

**New Life
Lutheran
Church**

**WE EXIST: TO GROW
IN FAITH AND MAKE
CHRIST KNOWN**



AUGUST SERMON SERIES
*PAST, PRESENT,
FUTURE*



**BACK PACK
BLESSING**
AUGUST 22, 2021



**JOURNEY SUNDAY
SCHOOL KICKOFF**
AUGUST 29, 2021

MONTH IN REVIEW

In Case You Missed It

We often think of August as a kind of ‘wind down’ month from our summer activities, it is also a time to ‘gear up’ for the busy months of fall. That is certainly the case here at New Life!

- On August 4, we held our last scheduled Community Listening Conversation with representatives from the Police Dept, Norwalk Parks & Recreation, Norwalk Schools Transportation Dept. and Lakewood Elementary School. The event was well attended and our guests provided a great deal of insight into the current and future needs of the community of Norwalk as a whole, which will help us to determine how we can best serve our community.
- August 6 saw a re-gathering of the OWLS. After a 19 month pandemic imposed hiatus, the Older, Wiser, Lutherans of NLLC met for lunch at 1908 Draught House. There were 13 OWLS in attendance. It was great to re-connect with old friends and meet some new ones also!
- On Sunday, August 8 Rev Joe Crowther from Kairos was our guest preacher and following worship met with Council to explain his findings from the conversations that he had with many from the congregation earlier in the summer.
- The Norem’s hosted the NLLC Youth group for an evening of BBQ and Kickball on August 18. This gave the kids a time to hang together one last time before the start of the school year.
- Once again New Life teamed up with the Norwalk Area Ministerial Association to help provide our schools with supplies for the children of families that may not be able to afford all the items needed for a successful school year. We were able to donate 103 boxes of colored pencils, 70 pairs of earbuds, 95 pencil pouches, 33 boxes of pencils for the schools plus lots and lots and lots of socks for the NAMA shoe closet! We also teamed up with Grounds Around Town to provide a BUNCH of play balls for Lakewood Elementary.

Financial Snapshot

Monthly goal: \$20,446.
July total offerings: \$16,569
YTD: - \$16,256

By the numbers
(in-person) attendance
August 1: 69
August 3 *Outdoor*: 18
August: 8: 64
August 15: 68
August 22: 102
August 29: 100

Food Pantry Use

Approximately 120 families
(360 individuals) in our
community are utilizing the
Food Pantry on a regular
basis (visiting the pantry
more than once a month)

•On August 22, we observed our annual Blessing of the Back Packs. Approximately 30 of our students came forward to receive a blessing for the new school year. We were also pleased to have Pastor Dan Kuckuck, Assistant to the Bishop of the Southeastern Iowa Synod as our guest preacher that Sunday. Pastor Dan lifted up the 50th Anniversary of New Life’s ministry in Norwalk, reflecting on the accomplishments of the past, the challenges of the present and hopes and prospects for the future as we continue to serve our God and our community

•We had an opportunity to host a 2nd Blood Drive for the year on August 26. 28 people registered for this event, of which 20 were eligible donors. 2 of these were first time donors. Because of this one event 60 lives were saved or sustained!

•The GIG group started their new study (in person) based on Candace Payne’s book *Defiant Joy* and enjoyed a social get together hosted by Anna Lund at her home on August 16.

•Last Sunday a group of JOURNEY Sunday School kids and their parents met for some Nerfs & Nachos to celebrate the beginning of Sunday School coming up on September 12.

•The Action Team that was formed as one of the first steps of moving forward with the findings of the Kairos Listening Report, met on August 25 to discuss how best to discern and implement new initiatives or enhance existing ones to better serve our congregation and the community as a whole.

•Through the month of August our Children’s Nosey Offering collected approximately \$315 to be given to Meals from the Heartland. Thank you for your continued support!

•Last Sunday, August 29 also marked the end of a very special relationship we’ve been privileged to experience for several years. Darrell Jurgens, our long time, organist & musician has elected to retire after 8 years of faithful service to the music ministry of New Life. We’ll miss you Darrell. We thank God for your ministry with us!

COMING IN SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER 8 - CONFIRMATION CLASSES BEGIN

SEPTEMBER 10 - OWLS@ THE CHICKEN

SEPTEMBER 12 - **WORSHIP 8:15 & 10:30**

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30

HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP & BRAT FRY

SEPTEMBER 19 - MEN’S GROUP @ 1908 DRAUGHT HOUSE

NLLC Community Garden



This beautifully maintain garden located on the lot just south of the church building is yielding an incredible harvest. The NLLC Gardeners are definitely reaping and sharing the fruits of their labors!



During the month of August the New Life Gardeners donated 68 lbs of produce to the Food Pantry & the harvest has just begun!!