



newlife

NEW LIFE FAMILY SERVICES | SPRING 2023

BUILDING A
Legacy For Life





DEAR FRIENDS

New Life Family Services is celebrating our 50th anniversary! I am so thankful for God's faithfulness in sustaining our ministry from our humble beginnings as New Life Homes to where we are today.

God has truly transformed and grown New Life in ways we never could have imagined. What was once a small group of families opening their homes to women experiencing unplanned pregnancies is now a far-reaching network of pregnancy, parenting, adoption, and post-abortion services.

We stand on the shoulders of those before us who recognized the need for life-affirming services and took action to offer those services to women, men, and families in need. We give God all the glory, and we trust that He will continue to sustain us as we seek to do His work for the next 50 years and beyond. Even amidst unexpected challenges like the recent vandalism attack at our First Care center in the Phillips neighborhood of Minneapolis, we trust that God has a plan and will continue to work all things for good.

Finally, I want to express my profound gratitude to each of you for being a part of New Life Family Services—whether you hosted women when we were still New Life Homes or just began supporting our ministry this year. Every dollar, volunteer hour, and material donation that you have so generously given has contributed to the hundreds of thousands of lives changed by our services over the past 50 years.



In Christ,

Tammy Kocher

Tammy Kocher
Executive Director
New Life Family Services



P.S. We invite you and your family to our annual Walk for Life this June, where we are having a 50th birthday party. Also, save the date for our gala on October 28, featuring Tim Tebow!

OUR MISSION

To honor the sanctity of human life by assisting clients with life-affirming decisions with the love and compassion of Christ

OUR VISION

To one day reach all abortion-minded and abortion-vulnerable individuals throughout Minnesota with comprehensive pregnancy-related services and the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ

OUR LOCATIONS

MINNEAPOLIS

2015 Chicago Ave S
Minneapolis, MN 55404

ST PAUL

2109 Old Hudson Rd
St Paul, MN 55119

RICHFIELD

6517 Nicollet Ave
Richfield, MN 55423

UNIVERSITY

2900 University Ave SE
Minneapolis, MN 55414

ROCHESTER

40 16th St SE
Rochester, MN 55904

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

1515 East 66th St
Richfield, MN 55423

VANDALISM, PROTESTS, AND THE Grace of God

BY TAMMY KOCHER

As you may know, our First Care center in the Phillips community of Minneapolis was badly vandalized in early March. The vandals left several marks of threatening graffiti alongside seven broken windows. The police responded quickly and shared that this event was considered domestic terrorism according to the FACE act that protects centers like ours.

Coincidentally, there was also a planned protest later that day. The protestors' chief complaint was opposing state funding for pregnancy centers. They admitted they knew we do not receive state funding, yet they protested in front of our building anyway.

Recently, I was reading in Genesis about the story of Joseph, as I have done many times before. When I got to Genesis 45, where Joseph finally reveals himself to his brothers, I began to weep. It is a pivotal moment when God reveals that His plans have prevailed despite the harm Joseph's brothers intended.

I realized that this type of holy clarity often comes through challenges, interrupted plans, and gritty perseverance. At this moment in Joseph's life, God brought it all into focus, and the heartache Joseph had felt dissipated.

I had a similar moment recently when I was praying in our Phillips center just hours after the vandalism had occurred. While I was praying, God brought to my mind all the ups and downs of our journey to this building and to the Phillips community.

I thought of the bullet that went through one of our windows during construction. That bullet inspired us to invest in protective window film, which prevented the people who shattered our windows in March from breaking through and doing even more damage inside.

I was also reminded that we were literally surrounded by and standing on the word of God; during construction, we had written Scripture all over the walls and floor of our center. We had intended it to be a symbolic safe haven for our clients, but I never knew until that moment how valuable and encouraging it would be to see it as a protection over our building.

As disheartening as this attack has been, it has shown us God's protection and providence in many ways. God takes what the enemy meant for evil and transforms it for good. Just as God sustained our ten-year journey to build and move into our center in Phillips, we know that He still has a plan and purpose for us here.

