

New Life Methodist Church 979-968-8323

Church Office Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs. 8:30am-3:30pm
Wed. 8:30am - 5:30pm
Friday 8:30am-12:30pm

Website - www.newlifelg.org

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Non-Profit Organization

WORSHIP TIMES

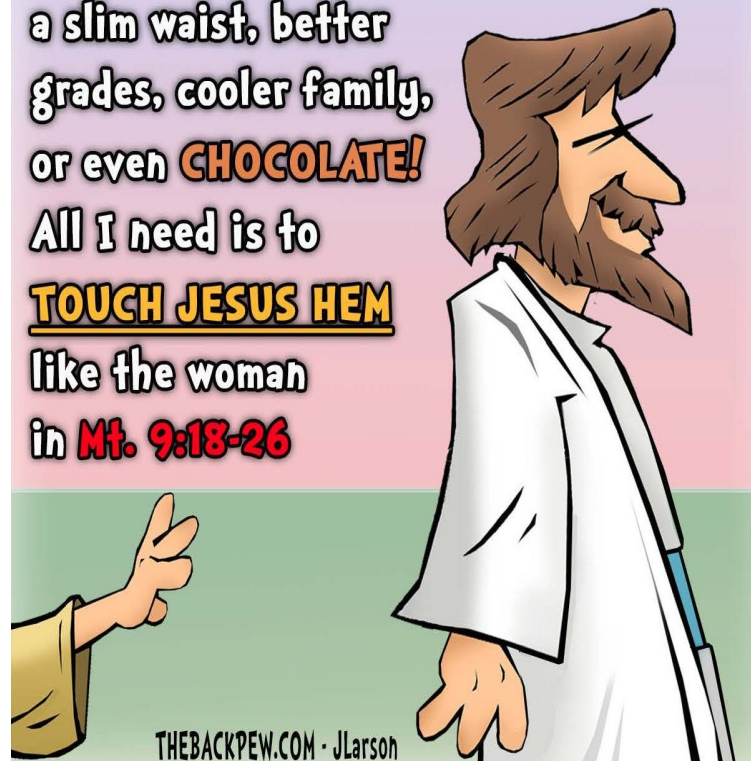
Sundays at:

- 9:00 am - Traditional Service
- 10:00 am - Fellowship Time
- 10:15 am - Disciple Hour
- 11:10 am - Contemporary Service

April 2026 Edition

CHURCH HUMOR

I DO NOT NEED \$\$, fame, full head of hair, smaller nose, whiter teeth, a slim waist, better grades, cooler family, or even CHOCOLATE!
All I need is to TOUGH JESUS HEM like the woman in Mt. 9:13-26



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LIGHTSHINE

APRIL 2026 EDITION
NEW LIFE METHODIST CHURCH



PASTOR'S PONDERING

I hope you enjoyed our Lenten sermon series on holiness. After Jo Anne Hill introduced me to Matt O'Reilly's book, "Free to be Holy: A Biblical Theology of Sanctification," I thought this would make for a good series. Sanctification is a big word that simply means growing more like Jesus every day. It's not about being perfect all at once or never making mistakes. Instead, it's about letting God's love change us bit by bit, so our lives start to reflect who He is.

Why does this matter? Because God doesn't want us to just go through the motions of faith. He wants us to live fully, free from the weight of sin and selfishness that holds us back. Sanctification is God's way of healing us from the inside out, helping us become the people He created us to be; a people who love Him and love others deeply.

One of the most encouraging truths from this series is that Jesus came not only to forgive our sins but to bless our lives with transformation. That means sin doesn't have to define us. We can actually walk in newness of life and leave behind habits and attitudes that pull us away from God. But this isn't about us trying harder, it's about opening our hearts to God's grace and letting His Spirit work on us.

At the heart of sanctification is love. Perfect love. This love isn't just about feeling warm and fuzzy. It's about choosing to care for others, even when it's hard. It's about loving our neighbors, friends, and yes, even our enemies. This kind of love shows what God's character looks like in real life. When we grow in this love, we're becoming holy, not because we're flawless, but because God's love is shaping us.

Sanctification is also about being fully human. The problem is that sin steals our humanity from us. Following Jesus, and growing to become more like Him, restores our humanity to the fullest. We see this with the increase of patience, mercy, humility, and joy in us. Following Jesus always leads to abundant life. (John 10:10)

Despite any hesitation, it is possible to live holy lives. Scripture promises that God wants to sanctify us entirely. He wants to cleanse us fully and fill us completely with His love. We don't do this alone or by our own power. God's grace is enough, and He's faithful to finish the work He's started in us.

