

Lakeside Christian Fellowship Ripples



MAY 2026

VOLUME XIV NUMBER 5

May – The Month of Flowers and Mothers

As I sat down to write this, I saw a sentence on the Internet that read “May is the month of flowers and mothers” and it stuck in my brain.

I drove out to visit my wife’s grave in Killeen and, while driving, I noticed a plethora of bluebonnets along the road and planted in plots of ground surrounding people’s homes, and I thought “my God how wonderful is your creation and all things therein.” I knew what I was thinking was in the Bible somewhere and when I got back to my apartment, I looked it up. It’s from Psalm 104:24-25 that celebrate the many works of God, stating, “O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.” Additionally, Romans 1:20 emphasizes that God’s invisible qualities are evident in creation, making His divine nature clear to all who observe the world around them.

And then as I sat by Emma’s grave, I remembered her as a mother to our children and grandchildren and now great grandchildren. My granddaughter told me right after Easter, “I miss Grandma Darling a lot these days and when I look at Esy (her son and my great grandson), I remember the days when Grandma was there for me when I was growing up and I so wish she was there for him.” I told her Emma is still with her – just not in the flesh. You see to me, seeing my granddaughter as a mother is unfathomable because I remember her as a child. A Mother’s love supersedes all earthly love. It knows no bounds. May is the month of mothers. Take time out every day to honor your mothers. Mother’s Day is May 10th; however, May is also the month where God’s love is in bloom in nature.

I have never met a woman who doesn’t love receiving flowers. Oh, my wife said she would rather get jewelry. You would have to know Emma to appreciate that. She spent most of her working career as a gemologist working in jewelry stores. She even carried a loupe with her. Just kidding but she did know her way around gems. But you know something? After she passed away, I was told by her sisters that she would always tell them about the flowers she got not only from me but others. Flowers, God’s gift to us are in abundance and they are so beautiful. I just love the altar flower arrangements that we have always in our worship services.

So, when you’re out and about and you see the wildflowers that are evident this time of year along the highways and byways of this great state. Remember that they are indeed God’s gift to every one of us and all women whether they are birth mothers or not are God’s gift and should be treasured not only in the month of May but year-round. My thoughts and prayers go out to not only every woman in our congregation, but to all the women of this Earth. You inspire us and love us despite the things we do sometime. God Bless!

Rev. Chuck Smith

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LAKESIDE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Leadership Council Report for April 13, 2026

The Leadership Council Meeting was called to order at 9:30AM by Moderator Bill Bush. Members present were Bill Bush, Nancy Meierhoff, Russell Reese, Wilma Sanders, Laurie Glass, Gene Glass, Ginger Halsted and Fred Pontesso. A quorum was present. Pastor Chuck Smith was also present.

Invocation: Pastor Chuck opened with a prayer.

Thoughts to Ponder: Bill talked about how we can communicate our church activities to the community. Laurie stated that she thinks we need more exposure in the newspaper, The Northshore Navigator, at least once a month. There was a discussion regarding this subject.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the March 9, 2026 Council meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

Outreach: Pastor Chuck stated he is trying to get in touch with Dale Chrisman on the Ministerial Alliance idea. He said it is up to the Diocese to approve this. He talked to Pastor Henderson at Northlake Church about this. Bill said we need input also from the Lago Vista City Council on this. He said he is still working on this and waiting for responses. He relayed that Dale wants to be the Chair for this. Pastor Chuck will talk with him about it. Bill suggested that maybe we should have another meeting with the Mayor about this issue.

Promotions & Marketing: Nancy said that she had talked to Warwick about the Painted Churches trip and he said he had nothing to report at this time. He had received 12 who had signed up for this trip. Presently, there were now only five who had expressed interest. Upon his return from vacation, he will be determined when/if to move forward with the trip. He will keep the Council updated. He said he missed the deadline in the Navigator newspaper for our advertisement. Bill stated he will make the ad and submit it to the newspaper. We will have an article in the next Edition #4. There will be a press release (at no charge) for our Fresh Food Program. Nancy said we will put the Painted Churches Trip on hold for now, but will have an ad in Edition #4. Bill relayed that we also have some things planned, i.e., Holy Cow BBQ in the Fall.

Faith in Action: Russell explained how the Fresh Food for All Program (FFFA) works. He said the Hill Country Community Ministries (HCCM) pro-

vides all of the food and delivers it to Lago Vista in their truck for distribution. LCF provides volunteers, along with other volunteers, that help to hand out the food to the family members. The inaugural Lago Vista FFFA Program on Friday, March 27th, we distributed 1,195 pounds of food to a total of 64 families. HCCM also delivers to an additional nine other locations in Travis and Williamson Counties each month. He said you could refer to the March 2026 Ripples for more details on the HCCM FFFA Program. There was a long discussion about how to advertise this event. Jonestown has their fresh food event every second Friday and we have our on the fourth Friday in Lago Vista. He discussed manpower for this event. He will look into how we can have enough people to help with this. Bill asked how the numbers compared to Jonestown numbers. Russell will find out and get the information back to the Council. Bill asked about having someone do an article for the newspapers on this event. Since Julie Christie is a Press Secretary for the church, we will ask her to do this article to include that this was a successful event, etc. This is an Action Item.

