



# Lifeline

The Lifeline is a monthly publication of New Life Lutheran Church ELCA in Madison, Wisconsin.

## BUILDING EXPANSION - YES!



On Sunday, December 14, the congregation voted, almost unanimously, to approve our building expansion. It's the next necessary step to fulfill God's need for us to expand God's Kingdom.

The expansion will include much needed new classrooms for our Re-Creation and education emphases. In addition, there will be a multi-purpose gym to be used for a variety of purposes.

Through this expansion, we will be able to continue our congregational growth, inviting more and more people to experience God's presence in their lives in varieties of ways.

Over the next months, we'll be preparing for our Commitment Sunday on Palm Sunday, April 5. We'll also be doing some more specific planning for the building with our Building and Vision Teams. We've enlisted the James Company to help us with our fund raising. Watch for details. It's going to be fun.

## ACCESS continued....



### Kingdom Keys Leadership

This course is one of four Kingdom Keys discipleship courses offered at New Life. We'll look to become the kind of leader that Jesus truly inspires us to be. Course will help one understand what it is to be a leader of integrity in our families, in the church and in the marketplace as well. Class is led by Pastor Rob Carlson. See details on page 2"



### ACCESS Courses begin in February, 2009!

These are just two of the many studies offered this semester. Complete details of all courses is found on page 2 or in our ACCESS catalog or online at [www.newlifelc.com](http://www.newlifelc.com)

#### The Shack



A recent bestseller "The Shack" has swept the bookstores and challenged many peoples views on God and the trinity. This fiction story will astound and transform you as you journey with Mack through some of his experiences of God.

See details on page 2.

#### Inside this issue:

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## ACCESS Courses

Connect vertically  
with God through  
horizontal group  
participation!



We have some excellent ACCESS courses coming up this spring semester! If you wish to meet some people, learn a little bit more about yourself and God then try one out today!

**Kingdom Keys Community** This class teaches us how to live our spiritual-centered lives as the church or the body of Christ. This is one of our discipleship classes and either this class or the Spirituality course is required for membership at New Life.

*Meets Wed Eve at 6:30 pm for 10 weeks beginning Feb 4th.*

**Kingdom Keys Leadership** We'll look to become the leader that Jesus truly inspires us to be in our families, in the church and in the marketplace as well.

*Meets Wed Eve at 6:30 pm for 10 weeks beginning Feb 4th.*

**Organic God—a REAL Women's study** What would it look like to have an "organic" relationship with God? Get glimpse of God's character and develop an authentic relationship with him.

*Meets 1st & 3rd Mon. of the month at 6 pm beginning Feb 16th*

**Women's Daytime** Explore real life everyday topics that matter to you *Meets weekly on Thur. at 9 am beginning Jan 15th*

**Men and Integrity** Who are the men of integrity? What do they look like? How might a man become one? Integrity. Integrating experiences to walk the vision that God has put before us.

*Meets 2nd & 4th Mon of the month at 6:30 pm beginning Feb 9th*

**Fireproof your Marriage** Class will challenge you to love better, to love first and to love for a lifetime. The movie Fireproof will be viewed first and study to follow.

*Meets Sun Eve at 6 pm for 7 weeks beginning Feb 22nd*

**Joys of Single Parenting** Celebrate the joys and challenges of single parenting as we look at setting boundaries, adult time, financial challenges and more.

*Meets every other Sat morn at 9 am for 6 sessions Starts Feb 14th*

**The Shack** This fiction story wrestles with the timeless questions: "Where is God in a world filled with unspeakable pain?" the answers the main character discovers will transform and astound you.

*Meets Fri Eve at 7 pm for 6 sessions beginning Feb 6th*

**The Acts of the Apostles-4:44 Sunday** Jesus had vanished into thin air-literally-and now the followers were left with questions. We'll look to gain insights from the first century church community. *Meets every Sun at 4:44 pm. Starts in February*

## Access Couples Group Based on the movie

### Fireproof

February 22, 2009 at 6 p.m.



