

Inside This Issue...

Riz's Reflections	1
New Sign!.....	2
Blue Barrel	3
Foodmobile	3
Just so you know	3
Congregational Meeting	4
Blood Drive	4
5th Sunday Potluck.....	4
Why We Give.....	4
Ruling Elder Candidates	5
A Letter from Jed and Jenny Koball.....	7
July Calendar.....	9
Staff Contact Info	10
Elder Assignments	10
Operating Fund	10
July Birthdays	10

*Daring to live
in Jesus
transforming
love*

Riz's Reflections...

Seek the peace and prosperity of the city in which the Lord has placed you. – Jeremiah 29:7

Dear Church,

Peace be with you. As many of you might know, Roseville has come a long way in its history with regards to diversity and being a city that welcomes all. The city has posted a statement by its leadership that states, Roseville, “strives to be an inclusive place for all.” To that end, the city has created a historic new role of Equity and Inclusion Manager. I recently had an opportunity to sit down with Thomas Brooks, who is the first to occupy this role. Here are some excerpts from the interview:

Can you share a bit about who you are?

I was Born in Chicago and moved to Las Vegas at a young age. In 2011, I moved to Minnesota and worked for the MN Twins. Education-wise, I have a background in organizational psychology and banking. Volunteering is a passion of mine as well as physical fitness - I teach spin classes. Currently I am raising 4 children, 3 of which are foster children.

Why is this new position necessary in Roseville?

Historically this kind of role has been underfunded or ignored

(until recently) which has allowed disparities in education, economics, employment and housing to flourish between the majority white population and BIPOC (Black Indigenous People of Color) populations. It is critical to participate in this work and understand how our communities work, making sure they work for everyone.

What is your hope and vision for the future of Roseville?

Vision can always evolve. My hope is that Roseville becomes more diverse and we see that diversity throughout the city in terms of staff and leadership and community events that reflect that rich diversity.

How can we partner together with you?

Community engagement is important on every level, we want to hear the perspective of residents—those from historically underrepresented communities. Show up to city council meetings and get involved in city commissions and community engagement projects. Participate in conversations and communal learning. As Roseville diversifies, it is important to understand where others are coming from so we create space for all people which relates to the success of our city.

(Continued on page 2)

Riz's Reflections... (cont'd)

We need you to be involved and create space to make sure that all people feel welcomed in Roseville.

(Continued from page 1)

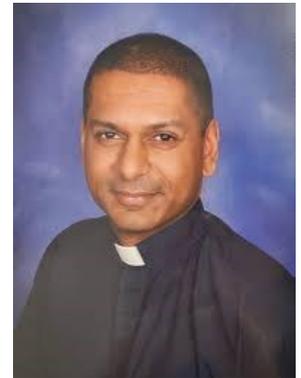
What else should we know about this work and role you are in?

After a year of being here I am optimistic. The city leadership is motivated and committed to change. I want people to know that this is a long, slow, painful change and we can't do this by ourselves. We need you to be involved and create space to make sure that all people feel welcomed in Roseville.

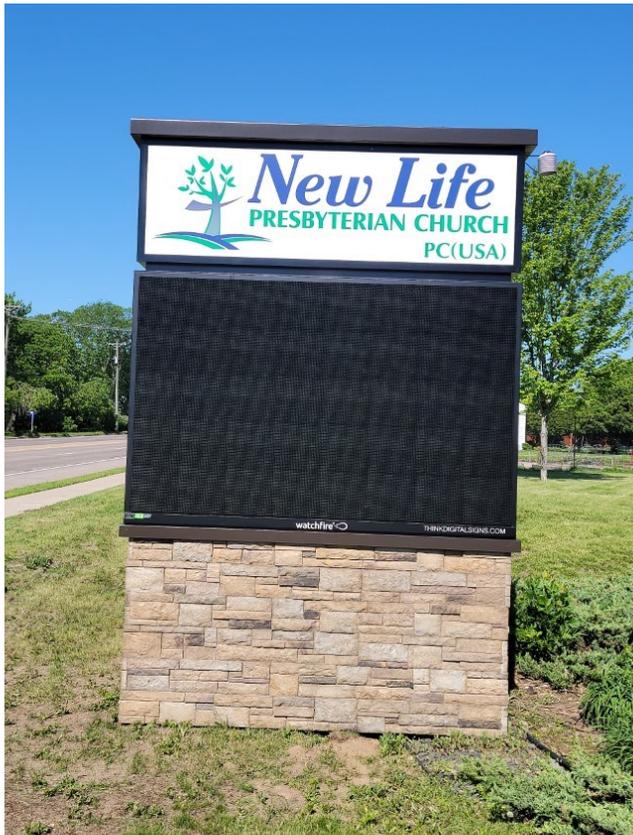
Thanks to Thomas Brooks for this interview and we pray for him in his role as agent of change. We are reminded by the scripture from

