study is **FOOD, HUNGER, THIRST.***

In January, we began our Bible study with a lesson from Exodus and our topic was FOOD. In February Pastor Rakel will be doing a session on HUNGER and in March our study will be on the topic of THIRST.

These Bible study themes can easily be applied to our everyday lives. We will be focusing on a chapter from Bible and how this affects all of us today as well as learning to be good stewards of the bounty that God provides for us.

Though this is not a requirement, we are strongly encouraging JAB youth to attend as this is going to be done in *actual Bible study style*, hopefully getting the youth accustomed to this for the upcoming Lenten Bible studies.

JAB will meet on the 4th Sunday of the month from 6:30pm-8pm at the Youth House.

Please contact Amy Beaugard with any questions.

Youth Spring Musical

Table for Five...Thousand:

The miracle of the loaves and fishes

This spring all 2nd through 8th graders are invited to participate in the spring musical *Table for Five...Thousand*. High school youth, we need your help narrating and assisting, too! This brand new musical from Allen Pote and Tom Long tells the story of Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes.



We are very excited to have Shireen Behzadi, who recently directed the fall play M*A*S*H at Bolingbrook High School, as our drama director with Karen Beuge assisting. Sally Minor and Amy Beaugard will be leading the music and Julie Selep will be organizing the stage crew.

If you play an instrument, like to draw, are handy building things, make tasty food, create sound and light magic, sing, dance, or act, please share your gifts by participating in the musical!

You do not have to be a choir member to join. All rehearsals will be on weekends. We will share the musical in a dessert theater performance on Saturday, May 8 at 7pm and on Sunday, May 9 (Mother's Day) at the 11am worship service.

Join us for the Musical Kickoff on Sunday, February 7 (Super Bowl Sunday) from Noon – 1pm! We will play theater games, listen to songs, read the script, answer questions, and sign up for the musical.

All folks interested in the musical are encourage to attend the

Improv Theater Workshop on Saturday, February 13.

Parts will be assigned at our first rehearsal on **Sunday, February 14** from Noon – 1pm. Sign up for the musical at the kickoff or the improv workshop in order to be assigned a part. Questions? See Sally Minor.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Worship Committee meets the first Thursday of each month from 6:30 to 7:30pm in the Genesis Room. In February we meet on Thursday, February 4th. The Committee is currently working on Training Videos for all worship participant roles. We also discuss worship, music, ideas and much more! All are welcome.



FAMILY VALENTINE SOCIAL

Come join the fun at our Family Valentine Social for all Sunday School Age Youth (ages 3 - 5th grade). This event will have something for everyone: crafts for the kids to make a special something for Valentine's Day, Cookies and Punch and conversation for the parents and time for everyone to socialize. Hope you join us on Saturday February 6th from 2 - 5 pm in the Fellowship Hall.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS is on it's way...will you volunteer?? We are blasting off July 19, 2010! If you are willing to help our cadets voyage into outer space praising God, please join us at our first meeting on Tuesday, February 23, 2010. Please contact Wendy Smith at 815-372-0604 if you have any questions.

Up-coming L.O.M.C. Retreat

Grades 6-7-8

This Jr. High retreat is March 12-14 (week-end) 2010
(cost \$101.00)
Deposit of \$15.00 is due by February 14, 2010

We will be leaving church at 5pm on that Friday & returning Sunday around 3pm

More info will be coming home as dates get closer.
Any questions?? Call Ms June.



OUTREACH COMMITTEE

New Life's Outreach Team wants to make YOU aware of several opportunities available, if this is where your talents and abilities lie.

First, in 2010, you can be a **Greeter**, to welcome people to worship when they walk in the door. You may contact Cathy Hess if you want to do this.

Secondly, for about five years Terri Henry and Chris Miller have coordinated the **Las Posadas event**, which takes place in December. They have done an outstanding job with that and a big Thank You goes out to them for their efforts. They are now ready to turn this over to some new people. Therefore, YOU have an opportunity to keep the Las Posadas event going by volunteering to organize this event. If we have no volunteers, the event will probably be dropped. Should you be interested in coordinating this wonderful event, please contact Terri Henry in the church office, or myself.

A **New Member's Class** will be starting up on February 14, 2010. Invite a friend or neighbor to church and let them know about the class. Even current members can attend the classes if you would like to do so.

We will again be asking members to put up **Easter Yard Signs** and will be distributing the signs on Sunday March 21st and Sunday March 28, 2010. All who can are encouraged to participate in this, and reach out to the community in this way.

Even if you cannot put up an Easter Yard Sign, we will be distributing postcard sized information about our Easter services and opportunities for worship. We are asking everyone to take a few and invite friends, relative, neighbors, etc, to Celebrate Easter Worship at New Life Lutheran Church.

The Outreach Team has other areas of opportunity you can serve our Lord, and we will be highlighting them in next month's newsletter. If you want to find out what those are sooner than next month, please feel free to call me.

Check out New Life's Website. It is a great place to get information about our church. The website is www.newlifebolingbrook.com and David Tomsy does an outstanding job in performing as the Webmaster for New Life.

Please continue to remember to wear your **name tags**. Most everyone does and you deserve a big Thank You. If you lost or misplaced yours, and you need a new one, you may contact Terri in the church office, sign up on the name tag board or contact me.

