

OUR MISSION: To grow a loving community, equipped to take the message of Jesus to our world.



Welcome to Living Life Church Firth, Nebraska April 27, 2025

We Continue to Pray for Thelma Schroeder, Valerie Bonnema, Deborah Sikyta, Brad Bartek, Merritt Koehn, Cheryl Cramer, Cheryl Gouldin, and Mike Brown. Thank you for the Prayers!

Pray for our future elders and deacons as they go through the nomination process.

Congratulations to Nikki & Brandon Oltman on the birth of Audrey Marie, born Tuesday, April 22! Nikki & Audrey are doing well, and we are thankful for God's miracles! Congratulations also to the grandparents, Suzie & Dave Oltman.

Church Pews for Sale

We have 4 pews for sale! They are located in the fellowship hall, connection area, and hallway by the youth room. Please contact any deacon if you are interested or email beth.sieck@livinglifechurch.net. Thanks!

Sunday School Volunteers

We need volunteers for the summer! Please contact Kathy Atterbury by email at kids@livinglifechurch.net if you would like to volunteer or have questions! An email has been sent for sign-up. Thanks!



Connect Information

You will have normal youth group meetings, 6:30- 8:00pm, through the end of April. We will provide a snack for the students, but we will not be providing a meal. Please let Pastor James know if you have any questions at james.wilson@livinglifechurch.net.

Upcoming Events

May 26 to 31—Summer Camp

June 17—Worlds of Fun

July 22—Putt-Putt

Summer Bible Study- (June 2, 16, 30: July 7, 21) in the Youth Room
11am to 1pm with a meal provided

SAVE THE DATE

Vacation Bible School at Living Life Church June 23 to June 25

Supper for the staff and families attending VBS will start at 5:30pm
VBS from 6:30 to 8:20
Please register with the link

<https://9swwidku364.typeform.com/to/mwmaGGo6>

More details to come closer to the date!

If you have any questions regarding VBS or would like to volunteer to help, please call Barb Nelson at 402-821-8264 or email the church office at beth.sieck@livinglifechurch.net. We hope to see you & your kids at this fun event!

Refit Class

**Living Life Church
603 Russell Street
Firth NE 68358**

**Offering Classes Twice a Week
Monday 6pm
Wednesday 9am**

**Instructor: Tiffany Crawford
RefitwithTiffany@gmail.com
Facebook: @refitwithtiffanynye**

Membership

Would you like to become a member of LLC? If you are interested, please go to www.livinglifechurch.net, under next steps and click on becoming a member! If you have any questions, please contact Beth Sieck.

Sunday Morning Prayers!

The elders are excited to announce that a prayer room will be available on Sunday mornings before or after service. The room is located by the east doors. If you are interested in being part of the prayer team, please get in touch with Rick DeBoer.


Meal Train Tiffany Mom

<https://mealtrain.com/v25q2y>

Follow the link provided above to the meal train. If you need help navigating the meal train website, or getting access to the web, please reach out to Kris Taylor at 402-560-9720, and she would be glad to sign you up.


Tiffany is at church on Monday evenings and Wednesday mornings for Refit and would be glad to deliver any meals left in the freezer or frig to her parents. Just let Tiffany or myself know if you are going to leave a meal at the church.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and care.

<p align="center"><u>Sunday Worship Nursery</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Babies through 3-year-olds who are not yet ready for Kids Church. • Always staffed with 2 adults or an adult/high schooler combo. • Join our volunteer rotation! Contact Beth: beth.sieck@livinglifechurch.net • A changing table and a nursing place for moms are also available. • A great place to bring your child so you and others can focus on the morning message. 	<p align="center"><u>Sunday Kids Church</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-5 Year-olds (potty trained) who are in Preschool & Kindergarten) Room 18 • Grade 1st to 4th Grade -Room 5&6 • Check out the Resource table in the Fellowship Hall! • Please pick your child up from room 5 or 18 at the end of worship. Lesson plans & special activities or crafts are provided each week for you 	<p align="center"><u>Kid's Church</u></p> <p>If you want to volunteer or have questions, please email Kathy with the email below. If we get enough volunteers, you will only have to teach once a month!</p> <p align="center">Kathy Email: kids@livinglifechurch.net</p> 
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Join us for Baptism Sunday on June 1! Baptism is your opportunity to publicly declare your faith in Jesus. If you've never been baptized and want to take this meaningful step, sign up on our website today! Have questions? Our pastors would love to connect with you and guide you through this exciting journey.