That work starts with small steps, like prayer, reading the Bible, worship, and choosing to love others even when it's tough. It means saying no to things that pull us away from God. Sanctification is a lifelong adventure, but it's one filled with hope and joy because it's God who leads the way. Sanctification isn't about being perfect, it's about being loved and letting that love shape every part of our lives.

I hope this series has helped you in your walk with Jesus. It's been a joy for me to preach on it, and it has reassured me that our church's mission statement needs only three words: Live Like Jesus.

In Christ's Service,
Pastor Andy

INSPIRING READS

- Pastor's Pondering
- Musical Notes
- Altar Rail
- Methodist Men
- Finance Report
- Disciple Hour News
- Emmaus Pilgrims
- Friends 'N Fellowship
- Relay for Life
- April 2026 Calendar
- Archery Happenings
- Notes From the Office
- Dates to Celebrate
- Holy Land Trip Info
- Prayer Team
- Missionaries Steve & Pam English Visit
- Second Chance
- Prayer Shawl Ministry
- UM Army
- Bible Quiz
- Church Humor

Thank you for your generous support of our ministries.

43. Jesus' Prayer in Gethsemane Matthew 26:36-46

- | | | |
|-----------|--------------|------------|
| AGAIN | GETHESEMANE | POSSIBLE |
| ASLEEP | HAND | REST |
| BEHOLD | HEAVY | SIT |
| DEATH | HIM | SORROWFUL |
| DRINK | HOUR | TEMPTATION |
| EXCEEDING | INDEED | TWO |
| FACE | LEFT | WATCH |
| FARTHER | NEVERTHELESS | WEAK |
| FLESH | PETER | YONDER |
| FOUND | PLACE | ZEBEDEE |

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MUSICAL NOTES



He is risen! He is risen, indeed! Amen and amen!

I'm sharing with you another of Susan Palo Cherwein's reflections from her book, *From Glory Into Glory*. She titled it "Baptism: Awakening."

*Christ's resurrection is to us as
the dawning of the Sun into new day;
Christ's resurrection is to us as
the bursting forth of life into the vine;
Christ's resurrection is to us as
the blossoming of spring out of winter's death;
Christ's resurrection is to us as
the crossing of the Red Sea into new freedom;
It is a baptism, this resurrection,
deep into blue water to new life;
it is a spring rain that springs green;
it is a drink of cool water in a thirsty land;
this resurrection, it is a fountain pouring forth
at the center of life.*

*A fountain.
Come, all who are thirsty,
And drink.*

Soli Deo Gloria,
Nancy



Altar Rail giving for the month of April will be to:

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

METHODIST MEN

Methodist Men will meet at 6:30PM, Thursday, April 16th, in the Fellowship Hall for their meeting. There will be a delicious meal as well as an enlightening program.

Methodist Men Chairman,
Matthew Watson

FINANCE UPDATE

Giving for February 2026 was as follows:

General Fund	\$ 49,934.00
Altar Rail	\$ 817.75
(Good Shepherd Fund)	
Total	\$ 50,751.75

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

Our next volunteer date at AMEN is Monday, June 1, from 8:30am - 12:30pm. AMEN is now open the first and third Thursday of each month from 4:30pm until 6pm (closed Apr 2). Perhaps you are available to volunteer in the evening. Even if are only able to volunteer for an hour, it is appreciated. Our food donation basket is in in the narthex. You may bring items to the church office or take them directly to AMEN. Please identify that you are donating in our church's name if you take items to AMEN. Our church donated **96 pounds** of food and reusable bags last month. Thanks!

The next monthly Emmaus Gathering will be Tuesday, April 21, at Schulenburg - First Methodist Church with a delicious potluck dinner at 6:30pm. Bring a dish to share. The bus will be available.

Our Community holds an area-wide prayer gathering each first Sunday of the month at Redimidos por Cristos Church Annex behind the former 1st Baptist Church. All are welcome!

Save the dates of Friday, May 29 - Sunday, May 31 for very special worship and learning with "The World Our Parish" missionaries Steve and Pam English.

We love to hear from you about our newsletter! If you want a hard copy mailed, the church appreciates a \$5 annual donation to cover almost half of the cost. This is not mandatory. Please have any articles in by the 20th of each month.