Jeremiah that we all have an important role to play as we together shape our city for the welfare of all our neighbors. May God be with you as we work as the body of Christ to build the beloved community.

In Christ,
Rev Riz



We have a new SIGN!



As promised, our new electronic sign has been installed! As of this writing, we're working on getting power to the sign so we can begin announcing ongoing events at New Life. We're also looking for short inspirational quotes that can be displayed.

We need to thank Tom Carlson and his Membership and Growth committee for their vision, enthusiasm, and persistence in getting the sign idea pushed through Session and for facing head-on any and all barriers to getting this new sign. It's something that has been in the minds of many of our church members for years and years, and now it's HERE! By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have power to the sign and it will be sending out our messages.

Now that we have a sign, we need people to step up and help us plan things at the church (See the 5th Sunday idea on page 4) that will welcome our community into our building, grounds, and FAITH community. Contact Tom Carlson or work with any committee you're already a part of with ideas.

News



Blue Barrel—In May we donated **82** pounds of food to the Keystone Food Shelf, and in June, only **18** pounds. Our next Blue Barrel Sunday will be **July 10th**. You can bring non-perishable foods and place them in the blue barrel any time during the month. (Glass items should be placed next to the barrel.) We'll bless them on the second Sunday and then deliver them to the food shelf. We're so thankful for your participation in this mission. So far through June we have donated a total of **439** pounds of food to the Food Shelf! Thank you!

* * * * *



The Keystone Community Services Foodmobile will be in our parking lot on Wednesday, July 20th, from 1:00p until 3:00p, bringing food shelf services directly to people who have transportation barriers or who live in neighborhoods that lack access to full grocery stores. All those in need are welcome to participate.

(Continued on page 4)

Just so you know...

You may have heard that I am retiring soon. Here's the scoop:

I've decided that I don't want to work past my 70th birthday in November, so... my last day of work at New Life will be Friday, July 29th. August will be spent on a 4-week trip to some of the National Parks in Utah as well as up to Brigham City to spend a few days "boondocking" with my sister (and husband) and mom who will be travelling from Reno. When I return at the end of August, I will be available for any additional questions or guidance for whomever assumes my role in the office and will be completely finished with this role by the end of October.

I hope to remain an active member at New Life, but will also be spending some time camping — perhaps even going south for the winter. It has been a real joy serving you in this role, and especially working with Riz and Michelle. Thank you for all your support. ~ Deb Griffin

Welcome Logan Combs!

The Personnel Committee is excited to announce that NLPC has a new Music Director! His name is Logan Combs and he's a recent gradate of St Olaf College with a Bachelor of Music (Church Music and Choral Conducting Specialty).

Logan is warm, engaging and enthusiastic. He has grown up in Kansas and Oklahoma and has already started looking for a new space here in MN. We are looking toward an official start date in early August.

During the interview process, Logan expressed interest in participating in our community garden and mentioned to Cynthia Erickson that he likes playing hand-bells. Her response was, "Now we

can ring with two octaves of bells!"

Of course, Logan will have to re-start our music program from the ground up and each of us will have to help with that build. So, you singers and would-be singers out there, dust off your vocal chords and get ready to make a commitment (again or for the first time!) to the music program here at New Life.