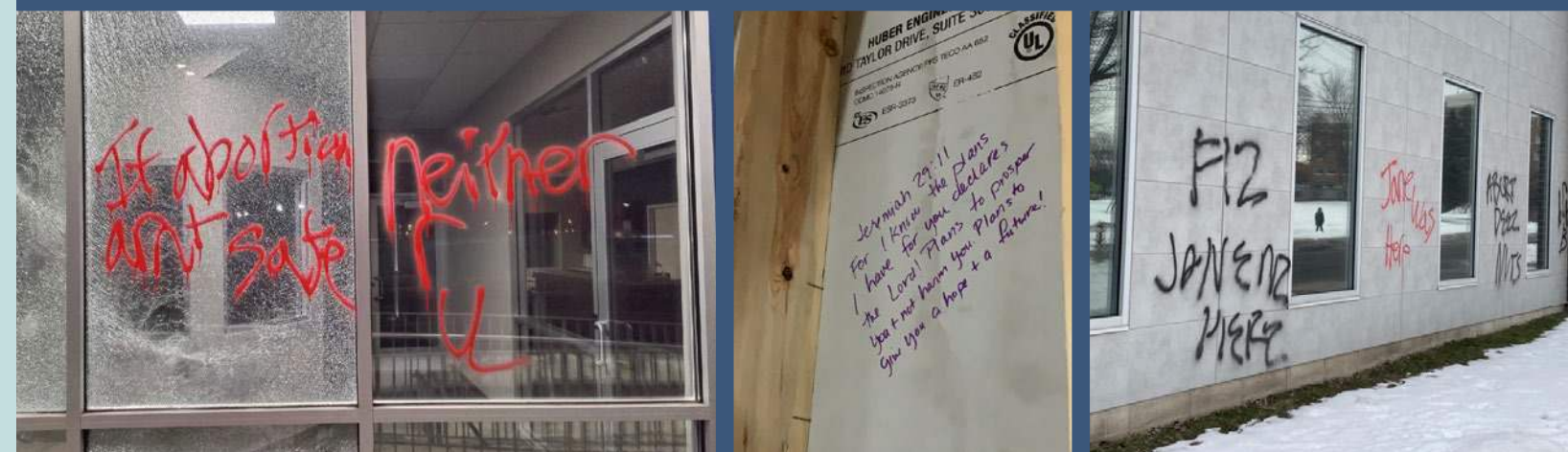
As always, we are committed to the communities in which we serve, and more importantly, we are committed to our clients. Looking ahead, we would greatly appreciate your ongoing support in three ways:

PRAYER Join us in praying for our clients, staff, and even for those who oppose our work.

MATERIAL DONATIONS Our clients come first, and we know that attacks like the one in March directly affect them. To see a full list of needed items that directly serve our clients, visit page 12.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT Any financial support you feel led to give during this time would be greatly appreciated and will go directly toward increased support and services for our clients.

I cannot thank you enough for your continued prayers and encouragement. I am full of hope for the future and trust in God's promises to use this unexpected event for His good.



LOOKING BACK
OVER THE LAST

Fifty Years



1973

New Life Homes is established as a ministry of GMAE (now Transform Minnesota) to provide Christian group homes for "troubled youth," including those experiencing unplanned pregnancies.



1980

New Life is licensed to provide adoption and foster care services.



1986

Conquerors (a support group for men and women who have experienced abortion) is launched.



1990

New Life Homes is renamed as New Life Family Services.



2000

New Life adds medical services and begins offering ultrasounds to clients.



2011

Ultrasound technology is upgraded in the offices to 3D/4D machines.



2012

"Vision 2015," a three-year strategic plan that includes relocating several offices and the vision for a new urban location, is launched.



2013

New Life begins offering comprehensive STD testing and treatment. New Life Adoptions facilitates its first embryo adoption.



2019

Property is purchased in the Phillips community of Minneapolis for a new First Care center. Our Every Family parenting program is rebranded and expanded.



2022

Our fifth First Care center, located in the Phillips community of Minneapolis, opens.

2023 New Life celebrates **50** years!

The Conquerors program, launched in 1986, has helped over **800 women and men** find healing from their abortion experiences.

Since New Life became a licensed adoption and foster care agency in 1980, we have facilitated **over 830 adoptions** — serving birth parents and adoptive families throughout the entire process.

Throughout the past several decades, our parenting program has given away over **4 million diapers** to families in need.

Approximately **9,000 mothers** have bonded with their babies through ultrasound at New Life.

Over the years, **hundreds of thousands of women, men, and children** have been touched by New Life.



NEW LIFE IS
HIRING

Medical Sonographer (RDMS), Client Care Nurses,
Social Workers, Bilingual/Spanish Client Care Advocate

Are you or someone you know
eager to join New Life?



