

***New Life Ev. Lutheran Church
Lake Zurich, IL***

...rooted in the word, growing in faith, reaching out to our uprooted world.

*Vacancy Pastor Steve Radunzel / Pastor Thomas Schultz
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www.newlife-wels.org

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**Second Sunday of Easter
April 12, 2026**

A warm welcome to those who are visiting us today. You may hang your coat in the entryway of the church or on the coat rack downstairs. The bathrooms are located in the lower level of this building. Before you go home today, please sign our guest book located on the podium in the entry way. Also, refreshments are served in the fellowship hall after our service this morning. We invite you to join us for something to eat and drink.

Our lower level is wired for sound. If you need to take your child out during the service, you won't miss any of the sermon. The service is also simulcast on the church's Facebook page.

In the unlikely event of an emergency during this morning's service, you can exit the building using the main entryway or the exit to the right of the chancel. Our building does have a fire alarm system which is wired directly to the fire department. Remember, we follow the "Run, Hide, Fight" response in an emergency.

Before Service Prayer: Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Today's Service: New Common Service, reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-800156 and under CCLI license #1132777.

Today's Theme: **WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE?
HE LIVES TO GIVE ME PROOF AND PEACE**

Without the resurrection of Jesus, I would have to wonder whether anything he said was true. Thomas had been taught and trained by Christ himself. He heard Jesus predict his death and resurrection. Even after hearing the eyewitness testimony of friends, Thomas still had doubts about the resurrection of Jesus

But he lives, and it makes a difference. Today I have great comfort as someone with doubts about Christ's promises in my life. Jesus engages me with continuing assurances in Word and sacrament. I have proof. I have peace.

Pastor's Welcome

Opening Hymn: CW 442 "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia" (CW93 150)

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Opening Sentences Romans 6:9; John 20:29b; Psalm 145:1, 5, 6b

Pastor: Alleluia! We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.

People: **Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Pastor: I will extol You, my God and King, and bless Your name forever and ever.

People: **On the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and on Your wondrous works, I will meditate, and I will declare Your greatness.**

Confession Micah 6:6-8

Pastor: Let us come before God in true repentance, seeking forgiveness and amendment of our lives as we follow the Lord.

People: **"With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high?"**

Women: "Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?"

Men: "Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?"

People: **"Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"**

Pastor: He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

People: **Almighty God, we confess that we are indeed sinful. By our very nature we are sinful. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for these our sins. Have mercy on us because of Jesus, our Savior. Grant that, by the working of the Holy Spirit, we may live out our lives on earth faithfully until that time when we, by His grace, join the company of heaven forever.**

The Kyrie— The congregation and Pastor sing...

The image shows two staves of musical notation in a single system. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature (C). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. Below the staff, the lyrics are: "Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy". The second staff continues the melody with quarter and eighth notes. Below the staff, the lyrics are: "on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us. A - men." The music concludes with a double bar line.

Absolution

Pastor: God has promised forgiveness to those who repent of their sins and turn to Him for grace. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and at His command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. May our gracious God, lead you to greater faith and obedience, and bring you to live with Him eternally in His glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**People: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
We worship You, we give You thanks we praise You for Your glory!
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.**

(Interlude)

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father;
Receive our prayer, receive our prayer.**

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.
For You alone are the holy One, You alone are the Lord.
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ.
With the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father.**

**Glory to God in the highest and peace to His people on earth.
Glory to God, glory to God!**

The Salutation

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, we have celebrated the mystery of our Lord's resurrection from the dead. Help us to show the power of His resurrection in all that we say and do; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen

The First Lesson: Acts 2:14a, 22-32 – The living Lord appeared to many eyewitnesses so they could testify to the truth of Jesus’ resurrection.

¹⁴ Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say.

²² “Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. ²³ This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. ²⁴ But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. ²⁵ David said about him:

“I saw the Lord always before me.

Because he is at my right hand,

I will not be shaken.