Pastor Search Committee: Nancy stated that the Committee met last week and she informed everybody that she has 11 applicants for this position at this time and more with inquiries. She will send these applications to Bill. There was a discussion regarding utilizing the "Cloud" for posting the collection of pastoral resumes, etc. Nothing firm was decided. who will put them on the Google Cloud for others to open and review. Nancy said the Committee will get together to triage these applications. One of the applicants, Eric Haueter, has relatives in Austin. He will be preaching at LCF on May 3. Nancy stated she had emailed Eric a link to the LCF service, which included Communion and the Sunday bulletin. Eric was fine with our procedures. Nancy said we offered Eric a \$500 stipend for expenses and he seemed fine with that. She will make an announcement to the congregation on Sunday regarding the pastor search and where the Committee stands as of now.

Pastoral Relations: Nancy said that they have not had another meeting recently, but they have the Pulpit Supply taken care of. She said that Pastor Rick Waters will preach on April 19 and June 21, as Pas-

LAKESIDE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Leadership Council Report for April 13, 2026 ~ Page 2

tor Chuck will not be available. Dale Hill will preach on May 17.

Worship Committee: Fred apologized that we ran out of communion cups for the Easter service. There was a discussion about this. He talked about the Newcomer Plan and Guide and the Liturgist Bullet Points. He passed out some papers for these items. Fred stated that we need to get with Pam on these instructions and have them posted on the bulletin board. He stated that Bill has asked our Committee to come up with ideas about new members and prospects. They have come up with ideas which can be changed. Laurie suggested we need Usher Training and training for the Liturgist. Also, suggested was that when someone turns in a Visitor Form, someone needs to contact that person within 48 hours. Someone needs to be designated to do this. Fred reviewed the second page of the Newcomer Plan and what needs to be done. He said if you see someone new, be sure to give them a Newcomer nametag. Also, everyone needs to wear their name tags. There was a discussion about the duties of the Ushers. They need to be sure to pick up the Sign In books after the service. It was also stated that someone needs to do a follow-up with a note or a phone call if the newcomer doesn't come again. Russell suggested that we also follow-up with members who haven't shown up in a while. Maybe we need a way to track those members. There was a discussion regarding this issue. Laurie talked about who enters the "Talents" information for church members. Debbie, the secretary, does this entry. Gene stated that regarding new visitors, he would keep track of this list and after they come back he makes the name tag for them. It was suggested that Debbie could keep up with this list of new attendees and let Gene know. Russell volunteered to do this after contacting new visitors. Bill suggested that New Visitor cards go to Gene. There was a discussion about the Sign In books and submitting these pages to be collected and turned into Debbie. Pastor Chuck stated he doesn't mind contacting the newcomers afterwards. The first time visitors card should go in the Offering Plate. Fred suggested that we have a familiar song during our service. Nancy relayed that the songs are chosen by the Minister usually. Laurie commented on the blue

Sign In books and suggested passing them back to the center aisle. Fred suggested having a luncheon for the new members, since we now have about 19 new ones. We could have a simple meal in the Fellowship Hall after a church service. There was a discussion about this luncheon.

There was a discussion about having someone designated to drive the golf cart on Sundays. The person needs first to get used to operating this cart. They talked about moving this golf cart to the front of the church. Pastor Chuck stated that there is a clipboard in the pulpit for when we have newcomers. They can fill out the form while the music is playing. This information is a help to the pastor to have the information so he can relay to the congregation and Youtube. He says all he needs is their name and where they are from. Bill said in addition to a phone call, where in the process does someone offer to stop by the newcomer with a basket. He would like the Council to jot down any other ideas of how we can do this. There was a discussion about this issue. Nancy talked about getting a list from the City of the new people in Lago Vista. Bill talked about having a drone camera and taking aerial pictures of our church and putting them online in Facebook to advertise our church. This is an Action Item.

Ministries: Laurie stated that we have a piano recital in May 8 or 15 and will be in the church. There will be a Potluck Dinner on May 31, which is Memorial weekend. She said that Saturday, April 18, the Veterans Group will have a Spring Fling at the church. They will have hot dogs and hamburgers, games and speakers. This event is open to all Veterans.

Building and Grounds: Gene stated they have the new bench provided by Joyce that matches the other benches. He talked to her about having a plaque from the church put on her benches.