Scan QR Code to learn how!

BOB AND NANCY: *A Living Legacy*

1 COUPLE 10 YEARS 12 YOUNG WOMEN 3 ADOPTION PLACEMENTS
10 BIRTHS 3 GRANDCHILDREN 3 GENERATIONS OF HOPE



In 1973, New Life Homes was founded in response to the initial Roe v. Wade ruling. The heart behind New Life Homes was to provide safe homes for women experiencing unplanned pregnancies, especially those who were also facing financial difficulties or abusive relationships. Over the years, the mission of New Life Homes has grown to encompass a comprehensive network of pregnancy and parenting care, adoption services, and post-abortion support now known as New Life Family Services.

We are grateful for our roots as an organization and want to share with you the story of one couple, **BOB AND NANCY**, who hosted 12 women through New Life Homes over the span of 10 years. *(Story continued on following pages)*

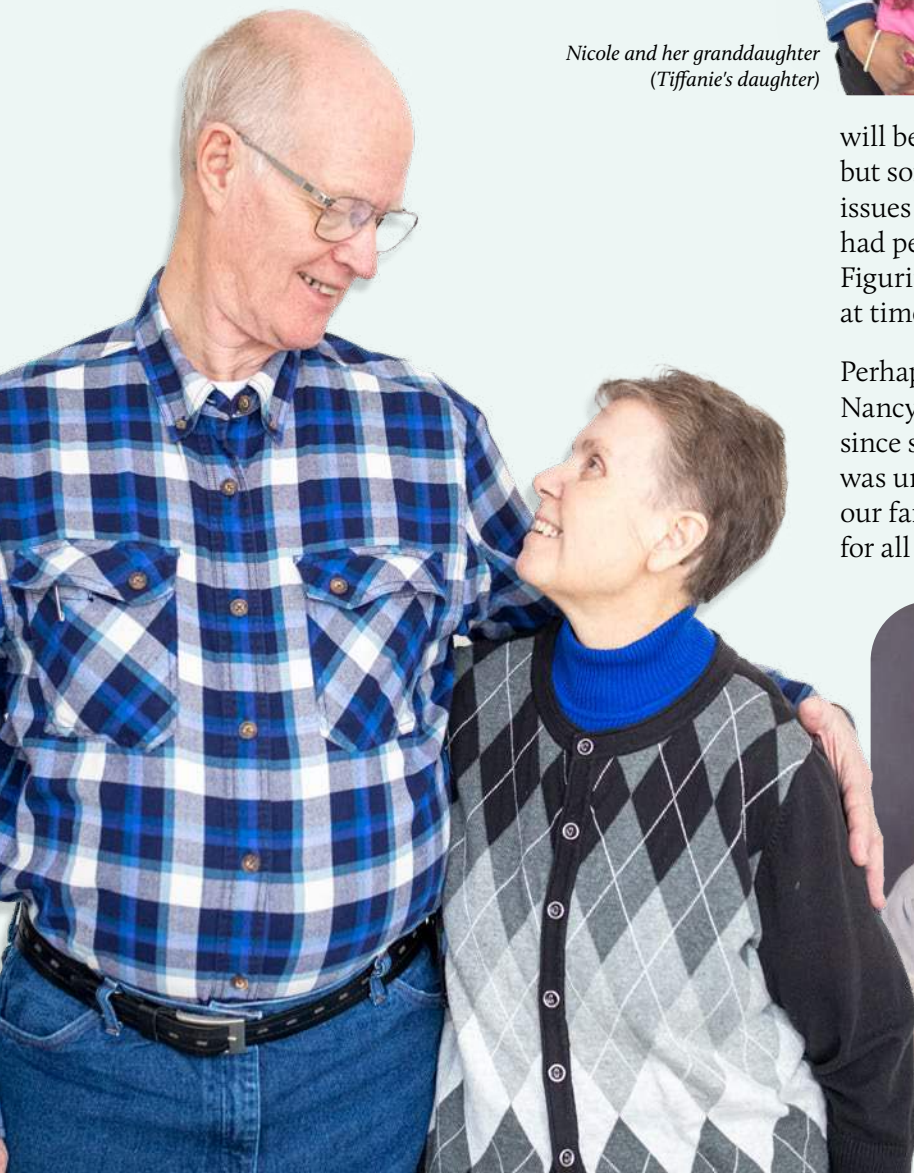
Top (left to right): Pat, Joe, Bob, Michael
Bottom (left to right): Nicole, Nicole's Granddaughter, Nancy, Sheryl, and Flynn

WE HAVE SHARED A PRO-LIFE COMMITMENT

since before we were married. In 1983, Nancy went to a New Life meeting at our church and was immediately drawn to the idea of being a pregnancy support home. We knew we couldn't solve every crisis pregnancy, but we could help one girl at a time.

