



# Life Line

February 2012

## New Life Lutheran Church

249 N. Bolingbrook Dr., Bolingbrook, IL 60440

Tel: 630.759.7636 Fax: 630.759.7790

[www.newlifebolingbrook.com](http://www.newlifebolingbrook.com)

*Where everybody is somebody and Jesus Christ is Lord!*

Join us **Saturday, February 17th at 7:00pm** for the **YOUTH MUSICAL** *The Lost Boy* followed by dessert at 7:30pm. Friends, family, neighbors, classmates, everyone is invited to join this free evening of fun!

Our 2nd-8th grade youth will share the story from Luke 2 of when twelve-year old Jesus travelled to Jerusalem with his family to celebrate Passover and then was lost! We will share the musical again during the 11am worship service on Sunday, February 18.



### Mowing Help Needed

Sign up for your Saturday starting in February  
Check the Narthex for a sign up sheet  
Questions ?? Contact Diane Kloepfer 630-621-8719 or email  
[dianekloepfer@att.net](mailto:dianekloepfer@att.net)

### GOD'S GLOBAL BARNYARD UPDATE

The Three Kings gave Jesus "good gifts," and so did YOU! New Life members donated the following to God's Global Barnyard through the ELCA's "Good Gifts" program: 13 goats, 14 piglets, 17 sets of chicks, 18 ducks, 1 sheep, 2 entire fish ponds, and part of a cow! (*Don't ask which part!*) Our Sunday School students also joined in the fun, and with the change collected in their barn banks, we're able to donate an additional 2 piglets, 2 ducks, and 10 more sets of chicks ~ changing the world and making a brighter future for even more families! So all together, we're donating \$2,505.00 worth of farm animals to help end global hunger. Thanks again for your generosity ~ what a wonderful way to honor Jesus' birth!

~ *The Women's Monday Night Bible Study Group*



The other day I was talking to Mama Evenson (known to many as Pastor Rakel). In our conversation the concept of babies changing the way we do things came up. When you think of it babies have changed the lives of both your pastors this last year. A most adorable (arguably the most adorable) grandson was born on the day after Epiphany into the more elder pastor's family. A gorgeous daughter was born to the younger pastor on the day after Christmas. I find it amazing that both babies were

mindful of the church's liturgical calendar.

It is even more amazing that a baby seems to be or perhaps feigns powerlessness, helplessness, and weakness. That vulnerable package of cuteness can get mom, dad, grandpa, or grandma hoofing down the hallway with the slightest of whimpers. That child can be hoisted into a set of arms with the tiniest of tears appearing on that angelic face. That tiny bundle of flesh and blood can keep dinner off the table for hours by fussing every time the child is set down. (This may be the latest fad in dieting for pastors). With a smile that tiny gift from God can cause the sun to shine in the darkness and change a terrible day into a festival of joy. And those few observations really represent only a minuscule amount of that child's ability to change the lives of those who are so blessed to have experienced the power of a baby.

As the Christmas/ Epiphany seasons move into Lent it is hard not to think of a tiny baby in a stable who I am sure looked quite vulnerable and powerless. A baby also grew up and changed a whole lot of moms and dads, grandpa and grandmas, brothers and sisters. A child that changed the way we look at life. Who changed the world, and turned darkness into light, and shouldered the sin and tears of the world, and opened for us forever the arms of a loving God.

As Lent approaches in February, I am mindful of the amazing powerful love relationship our God has for you and for me – to come to earth as a baby and become the Savior of the world.

A grandpa overwhelmed by the power of a child to change my world

A brother in Christ amazed by the Amazing Grace of God revealed in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to change the world.