We will have Logan come to church for a meet-and-greet and have more information about choir and our music program as details develop. Stay tuned and thanks be to God for directing Logan to New Life Presbyterian Church!

More news

(Continued from page 3)

Congregational Meeting



The Session of New Life Presbyterian Church has called a congregational meeting for **Sunday, July 17, 2022**, following the worship service for the purpose of electing the following nominees for ruling elder: Emily Laizans, Marjory Johns, Pam Hord, Molly Cacek, Ed Galle, Maria Schultz and Fae Wilson. This will be an in-person meeting in the Sanctuary. If you wish to attend virtually, please call in your vote to Deb at the church office number before July 15th. We strongly encourage active members to attend so that we have a quorum.



Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. That's why New Life Presbyterian is on a mission to demonstrate God's love and care for others by hosting a blood drive on **August 15, 2022, from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm** at our church, 965 Larpenteur Ave W in Roseville.

NLPC Church members and the community are invited to take part in this special event and donate blood for hospital patients in our neighborhoods and across the nation. The need for blood is constant, but only 3 percent of the U.S. population

donates. By rolling up a sleeve, you can play a critical role in the treatment of accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those receiving treatment for leukemia, cancer or sickle cell disease.

To make an appointment or to learn more, download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Use code **NLP** to quickly find our specific blood drive. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. To help ensure a successful donation, make sure to include foods high in iron - such as meats, dark green leafy vegetables, raisins, beans, and fortified foods - in your diet.

Please consider donating blood. It's a very precious gift of life that you can give to another person in their time of need.

Questions? Contact Ed Galle or Cynthia Erickson.



Your Celebration & Worship Committee is making plans to celebrate the next 5th Sunday with a potluck after church. For two years we have longed for the opportunity to do something like this. It will be a major undertaking and we need your help!

We've heard comments from church members that we need to be doing things that welcome our neighbors

into the church that we can advertise on our new electronic sign. Maybe this is the place to start.

Will you help your Celebration and Worship committee plan this event? Please contact Deb Griffin, Sara Drake, or Margie Johns with questions, encouragement, or to sign up!



We Have Decided to Pledge Again

Barb and I are still getting used to these retirement years and feel a little off balance from the 2 ½ years of decreased activity during covid. During our full-time working years it seemed easier to launch into new activities and take on new commitments. Now on a fixed income with occasional part-time gigs, we are more cautious about our money. But the covid period also taught us there were some things we could do without, and to enjoy those things we could do more fully. So we're beginning to feel better about the future again. We are going to pledge to New Life again this year. Still not knowing the future, we have decided to make a solid pledge, then to blow right past it with our actual giving as the year allows. Please stretch with us as we work together to rebuild our stewardship program including Music and Christian Education programs that will attract and keep many new members!

~Greg and Barb Ritter

NLPC Ruling Elder Candidate Autobiographies

NLPC Ruling Elder Candidate Autobiographies

Congregation Members,

Please review the candidate profiles below in preparation for a vote in an upcoming congregational meeting (date to be determined). We could use one more candidate to add to Session beyond these volunteers. Please contact John Bootier, NLPC Nominating Committee Chair, at jwbootier@gmail.com or 612.715.6519 if you're feeling the call to serve.

* * * * *

Edward Galle

Charter member of New Life Presbyterian Church.

Previously a member of North Como Presbyterian (1951 to merger forming NLPC). We joined the church where most of the members had been raised during the great depression, and most of the males were WWII veterans. We were all wanting to make a better and peaceful world.

Served as Ruling Elder, Deacon, Trustee, representative to Presbytery and General Assembly, many church and Presbytery committees, Presbytery Mission Conference Committees.

Helped start Stephen Ministry, fund campaigns for last addition and remodeling of church building, and a variety of mission activities.