²⁶ Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;

my body also will rest in hope,

²⁷ because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,

you will not let your holy one see decay.

²⁸ You have made known to me the paths of life;

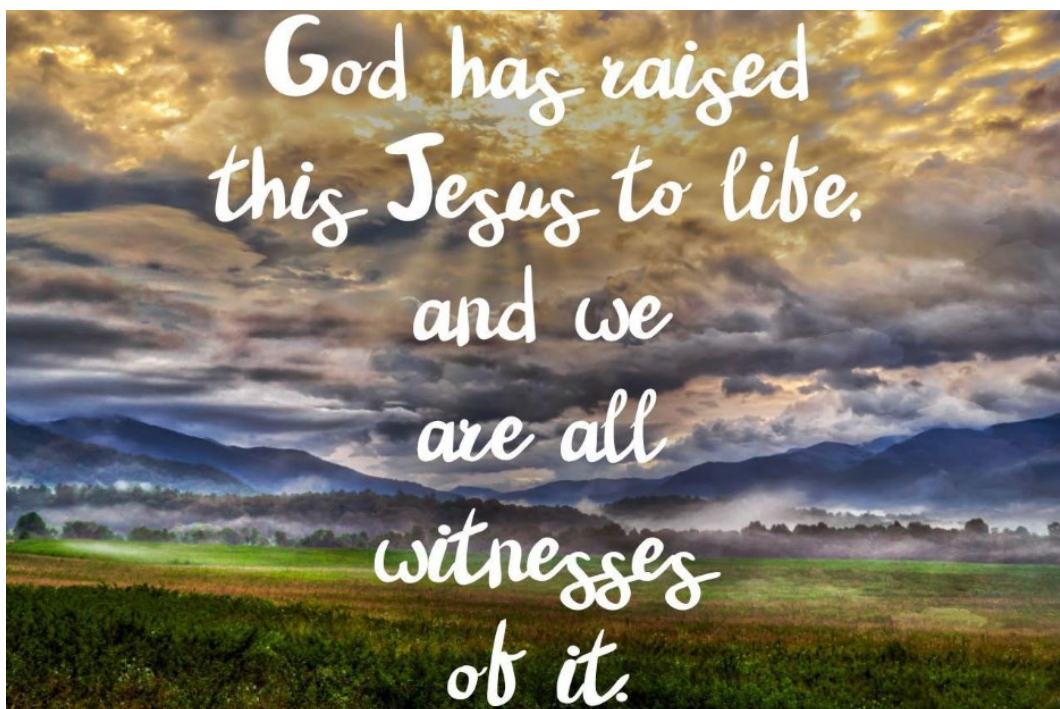
you will fill me with joy in your presence.’

²⁹ “Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. ³⁰ But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. ³² God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it.

(NIV 2011)

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



Psalm 16

Refrain



I will walk in the pres-ence of the Lord,
in the land of the liv - ing.

Psalm tone



Keep me safe, O God,*
for in you I take refuge.

Keep me safe, O God,*
for in you I take refuge.

I said to the LORD, "You are my Lord;*
apart from you I have no good thing."

I have set the LORD always before me.*
Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

Refrain

My heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;*
my body also will rest secure,

because you will not abandon me to the grave,*
nor will you let your Holy One see decay.

You have made known to me the path of life;*
you will fill me with joy in your presence.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

The Second Lesson: **1 Peter 1:3-9** – St. Peter points to the resurrection as proof of the hope we have.

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷ These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls. (NIV 2011)

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Verse of the Day

Pastor: Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia.

Stand

The Gospel Lesson: **John 20:19-31** – Jesus gave the proof that led to peace for Thomas.