If you've seen the movie, you know this will be an incredible series. If you haven't, I promise you'll love it! We will show the movie and follow-up with a 6 week study which will challenge you to love better, love first and love for a lifetime! The study will begin on **Sunday, February 22nd**. We will **meet every other Sunday from 6:00 until 7:30**. The first meeting will be at church, but we may move to meeting in people's homes based on the size and the interest of the group. A **tentative date for watching the Fireproof movie** in its entirety has been set for **Saturday, February 21st**. Watch for details.

## Joys of Single Parenting Starts Sat. Feb. 14 at 9 a.m.

Recent single parent or long-time single parents can both benefit from these classes. We will discuss topics such as loneliness, setting boundaries, parent guilt and more. This is an excellent chance to meet other single parents too!!



## Welcome to New Life Church

7564 Cottage Grove Road  
Madison, WI 53718

### Contacts

Phone.....608-223-9337  
E-mail.....newlifelc@sbcglobal.net  
Website ..... www.newlifelc.com  
Office Hours. M-F 9:00a.m.-2:00p.m.

### Staff

Pastor .....Rob Carlson  
Evangelism Director. Terri Beck-Engel  
Director of Ministries.....Ann Walsvik  
Bookkeeper .....Cathy Ramos  
Custodian..... Fred Jensen  
Office Administrator...Donna Butler

### New Life Council Members

Pastor Rob Carlson  
Dale Bley Dan Flanders  
Kristy Igl Harvey Kessel  
Jay Kiefer Gail Kriel  
Kathy Nelson Jean Oseth  
Pete Pien Steve Spilde  
Ken Wundrow Scott Zahorsky

### Worship

Sunday 8:00 am (Traditional)  
9:15 am (Way Cool)  
10:30 am (Way Cool)  
KidZone available for children ages 3  
& under during the Way Cool Worship  
times

### Education (Sept-April)

Sunday 9:10 a.m. (age 4-grade 5)  
Wednesday MS/HS (grades 6-12),  
Light Meal at 6:00 p.m.  
Worship at 6:30 p.m.  
Education 6:45 p.m.

### How Do I Sign Up?

If you'd like to sign-up for a study,  
event, or volunteer opportunity, here  
are some ways to do just that:

- go online: [www.newlifelc.com](http://www.newlifelc.com)
- call the church office: 223-9337
- email us: [newlifelc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:newlifelc@sbcglobal.net)
- or contact the leader of the event

### Newsletter Deadline

To make a contribution to the Lifeline,  
contact the church office by the 10th  
of the month.

### Our Vision, Mission,

#### Values & Goals

#### Our Vision

*God's Rejoicing*

#### Our Mission

*To know ourselves as Christ knows us*

#### Our Core Values

*Loving God, Loving People, Building  
Christian Community, Growing  
Spiritually, Sharing Jesus*

#### Our Goals

*Intentional Discipleship making,  
Celebration, Strengthen family  
relationships*

## From Your Pastor...

It was an exciting day as God dreams for us are yet another step toward fulfillment. When we purchased our land, built a new church building, and relocated the congregation, God had dreams for us. Over the last months, those dreams have been reaffirmed and the people of New Life have responded. It's exciting and very good.

What was so impressive at the congregational meeting was that so many leaders spoke up to encourage the renewed course that God has in mind. Many good questions were asked, some creative suggestions were made, and one could feel the excitement as the meeting went on.

What's always exciting to me is that leaders step forth to reiterate God's vision to the congregation. I'm impressed with you all as we know how much God is really involved encouraging, motivating, and celebrating with us. How cool is that?

So, we move on and build again. And, God is pleased.

The next year is going to be fun. What a great gathering of believers in God to be able to be part of. I'm proud to be your pastor.

God bless you all!!  
Pastor Rob



**COMING FEBRUARY 16, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.  
WOMEN'S MONDAY NIGHT GATHERING:  
"THE ORGANIC GOD" DVD Study featuring  
Margaret Feinberg!**



Join us for a very creative and warm approach to life with God in a relaxed and comfortable setting. Whether this is your first women's study or your "umpteenth", you will be sure to be encouraged and enriched in your spiritual journey.