Jim & Mildred Schaefer	04/18
Roger & Heidi Stone	04/18
David & Paulett Renfro	04/24



Sherri	Van Dresar	04/05
Allison	Bailey	04/05
Kevin	Hutchins	04/05
Jim	Coleman	04/08
Leslie	Sparks	04/10
Ashlynn	Golan	04/10
Elva Murphy	Fertsch	04/11
Joy	Learned	04/14
E. J.	Gray	04/19
Debra	Schwartzenburg	04/20
Jess	Walker	04/22
Tim	Evans	04/23
Janice	Alexander	04/29
Jo Anne	Hill	04/29
Lisa	Davis	04/29
Gary	Haggerty	04/30
David	Jenkins	04/30

HOLY LAND TRIP

Oct. 27 ~ Nov. 5, 2026

LEARN MORE & REGISTER

New Life METHODIST CHURCH



We are excited to invite you on a life-changing trip to the Holy Land in October 2026. This trip is organized and led by Educational Opportunities (EO) Tours, a trusted Christian group tour company with decades of experience. **THE BASIC COST FOR THIS TRIP IS: \$4,198.00.** This Pricing Includes...

- Roundtrip Flights between New York & Israel
- First Class Hotel Accommodations
- Daily Breakfast and Dinner
- All Ground Transportation with Guide
- Fees, Hotel Gratuities, Gov. Taxes

Extra Expenses Not Included:
Airfare to and from New York
Daily Lunch (budget \$20 per day)
Bottled Water (available on bus for \$1)
Tip for Guide (\$6 per day)
Travel Insurance (optional but recommended)
Credit Card Fees (a 3.5% fee on any payments made by credit card, except for the initial deposit).

Prayer Team

Wednesdays

1:00pm C/R

SAVE THE DATE

Missionaries

Steve and Pam English

May 29 - 31




Devotional and Disciple Hour Info

Upper Room... This devotional publication comes out every other month. Go to <https://www.upperroom.org/> devotionals to see archived and daily devotionals and other information.

Disciple Hour... will follow the 9:00AM worship service after fellowship time in the fellowship hall at 10:00am. John Wesley created 'Methodist Classes' where small groups meet weekly for mutual support, accountability and spiritual growth. Come take the opportunity to grow with your fellow church members in a more personal relationship with God. Childcare is available. Please contact the church office for other special needs.

Challengers, Parlor - led by Jo Anne Hill

Foundations, Conference Rm - led by Pastor Andy

New Covenant, Rm 5 - led by Gary Martyr

Parables, Library - led by Dale Alexander

Children's Sunday School, Rm 11 - Brenda Holcomb

Youth, Rm 14 - Sarah Janisch & James Dornwell

Light finger food refreshments are provided by our Disciple Hour Classes following this schedule -

First Sunday: **Pastor Andy's class**

Second Sunday: **Gary Martyr's class**

Third Sunday: **Dale Alexander's class** Fourth Sunday: **Jo Anne Hill's class** Fifth Sundays: **Our Church Treats**

EMMAUS PILGRIMS



Our recent pilgrims that attended the Men's Emmaus Walk at Cathedral Oaks March 12 - 15, from left to right, Mike Salvo and Lance Nickel. There will be a Women's Walk in October. If you are interested contact the church office. They are in need of a cook for that team.



Beginning Monday, April 6, the Challengers Disciple Hour class is starting a study on Ephesians with J. D. Walt through his daily podcast called "Wake-Up Call". Books/journals to accompany the study are available in the classroom (The Parlor). To receive the daily Wake-Up Call in written or audio form go to seedbed.com/wakeupcall and register your name and email address. You can also find it on YouTube.

BLESSED PRAYER SHAWLS AVAILABLE

Do you know of someone going through an eventful time in life that is challenging or praiseworthy? We have beautiful handmade prayer shawls available to give as gifts to those who might be experiencing a joyous event or even sadness. We want to thank Paula Brown for her many contributions to this ministry. Do you have a crocheting talent or would you like to learn? We have yarn available. If you want more ministry information, please call the church office.



UM ARMY Youth Summer Mission Trip

Boerne, TX July 12 - 18
To Attend or Volunteer
Text or Email Jay Watson
979-249-6201; jwatson316@gmail.com

CHURCH HAPPENINGS!

ARCHERY "AIM FOR FUN" COME TRY IT DAY



Kids & families had a wonderful time with our dedicated instructors and helpers!

APRIL 18 "AIM FOR FUN" DAY

Aim For Fun
Saturday
April 18

10:00am to 11:30am
 1215 N. Von Minden St., LG
 RSVP at newlifefg.org / 979-968-8323



New Life
 METHODIST CHURCH

We are hosting another fun day where kids and youth can try out archery in a safe and controlled environment. This will be held on our church grounds Saturday, April 18, from 10 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Our instructors have planned a curriculum to help introduce children and their families to the benefits of learning this time-honored sport. If you are interested in assisting or becoming an instructor, please contact the church office at 979-968-8323 or Al Menconi at 713-594-9695. Hope to see you on the range!