SHOEBOX MISSION PROJECT

Thank you for all the personal care items; we met our goal of 100 combs/hairbrushes! To date, we have collected 68 of the 100 small stuffed animals!

APRIL we are collecting **games** for the shoebox mission project. Suggestions of items needed are: Uno, Farkle, Tic Tac Toe, Memory, Matching, Old Maid, Dominos, Cards, Dice games, etc. You may have more ideas that would fit in the shoebox. Just a reminder that no liquids can be put in the boxes.

If you have questions, please talk to Lisa Toelle or Barb Nelson.

GIVING OPTIONS!

Please continue to give so LLC's vision and ministries can continue. There are numerous ways to give including...

- **Sunday Morning Offerings:** For special mission gifts, please note the mission's name on the memo line.
- **Automatic Withdrawal** from your bank account. Contact Barb Nelson (402-821-8264) for an ACH form.
- **Online Giving** through our church website livinglifereformed.churchcenter.com/giving or the QR code→.
- **Text to Give** any dollar amount to "84321."



For more information about online or text giving, contact any deacon.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sun, April 27	9:30am	Morning Worship/Sunday School
	11:00am	Financial Peace University Class
		Life Group
Mon, April 28	6:00pm	Refit Class
Tue, April 29	6:30pm	Prayer Meeting
Wed, April 30	9:00am	Refit Class
	6:30am	Connect Group
		Men's Bible Study
Fri, May 2	6:00am	Men's Group (Youth Room)
Sun, May 4	9:30am	Morning Worship/Sunday School
	11:00am	Financial Peace University Class
		Life Group

Sunday Volunteers

	April 27	May 4
Greeter:	Mel & Karen Harms	Need a Greeter
Coffee:	Corey & Kelcey M	Dani & Luke Rasser
Nursery:	Sara B & Sarah W	Anna A & Rachel S
Kids Church:	Brenda R & Jenna B	Dani R & Renee C

Contact the church office to join our volunteers!



Church Phone: 402-791-5800
 Email: beth.sieck@livinglifechurch.net
 Website: www.livinglifechurch.net



MAY NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the last Sunday of April! Please read through the newsletter to see the birthdays & anniversaries, our church event calendar, and information about special events. Copies of the monthly Church Board minutes are available on the church website or contact Beth Sieck in the church office.

Birthdays

- 2 Mary Jean TeKolste
- 3 Brad Bartek
Cheryl Gouldin
- 4 Allan Docter
- 6 Landon Crawford
- 7 Josh Gillett
- 8 Adeline Brock
- 11 Yvonne TeKolste
- 12 Doug Nieveen
- 14 Ashton Henderson
- 15 Deb Docter
- 17 Haley Gillett
- 19 Morgan Bartek
- 21 Judy Koehn
Phyllis Johnson
- 23 Everson Walvoord
- 25 Dan Rice
Lloyd Prange
- 26 Nash Whalen
- 29 Edward Dorn
Dustin McAllister
- 30 Grant Gouldin
- 31 Lynn Gana

Anniversaries

- 4 Steve & Jenn Childers (24)
- 5 Ken & Sarah Walls (18)
- 25 Doug & Tammy Goering (34)

Sunday Morning

9:30-10:30am:

Worship Service &
Livestream on YouTube

To Contact Us:

Please call before coming over to be sure the office is open.

Church Office Hours: 9am-12pm

Need to get ahold of our Pastors?
Email or call the office and leave a message with Beth.