***Pastor Paul***

## **Augustana Symphonic Band Tour 2012**

Friday, February 17, 2012 @ 7:30pm

### **Peace Lutheran Church**

1900 E. Lincoln Highway  
New Lenox, IL

A freewill offering will be accepted  
309.794.7306

## **Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

Advent season is over. Winter weather is finally here with the cold temperatures and the occasional snow. Recent business travels have added to the adventure of winter with cancelled and delayed flights. Whatever the challenge, we always seem to find solutions and direction with God's presence. I have developed the habit of taking the "Our Daily Bread" devotional book with me during travel. It helps to relieve the stress of travel and can be thought provoking. These booklets are available at the church if you want some daily devotional thoughts. Try it – you'll like it.



The current council completed their term this month reviewing material for the annual meeting as well as progress on the Vision Goals. The next Leadership meeting is in the planning process with a March - April timing likely. The need to keep the process moving forward is a main objective of the council as more committee activities are planned in conjunction with the Vision Goals.

An important part of our mission is support of Seminarian students. We are proud of Bridget Thien and her accomplishments and encouraged with another candidate starting the process. An action item from the recent Council meeting is a proposed ongoing Seminarian Student scholarship fund. The road that is traveled to complete the studies of our new Pastors is very steep both in talent and skills needed but also in economic support. An active scholarship program will be a great way to return to Christ the gifts that he has bestowed onto us.

Several members of council are completing their terms and we thank them for their gift of service and all of the work achieved. We look forward to their continued participation in God's work.

As always, we have opportunities in committees and special projects for members to participate. Be proactive and check in with a council member if you have some time to share.

***Yours in Christ,  
Jack Schlea  
Council President***

**Ash Wednesday Service  
February 22, 2012  
7:30pm**

Then join us on Wednesdays during Lent for  
Lenten Prayer Services at 7:00pm.



## **Imagine Financial Peace**

Registration has begun for Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University!

During this life-changing class, you will learn how to:

- Get control of your money.
- Stop struggling to make ends meet.
- Tell your money what to do.
- Change your family's future.

The average family eliminates \$5,300 in debt and saves \$2,700 in the first 91 days!

### **A New Life FPU graduate success story:**

*Our family was in need of a car when one of our older cars broke down and we found it would cost too much to repair. We had only \$2,000 that we could afford to put toward a down-payment. Since our finances were limited, we decided we would not get a new model of the same car, and instead started looking at smaller, inexpensive new cars to keep the payments lower.*

*I knew that ideally we would not go into debt after going through Financial Peace University, but it did not seem there was much of an alternative - a car was needed to get to work, and we at least were looking at the 'cheap' cars.*

*While visiting a family member, we noticed a car for sale in the neighborhood. We called to check it out, and were able to test-drive it. We knew someone else in the neighborhood, and he told us about the care the previous owner had taken with the car and what new items were recently replaced on it, so that made us more comfortable in considering purchasing an older car. We found out that they would sell us the car for \$1,800, considerably lower than we expected them to ask for it! With title/license fees, we were right around the \$2,000 we had planned to use for a down-payment.*

*What a great feeling – no car payments!*

**IMAGINE FINANCIAL PEACE**  
The next success story could be yours!

Classes meet once a week for 13 weeks and FPU is for everyone, even teens living with their parents at home can attend! The New Life discounted price of \$95.00 (reg. \$199) includes all the materials you need-you even get audio CD's of each lesson. And if the cost of attending is holding you back, please see Pastor Carlson and he can discuss options with you. We want to make sure that there are no financial obstacles to you attending FPU.

### Financial Peace University Class Schedule

Day	Classes Begin	Time
Sundays	February 26	5:00 – 7:00 PM
Mondays	February 27	7:00 – 9:00 PM
Wednesdays	February 29	7:30 – 9:30 PM
Thursdays	March 1	7:00 – 9:00 PM
Fridays	March 2	7:00 – 9:00 PM
Saturdays	March 3	9:00 – 11:00 AM

**Classes meet at New Life. No class during Easter break week.**

### Registration Form

Name(s)	Telephone
e-mail address	Class Day
Or, to register online, visit: <a href="http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locations/org/10266/class/199802">http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locations/org/10266/class/199802</a> Or sign-up on the FPU wall in the church Narthex.	



