



The Vine

New Life Lutheran Church Newsletter

May 2026



May 2026

From Christ in our Home

Friday May 1

John 14:8-14

New Life 75



Philip and James, Apostles

**Jesus said...., “Have I been with you all this time, Philip,
and you still do not know me?” (v,9)**

Philip had been with Jesus from the beginning of his ministry. Originally a follower of John the Baptist, he was called by Jesus to follow him. And he did. Then Philip urged Nathanael to “come and see” the one they had been waiting for (John 1:45-46). Philip was present at the wedding in Cana of Galilee, and he witnessed the miracle of the feeding of the five thousand. No wonder Jesus asked Philip the hard question we read today.

The apostles give me hope. They reveal themselves as imperfect humans, yet Jesus never gives up on them. And Jesus never gives up on us. I’m sure I’ve exasperated Jesus with my questions, doubts, and struggles. Yet Jesus continues to love me into who I am in God’s eyes.

Though he questions Philip, Jesus keeps proclaiming the good news; He says those who trust him will do even greater works than he does. Along our way, Jesus welcomes us, reveals what grace-filled life is, and shows us what God can do.

**Lord Jesus, thank you for loving me
beyond my faults. Amen.**

Prayer concern: People who struggle to believe

Isaiah 30:18-21; Psalm 44:1-3, 20-26; Corinthians 4:1-6

<u>Offerings Year To Date 2026</u>	
Apr. offerings were	\$4,543
Apr. offerings budgeted	\$5,833
Amt. of offerings received (Jan.-Apr. 2026)	\$19,463
Amt. of offerings budgeted (Jan.-Apr. 2026)	\$23,333

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Fellowship Snack Providers –May

We are using the following schedule for fellowship snack providers .

Last name s beginning with the following letters will be asked to provide snacks:

May	Sign Up Sheet
June	A-D
July	E-K
August	L-P



Taizé Community Prayer Service

God's People Pray for Peace



The Second Sunday of Every Month
4:00 pm

Florence United Methodist Church
333 Kingwood
Florence

Pentecost—May 24th

Pentecost Sunday in the Lutheran tradition is a major festival celebrated 50 days after Easter, marking the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples (Acts 2) and considered the "birthday of the Church." It signifies the empowerment of believers to proclaim the Gospel and the fulfillment of Jesus' promise to send a Counselor.

Key Aspects of Pentecost for Lutherans:

- **The Coming of the Holy Spirit:** It commemorates the Holy Spirit giving the disciples strength and ability to share the Gospel in different languages, marking the beginning of the church's mission.
- **Completion of Easter:** It acts as the conclusion of the 50-day Easter season, highlighting the transition from Christ's resurrection to the work of the Church on earth.
- **Renewal and Mission:** It is seen as a time of spiritual renewal, highlighting the Spirit's ongoing work in calling and gathering believers through the Gospel and Sacraments.

Liturgical Significance: Red is the liturgical color, symbolizing the tongues of fire.

Lutheran vs. Pentecostal Perspectives:

While both traditions celebrate the day, Lutherans focus more on the Holy Spirit's role in creating faith and delivering the forgiveness of sins, rather than an emphasis on specific spiritual experiences or gifts.



NLLC Church Council Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2026

Called to Order: President Roy Hager called to order at approximately 1:00 pm. Members present were President Roy Hager, V.P. Dave Braley, Dianna Barry, Don Stewart, Carrie Aburto. Bryant Payne via video link.

Opening devotions led by Roy Hager.

Minutes: Minutes for March 19, 2026, were approved. Don S. moved, Dave B. 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasures Report: Was presented by Bryant Payne. Moved to file report. Don S. reported on the West Lane Community Foundation end December balance of \$100,148.87.

Pastor's Report: N/A

President's Report: Roy discussed the sad state of JNLLC grounds and landscaping. Suggested that someone volunteer to clean up the ground or that we hire an outside company. Lawnmower is in process of being repaired. Dianna inquired about NLLC vs. Food Share property lines for landscaping responsibility.

Old Business: Call Committee: Rev. Eppelsheimer cancelled scheduled meeting due to Cathy being unavailable to set up video conference. Dave will ask him to send an e-mail summarizing the situation. **Constitution:** was reviewed by Synod and returned for cleanup of minor clerical issues. Dave and Bryant will work on finishing it up when Bryant returns.

New Business: The Oregon Synod Assembly Convention Roy asked for volunteer(s) to attend the convention remotely, i.e. at church. Registration must be completed by April 30. **Xerox machine:** Decision needs to be made on whether to renew the lease on current machine or to purchase a new one. Parts will no longer be available for the current machine after this year. No decision was made at the meeting but asked Cathy to get information and costs what the company is offering.

Council Accepted: Roy's resignation as president. Roy's impending move to Colorado has necessitated Roy's resignation. Effective immediately. He agreed to remain on the Council until he moves. Discussion was held on possible new council members from within NLLC members. After discussion, Don Stewart moved to name Dave Braley council president. Carrie seconded the motion and the council approved. Roy Hager moved to name don Stewart as council VP, Dianna Barry seconded the motion and the council approved. **Lord's Prayer:** Don brought up that a few NLLC members have mentioned that they would like NLLC to omit the New Zealand version and use the standard version of the Lord's Prayer only. No vote was taken.

Next meeting: May 21, 2026, at 1:00 pm

Adjourned with the Lord's prayer (std version) at 2:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie Aburto,

Secretary Pro-Tem



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Thank
You!
Rev.
Dave
Brauer-
Rieke!



Welcome New Members; Jennifer, Judy, Deb & Andrew!