Our home at the time was too small for our family, let alone another adult, so we went house hunting. We moved into our new home in January of 1985, immediately pursued certification to become a host family with New Life, and our first New Life girl moved in just a few days before Christmas.

Our first placement was the youngest and certainly most vulnerable girl to live with us. In those days, Bob sometimes got home from work late at night. Not the kind of guy who can immediately go to bed, he would go upstairs and work on his computer for a couple of hours. When she moved out of our home, he asked her if his coming upstairs late at night had ever bothered her. Her reply broke his heart. She said no, it didn't bother her. It made her feel safe to hear his footsteps on the stairs and know he wasn't coming for her.



Nicole and her granddaughter (Tiffanie's daughter)

"JUST BECAUSE GOD CALLS YOU TO A MINISTRY DOES NOT MEAN IT WILL BE EASY."

As we got to know our girls, we learned that about half of them were victims of rape, incest, or both. In most cases their fathers knew about it but had done nothing to protect their daughters. Our hearts were broken time and time again as we learned their stories.



Nicole and her kids, Josh and Tiffanie

One of the most valuable lessons we learned from being a support home was that just because God calls you to a ministry does not mean it

will be easy. Some of the girls were very easy to live with, but some were very difficult. Some of them presented issues we had no idea how to deal with. Some of them had personal histories that no one should have to have. Figuring out what to say or how to react was challenging at times.

Perhaps the challenge that cut the deepest was one that Nancy had to face alone. Nancy has lived in constant pain since she was three years old. Because of her health, she was unable to carry a pregnancy, and we chose to grow our family through adoption. She was the labor coach for all the girls, and while she felt inexpressible joy at



Bob and Nancy and their kids, Becky and Tim

helping to bring these little lives into the world, it was not without its sorrows. From childhood, she had dreamed of carrying a child and giving birth. Every birth reminded her that this was something she could never do.

About two thirds of the women who stayed with us chose to parent their babies, and one third chose to make an adoption plan. We tried very hard not to influence the girls one way or the other, but we hoped that, since our children were adopted, we provided a positive model of a happy adoptive home. We wanted our New Life girls to see, up close, that adoption could be a loving option for them and their babies.

Although we wish we could have continued being a host family forever, health issues made it impossible to continue.

Some years ago, a young man came to our door. When we answered the door, he said, "You probably don't remember me. My name is Joe Teirab." Of course we remembered him! His mom had lived with us, and his parents were married in our living room. Nancy was his mother's labor coach, as she was for all the girls. Joe had graduated from Cornell and Harvard Law School, served in the Judge Advocate Division of the Marine Corps, and is now a federal prosecutor. A few months ago, we heard that he recently joined the Board of Directors of New Life. We are thrilled that he is doing so well, but even more excited that he is living for Jesus.



Joe Teirab as a baby



Joe Teirab and his mom, Pat

"WE ARE THRILLED THAT HE IS DOING SO WELL, BUT EVEN MORE EXCITED THAT HE IS LIVING FOR JESUS."

"WE THINK THE TRUE HEROES OF THE STORY ARE THE GIRLS WHO SAILED AGAINST THE WIND, GIVING BIRTH TO THEIR CHILDREN RATHER THAN HAVING AN ABORTION."

Three of our girls — Pat, Sheryl, and Nicole — have kept in contact with us, and some are now grandmothers. We have been privileged to see how their lives have developed and how their children have grown up. We wish all of the girls had kept in contact as we think about them all the time.

Truly, we don't feel like we did anything special. We think the true heroes of the story are the girls who sailed against the wind, giving birth to their children rather than having an abortion. We are grateful to God for New Life and for letting us serve in this ministry.