*Please keep these and all service members  
and their families in your prayers.*

**Bob Beckett** - son of Dick & Laurena Beckett. Stationed at Fort Carson.  
SPC. Beckett, Robert  
PO Box 13519  
Colorado Springs, CO 80902

**Eric Frederick** - Son of Charles & Vanda Frederick. Deployed in Afghanistan.  
PV2 Frederick, Eric P  
HHC Mortars 1 - 24 IN BN, 1-25  
SBCT FOB Lagman  
APO AE 09383

**Erik Gundersen** - Son of Roger & Amy Gundersen. Stationed F.E. Warren AFB  
Lt. Erik Gundersen  
62B Ft Warren Ave  
Cheyenne, WY 82001

*Please contact the office with information on your loved one  
that is serving in the military.*

## **FEBRUARY WORSHIP LEADERS**

### ***Greeters***

8:00am	Laurie Freeman
9:30am	Roland & Florence Johnson
11:00am	Norma Sabine

### ***Worship Assistants***

8:00am	Sandy Niemiera/Carolyn Yost
9:30am	Norb Weitendorf
11:00am	Kristen Schorsch

### ***Ushers***

8:00am	Mike Ferrara, Jenafer Shevlin, Mark & Kathy Kircher
9:30am	Jason & Carole Koronkiewicz, David & Susan Thomas
11:00am	Lisa & Ian Mustonen

Volunteers are always needed to help with worship - interested?  
Contact the church office at 630.759.7636 or  
[officemgr@newlifebolingbrook.com](mailto:officemgr@newlifebolingbrook.com)

## Youth Ministry Calendar Winter - Spring 2012

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

Amy Beaugard—J.A.B. Coordinator (6-8<sup>th</sup> grade)  
Joe Moles—S.U.P.P.L.Y Coordinator (9-12<sup>th</sup> grade)  
Tina & Jim Blumenstein—SSAY Coordinators (VBS ages)  
Sally Minor—Confirmation Leader  
Julie Selep—Sunday School  
Beth Girardier - Youth Education Coordinator  
Ms. June - Church Office

### January

1<sup>st</sup> No Sunday School  
13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> Epiphany Retreat (3-5 grades)  
15<sup>th</sup> SUPPLY  
22<sup>nd</sup> JAB Night with Confirmation

### February

5<sup>th</sup> SUPPLY Super Bowl Party  
19<sup>th</sup> SUPPLY  
26<sup>th</sup> JAB Night with Confirmation

### March

4<sup>th</sup> SUPPLY  
18<sup>th</sup> SUPPLY  
26<sup>th</sup> JAB Night with Confirmation

### April

1<sup>st</sup> SUPPLY  
7<sup>th</sup> Easter Egg Hunt - SSAY  
8<sup>th</sup> Easter Breakfast – SUPPLY  
8<sup>th</sup> No Sunday School  
13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> Quake  
15<sup>th</sup> SUPPLY

### May

6<sup>th</sup> SUPPLY  
19<sup>th</sup> Feed My Hungry Children 2-4pm JAB/Confirmation  
20<sup>th</sup> SUPPLY  
20<sup>th</sup> Last Day of Sunday School



*Having fun - in no specific order - Allison Brown, Sierra Schei, Nathaniel Sieder, Payton Eken, Tess Eken, Krissy Krabbenhoft, Liliana Santoyo, Marissa Cristofaro, Christian Scheele, Hailey Dehnert, Jimmy Hollingsworth, Dylan Cure, Joe Bovaird, Susan Brown & Lisa Kure.*

### **Epiphany Retreat at LOMC**

13 youth (3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders) and 2 adults experienced the wonder of God's creation as described in Genesis 1:14-19. There was the dark of night on the trail, the blazing light in the bonfire, *(New Life Members Dylan Kure & Liliana Santoyo were King & Queen)* pictures of galaxies in deep dark space, and the light of voices raised in song and fellowship.