My wife, Genevieve, had an even greater history of involvement, and we enjoyed a perfect "Made in Heaven" marriage for 67 years. We both always welcomed activities to try to make a better world and

community. Our family includes 4 children and spouses, 13 grandchildren (7 married), and 4 great-grandchildren. All are involved in doing things to make a better world.

My "working career" was as a food processing engineer at the Pillsbury Company for 38 years. This led to becoming a volunteer in third world countries to work on helping people feed themselves. This started while I was working at Pillsbury and continued after retirement. I volunteered with an organization (Compatible Technology International) doing this for 22 years, ending when Genevieve's dementia prevented my travel. We both had enjoyed a lot of travel to over 50 different countries on all 7 continents, and many island nations.

I have come to believe that God gives us opportunities to act as His hands and feet on this earth. It is heaven to be able to look back and know that you did pretty well with those opportunities.

Molly Cacek

Hello everyone, my name is Molly Cacek. I grew up in a small town, Huntley, in south central Minnesota. I attended Presbyterian church with my parents and grandparents. While I was in high school I sang alto in the church choir and ultimately graduated from the University of Minnesota, Mankato with a degree in technical theater, where I met my husband Chris. We have one son, Ian, who is in fifth grade, and Tessie our beloved rescue dog. Some of my favorite hobbies include: crocheting, cooking, gardening, snowshoeing and the Minnesota Vikings. Before COVID, I

worked in an international theatrical touring company, Vstar Entertainment, for twenty years. It was a family entertainment division of Cirque Du Soleil. My job was in Costumes and Creatures, where I managed the Dye/Laundry department and ran the team in charge of cutting patterns and preparing projects. The company has since moved to Las Vegas. Presently, I am the caregiver to my nephew, Noah. I express my creative side as a sample/ pattern maker for crochet designers.

Some of the activities I took part in at New Life include: intermittently leading Sunday school, helping out in the nursery and pitching in with the Christmas programs. You may have also seen me unloading and selling pumpkins, directing traffic at the state fair park and ride and as a host for Project Home. I am looking forward to expanding my role at New Life and getting to know all of you better.

Emily Laizans (youth Ruling Elder candidate)

I've lived in the Twin Cities area all my life and have been going to NLPC with my mom for most of it. We volunteered with Project Home at the church for several years, and have helped out at the pumpkin patch a couple years too. I went through confirmation, which was a very cool experience, and am currently in the Youth Group. I haven't gone on a mission trip yet but I will be going this summer!

I'm currently a sophomore at Irondale (in New Brighton). I played JV soccer for 2 years and am hoping for Varsity

(Continued on page 6)

NLPC Ruling Elder Candidate Autobiographies

(Continued from page 5)

this fall, and I'm in the school orchestra. I also have had a food service job for about 10 months. Starting next year I'll really be working toward getting my associate's degree by high school graduation, but I want to continue to focus on things outside of school as well. I think the most important role of the church in general is to be accepting of new perspectives and being prepared to evolve to meet the needs of the community, particularly young people who may lead it in the future. I love New Life and would love to be a part of this evolution by being our Youth Elder.

Maria Schultz

My name is Maria Schultz. My husband, Adam, and children, Delia and Elliot have enjoyed being a part of New Life since 2010. We live in White Bear Lake and enjoy spending time outside as much as we can. We are trying to visit all of the Minnesota State Parks and have visited 23 since starting in 2019. I also enjoy reading books, photography and spending as much time as I can with friends and family. I have been working with kids since I was 16 years old and have been a special education teacher for the past 10 years.

I have been a part of a church family my entire life. I believe being part of a faith community is a huge part of our Christian journey. I have enjoyed being a part of New Life because of its commitment to the community, environment, diversity and the friendly smiles as you enter the building. I look forward to diving deeper in the life of the church and

helping out where I can.

Pam Hord

I was born in Alaska before it actually was a US state! My father was in the military. So, my childhood saw me moving often, also living in California and Alabama before settling in Minnesota.

I lived my professional career as a nurse ... in pediatrics and geriatrics, working in a nursing home for 20 years and currently doing in-home companion care.

