

**Gratitude**

Give thanks in everything, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.  
 1 Thessalonians 5:18 (HCSB)

This is a perfect time to reflect on the abundant blessings that God has given to each of us personally and as an organization. The Father loves to give his children good gifts and unfortunately, we have a tendency to take many for granted.

Do you have a home?  
 Running water? Electricity?  
 Plumbing? Clean water?  
 Food in the cupboard?



At Next Life we have wonderful, talented and loving staff and volunteers that love our students and work hard to show Christ to all



they encounter.

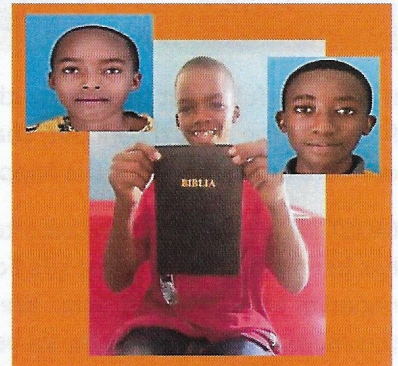
We have a beautiful campus developing that keeps our students and staff safe and gives them a good learning environment. We have great potential to

grow our programs so we can reach more people for the Kingdom of God



We are able to build character in young people; mind, body and spirit.

Through devotions, vocational training, providing food and mentoring. God can change these pupil's lives. Three of our current students will be confirmed this month at their church.



Food and personal hygiene necessities are provided when needed.

The girls recently learned how to make feminine hygiene kits. (A MOST Ministry team taught this in



January 2019 and the lessons continue)

All the students received soap which can be use for laundry, body or dishes. When was the last time you thanked the Lord for soap?



We are so thankful for all our donors and prayer warriors. We couldn't do what we do without all of you! You are such a blessing and encouragement to each and every one of the students, staff and board members.

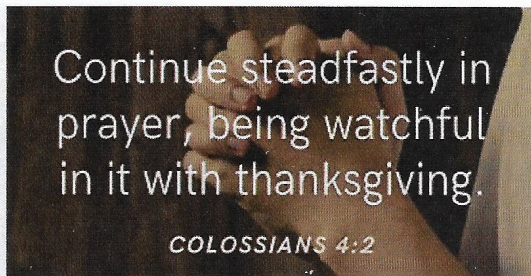


It's wonderful to get together with many Next Life friends at the annual banquet; share a meal, worship our Lord and hear about the happenings in Tanzania.

MOST Ministries (Mission Opportunities Short Term) has been a blessing to Next Life Foundation and the region of Mbuguni, Tanzania. We have partnered with this mission organization for six years to help teach our students and also to bring an eyeglass ministry to the people of the area. In



January we will once again offer the Gospel and eyeglasses to anyone who comes to our campus. What an amazing ministry this has become!



We're so grateful that Dominic, a former student and entrepreneur. He has stepped into the position of carpentry instructor. The students are learning new techniques and enjoying Dominic's leadership.



The greatest gift we have from the Father is His Son. There is so much that can be said about this; Jesus' willingness to leave His heavenly home to become like us, His readiness to take on all our sins and be separated from His Father, His great love for us...Thank you Lord. May my life be lived with gratitude to you.

### Prayers Requested

Dec 31<sup>st</sup> I will be heading over to Tanzania with a young man, Trey Robinson. When Trey was in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade he told me he was going to join me some day on a trip to Africa. He traveled to Next Life as a Freshman in highschool, in May 2022. God touched his heart for missions and in particular, the students at Next Life. He is a senior in highschool now, a starter on the state champion hockey team and willing to miss five games to again take the Gospel to East Africa. The rest of the mission team will join us Jan 5. I ask that you pray that God would grow each member of the team's faith and commitment to Christ during our time in country, that the Holy Spirit would work through us to impact our students and villagers to realize Jesus is Lord.



Your sister in Christ, *Patti*

The Women of LIFE (Lutherans in Fellowship and Evangelism) has prepared a 2025 study:

### **Ruth: A Love Story to Us from God's Heart**

A group has been meeting at the church on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 2 PM. All women are welcome: if that time doesn't work for you, other groups are welcome to form- perhaps an evening? Or weekend?