The retreat can be summed up in the words from our main worship song from artist Chris Tomlin. "Indescribable, uncontainable, You placed the stars in the sky and You know them by name. You are amazing God. All powerful, untamable, Awestruck we fall to our knees as we humbly proclaim, You are amazing God.

Thanks to Susan Brown and Lisa Kure for chaperoning the retreat! Also Kudos to the Krabbenhoft's and Dehnert's to help get them up to LOMC and back safely

### **New Address**

**Pattie Buege**  
3421 Foxboro Drive  
Apt F  
Woodridge, IL 60517

## Money Matters

### *Personal Financial Stewardship*

A budget is a spending plan. You develop a budget to plan your monthly expenditures. The plan determines in advance how much of your income you are comfortable allocating to each spending area. Your income and spending allocations will be defined by your values and interests.

In developing your budget as a Christian, one of your first tasks will be to examine the priorities that God has directly revealed in his Word. Basically, there are four general budget categories that are clearly mandated: giving, saving, living expenses, and debt repayment.



**Giving is part of the budget:** God's Word directs us to give him our first and best. In Proverbs 3:9 we read, *"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops."* The Apostle Paul wrote, *"On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income"* (1 Corinthians 16:2). Giving demonstrates our gratitude for who God is and what he has done for us.

**Saving is part of the budget:** To prepare for emergencies and to have resources so you can achieve your financial goals, saving is essential. In Proverbs 21:20 God shares his wisdom regarding saving: *"In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil, but a foolish man devours all he has."*

**Living expenses are part of the budget:** If you have not previously developed a budget, you could be struggling to discover a reasonable allocation for your lifestyle that you can afford. An important first step is to distinguish between what you need versus what you want. Jesus said, *"Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions"* (Luke 12:15). What you allocate for your living expenses should be established with the money that is left after giving and saving.

**Debt repayment is part of the budget:** In Scripture, God warns you to be cautious about debt. God's Word does not forbid you from borrowing money, but it does discourage it. *"The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender"* (Proverbs 22:7). The Bible is clear as to your responsibility to repay money that you borrow.

In order to avoid dependence on others and to set a good example, you should develop a budget. If you include the four above parts within your budget, you will gain control of your money.

***BLESSINGS FROM YOUR STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE ON YOUR STEWARDSHIP JOURNEY!***

# === 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."*

### THE WALK TO JERSUSALEM

Walking was first mentioned in the Bible in Genesis 3:8, "Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day." It was while walking in the garden that God typically spoke to Adam and Eve. How meaningful for us to walk through our neighborhoods, through our parks, and through our communities while talking to our Creator, the One who knows us best!

Walking is mentioned 247 times in the Bible. Our bodies were made for walking, and the benefits of walking, or getting any moderate amount of physical activity, are numerous:

- Lower low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol (the "bad" cholesterol)
- Raise high-density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol (the "good" cholesterol)
- Lower blood pressure
- Reduced risk of or management of type 2 diabetes
- Weight management
- Improved mood
- Staying strong and fit

With all these benefits, why wouldn't we want to walk? The 21<sup>st</sup> century time crunch and multitask generation is the problem. With this in mind, the Walk to Jerusalem was launched in 2002. By using the popular idea of multitasking, these walks provide an opportunity for walkers to exercise the physical body by walking, exercise the spiritual body by praying, and exercise the mind by learning about countries and cultures.

Our Walk to Jerusalem stepped off on Sunday, January 15, ***but it's not too late to join the journey!*** We have a lot of miles to cover to make it to Jerusalem by Easter, April 8. Our stops along the way include New York, Casablanca, Algiers, Tunis, Tripoli, Cairo, and Jerusalem for a total of 3,508 miles, not including the Atlantic Ocean. The goal for our group is to walk 292.3 miles per week for 12 weeks.