Yours in Christ,
Paul Neumann

FEBRUARY WORSHIP LEADERS

Greeters

8:00am Bob & Marilyn Lamont
9:30am Roland & Florence Johnson
11:00am Norma Sabine

Worship Assistants

8:00am Jackie Schmidt
9:30am Rose Nickles
11:00am Amy Beaugard

Ushers

8:00am Mike Ferrara, Jenafer Shevlin, Mark & Kathy Kircher
9:30am Jason Koronkiewicz, David & Susan Thomas, Chris Miller
11:00am Rich & Trish Stach, Lisa Mustonen

Volunteers are always needed to help with worship - interested?
Contact the church office at 630.759.7636 or
officemgr@newlifebolingbrook.com



Name, address , phone # changes

EGGESTEIN, Gwyn 1066 Crestwood Lane BB 60440

1st Paul & Sandy Carlson
8th Francisco & Barb Escamilla
9th Spencer & Mary Gerke
Heather & John Wanner
17th Rich & Colette Stoehrmann
18th Dan & Diana Graff
20th Rich & Cathy Hess
24th Tim & Kari Berkery
28th Scott & Barb Nelson



If you do not see your name &
date here please let the church office know. Thanks

=== Get to Know Us ===

* THE CARE TEAM *

Seeking to provide care and compassion to our congregation, our community and the world around us. The Care Team is an expression of faith: a response to God's new commandment in John 13:34-35,
"As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

BLOOD DRIVE: Thank you for your generous response to save lives through donating blood. Our next opportunity to give will be April 25.

FRIENDS IN FAITH:

Are you or a friend within the congregation in need of the caring presence of a friend? We have volunteers who can listen, encourage, and show God's love in wherever your life's journey has taken you. Your information and visits will be confidential. If you are interested in having a Friend in Faith, please call Traci Baumgartner 630-679-9906 or the church office.

FOOD PANTY: Are you making a list for the grocery store? Please consider adding an item to drop off in the shopping cart in the narthex. How about a bag or box of pasta? We have been such a blessing to the Dupage Township Food Pantry in Romeoville with our generous and regular donations to help keep food on their shelves. Remember, food items must be unopened and unexpired.

SERVANT PROJECTS:

Please watch for an announcement in the coming weeks of an opportunity to serve in our community. Similar to the Harvest Sunday for the Woodridge Food Pantry that we did in November, we will provide an opportunity to be of service to an organization in our community.

CARING FOR GOD'S CREATION AND YOU

Do you look around you at all the possibilities that could exist for caring for God's creation within our church and community? The church is seeking someone to lead a Green Team for our congregation. Please consider the gift you could bring to this ministry. In the meantime, winter is a perfect time to go through closets and par down the clothes we have and don't use. If you have women's' suits, dresses or work-appropriate clothes and accessories; donate to DressForSuccess.org. This is a nonprofit that helps disadvantaged women find and maintain employment by providing a suit for interviews. They have a site in Joliet. If you have prom dresses or formal wear; donate to DonateMyDress.org. They have a site in Aurora. Or GlassSlipperProject.org in Hodgkins. In addition to clearing out your clutter, you can help make someone else's dreams come true.
Reduce, Recycle, Reuse.

CARE TEAM COMMITTEE

The Care Team meets once a month September – May. We are always looking for fresh faces and ideas to expand our ministry in the congregation, community and world. Maybe you have a gift in this area to share or maybe you are looking to get involved in a ministry at New Life. Please call Susan Brown 815-588-3561 to discuss.

Woodridge Pantry Distributes Free Car Seats

(Woodridge, IL – December 29, 2009) The Woodridge Community Pantry is answering a critical need for car seats by partnering with the Carelink Foundation to sponsor a free car seat distribution program for underserved families in DuPage County.

The car seats will be distributed at the Woodridge Community Pantry on Saturday, February 20, following a one-hour class on car seat safety. The class in English will be at 12 p.m. and the class in Spanish will be at 1:30 p.m. The pantry is located at 6805 Hobson Valley Drive, Unit #109, in Woodridge.

In order to qualify, residents must have Kidcare, Family Care, Access DuPage, or show a specific need. Class size is limited and registration is required. Call (630) 512-9921 to register as soon as possible.

Residents can be assured the car seats are brand new and will be given in the correct size according to the child's age and weight. For more information about the Woodridge Community Pantry's car seat distribution program, call or visit online at www.wcpinc.org.

The Woodridge Community Pantry serves more than 4,000 residents each month from the towns of Woodridge, Bolingbrook, Downers Grove, Lisle, Darien, and Westmont. The pantry also provides outreach programs such as parenting classes, GED preparation, and ESL programs.

February Anniversaries



Treat Your

Marriage

To A Tune-Up



On a Marriage Encounter Weekend you can tune up your marriage and add **SPARK** to it. This happens in the privacy of your hotel room — just the **two** of you — between presentations given in a conference room. You will get to know each other — **better**. You can do it. Other loving couples have. If interested, please see below:

Next two Northern Illinois Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends:
April 16-18, 2010, June 11-13, 2010; Schaumburg, IL
See: www.NorthernIllinoisLME.org for info or to apply.
Applications are due by: **March 12 or May 7.**
Northern Illinois Lutheran Marriage Encounter