"Award-winning journalist, speaker, and writer, Margaret Feinberg, is passionate about her generation and offers a refreshing perspective on faith and culture in a postmodern world. What really makes this study so powerful is that Margaret helps women look past the busyness and distractions of life that can cloud our relationship with God and helps us imagine how our view of God can change if we cast aside all the things that get in the way, and truly experience God's big-hearted love ... His abundant kindness His surprising talkativeness ... and His outrageous generosity." Filmed in Alaska, Margaret ties in the beauty of God's creation with a fresh and very approachable look into the Bible. Watch for further details and opportunities to sign up in January. Questions? Contact Terri Beck-Engel: [tbeckengel@yahoo.com](mailto:tbeckengel@yahoo.com) or call 223-9337.

**THURSDAY MORNING WOMEN'S GATHERING  
STARTS JAN. 15TH! 9am-11am**

Explore real life, everyday topics that matter to you, to those you love and to those in the world around you. Those are the very topics that matter to God! Using the creative and dynamic teachings of Rob Bell we will engage in discussions & exploration of God's word to discover more deeply the relevance of God's kingdom being alive in us and working through us. Topics like Purpose, Love, Forgiveness, Healing, Challenges etc. The group is open to all women, of all ages and seasons of life. You will be welcomed, encouraged and have a lot of fun too! Can't come every session? No problem, just come to the ones you can. Be sure to invite a friend to come too!

Questions Contact Betty Sundbakken at 221-4146 or Terri Beck-Engel at 223-9337.

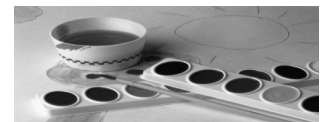
**Scrapbooking  
Saturday, Jan. 17, 2009  
9:00 a.m.**



Preserve your memories! Now that the holidays are over it's time to get your photos and memories organized and shared!! You DO NOT have to be "creative" or "crafty" to preserve your memories. Come to scrapbooking and let me show you how to organize your photos and different ways to display your photos. Don't leave them in boxes or on memory cards – get them into your life. It can be a quick and easy as you want it to be.

Join me on **Saturday, January 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 – 3:00**. You do not have to stay for the entire time, come for as long as you like and learn how to share your memories. Also – new for 2009, I will have a Cricut Create diecut machine available for use at all crop days.

Questions contact Kelli Heintz at 839-4855 or email [khenitz@charter.net](mailto:khenitz@charter.net). Invite a friend or two!



**Stamping  
Thursday, Jan. 8, 2009  
6:30p.m.**

Join us, questions contact Cheryll Steinke at 241-2745/[stampup4life@yahoo.com](mailto:stampup4life@yahoo.com)