Sheryl and Michael



Sheryl, her son Michael, and her grandson Flynn (Michael's son)

MY STORY OF HEALING AFTER ABORTION

Written by Caroline Beaner, Conquerors Program Manager



My story begins with my parents' divorce and a childhood without a father. An only child, I was raised by my mother and grandparents. My family struggled with addiction and mental health, so home was not a stable place. They did their best, but my Christian experience growing up was centered around religious tradition rather than a gospel-centered understanding of who God is. Not knowing who God was, coupled with instability and unhealthy examples of what love was, led to an unhealthy adolescence.

At the age of 17, I met "the one!" He was a navy recruit, and I went to be with him once he was stationed in California. It wasn't long before poor decisions led to an unplanned pregnancy. We were young and afraid and away from home for the first time. After the initial shock wore off, we talked through our options. Much of the discussion was through letters as he went in and out to sea, which proved to be a huge hindrance in our communication. At one point, we thought we could have the baby, but then the fear and lies of the enemy set in. While we knew in our hearts that abortion would be wrong, we were living in the "now" and not thinking about the future.

At that time, we had very little money, no local support, and no stable housing. We believed our family would be disappointed with us, so we never told them about the pregnancy. Those that did know never encouraged us with life-affirming options. In fact, they had also personally experienced abortion. For us, in that moment, abortion seemed like the best option, and we tragically decided to end our child's life.

The horrors of that second trimester abortion will be etched in my memory for a lifetime. While we both knew

it was wrong, we didn't realize the gravity of our decision until years later. Life went on, and we got married just months later. He finished his enlistment, and we returned home and were blessed with three additional children. I remember struggling with deep guilt and shame, but it wasn't until I was led to Christ by my husband that the full gravity of our decision really hit me. The guilt and shame were crippling. I struggled for years in a dark depression that came and went in waves.

I knew I needed help and found the Conquerors program. It was an important first step to set me on the path toward healing. Eventually I realized that I could not forgive myself; only God can forgive us. I needed to finally bring this to the foot of the cross and trust His word that when I repented, God forgave me. There was nothing I needed to add. This took peeling away my pride in full surrender and trusting that Christ's death on the cross paid for all sin, even my sin of abortion. And once I rested in that truth, I was finally set free.

God has richly blessed my husband Chris and me with 34 years of marriage and our beautiful family that includes 10 grandchildren, the youngest born last month and another on the way! In 2018, God brought me back to New Life where I became the Conquerors Program Manager. I am truly honored God has allowed me the privilege to work with others struggling as I once did. To see the transformation God has done in the lives of so many Conquerors clients is an encouragement to witness.

Chris and I will always deeply regret and grieve ending our son August Luke's life, but we have the blessed assurance that he is in the presence of God. And because of our salvation in Christ alone, we will be reunited with him one day. All glory be to God!

SCAN QR CODE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CONQUERORS PROGRAM



Chris and Caroline



Chris and Caroline, and 9 of their 10 grandchildren

40 YEARS OF SERVING ROCHESTER

Written by Diane, New Life Volunteer



I started volunteering for New Life in 1983, one year after we moved to Rochester. I was a registered nurse and working on my Masters Degree, where I had to write about a community organization. I chose to write about New Life, who I had heard about from a friend. Writing that paper convinced me that this was an organization worth supporting. At the time, the Rochester center was a new plant from the Twin Cities. I was so impressed by their foresight to determine Rochester needed a life-affirming organization as well.

When I became trained to do pregnancy tests, I offered to have my urine tested. It was then that I learned that I was indeed pregnant with my first child, who was born in 1984! Another role I had was answering calls for New Life's hotline. One of the first calls I had was several hours long as I talked the caller through her choices and prayed with her.

We also hosted four girls in our home at different times while they made decisions for their pregnancies. One girl had hidden her pregnancy and was staying with us under the premise (in her family's eyes) that she was on a long vacation. I took her to every doctor's appointment, and when she lost her baby very near the end of the pregnancy, I was able to be her delivery coach. Talk about a need to depend on the Holy Spirit!

I also volunteer at the Mayo Clinic warehouse, where we sort supplies that Mayo no longer needs, and have been able to secure donated exam tables, urine test kits, gloves, file folders, etc. for our Rochester center.

It has been a joy, honor, and privilege to love and serve the clients and staff of New Life here in Rochester for almost 40 years!

SCAN QR CODE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT VOLUNTEERING



Diane, her husband, and their family



JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE
50 YEARS
OF NEW LIFE!