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

²⁸ Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. (NIV 2011)

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one being with the Father. Through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, He came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: CW 469 “Welcome, Happy Morning” (CW93 163)

The Sermon **John 20:19-31** “There’s Nothing Without Resurrection”



After the sermon, the congregation sings:



C Cre - ate in me a pure heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me.
Do not cast me a - way from your pres - ence or
take your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -
hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The Offering

The ushers will gather the offering which will then be placed on the Lord's Altar. Offerings can also be given electronically by using your smart phone and the QR code which takes you to the donation part of New Life's website.



The Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord God, like Thomas we wrestle with faith amid doubts and fears. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that believing, we may see, and seeing, we may rejoice in Your Son and the power of His resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Gracious Lord, give courage to all pastors as they preach and teach the Word, that all who hear may believe and that, believing, they may live in righteousness and godliness until the day Christ returns as Judge and Lord of all. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Give peace, Lord, to our homes and enliven them by Christ's resurrected life. Let the forgiveness of sins reign among husbands and wives, parents and children. Assure those who live alone that they, too, are Your children, upheld by Your right hand. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord God of hosts, You have added believers to the Lord Jesus in all times and places, from those receptive and hostile alike. Shepherd the nations, and bring all peoples to embrace the Gospel of the resurrected Christ. Curb wicked rulers and break their power, that all would be brought to the feet of Jesus in worship. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Gracious Father, as Your Son's wounds brought gladness and peace to the troubled disciples, give Your presence and comfort to the troubled in our midst. Comfort also those who weep with the blessed joy of Easter morning. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O Lord, preserve Your Holy Communion and Your Son's blessed Supper among us. Give contrition and faith to those who gather at this altar. Unite them in their confession of Your truth, and so bring them worthily to eat and to drink Christ's body and blood for their forgiveness and life. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, Your Son suffered on our behalf to win salvation for us. Grant that we may have the privilege not only of believing in Him, but also of suffering for His sake. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O Lord, heavenly Father, give us all things good and beneficial to us and to our salvation, and keep us from all things harmful; through Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
People: Amen.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

The Sacrament

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

People: It is good and right so to do.

Pastor: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give You thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise Your holy name and join their glorious song:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,
God of might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo -
ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless -
ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Words of Institution (spoken by the pastor)

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the



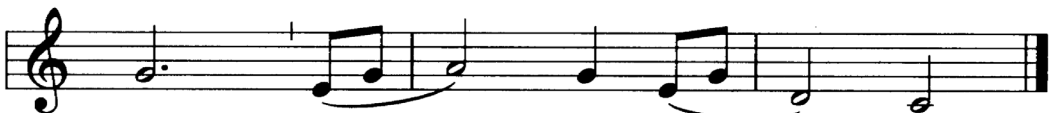
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; grant us your



peace. A - men. A - men.

Our Communion Practice

New Life Lutheran Church practices “close communion.” We ask that only members of New Life or other WELS churches partake of the sacrament. We ask our visitors to please respect our communion practice.

The Distribution Hymn: CW 456 “O Sons and Daughters of the King” (CW93 165)

The Song of Simeon

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef and a common time signature 'C'. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The first line of music is marked with a 'C' in a box. The lyrics are: 'In peace, Lord, you let your ser - vant now de - part ac - cord-ing to your word. For my eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which you have pre-pared for ev-'ry peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry, the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.'

C In peace, Lord, you let your ser - vant now de -
part ac - cord-ing to your word. For my eyes have seen your sal -
va - tion, which you have pre-pared for ev-'ry peo - ple, a
light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry, the
glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: Let us pray.

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, who of Your tender love for all people gave Your only Son, Jesus Christ, to take our nature upon Himself and to suffer death on the cross for our redemption. As we celebrate His glorious resurrection, we pray that we be filled with Your heavenly peace and joy; and also that we, in receiving the forgiveness of sins, together with the gifts of life and salvation, be sanctified in body and soul and spirit and have our portion with all Your saints in light. To You, O God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—be all honor and glory in Your holy church, forever and ever.

People: Amen.

The Blessing

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

People: Amen.