The 2025 monthly study is based on specific scriptures:

- Lesson 1: Naomi's Plight and the Decision at the Crossroad.....Ruth 1:1-14
- Lesson 2: Ruth's Commitment.....Ruth 1:15-22
- Lesson 3: Girl meets boy 😊..... Ruth 2:1-11
- Lesson 4: Boaz' demonstrations of kindness..... Ruth 2:14-23
- Lesson 5: The Interlude, Part 1..... Joshua 2:1-11
- Lesson 6: The Interlude, Part 2.....Joshua 2:12-21
- Lesson 7: Naomi Makes a Plan for Ruth..... Ruth 3:1-7
- Lesson 8: Ruth Executes the Plan.....Ruth 3: 8-13
- Lesson 9: What Goes on at the Threshing Floor.....Ruth 3:14-18
- Lesson 10: The Redemption Process Begins.....Ruth 4:1-6
- Lesson 11: Redemption and Blessing.....Ruth 4:7-13
- Lesson 12: The Legacy.....Ruth 4:14-2

If you have internet access, a full copy of the January lesson can be found at [www.taalc.org/women-of-life](http://www.taalc.org/women-of-life).

Some of the thought-provoking comments/inquires in this January lesson include:

.....know that your missteps do not need to define your life....

.....consider Naomi's blessing to her daughters-in-law...don't lose sight of the devastating circumstances in that particular moment.

.....and closes with the prayer: "May Yahweh, who is actively involved in your lives bless you and show you His steadfast, unfailing love and care now and through eternity because he is full of mercy, grace, and kindness."

**If you would like a copy of the study (cost - \$6), please sign up on the table outside the sanctuary by December 22, or contact Betty, Val, or Elsie.**



As we enter the cold and flu season, I was asked to share a “medicine” that I and others years ago received from Dr. Mary Ann McNeilus, who spoke at a public meeting in Forest City.

The recipe given to me had been tucked away for many years until 2021. To be honest, I didn't have much trust in the “cure” nor did I want to drink it. However, desperate for relief our daughter Rachel was willing to give it a try. We put the ingredients in a blender, pulverized it the best we could and then ‘holding her nose’ drank the first glass full. Not quite as bad as it sounded or expected but, followed quickly by a cracker or two. The remaining question was: did it help? The answer was, yes!

Since then I've given the recipe to others and they all had positive results. Yes, I've also used it on two occasions with positive results. Below you will find the ingredients and may wonder how could anyone want to drink this?! All I can say is I was surprised, and go ahead give it a try the next time you get a cold. I make half a batch at a time.

### **ROCKET FUEL**

2 quarts of water

6-8 lemons (peel and all)

8-12 cloves of garlic

½ onion (yellow or white)

¼ cup of honey (or a little more)

¼ tsp. cayenne pepper

A small amount of fresh ginger. (I grate mine)

Mix will in a blender. Drink throughout the day, one cup at a time. Make two quarts daily until symptoms are gone. Keep refrigerated.



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### **BENEFITS OF THE “ROCKET FUEL” DRINK**

“Stimulates and increases the metabolism, drives the circulation, breaks up obstruction and warms the body. Stimulants are an important means of breaking through these blockages, which are cold inactive areas of the body.” *The Way of Herbs p. 12*

**Lemon** “no germs can grow or live in fruit juices...because of the acids. Is also an antiseptic – an agent that will prevent infection or putrefaction. Assist in cleansing system of impurities.” *Back to Eden p. 563 & 633*

**Ginger:** “Is an excellent herb for the respiratory system. It is good for fighting off colds and flu. It removes congestion and stuffy noses.” *Today's Herbal Health p. 67 & Prescription for Nutritional Healing p. 71*

**Cayenne:** Increases the power of all other herbs. It is very important one when you want quick action for the colds and flu for its stimulation action.” *Today's Herbal Health p. 38*

**Garlic:** “Detoxifies the body and protects against infection by enhancing the immune function. Is a natural antibiotic, has a rejuvenative effect on all body function. Contains antibiotic that are effective against bacteria which may be resistant to other antibiotics. Is called “Russian Penicillin.” Garlic does not destroy the normal flora.” *Today's Herbal Health p. 65-66*

**Onion:** ‘Onion contains a volatile oil with sulfurous constituents, sulfur-containing compounds such as allicin (an antibiotic) and alliin, flavonoids, phenolic acid, and sterols. Beside its antibiotic effect it also is anti-inflammatory, expectorant and is beneficial to the circulation. “*Encyclopedia of Medicinal Plants. p.162*

