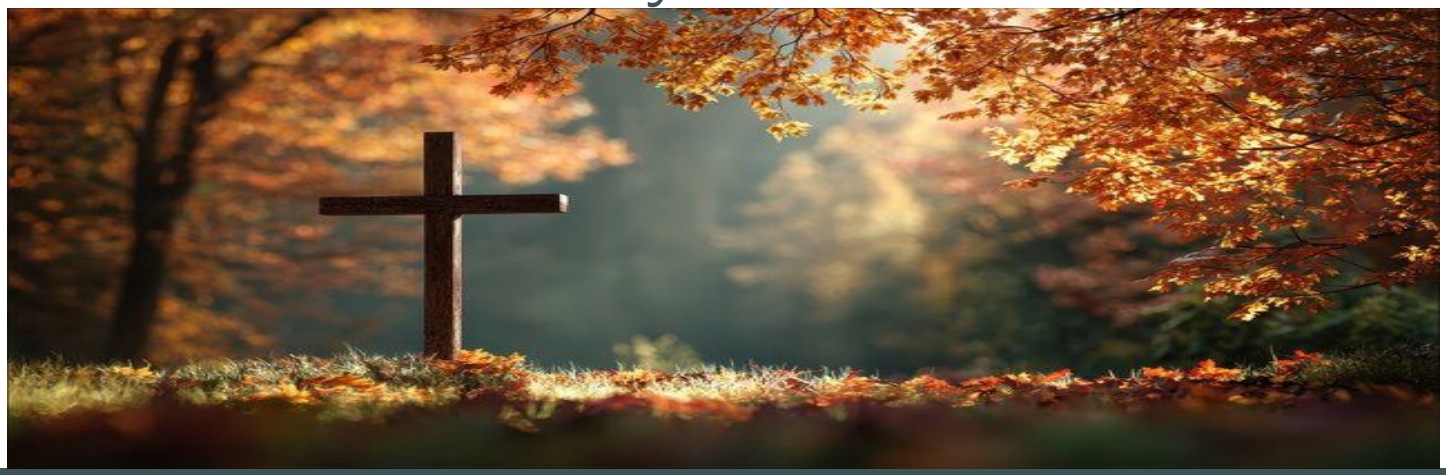
Lutheran Church of the Way

Monthly Newsletter



From the Pastor's Desk

Not long after we moved into our house, we realized that we were occasionally missing some mail and package deliveries. We tried to solve this conundrum like an Agatha Christie novel or a Sherlock Holmes mystery, with a level of forensic competence that would make Shaggy and Scooby look like Nancy Drew and the Hardy Boys. Admittedly, my first assumption was that someone delivered it to a neighbor because we weren't home, or, more nefariously, that it was delivered correctly and then stolen from our porch. I didn't even consider that I made a mistake; it didn't occur to me, because it was far more convenient to assume someone else was at fault. "They messed up, not me." "It's their fault, not mine."

Denying or ignoring culpability for our shortcomings and sins is not new. Willful ignorance and blindness to your own faults are no different. In either case, the rebellious element of our nature always seeks to keep the blame and accountability pointed away from us. If the Devil's first trick in the garden was to deceive: "Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say …" (Genesis 3:1) then his second was to obfuscate. Adam and Eve are caught red-handed, and when God calls them out, Adam replies: "It was the woman YOU gave me, Lord!" (vs 12) Then Eve passes the buck too: "The serpent deceived me…" (vs 13). Not long after, Cain kills his brother Abel in jealousy. God confronts him with Able's absence, and Cain responds, "Am I my brother's keeper?" Likewise, when Moses comes down Mt. Sinai after communing with Yahweh God and receiving the two tablets of the Law, he sees the people of Israel worshipping a golden calf.

From the Pastor's Desk, cont.