Join us on Saturday, May 2, to visit the Giddings Stone Mansion in Brenham and enjoy lunch

RELAY FOR LIFE APRIL 18, 2026



Relay for Life of Fayette County will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2026 from 6 pm to 10 pm at Leopard Stadium. The theme this year is "United Against Cancer". Team "Stars of Hope" is participating in several fundraisers to benefit the American Cancer Society. A free will donation bake sale will be held on April 2 in front of Le Petite Gourmet Shoppe starting at 8:30 am. A drive-thru fried chicken meal will be held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on April 9, from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Tickets are \$15.00 and can be purchased from Noreen Dopslauf, Team Captain. There are beautiful luminaries available to purchase for \$5 to honor or memorialize a loved one. Anyone interested in signing up for the team or donating to the team can contact Noreen Dopslauf at 979-966-3164.

APRIL 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7:00am - Men's Emmaus - F/H 1:00pm - Prayer Team, C/R 5:30pm - Glory Tones Practice 7:00pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal	2 Maundy Thursday Parking Lot Repairs	3 Good Friday OFFICE CLOSED 7:30am - Men's Bible Study - C/R 6:00pm - Good Friday Service	4
5 EASTER Communion Sunday 9:00am - Traditional Service 10:00am - Church Fellowship Time 11:10am - Contemporary Service 5:00pm - Community Prayer Service - Redimidos por Cristos Church Annex Behind former 1st Baptist Church	6 Easter Monday OFFICE CLOSED 4:15pm - Girls In The Middle 5:30pm-6pm - Exercise Class - Library	7 10:00am - Friends 'n Fellowship Board Mtg - C/R 10:00am - Staff Parish Relations Committee Meeting - Rm 5	8 7:00am - Men's Emmaus - F/H 10:00am - Worship @ Jefferson Place 1:00pm - Prayer Team, C/R 5:30pm - Glory Tones Practice 7:00pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal	9 5:30pm-6pm - Exercise Class - Library	10 7:30am - Men's Bible Study - C/R	11 9:00am - Adult Archery Practice
12 9:00am - Traditional Service 10:00am - Church Fellowship Time 10:15am - Disciple Hour Classes 11:10am - Contemporary Service 12:15pm - Archery Instructors Field Trip	13 1:00pm - Emmaus Women - C/R 1:00pm - Fayette Co. Retired Teachers - F/H 4:15pm - Girls In The Middle 5:30pm - 6pm - Exercise Class - Library	14 4:00pm—Council on Ministries Mtg - C/R	15 7:00am - Men's Emmaus - F/H 1:00pm - Prayer Team, C/R 5:30pm - Glory Tones Practice 7:00pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal	16 3:30pm - Methodist Men Meal Prep—Kitchen 5:30pm-6pm - Exercise Class - Library 6:30pm - Methodist Men Meeting	17 7:30am - Men's Bible Study - C/R	18 10:00am - Archery "Aim For Fun" Day come try archery day
19 Communion Sunday 9:00 am - Traditional Service 10:00am - Church Fellowship Time 10:15am - Disciple Hour Classes 11:10am - Contemporary Service 6:00pm - New Member Dinner	20 1:00pm - Emmaus Women - C/R 4:15pm - Girls In The Middle 5:30pm - Church Board Meeting - Rm 5 5:30pm-6pm - Exercise Class - Library	21 6:30pm - Emmaus Gathering, Schulenburg First Methodist Church	22 7:00am - Men's Emmaus - F/H 1:00pm - Prayer Team, C/R 5:30pm - Glory Tones Practice 7:00pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal	23 5:30pm-6pm - Exercise Class - Library	24 7:30am - Men's Bible Study - C/R	25
26 9:00am - Traditional Service 10:00am - Church Fellowship Time 10:15am - Disciple Hour Classes 11:10am - Contemporary Service	27 9:00am - Noon Second Chance Vol 1:00pm - Emmaus Women - C/R 4:15pm - Girls In The Middle 5:30pm-6pm - Exercise Class - Library	28 9:00am - 3:00pm - Second Chance Vol	29 7:00am - Men's Emmaus - F/H 9:00am - 3:00pm - Second Chance Vol 1:00pm - Prayer Team, C/R 5:30pm - Glory Tones Practice 7:00pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal	30 9:00am - 3:00pm - Second Chance Vol 5:30pm-6pm - Exercise Class - Library	1 7:30am - Men's Bible Study - C/R 8:00am - 3:00pm - Second Chance Vol	2 8:00am - 3:00pm - Second Chance Vol