I have been attending NLPC since around the time of the merger. You might have tasted some of my many baked goodies before or after Sunday service. I also help organize the nursery. I have participated in Park & Ride, Pumpkin Patch, Project Home, a Youth Group mission trip, and Care Coordinators. I previously served on Session as a Ruling Elder.

Margie Johns

I was born to Genevieve Varsnick and John Baker on 10/14/1933.

My mother and I moved to St Paul when I was 3, and we joined Knox when I was 4.

I was an elder at Knox before I transplanted to New Life Presbyterian Church. I have been an elder for New Life before and am excited to be an active elder once again.

I worked as a bookkeeper my whole life and retired from Midway Ford after 30 years.

I was married to Robert Gunter.

I have 2 children: Kenneth Gunter and

Joanne Mancha, and am blessed with 10 grandkids, 25 great grandkids and 1 great-great grandson.

I've been a square dancer for about 32 years. Some more of my hobbies are hiking and bowling, kayaking, archery, and horseback riding.

Fae Wilson

My husband, Roy, and I will celebrate our 47th wedding anniversary in October. We both grew up at Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church where we were married and our children, Andrea and Ben, were both baptized. We were active in the bell choir at Randolph Heights and later at Macalester-Plymouth United Church. We joined NLPC in 2019 after moving to Roseville in 2017.

I am a retired speech-language pathologist and worked for many years at the MN Veteran's Home-Mpls and also served as an editor of our state association newsletter for ten years. Roy and I are both active in the North Suburban Chorus and we love sharing our music with folks in senior living facilities around the metro area. I also enjoy spending time with family and friends, walking, hiking in the fall, reading and going to the theater.

NOTE: These candidates will be voted on at our Congregational Meeting on July 17th.

A Letter from Jed and Jenny Koball, serving in Peru

“...when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them...” Matthew 14:13-14

Dear friends,

We had each been asked to bring a handful of soil from the land we represent. When it was our turn to introduce ourselves, we were to say our name, the place we come from, and a hope we had for our time together, and then we were to add our handful of soil to a small mound in the center of our circle. There were about thirty of us in total, representing churches and indigenous communities from Mexico to Argentina. We were gathered in Lima for a weekend-long retreat of the Churches and Mining Network of Latin America – people of faith united in confronting the destructive impacts of the extractive industry. This was the first in-person gathering for most of us in over two years, so perhaps we should have anticipated that the 30 minutes we were given for this ritual of introductions would not suffice. Indeed, three hours later, the mound of soil was still growing.

What was clear was that each one of us had a story to tell. More precisely, each one of us had experiences to lament. After a long winter of social isolation, we needed someone

to hear what we had endured. For many, it was the loss of loved ones to COVID-19, often coupled with the anguish of not having access to health care, vaccines or even oxygen. For others, it was the economic strain to keep food on the table. And yet, for others, it was the violence that flooded the lands. Domestic violence. Social violence. Political violence. We learned that in Peru alone, over a dozen indigenous leaders had been assassinated during the pandemic because they never ceased in the defense of their lands from a mining industry that also never ceased in its destruction.

The world has been traumatized these past couple of years. Some for the first time. Others for the umpteenth time. The bad news continues to be relentless and leads many of us to escape and isolate. This is not necessarily wrong; in fact, it is what Jesus did. He escaped, if only for a while. Upon hearing the traumatizing news that his cousin John the Baptist had been killed and his head served on a platter to King Herod (Matt. 14:10-12) – the same king who tried to have Jesus himself killed as an infant (Matt. 2:16) – Jesus withdraws to a deserted place by himself. Like Jesus, sometimes we just need to be alone to begin the healing. But only for a while.

When the crowds followed him, Jesus did not run. He did not rage. He did not resent. From

his place of suffering, he saw the pain and trauma in others, and he embraced them. He had compassion for them. And he fed them—all five thousand plus (Matt. 14:21).