"He [Moses] said to Aaron, 'What did these people do to you, that you led them into such great sin?' 'Do not be angry, my lord,' Aaron answered. 'You know how prone these people are to evil. They said to me, 'Make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don't know what has happened to him.' So I told them, 'Whoever has any gold jewelry, take it off.' Then they gave me the gold, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf!'" (Exodus 32:21-25)

In an August 1991 strip of Jeff MacNelly's comic "Shoe," the editor for the fictional "The Treetops Tattler-Tribune" asks their concerned repair tech, "How's it going?" The frazzled tech responds, saying, "Horrid! It's your editorial page! I've tried everything...I can fix almost anything that runs on those presses. But I can't fix stupid."



By the grace of God alone, He calls and invites us to turn our accountability inward, toward our sins and shortcomings. Does your fear of God's wrath keep you from the comfort of His grace? This is one of the valuable distinctions in rightly using God's law and gospel. The sinner comfortable in their sin confuses condemnation with grace and says, "I know God's law says otherwise, but surely it wouldn't be so....[enjoyable, pleasurable, profitable, etc.] if it was actually wrong." Or worse yet, "I know it's wrong, and I couldn't care less."

From the Pastor's Desk, cont.

"However, when the burden of the sinner's conscience leads them to confess and lay bare their offenses, the only cure for maladies of sin is a healthy dose of God's forgiveness and mercy. Even though fear is a fire stoked by the Devil to consume God's people in their sins, hope in forgiveness is an overwhelming flood of God's grace extinguishing the flames of Hell.

I can't fix stupid...but I know a guy who can. So, instead of being afraid to confess our sins, come with me to the cross, where we can be confident in Christ's promises of redemption and forgiveness.

Oh, and the mail mix-up? That was my fault; I hadn't misspelled anything; I just underestimated the impact of omitting one letter. The most surprising, and least expected, possibility was that another house, somewhere else in Boston, with nearly the same address was as confused about the mess as I was. So for the record, the folks at the Roxbury Parkway house are lovely, but W Roxbury Parkway is where you'll find us.

See you in church! God bless!

In His hands,

Pastor Jake

From the President

Greetings fellow Christians and Saints in Christ at LCW!!

November begins a busy time of year here at LCW!! Lots of events are coming up, leading us up to Advent and Christmas, which is always such an exciting time of year! A big highlight coming up later this month, and leading up to Thanksgiving, is our annual Thanksgiving Dinner Service, which will be held on Sunday, November 22, beginning at 4pm. The WOW ladies are already planning and will be preparing a wonderful traditional Thanksgiving dinner, which will be part of a unique worship service, led by Pastor, that sets a poignant and reflective tone to get us excited for the holiday season. And if this year is like any year prior, the room will be overflowing with plenty of food and desserts!! No one will leave hungry! If you have not been before, you've been missing out on a truly special evening. I strongly encourage all to attend this beautiful service event. **See you there!!!**

On to some other work of the church… As of this writing, our Church Council has been very hard at work, meeting every couple of weeks recently to prepare our 2027 budget, as well as continuing work on our Ministry Plan for 2027. We will go into and share much more detail on both at our **Annual Congregation meeting** , scheduled for **Sunday, November 15** , beginning at **10:45am** after worship and brief fellowship. We ask ALL voting members to attend, if possible. If you have any questions, please reach out to me or one of the Council members.

I would like to take a moment here and recognize our entire Church Council for all the work they have been doing these past few months. Considerable effort is underway in leading our current programs and day-to-day management of the church, as well as preparing us for 2027. The work is demanding at times, and a lot is asked of the Council members, but it is rewording work, all done for the glory of God. **THANK YOU to all the Church Council members!!!**

Get excited for the months to come ~ Peace be with you all!!