But there are more ways to get there besides walking. You will earn 1 mile for every 20 minutes of continual exercise you participate in each day. Actually walking is a very good way to tally miles for each week, but 20 minutes of any physical activity (biking, basketball, Wii Fit, gym classes, recess, swimming, and on and on!) counts towards total miles. Be creative, and have fun! If you wear a pedometer all day, you can include all the miles you walk throughout the day. We can make it to Jerusalem "one step at a time."

There are also opportunities to earn bonus miles for various physically healthy and spiritually healthy activities you complete.

Participants keep track of their own miles and bonus miles each week in their personal passports, and then add them to the display board so we can all see our group progress. In addition to the Passport booklet, you will receive The Walk and Pray booklet, which provides a starting point for prayer and devotion and includes prayers, hymns and Scripture from many traditions. You may even choose to get a small group together.

If you have any questions, or want to get your family involved with the journey, please feel free to contact Jen Fredrick or Susan Brown.

### **LWR Speaker**

Want to know more about Lutheran World Relief? Lutheran World Relief works to fight poverty and promote a more just and peaceful world by helping people help themselves. Come join us to hear John Nunes, President and CEO of LWR at St. John Lutheran Church in Joliet on February 15 at 7 p.m. This is a great opportunity to learn how in a big world we still have an opportunity to make a difference in a small way. If you are interested in carpooling, call Susan Brown or the church office.

### **DONATING BLOOD...PASS ON THE GIFT!**

Thank you for continuing the gift giving in the New Year by donating blood. Mark your calendars for our next drive on April 15. And those **17 people** who donated in January, you will be eligible to give again!

### **COUPONING FOR THE GREATER GOOD**

Double your savings by using a manufacturers and store coupon on the same item. It should say which type it is in the upper left corner of the coupon. Save money and use your savvy savings to have more to help others whether it's the food pantry, women's shelters, or animal shelters.

### **CARING FOR GOD'S CREATION -**

IT'S BACK!! We are collecting worn out tennis shoes again. These are shoes that are so worn that even second hand stores wouldn't want them. But we

do! They have a second life by being ground up and reused to make playground surfaces. Place shoes in the blue wire bin located in fellowship hall. Also available now and everyday at church throughout the year:

- **newspaper/white paper/magazine** recycling are available in green/yellow bin at the north end of the parking lot at church.

- **Pop tabs** are recycled to benefit Ronald McDonald House. White bucket is available in the fellowship hall next to the pop machine.

## February Anniversaries



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

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

## ADULT EDUCATION

Upcoming events and classes for Adult Education:

### **Imagine Financial Peace – Bible Study**

When: Sunday  
9:30-10:30 am  
5 weeks, April 29 – May 27

This study is part of the Financial Peace University education series that will be held during the last 5 weeks of FPU. The study will focus on the biblical principles of money management and how they can be applied to our daily lives.

### **Ephesians**

When: Sunday  
9:30-10:30 am  
6 weeks, January 8<sup>th</sup> – February 12<sup>th</sup>

In Ephesians we learn from Paul that God loves us too much to let us stay as we are. You will learn to accept your identity as a member of God's family and allow him to mold you into the masterpiece he designed. Ephesians expresses a profound theology and Paul's most mature thought on the church in God's purposes.

### **Book Discussion Forum: The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism by Timothy Keller.**

When: Saturday  
12-2 pm  
January 21, and February 4 and 11

Why does God allow suffering in the world?  
How could a loving God send people to Hell?  
Why isn't Christianity more inclusive?  
How can one religion be "right" and the other wrong?  
Why have so many wars been fought in the name of God?

These are just a few of the questions and doubts even strong believers wrestle with today.

If you would like thoughtful, reasoned answers to these questions and more you will want to attend this dynamic forum. The forum will feature a DVD of pastor and author Timothy Keller addressing questions, doubts and objections to Christianity and an opportunity for our own discussion.

PLEASE CONTACT **JOHN BEUGARD** OR THE **CHURCH OFFICE** IF YOU WANT TO ATTEND ANY OF THESE CLASSES/EVENTS.

*Read and study God's word – it is an important faith practice!*