SATURDAY, JUNE 10

NORMANDALE LAKE PARK
CHECK-IN AT 8:30 AM | WALK STARTS AT 10:00 AM



More Info
Delaney@NLFS.org



SCAN QR CODE TO
RSVP AND REGISTER

LEAVE A *Legacy For Life*

COULD LEGACY GIVING BE AN OPTION FOR YOU?

A legacy gift to New Life is a thoughtful way to ensure that the important work of our ministry continues well into the future while establishing the legacy of your generosity.

FIVE REASONS TO INVEST

- With five locations, New Life is the **largest network of pregnancy centers** in Minnesota operating as one organization. New Life serves over 2,300 women, men, and children per year
- New Life offers **no-cost comprehensive, quality pregnancy care** services provided by licensed social workers and medical staff
- New Life is the only organization in the state of Minnesota that operates as both a pregnancy care center and a **licensed adoption agency**
- We serve entire families by empowering and encouraging parents through our **Every Family parenting program**
- New Life is fully committed to **sharing the love of Christ** and providing holistic care to everyone who walks through our doors

WHY SHOULD YOU CONSIDER LEGACY GIVING?

- Support the legacy of New Life while still providing for the financial needs of your family
- Potentially avoid or minimize your capital gains, estate, and income tax burdens
- Leave a legacy without giving up assets during your lifetime
- Make a larger gift than you thought possible

SCAN QR CODE TO
LEARN MORE ABOUT
LEGACY GIVING



FIVE WAYS TO LEAVE YOUR LEGACY

WILL OR TRUST A popular form of legacy giving is designating New Life as a beneficiary or devisee of your estate plan through your will or revocable trust. You can designate either a specific dollar amount or percentage of your estate.

RETIREMENT PLAN Naming New Life Family Services as a beneficiary of a qualified retirement plan (401(k), 403(b), or IRA) can provide you and your family with considerable tax savings.

LIFE INSURANCE Consider naming New Life Family Services as the beneficiary of your life insurance policy.

DONOR ADVISED FUND Not only can you recommend gifts to New Life from your donor advised fund during your lifetime, but you can also designate New Life as the partial or sole beneficiary of the balance of your fund at death.

CHARITABLE TRUST Donations to New Life through a charitable lead or remainder trust may be appropriate for larger gifts of appreciated assets or in connection with your family's estate tax planning.

Make a Difference

MATERIAL DONATIONS NEEDED!

Last fall, Miriam*, a client in our Every Family Parenting Program, shared that her partner had suddenly grown abusive toward her and her children, so she asked him to leave her apartment. Without his financial support, she was unsure if she would be able to afford rent or groceries.

We were able to help Miriam apply for rental assistance and give her a Cub Foods gift card, hygiene products, and food shelf information to help her provide for her family while she waited for her application to be approved. She is in a much better place now! *client name changed

WE HAVE AN URGENT NEED FOR MATERIAL DONATIONS TO HELP CLIENTS LIKE MIRIAM!

HYGIENE PRODUCTS

We have had a surplus of men and women without stable housing who visit our centers for support. One way we can support their immediate needs is by providing a hygiene pack with some basic necessities:

- Tooth paste/tooth brushes
- Body wipes
- Body wash
- Shampoo/conditioner
- Lotion
- Deodorant (both men's and women's)
- Disposable razors
- Pads/tampons
- Granola bars/protein bars
- Socks/hats/gloves

GIFT CARDS

For clients with financial needs, especially when they are struggling with rent or on maternity leave, we will offer a gift card to make sure their basic needs are met while they apply for financial assistance: (Gift cards needed in varying amounts of \$25-\$100 per gift card)

- Cub Foods
- Aldi
- Target
- Walmart
- Gas cards

Mail gift cards to New Life Headquarters:
1515 East 66th St, Richfield, MN 55423

CLOSET ITEMS

Our Every Family parenting clients can earn points through the program, which they use to purchase items from our clothing closet. While we accept all new baby equipment and gently used infant and toddler clothing and toys, these are some current, specific needs:

- Potty chairs
- Car seats
- Diapers (especially sizes 5, 6, and pull-ups)
- Wipes
- Pack-and-plays



Caring for Vulnerable Children . . .
Everyone Can Do Something

grace.church/oneless



Thank you Corporate Sponsors! If you are interested in becoming a Corporate Sponsor, please email info@NLFS.org.





and its programs



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