Colossians 3:23-24 *Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward.*

You are serving the Lord Christ. – Steve Jurczyk, President

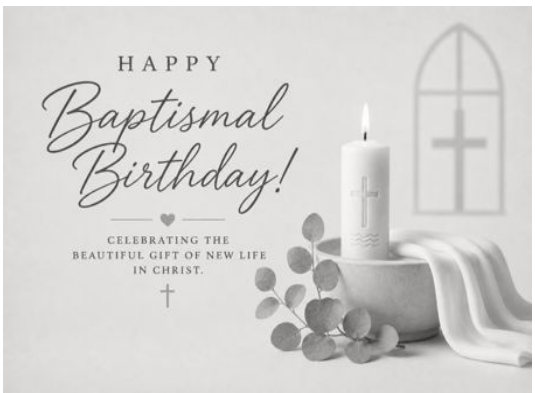
Announcements

Birthdays

Harper Dickerhoff	Nov 1
Bill Wolf	Nov 1
Jessica Brown	Nov 12
Jim Rothwell Sr.	Nov 12
Jacob Mastrostefano	Nov 18
Oliver Dickerhoff	Nov 19
Matt Pickett	Nov 19
April Richardson	Nov 22



Baptismal Birthdays



Oliver LeBeau	Nov 4
Emily Smith	Nov 14
Pat Heather	Nov 30

Anniversaries

Ariel and Shirley Gordon	Nov 2
Craig & Gina Ratajczyk	Nov 23
Herbert & Ingrid Jones	Nov 26



Announcements

Prayer List

Jeri	Rhys	Claudette	Blake
Beth	Nancy	Phyllis	James
Sandy	John	Anne	Paul
David	Chris	Cindy	Bernie
Quinn	Valerie	David	Chris
Pator Mather		Pastor Schipul	



Announcements

WOW Team

WOW - Women of The Way

Chris Anop and myself are looking forward to attending the LWML-NED Fall Retreat in CT on November 6-7. It is always a mountain top experience to join in fellowship with our LWML sisters praising our Lord, singing, listening to our speakers and eating!

The next WOW meeting is **Monday, November 2** , at 10:00 am at church

We will also be busy on **November 22** preparing the meal for the Thanksgiving service/dinner. We will need help after church on Sunday morning setting up the tables for the dinner. WOW will be preparing and serving the dinner.

We do need help from the congregation for the Thanksgiving dinner - there is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board for those who can help by making a pie or dessert. There is also a sign up sheet for those attending (please note how many in the family), so we can have an idea of how much food to prepare.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Thanks be to God
Pat Heather

DECEMBER REMINDERS:

Saturday, December 5, at 10:00 am we will meet at church for a service project to make blankets to give to our seniors and shut-ins for Christmas.

Saturday, December 19 , we will meet at 10:00 am at church to put together Christmas cookie boxes to sell for a fundraiser. Hopefully you all will be baking before that. We hope to have 2 dozen cookies from each baker, and if possible 2 dozen each of 2 different cookies.

Sunday, December 20, will be the cookie sale at church for a fundraiser.

Announcements

Elder's Corner

The year 2026 is rapidly coming to an end and my 22 years as an elder is also rapidly coming to an end. I will be retiring at the end of the year and as this will be the last Elder's Corner written by me, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support and cooperation these many years.

I have served under three pastors and with a great group of men whose entire focus has been on doing God's work. We have grown friendships and respect for each other which comes when everyone has the same goal.

It has been a privilege and honor to serve the Lord at His altar and to serve you, my brothers and sisters in Christ. It has been a privilege and an honor to serve with Pastor Jake, Paul Bain, Dan Heather, Steve Jurczyk, Bill Opheim, Jim Rubenacker and several more who have gone home to heaven. For some of you I have been your elder and that too has been a privilege and an honor.

On my last Sunday service, I will have a heavy heart as a large part of me wants to keep on going, but the wiser part of me tells me it is time. Everyone's time comes and this is mine.

So with much gratitude my friends, I wish you all the best and may God bless and keep you all.

Fred Mueller
LCW Elder

Announcements

Evangelism



Fall is upon us, weather starts to cool. Teachers and children have returned to school after a wonderful summer. More of our members are showing up now that vacations are over. We are enthused and anxious to "get things going".