I confess that I have wrestled with and harbored much anger and resentment these past two years. In the early weeks of the pandemic, I actually felt a sense of solidarity because across the world; we were all learning to cope together. Even when it became quickly apparent that many were going hungry because of a paralyzed economy and others were suffering because of a depleted health system, I still felt hopeful and impassioned by those who rallied to help start community kitchens and fundraise to buy oxygen tanks. But, I started to become bitter by the end of the first year, when vaccines became available in the northern hemisphere while much of the global south had none. Jenny and I lost over two dozen friends and colleagues to COVID-19, many of whom I believe would not have died had they had access to vaccines in time. The bitterness only seemed to grow over the following year as not all nations appeared to be taking the pandemic with the same seriousness. So many seemed ready to forget it ever happened.

And yet, we do need to move forward. We cannot live in isolation and separation forever. We need to come

(Continued on page 8)

A Letter from Jed and Jenny Koball, serving in Peru

(Continued from page 7)

together, physically, spiritually, and with purpose, lest the bitterness destroy us in ways that no virus or violence could ever do. We need to do as Jesus showed us. From our places of pain, Jesus invites us to see the pain of others and to have compassion on them. This is the way forward – the only way forward that will sustain our life together on this one Earth we share.

When it was my turn to introduce myself, I did not have a handful of soil to place on the mound. I explained that

I did not know what soil to bring because I am not from this place and that it would feel colonialist to claim it as my own. My sentiments were appreciated in the moment, but after our time in the circle came to an end, an indigenous woman from the Amazon approached me and said, “No one can claim the land as our own. The land claims us. We merely proclaim our intention to live in harmony with the Earth and with one another, wherever we find ourselves.” And then she invited me to place my hand in the soil as if to say, you are where God wants you to be.

I realized that underneath the bitterness I was harboring was guilt: guilt that perhaps I am not where I should be nor doing what I need to be. Such thoughts can fester and deepen wounds when we spend too much time alone. The healing can only continue when we create sacred space for telling our truths and listening prayerfully to the truths of others. Like the masses who followed Jesus, we are fed by the grace we find in one another.

With deep gratitude for the grace, I know in you,

Jed (and on behalf of Jenny)



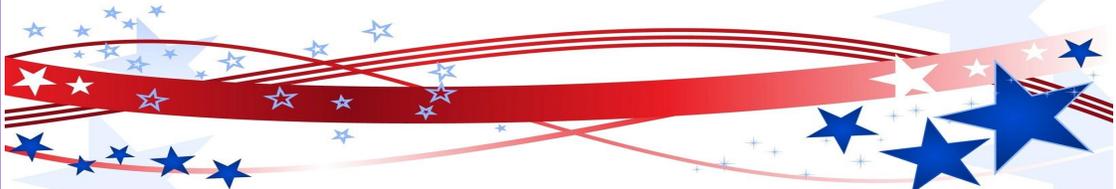
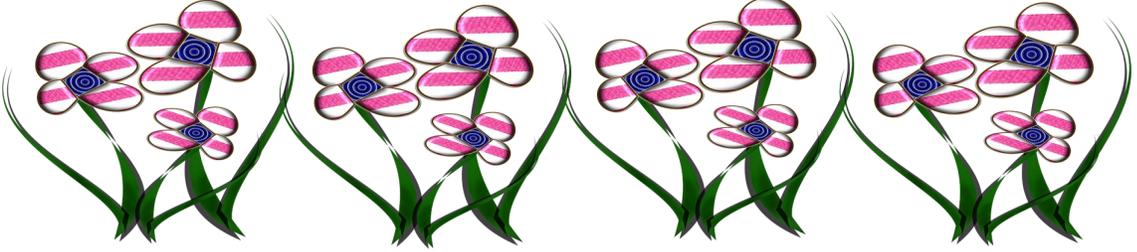
Jed and Jenny are our mission partners in Peru. We support them with our prayers, our communications, and with our gifts.

Jed.koball@pcusa.org or
jenny.valles@pcusa.org

Or give [here](#).