Pastor Nat Crawford
nat.crawford@livinglifechurch.net

Pastor James Wilson
James.wilson@livinglifechurch.net

Worship & Associate Pastor Donald Adams
Donald.adams@livinglifechurch.net

CALENDAR OF EVENTS – May

Mondays	6:00pm	Refit Class
Tuesdays	6:30pm	Prayer Group
Wednesdays	9:00am	Refit Class
Fridays	6:30am	Men's Group at LLC
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Sun, May 11		Happy Mother's Day
	10:45am	Family Meeting after worship
	7:00pm	Afterglow Bible Study
Mon, May 12	1:00pm	"IF" Meeting
Tue, May 13	6:30pm	Church Board Meeting
Wed, May 14	1:00pm	Mary & Martha Circle
Sun, May 18	9:30am	Recognize Seniors during Worship
	11:00am	Meet the Candidates
Wed, May 21		Last Day of School at Norris
Sun, May 25	9:30am	Communion
Mon, May 26		Memorial Day! Office Closed

Connect

Wednesday Youth Group

We are finishing our study of 1-2 Samuel, studying the life of David, on Wednesday evenings. The students have been learning of the importance of obedience to the Lord, living humbly, finishing well, and how sin quickly develops into more sin and impacts everyone around us if we don't deal with it quickly. Our last Wednesday night for the school year will be April 30.

Bonfire

On April 2, the youth met at the Wieskamps for a bonfire. It was an excellent evening of fellowship and fun among the students and leaders.

Summer Activities

Camp--Please be in prayer for our students as they head to Estes Park for our summer camp. We will be studying from Ephesians, looking at the way the Gospel should impact our everyday lives. Camp is May 26-31. Camps are a great opportunity for students to step away from the norm, seek the Lord, and grow in relationship with other students as we have plenty of activities to enjoy together. Parents, please register your 6th-12th grade students soon, as registration closes on Sunday, May 18. Registration and more information can be found on the events page of the church website.

Worlds of Fun--Tuesday, June 17. Cost is \$45. Registration and more information can be found on the event page of the church website.

Summer Bible Study--Over the summer, we will be meeting for a Bible Study, followed by lunch and fellowship time. We will meet from 11am-1pm in the Youth Room on June 2, 16, 30 and July 7, & 21. We hope your students can make it as this is a great time to get into the Word and grow in relationships with one another.

Branson Bus Trips!

Our church is hosting a bus trip to Branson, MO, this year! November 5-8 Information packets are available by the pastor pictures. If you have questions, please see Linda DeBoer or Ilene Docter soon.

Church Items Use

It's time for graduation parties! There are a very limited number of tables & chairs available for use for our church family. If you need to borrow some for your event, please contact the church office so we can keep track of our inventory. Please check before using any equipment!!

Sunday Volunteers

May 4:

Greeters: **Need a Greeter**

Coffee: Dani & Luke Rasser

Nursery: Anna Adams & Rachel Smith

Kids Church: Dani R & Renee C

May 11: (Mother's Day)

Greeters: **Need a Greeter**

Coffee: Angie & Jason Barber

Nursery: Sam & Ashton Henderson

Kids Church: Sandy N & DeAnn W

May 18:

Greeters: **Need a Greeter**

Coffee: Dale & Kris Taylor

Nursery: Beth Sieck & Helper

Kids Church: Sarah W & Haley G

May 25: (Memorial Weekend)

Greeters: Linda DeBoer

Coffee: Corey & Kelcey Melgaard

Nursery: Sara B & Sarah Bartek

Kids Church: Brenda R & Jenna B

Mowing Schedule

April 27- May 10: Doug N & Tony N

May 11-May 24: Mark T & Rick D

May 25-June 7: Matthew & Randy S

Thank you for all your Service!!

SHOEBOX MISSION PROJECT

Thank you for all the donations to date!

To date, we have collected 88 of the 100 small stuffed animals!

May we are going to continue collecting games and WOW items for the shoebox mission project.

Suggestions of items needed are: Uno, Farkle, Tic Tac Toe, Memory, Matching, Old Maid, Dominos, Cards, Dice games, etc.

You may have more ideas that would fit in the shoebox. In addition we are collecting water bottles, plastic bowls.

Just a reminder that no liquids can be put in the boxes.

Greetings from the Church Board,

Our annual congregational meeting is fast approaching—**June 8, 2025.**

We ask that you be in prayer as we prepare for this important time together. Below is a list of key topics we'll be discussing during the meeting:

1. Future Vision: Where is God leading Living Life Church?

"Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established." (Proverbs 16:3 ESV)

This verse reminds us that when our plans align with God's will, He brings clarity and direction.