Excitement is in the air, great ideas, wonderful companionship abound.What happens to all the "hoopla" and brainstorming. This may be the start of the stormy season both weather and here at LCW. Where do we start? What talents are available to carry out God's work? Let us think of us as a thunderstorm. We make a lot of noise (like thunder), but the lightening is the power and energy of the storm. Let us be the electricity to carry out God's plan. Remember...

" Things done in God's way will never lack God's supply"
quote from Bob Giger.

Blessings to our church family...Wini

Announcements

Stewardship

STEWARDSHIP JOURNEY – IN FAITHFULNESS, THANKFULNESS AND HOPE

The bible notes that some people can be very lazy "The sluggard buries his hand in the dish: it wearies him to bring it again to is mouth [Prov. 19:24 & 26:15]." He wastes what he has not earned or does the least he can get away with and lets others do the work. Many of us grew up self-reliant, striving for goals we set for ourselves. If we were diligent, we prayed for God's guidance, trusted in His benevolence and thanked him for the results. Yet, there is a catch-22 in self-reliance that can dominate our life. Sometimes we can forget that all good things come from God "For from him and through him are all things. To him be glory forever! Amen [Rom. 11:36]." We may start to think we are in control of our lives and become anxious when they go awry. Obviously, there is a balance in moderation and we need to do our part in God's plan. We are to "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight [Prov. 3: 5-6]." Ask yourself, when adversity scratches your skin, does it reveal a Christian who endures in hope? No matter what the realm, America is still the land of opportunity if we seek and grasp it with faith in our eternal, loving father. The discipline of daily life is as an athlete's training: "Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever [1 Cor. 9:25]."

In the USA we have so much more than anywhere in the world to be thankful for: great abundance of worldly goods, political and religious freedom, the pursuit of happiness and security without fear. You and I are especially blessed in baptism and confirmation into the Lutheran faith and doctrine, based on the clear understanding of the bible, brought about

Announcements

Stewardship, cont.

through the Reformation. We are instructed to be moderate: “But the fruit of the Spirit gives is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law Gal 5:22,23].” However, towards God there is to be no moderation as we are commanded “And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might [Deut. 6:5; Rev. 3:25,26].” I recall an old Prussian friend telling me how as a 13-year-old boy he got up at dawn to plow a field to surprise his dad, because he loved him so much. Similarly, my father having a polio-ravaged leg, plowed fields at the same age, loved and honored him in everything. If we can love our earthly fathers so well, how much more love, respect and honor does our heavenly father deserve? He who gave us life, sustains us, guards us, rescues us and promises eternal life.

Let’s praise God as we contemplate hymn #797 by Johann D. Herrnschmidt, 1677-1723 [Martin Luther could not have had better words].

1 Praise the Almighty, my soul, adore Him!
Yes, I will laud Him until death;
With songs and anthems I come before Him
As long as He allows me breath.
From Him my life and all things came;
Bless, O my soul, His holy name.
Allelujah, allelujah!

2 Trust not in rulers; they are but mortal;
Earth-born they are and soon decay.
Vain are their counsels at life's last portal,
When the dark grave engulfs its prey.
Since mortals can no help afford,
Place all your trust in Christ, our Lord.
Allelujah, allelujah!

Announcements

Stewardship cont.

3 Blessed, oh, blessed are they forever
Whose help is from the Lord Most High,
Whom from salvation can nothing sever,
And who in hope to Christ draw nigh.
To all who trust in Him, our Lord
Will aid and counsel now afford.
Allelujah, allelujah!

4 Penitent sinners, for mercy crying,
Pardon and peace from Him obtain;
Ever the wants of the poor supplying,
Their faithful God He will remain.
He helps His children in distress,
The widows and the fatherless.
Allelujah, allelujah!