# New Life Calendar of Events

# February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>1</b> 8 a.m. Traditional Worship 9:10 a.m. Kingdom Quest 9:15 Way Cool Worship 10:30 a.m. Way Cool Worship 4:44 pm Acts of the Apostles</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b> 6:30 pm Kingdom Keys Community &amp; Leadership classes 7 pm Choir</p>	<p><b>5</b> 9 am Women's Daytime study 6:30 p.m. Tu Eternity</p>	<p><b>6</b> 7pm The Shack study</p>	<p><b>7</b></p>
<p><b>8</b> 8 a.m. Traditional Worship 9:10 a.m. Kingdom Quest 9:15 Way Cool Worship 10:30 a.m. Way Cool Worship 4:44 pm Acts of the Apostles</p>	<p><b>9</b> 5:30 p.m. Spiritual Resource Team 6:30 pm Men &amp; Integrity</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b> 6:30 pm Kingdom Keys Community &amp; Leadership classes 7 p.m. Choir</p>	<p><b>12</b> 9 am Women's Daytime study 6:30 p.m. Tu Eternity 6:30 p.m. Stamping</p>	<p><b>13</b> 7 pm The Shack study</p>	<p><b>14</b> 9 am Joys of Single Parenting 6 pm Valentine's Celebration at Prime Quarter</p>
<p><b>15</b> 8 a.m. Traditional Worship 9:10 a.m. Kingdom Quest 9:15 Way Cool Worship 10:30 a.m. Way Cool Worship 11:30 a.m. Kingdom Quest Leaders Meeting 4:44 pm Acts of the Apostles</p>	<p><b>16</b> 6 p.m. Council 6 pm Women's Organic God</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b> 6:30 pm Kingdom Keys Community &amp; Leadership classes 7 p.m. Choir</p>	<p><b>19</b> 9 am Women's Daytime study 5:30 p.m. Kingdom Quest Leaders Meeting 6:30 p.m. Tu Eternity</p>	<p><b>20</b> 7 pm The Shack study</p>	<p><b>21</b> 9 a.m. Scrapbooking Tentative showing of "Fireproof" the movie</p>
<p><b>22</b> 8 a.m. Traditional Worship 9:15 a.m. Worship for Kids 10:30 a.m. Way Cool Worship 4:44 pm Acts of the Apostles 6 pm Fireproof your Marriage</p>	<p><b>23</b> 6 p.m. Common Threads 6:30 pm Men &amp; Integrity</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b> 6:30 pm Kingdom Keys Community &amp; Leadership classes 7 p.m. Choir</p>	<p><b>26</b> 9 am Women's Daytime study 6:30 p.m. Tu Eternity</p>	<p><b>27</b> 7 pm The Shack study</p>	<p><b>28</b> 9 am Joys of Single Parenting</p>

# March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>1</b> 8 am Traditional Worship 9:10 am Kingdom Quest 9:15 &amp; 10:30 am Way Cool Worship 11:45 am Guest Orientation 4:44 pm Book of Acts 6 pm Fireproof your Marriage</p>	<p><b>2</b> 6 pm Women's Organic God</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b> 6:30 pm Kingdom Keys Community &amp; Leadership classes 7 p.m. Choir</p>	<p><b>5</b> 6:30 p.m. Tu Eternity</p>	<p><b>6</b> 7 pm The Shack</p>	<p><b>7</b></p>
<p><b>8</b> 8 am. Traditional Worship 9:10 am. Kingdom Quest 9:15 &amp; 10:30 am. Way Cool Worship 11:45 am. New Life Class 4:44 pm Book of Acts 6 pm Fireproof Daylight Saving Time</p>	<p><b>9</b> 5:30 p.m. Spiritual Resource Team 6:30 pm Men &amp; Integrity</p>	<p><b>10</b> Finance</p>	<p><b>11</b> 6:30 pm Kingdom Keys Community &amp; Leadership classes 7 p.m. Choir</p>	<p><b>12</b> 6:30 p.m. Tu Eternity 6:30 p.m. Stamping</p>	<p><b>13</b> 7 pm The Shack</p>	<p><b>14</b> 9 am Joys of Single Parenting</p>
<p><b>15</b> 8 am. Traditional Worship 9:10 am. Kingdom Quest 9:15 Way Cool Worship 10:30 am. Way Cool Worship 11:30 am. KQ Leaders Mtg 4:44 pm Book of Acts 6 pm Fireproof Easter Rehearsal Begins</p>	<p><b>16</b> 6 p.m. Council Women's Organic God</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b> 6:30 pm Kingdom Keys Community &amp; Leadership classes 7 p.m. Choir</p>	<p><b>19</b> 5:30 p.m. Kingdom Quest Leaders Meeting 6:30 p.m. Tu Eternity</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b> 9 a.m. Scrapbooking</p>
<p><b>22</b> 8 am. Traditional Worship 9:15 am. Worship for Kids 10:30 am. Way Cool Worship 4:44 pm Book of Acts 6 pm Fireproof Easter Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>23</b> 6 p.m. Common Threads 6:30 pm Men &amp; Integrity</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b> 6:30 pm Kingdom Keys Community &amp; Leadership classes 7 p.m. Choir</p>	<p><b>26</b> 6:30 p.m. Tu Eternity</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b> 9 am Joys of Single Parenting</p>
<p><b>29</b> 8 am. Traditional Worship 9:10 am. Kingdom Quest 9:15 &amp; 10:30 am Way Cool Worship 4:44 pm Book of Acts 6 pm Fireproof Easter Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>30</b> 6 pm Women's Organic God</p>	<p><b>31</b></p>				

**NO REGRETS**  
**Christian Men's**  
**Conference**

**Saturday, Feb. 7, 2009**  
**8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**  
Westbrook Church  
Hartland WI.