July 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 2p GFANC Board Meeting
					3 10a Worship 10:30a KCOC Worship 11a Fellowship 11:30a GFANC Worship 1p FOLFC Worship 5p Firing Line AA	4  Independence Day
10 10a Worship 10:30a KCOC Worship 11a Fellowship 11:30a GFANC Worship 1p FOLFC Worship 5p Firing Line AA	11 12p E-notes Items due	12 9:15a TOPS 11:30a Staff Meeting 1p Former Dementia Caregivers	13 9a Quilters 9a Men's Breakfast 10:45 Meals on Wheels 7p Personnel	14 E-NOTES DAY 4p Worship Prep 5p C&W 5:30p B&G 6p GFANC Prayer Meeting 6:30p Big Book AA	15 NEW LIFE NEWS ARTICLES DUE!	16 2p GFANC Board Meeting
17 10a Worship 10:30a KCOC Worship 11a CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 11:30a GFANC Worship 1p FOLFC Worship 5p Firing Line AA	18	19 9:15a TOPS 11:30a Staff Meeting	20 9a Quilters 12p Fair Trade 1p-3p Foodmobile	21 4p Worship Prep 6p GFANC Prayer Meeting 6:30p Big Book AA	22	23
24 10a Worship 10:30a KCOC Worship 11a Fellowship 11:30a GFANC Worship 1p FOLFC Worship 5p Firing Line AA	25 12p E-notes Items due	26 9:15a TOPS 1p Former Dementia Caregivers 6:30p Session	27 9a Quilters 9a Men's Breakfast	28 E-NOTES DAY 4p Worship Prep 6p GFANC Prayer Meeting 6:30p Big Book AA	29	30 2p GFANC Board Meeting
31 FIFTH SUNDAY 10a Worship 10:30a KCOC Worship 11a Community Potluck 11:30a GFANC Worship 1p FOLFC Worship 5p Firing Line AA						

BUILDING PARTNERS: FOLFC = Foundation of Life Faith Community, GFANC = Gospel for All Nations Church, KCOC = Kenyan Christian Outreach Church

Contact Information

Ministers: New Life Congregation
Minister of Word & Sacrament:
 Riz Prakasim, ext 211 (Sabbath Mondays)
riz@newlifechurchroseville.org
Business Administrator:
 Michelle Kozitza, ext 220
michelle@newlifechurchroseville.org
Director of Music Ministry:
 Coming soon...
Administrative Assistant:
 Deb Griffin, ext 210
deb@newlifechurchroseville.org
Communications Collaborator:
 Pam Schoon
communications@newlifechurchroseville.org
Custodian: Geoffrey Sargent
geoffrey@newlifechurchroseville.org
Church Phone Number: 651.488.5581

2021-22 Church Leadership

Building & Grounds: Kim Spear
Celebration & Worship: Sara Drake
Church & Society: AD Dickson
Community Garden: Open
Congregational Care: Joanne Kallstrom
Finance: John Kachel
Membership & Growth: Tom Carlson
Nominating: John Bootier
Personnel: Melinda Maurey
I.T.: Andy Ihlenfeldt

Operating Fund—May update

So far this year income has exceeded expenses by \$7,000. That is better than what was expected but it is about \$9,000 less than April’s year-to-date results. We have many expenses to pay in the final three months so it is very important to keep contributions coming.

July Birthdays

1st— James Casterlin	11th— Aiden Smith	25th— Kirk Buckley, Sue Severiano
6th— Burt Griffin	12th— Grace Barnes, Barbara Ritter	26th— Chris Cacek
7th— Lee Brotherton, Anne-Jean Rust	16th— Javier Van Dyke	27th— Lizzy Kachel, Kyra Rust
	17th— Della Schultz	28th— Charles Baumann
	19th— Anita McLaughlin	29th— Jym Hubbell
	23rd— James Sargent	30th— Ian Cacek
	24th— Pamala Hord, Paul Ihlenfeldt	31st— Amy Schmidt



If your July birthday is missing from this list, our apologies. Please let Deb in the church office know so we can include you next time. (deb@newlifechurchroseville.org or 651-488-5581 ext. 210)