The Closing Hymn: CW 455 “Alleluia! Jesus Lives” (CW93 153)

Announcements

Our Father's Business in the Coming Week

Cleaning this Week: James

Today— Second Sunday of Easter Communion Service at 9:30 AM

Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30 AM

Adult Bible Study and Sunday School at 10:45 AM

Zoom Confirmation Class at 5:00 PM

Friday – Green Team at 6:30 PM

Saturday—Spring Clean-Up Day from 9:00 AM to noon

Next Sunday—Third Sunday of Easter Divine Service at 9:30 AM

Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30 AM

Adult Bible Study and Sunday School at 10:45 AM

Zoom Confirmation Class at 5:00 PM

SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY

Spring has arrived so it is time to spruce up the church property both inside and out. Come over to the church this Saturday, April 18th from 9:00 am to noon to help complete our spring clean-up tasks. Coffee and donuts will be served.

SPRING BANQUET

The Ladies Branch Connection will be hosting their annual Spring Banquet on Sunday, May 3rd, beginning at noon. There will be a luncheon, followed by a craft activity. Please bring a salad or dessert to share. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the Fellowship Hall. All women and girls are invited, and please remember to invite friends and family as well. The more the merrier!

PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

There will be a preschool open house on Tuesday, April 21st from 5:30-7:00 PM for both the Little Sprouts 2-year-old program as well as the regular 3- and 4-year-old preschool program. The teachers will be available to give building tours, answer questions and provide registration information. Please spread the word to family and friends who have little ones.

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS AVAILABLE

Finding it difficult to read small print? Could your eyes appreciate a break? 4 copies of the large print version of the hymnal are now available for use. These will be located on the table to your left as you enter the chapel. Pick one up or ask an usher for one to use during the service. Please return it after the service. These were purchased with the remaining donations for the 2021 Christian Worship hymnals and resource books. If you would like a copy for home use, they can be purchased through Northwestern Publishing House.

FELLOWSHIP SIGN-UP SHEET

We need volunteers to provide something to eat and drink after Sunday services. Fellowship snacks do not need to be “fancy” or a huge spread of food – we are thankful for anything that is provided! A sign-up sheet is posted in the Fellowship Hall. There are empty slots that need to be filled – please consider signing up for a Sunday. The sheet covers the months of March through May.

ADULT BIBLE CLASS

Pastor Radunzel is leading a Bible study on the book of Psalms. The Adult Bible Class meets upstairs in the Café area starting at 10:45 AM.

GREEN TEAM

The Green Team is looking forward to their meeting this Friday, April 17th at 6:30 PM. Fun times are in store as the team will learn about the Wright Brothers, Galileo Galilei and Albert Einstein, plus decorate pine cars for the big derby race on Friday, May 15th.

CALL MEETING UPDATE

On Friday, February 28th, Pastor Patrick Feldhus accepted our call to become the new pastor at New Life Lutheran Church. He plans on moving here with his family in June, after his daughter finishes school in Minnesota. His acceptance letter is posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Please pray for him as he begins to prepare for his ministry at New Life, as well as for him and his family as they close their chapter in Minnesota and begin a new one in the Lake Zurich area. To God be the glory!

VACANCY

During the vacancy Pastor Steve Radunzel will be here on Sundays and Pastor Tom Schultz will cover any ministry needs that arise during the week.



Summer 2026 Availability



Summer 2026 Dates

Week 1: July 5-10

Week 2: July 12-17 (FULL)

Week 3: July 19-24

Weeks 1 and 3 still have availability for both boys and girls!

Dear Families,

Check out the video above to see what a day in the life at Camp Bird For Lutherans is like! From games, crafts, lakefront, and Bible study, to team building, songs, campfire, and lots and lots of delicious food to fuel the adventure!

Questions? Find answers [here](#). Or use the [Contact Us](#) form to email us directly!

[Register Here](#)



[Contact Us](#) | [FAQs](#)

<https://campbird.org/programs/registration>