We have 24 men attending this spiritually uplifting conference. If you are still interested in attending **you may be** able to purchase tickets at [www.noregretsconference.org](http://www.noregretsconference.org). We will be attending the Westbrook site. Contact Dave Grinnell at 216-0133 if you wish to carpool that day.

**MEN and INTEGRITY**  
**An ACCESS course**  
**Starting on February 9th**  
**6:30 p.m.**

Gentlemen, the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 6:30 pm we'll meet to explore integrity. Who are the men of integrity? What do they look like? How might a man become one? Integrity. Integrating experiences to walk the vision that God's put before us.



**FOR OUR VISITORS & GUESTS**

| 7

The Guest Orientation and New Life Classes are an opportunity for you to find out more about New Life Church and meet others who want to do the same. Both classes are required for membership at New Life, if you are interested. A light meal will be served and childcare can be provided with advance registration. You can sign up now by going to our website at: [www.newlifelc.com](http://www.newlifelc.com) and clicking on Connections & Membership or by calling Ann Walsvik at 223-9337 or fill out a sign-up form from the Sunday bulletin.

**Guest Orientation Class**

**Sunday, January 11, 2009 at 11:45 a.m.**

What is God's vision for New Life Church? Pastor Rob Carlson will go into details during this class.

**New Life Class**

**Sunday, January 25, 2009 at 11:45 a.m.**

You can be a part of the plans God has for New Life Church. Find out how in this class lead by Ann Walsvik, Director of Ministries.

**VALENTINE'S DAY CELEBRATION**

**Saturday, February 14th at 6 pm**

Come and celebrate the Valentine's holiday with others from New Life Church! Sign-up today and join us at Prime Quarter Steak House for an awesome meal and fun camaraderie. We will meet in the private room downstairs and enjoy entertaining games and delicious food. Cost is \$23.00 per person and includes a choice of steak or fish (catch of the day), salad bar, Texas toast, potato bar and non-alcoholic beverage. There is a limited number that will be able to attend so don't delay. Sign-up either online, in the bulletin or via email to the church office.

**Couples Dance Classes**

**Sunday, January 4, 2009**

**6:00-7:00 p.m.**

Takes to the dance floor! Couples Dance starts Sunday, January 4, 2009 and will run for six weeks, 6-7 p.m. (we'll skip Super Bowl Sunday if that is preferred). \$144/couple and the desire for some fun is all you need to learn the Waltz and the Cha Cha. No experience is necessary. Please consider coming to The Right Step Dance Studio on E. Broadway in Monona. Call or email to sign up right away! Plenty of room for everyone!! Questions contact Lynn Nelson at 839-8567 or [douglynn@charter.net](mailto:douglynn@charter.net) or Janice Newell at 279-2793 or [buckshome6@yahoo.com](mailto:buckshome6@yahoo.com)

## THANK YOU

**Couples Round Robin** Thanks to you, everyone who helped make the Couples Round Robin a success! There were about 60 participants, and a great time was had by all!!! Thank you to everyone who provided appetizers, desserts, drinks and great fellowship!! Special appreciation goes to our six host homes. Doug and Lynn Nelson, Ron and Donna Fouts, Jim and Tammy Green, Gilbert Pitts and Kathy Nelson, George and Deb Reed, Bruce and Janice Newell and also to Rodney and Ann Walsvik for hosting the last stop at church for coffee and dessert

**ARC House Christmas Party** A huge thank you to everyone who made the 2008 Arc House Christmas party a success. These are some of the comments we heard:

It was such a nice evening

Wow, I can't believe your church would do something like this for us.