# December Sermons & Scriptures

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## ● December 1, 2024

### **First Sunday of Advent**

*Morning Worship*

*Sermon: Hope*

Old Testament Lesson: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Epistle Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Gospel Lesson: Luke 19:28-40

## ● December 8, 2024

### **Second Sunday of Advent**

*Morning Worship Service & Holy Communion*

*Sermon: I'm Sending Malachi*

Old Testament Lesson: Malachi 3:1-7b

Epistle Lesson: Philippians 1:2-11

Gospel Lesson: Luke 3:1-14

## ● December 15, 2024

### **Third Sunday of Advent**

*Morning Worship Service*

*Sermon: Rejoicing*

Old Testament Lesson: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Epistle Lesson: Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel Lesson: Luke 7:18-28

## ● December 22, 2024

### **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

*Morning Worship Service*

*Sunday School Christmas Program*

## ● December 24, 2024

### **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

*Sermon: The Sign*

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-14

Epistle Lesson: 1 John 4:7-16

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 1:18-25

## ● December 29, 2024

### **First Sunday after Christmas**

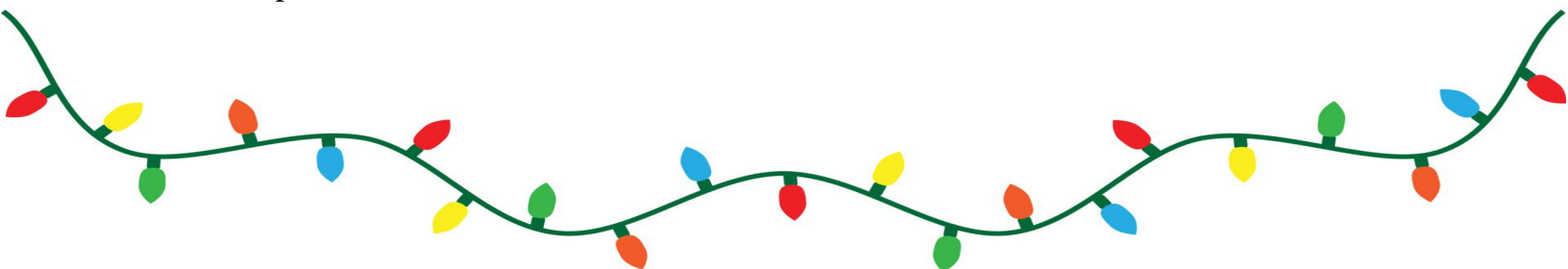
*Morning Worship Service*

*Sermon: Dr. Cary Larson*

Old Testament Lesson: Exodus 3:1-7a, 11-15

Epistle Lesson: Colossians 3:12-17

Gospel Lesson: Luke 2:22-40



# December Volunteers

1

8

15

22

24

29

**Communion:**

Steve

**Reader:**

Joel

Sherry

Tony

Jeff

Matt

**Greeters**

Betty/Vickie

Dave/Alicia

Bill/Sarah

Don/Sue

Denny/Pat

**Ushers**

Danny.....

**Sound**

Matt

Greg

Brandon

Steve

Matt

Don

**Computer**

Bobby

Bobby

Rachel

Donna

Dave

Rachel

**Acolyte**

Zade

Kazra

Cooper

Ella

McKenna

Zade

**Custodians**

Sue

Jan/Steve

Bobbi/Don

Sarah/Bill.....

▶ If you find that you have been scheduled for a ministry time that you are unable to serve, please find a replacement and let pastor know. Thank you!

# DECEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> Greeters: Betty/Vickie Reader: Joel Acolyte: Zade  GriefShare-2pm	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  Bday: Naomi Pederson	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>  Bday: Shiloh Smith	<b>7</b>  Bday: Sue Reese
<b>8</b> Communion Sunday Greeters: Dave/Alicia Reader: Sherry Acolyte: Kazra	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Deacons Mtg: 5:45pm Council- 6:30pm	<b>11</b> Confirmation: 4:30pm	<b>12</b> Quilting- 10am	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Greeters: Bill/Sarah Reader: Tony Acolyte: Cooper  GriefShare-2pm	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Women's Bible Study- 2pm	<b>18</b> Confirmation: 4:30pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  Bday: Dane Reese	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>  Children's Christmas Program	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Christmas Eve  Candlelight Service- 4:30pm  Acolyte: McKenna	<b>25</b> Christmas Day  Bday: Randy Hanna	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Greeters: Denny/Pat Reader: Matt Acolyte: Zade	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> New Year's Eve				