5 Praise, all you people, the name so holy
Of Him who does such wondrous things!
All that has being, to praise Him solely,
With happy heart it's amen sings.
Children of God, with angel host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!
Allelujah, allelujah!

As we follow Jesus' commission in caring for our neighbor, let's share not only food for the body, but more importantly, our faith in him.

Have a blessed, happy Thanksgiving.

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Hartmut Schroeder [LCW Head of Stewardship]

Announcements

Treasurer

Greetings LCW

Thanks be to the Lord for all of you that contribute of your treasure to support our Pastor and our missions to a couple of our local area ministries, and invest in this place to gather as His church.

Ending Sep 30, our financial status is as follows...

Income: Actual $ 155,600 Budget: $178,400

Expenses: Actual $ 156,200

As expected, income has fallen behind our basic / required monthly expense needs. With income this far behind our budget expectations, there are budgeted expenses that we have not / are not confident in making given our cash flow is greater on the expense side. Being higher on spending, our bank account balance has been diminishing overall at least for the past couple of months. These are small amounts per month and at the same time we have only a few thousand dollars of a buffer in our balance in checking to cover the required spending for lack of income. What is required spending? There may be a better phrase for this, but this is the baseline amount necessary for payroll and payments to our internal and external contractors, utilities, telephone and internet services.

Enjoy the Lord's blessings as He guides our path to the future He has in mind for LCW.

Your Treasurer,

Erick Boehmler

Church Activities

Faith **Fun** **Fellowship**

Please note the time change! Now at 5:00pm



Join Us for Movie Night

PAUL – Apostle of Christ

Lutheran Church of the Way
Saturday, November 28, 2026 at 5:00pm
110 Robinson St. - Raynham, MA



Their faith challenged an empire.

Paul, Apostle of Christ, follows Luke as he risks his life to visit Paul, imprisoned in Rome under Nero's persecution. Against a backdrop of oppression and faith, their meetings inspire hope and reflection on love and forgiveness.

The story of Paul, who was known as a ruthless persecutor of Christians prior to his conversion to Christianity, focuses on his becoming a pivotal figure in the formation of the early church before being executed by Emperor Nero in Rome.

When the time comes you will have the strength to do what is right.

Love is the only way.

I see Christ in you.

Where sin abounds, grace abounds more.

Luke came to Rome to find Paul to write his story to bring hope, to bring light into this present darkness and to remind us all how God changed a hateful man.





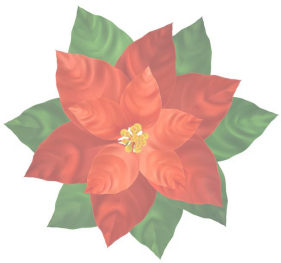
Enjoy a night out with your friends and family!

FREE popcorn for everyone!

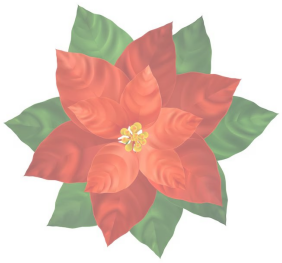
Feel free to bring your own softdrinks.



Church Activities



Christmas Poinsettia Purchase



Christmas season is fast approaching and time to bless the altar with poinsettias. Sign up sheets will be available at the church and an email will be going out to those who would like to sign up online. All payments will be made out to Betty Mueller and the cost is $12.50 per plant. If you have any questions, please contact Betty.



WOW Thanksgiving Dinner



The WOW team is hosting Thanksgiving Dinner again this year. Please join in for this fellowship event as well as sign up to bring delicious family favorites. The sign up sheet for this event is on the bulletin board at the church. For more information please contact Pat Heather of the WOW team.

Support Services

DO YOU HAVE A PASTORAL CARE NEED?

If you or a loved one is hospitalized, undergoing a medical procedure, or otherwise in need of pastoral care, please let us know. Pastor Jake and LCW's Elders would be glad to visit, pray with you, and offer care and support.