The food was great.

I haven't played bingo in years – what a blast.

The gifts were so thoughtful.

We couldn't have done it without the efforts of all those who supplied food, bingo prizes, gifts, volunteered their time and set up. The event really brings back the true meaning of Christmas for those who are involved and blesses the lives of 45 women who are often forgotten at Christmas. Thank you again!

### Teen Gift Drive **MANY HAPPY TEENS!!**

The generosity of this congregation never ceases to amaze me. I had been worried that giving to the Teen Gift Drive would be down this year as everyone is more cautious with their spending. But not only was the number and range of gifts donated even greater than last year but each one showed the care taken in its selection - clothes, CDs, DVD, and skin/hair/nail care products that teen age girls love as well as several very generous gift cards. The people at New Life have made a Merry Christmas for many area teens.

Thank You!  
Kathy Michaelis

### Gifts for Kids

Dear New Life Family,

Thank you all who gave donations or books for Kingdom Quest to wrap and deliver to the Children's Hospital/Ronald McDonald House. It will bring much joy and happiness this holiday season.

God Bless you all,  
Bill and Jay

## Looking Ahead February

### No Regrets Christian Men's Conference

Saturday, Feb. 7th  
8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

### Stamping

Thursday, Feb. 12th  
6:30 p.m.

### ACCESS courses begin

In February

### Valentine's Day Dinner at Prime Quarter

Saturday, Feb. 14th

### Kingdom Quest Leaders Meetings

Sunday, Feb. 15th  
11:30 a.m.

Thursday, Feb. 19th  
5:30 p.m.

### Scrapbooking

Saturday, Feb. 21st  
9:00 a.m.

### Worship for Kids

Sunday, Feb. 22nd  
9:15 a.m.

### Common Threads

Monday, Feb. 23rd  
6:00 p.m.

### Baptisms

December 14, 2008  
Faith Watson  
Child of Patrick &  
Ericka Watson

December 28, 2008  
Skylar Spridco  
Child of Jeffrey & Natasha  
Spridco



**St. Matthew's Lutheran Church**  
a/k/a "New Life Church"  
7564 Cottage Grove Road  
Madison, WI 53718

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## The Future at a Glance

### February

1,8,15,22 - Kingdom Quest  
4,11,18,25 - Choir  
5,12,19,26 - Tu Eternity  
7 - No Regrets Conference  
9 - Spiritual Resource Team  
10 - Finance  
10 - Reggie McNeal Follow-Up  
12 - Stamping  
14 - Single Parents Group  
14 - Couples Valentines Dinner  
15 - Kingdom Quest Leaders Meeting  
16 - Council  
19 - Kingdom Quest Leaders Meeting  
21 - Scrapbooking  
22 - **Worship for Kids**  
23 - Common Threads  
25 - **Ash Wednesday**

### March

1,8,15,22,26 - Kingdom Quest  
1 - Guest Orientation  
4,11,18,25 - Choir  
5,12,19,26 - Tu Eternity  
8 - New Life Class  
9 - Spiritual Resource  
12 - Stamping  
15 - Baptisms  
15 - Kingdom Quest Leaders Meeting  
16 - Council  
19 - Kingdom Quest Leaders Meeting  
21 - Scrapbooking  
22 - **Worship for Kids**  
23 - Common Threads

### April

1,8,15,22,29 - Choir  
2,9,16,2,30 - Tu Eternity  
5,19,26 - Kingdom Quest  
9 - Maundy Thursday  
9 - Stamping  
9 - Passover Begins  
10 - Good Friday  
11 - All Day Easter Rehearsal  
12 - Easter  
13 - Spiritual Resource Team  
14 - Finance  
16 - Last Day of Passover  
17, 18 - Women's Contemplative Retreat  
18 - Scrapbooking  
20 - Council  
24,25, - Campout for Families  
26 - Worship for Kids  
27 - Common Threads