Consider these guiding questions as you pray:

- Who is God bringing through our doors?
- What needs do they have?
- How can we best minister to them?

2. Electing Leaders:

We will be voting on new leadership for the Church Board.

Please pray:

- For clarity as we discern who God is calling to lead LLC into the future.
- That those chosen will be equipped to lead according to God's Word.
- For wisdom and protection as these individuals step into leadership roles.

3. Approving the Budget:

Living Life Church has consistently met every financial responsibility through your generosity and faithfulness. The Church Board has spent considerable time preparing and refining the **2025–2026 budget**. We will present the proposed budget at the **May 11 Family Meeting** for your review.

Please take time to review it and bring any questions to one of our two listening sessions after service on May 18 or June 1.

4. By-law Revisions:

After transitioning from the Reformed Church in America and operating under new by-laws for the past six months, we've identified a few minor adjustments that need to be made. These proposed changes will be made available for your review prior to the congregational meeting.

Living Life Church has made some bold moves to stay true to God's Word and remain effective in growing His Kingdom—changing denominations, hiring three pastors, and investing in missions. As a board, we are confident that we've sought God's will in each of these decisions. We invite you to continue praying with us as we navigate the challenges and opportunities that come with growth and change.

A Final Word from the Board:

As we seek to meet the growing needs of our community, there will be an ongoing need for helping hands. Please prayerfully consider how God has gifted you and how you can use those gifts to serve at LLC.

If you're unsure where to start, talk to an elder, deacon, or pastor—we'd love to help you find a place to serve in an area you're passionate about.

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." (1 Peter 4:10 ESV)

Thank you for your continued faithfulness and support.

In His service,

The Church Board

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE

Corbon Carlow graduated from Norris High School in December 2024. He is currently working at Duncan Aviation and taking private pilot lessons. He wants to become a commercial pilot. He is the son of Cody Carlow and Brenda Brock.

COLLEGE GRADUATE

Avery Morrison will graduate from the University of Nebraska-Omaha on May 16 with an Elementary & Special Education Degree. She accepted a position as a Special Education teacher next year at Sunset Elementary School in the Omaha Westside School District. She is the daughter of Jeff and Kris Morrison.

Pastor Nat's Article

Protecting the Flock—Spiritually and Physically

One of the responsibilities God gives His people—especially pastors, elders, and ministry leaders—is to protect the flock. It's not just a good idea. It's a biblical mandate. And that protection isn't limited to the spiritual realm. It extends to the physical, too.

Throughout Scripture, we see God holding leaders accountable for how they care for His people. In Acts 20:28–29, the apostle Paul gives this charge: *“Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock”* (ESV).

Paul isn't talking about literal wolves. He's referring to false teachers, divisive voices, and spiritual influences that can creep into a church and slowly pull people away from Christ. That's why spiritual protection matters. Leaders must be rooted in sound doctrine, anchored in Scripture, and alert to anything that threatens the unity and purity of the gospel. But this calling doesn't stop at theology.

Jesus said in John 10:11, *“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep”* (ESV). A true shepherd doesn't just feed the sheep—he defends them. He stands between the flock and danger, doing what it takes to keep them safe.

For us, that includes creating a church environment where people not only grow spiritually but also feel physically secure. That means having safety protocols, trained volunteers, secure kids' areas, and a team ready to respond if a crisis ever arises. It's not about being paranoid. It's about being prepared.

As shepherds under Christ, we're not driven by fear—we're driven by faithfulness. Protecting the flock is one of the most loving and responsible things we can do. It's how we reflect the heart of our Good Shepherd.

And this isn't just a job for pastors or security teams. Every member of the church plays a part in this. Whether you're a greeter, a small group leader, a parent, or just someone who loves this church—your awareness, your prayers, your willingness to step in and help all matter.

Let's be a church that doesn't ignore the world we live in. Let's be wise, discerning, and intentional—caring for both the hearts and bodies of the people God has entrusted to us. Because when we protect the flock—spiritually and physically—we make space for people to worship freely, grow deeply, and experience the love of Jesus more fully.

That's the kind of church that brings God glory. And that's the kind of church we're committed to being.

~Pastor Nat