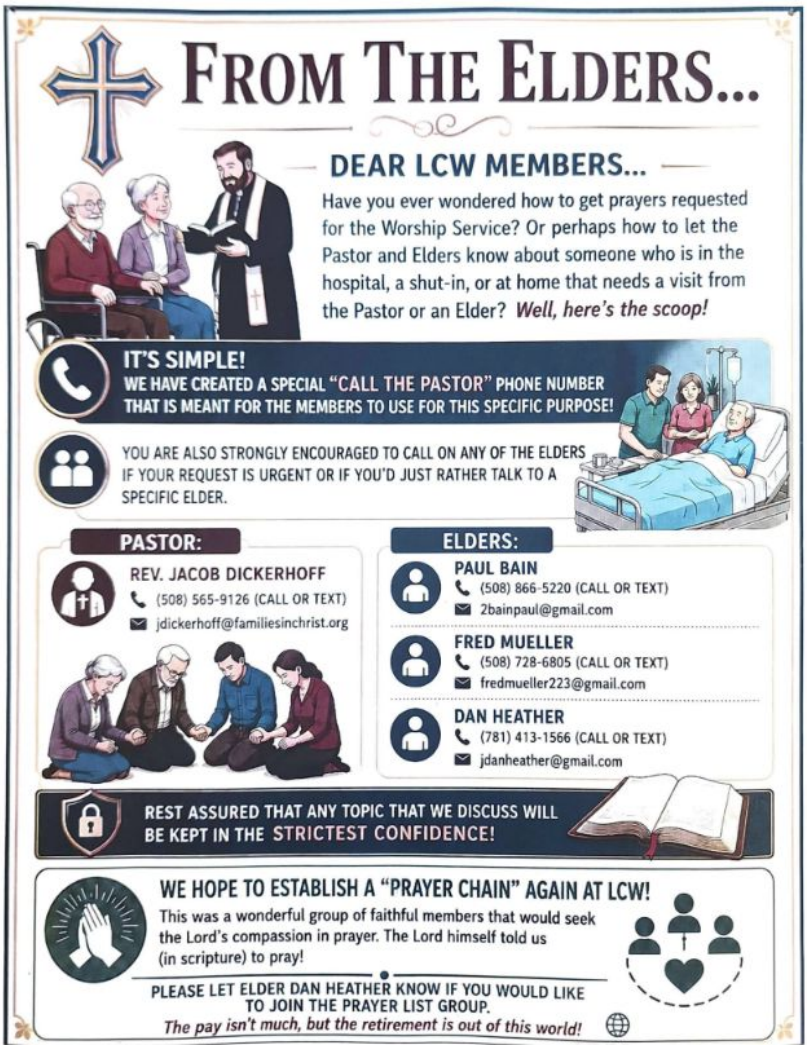
Please remember that hospitals and other care facilities generally do not notify the church when one of our members is admitted. We can only visit when we know of the need and where you are, so please contact us before or during your stay whenever possible.

Pastoral care is also available for prayer requests, private confession and absolution, home visits, house blessings, and other spiritual needs. Pastor Jake and the Elders are here to serve you and would be grateful for the opportunity to do so.

To request pastoral care, please contact Pastor Jake directly:

Email: JDickerhoff@FamiliesInChrist.org

Call/Text: (508) 565-9126



Bulletin Board

Schedule of Events

Upcoming Events

Nov 2 - WOW meeting 10:00am at church

Nov 6-7 - LWML-NED Fall Retreat

Nov 15 - Annual Congregational Meeting 10:45am

Nov 22 - WOW Thanksgiving Dinner

Nov 28 - Movie Night at **5:00pm**

Dec 5 - WOWShut In Blanket Project 10:00am at church

Dec 19 - WOW Christmas Cookie Box Assembly 10:00am at church

Dec 20 - WOW Cookie Sale Fundraiser