Stewardship Committee: Ginger stated there was nothing to report at this time. However, she is now authorized to sign checks for the church.

Financial Update (March 2026): Bill relayed that this information is included in the Financial packet. He stated that Judy opened a 4 month CD and a 6 month CD at PNC Bank. This bank offered the best interest rates. She closed our previous money market

LAKESIDE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Leadership Council Report for April 13, 2026 ~ Page 3

account at Security State Bank & Trust, which was only earning less than 1% interest. She reopened that same account earning 3.45% interest at Security State Bank & Trust. Bill reviewed the March 2026 expense report. Bill stated that he had contacted his Schwab brokerage firm regarding investments for the church. There was a discussion about this and Bill will get with Linda Anderson on how to do this. He will get some answers and get back with us on them.

Old Business: Gene talked about the proposed changes to the ByLaws and reviewed these changes as follows: (1) Added references to a new Commission for Outreach and Public Relations at appropriate places. (2) Changed Ministry Coordinator to Ministry Commission because this is now considered a Commission on a par with the existing Commissions. (3) Added ability for Council to appoint additional check signers if needed. (4) Removed references to Ministry Coordinator from Article VII Ministries, including all of Section 7.4, which is redundant to Section 6.4. (5) Removed references to Commission from Article IX, which are redundant. Gene made a **Motion (1)** to recommend to the congregation to implement these changes listed above to the ByLaws. Laurie seconded the motion. The Council voted and the motion was approved. Gene stated that he would like to have Warwick review these changes first. Gene presented a proposed list for PPR and Nominating Committee, Class 1 and Class 2 members. Class 1 members' term will expire in 2027 and Class 2 in 2026. Recommendations are based on each person's time served on the committee. The list is as follows: PPR: Class 1: Larry Thyssen, Genie Carroll, Barbara McClaid. Class 2: Linda Brown, Marilyn Hamblin, Christine Chapman. Nominating Committee: Class 1: Sara Bush, Barbara McClaid, Genie Carroll. Class 2: Linda Brown, Kari Monahan, Christine Chapman. Gene made a **Motion (2)** to accept this proposed list for PPR and Nominating Committee, Class 1 and Class 2 members. Nancy seconded the motion. The Council voted and the motion was approved.

New Business:

1. Meeting on May 11: Bill asked if anybody was considering traveling for Mother's Day, May 10. He

will be traveling and will not be here for the May 11 meeting. He would like to change this meeting to May 4. Laurie made a **Motion (3)** that the May 11 meeting be changed to May 4 at 0930AM. Fred seconded the motion. The Council voted and the motion was approved.

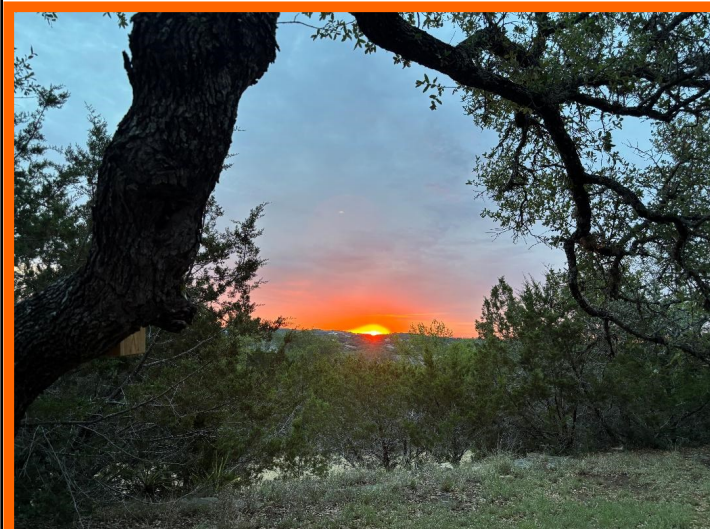
2. New Members Luncheon: Laurie asked the Council about having a New Members Luncheon after church service on May 17 or June 21. She will get with her committee on these dates and let us know what they decide.

3. Bench Plaques Funding: Nancy made a **Motion (4)** that we use the Memorial Fund to pay for the plaques for the new benches in the Meditation Garden. Laurie seconded the motion. The Council voted and the motion was approved.

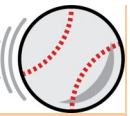
Future Topics: Next meeting: The next regular Council meeting will be on May 4, 2026.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 10:55AM.

Picture of the Sunrise during the
Easter "SonRise" Service
On April 5, 2026 at
Lakeside Christian Fellowship
In the Prayer Garden.



A family of faith connecting people to Christ and to each other!



On Wednesday, April 15, the baseball fans of Lakeside Christian Fellowship enjoyed a beautiful evening (temperature wise) at Dell Stadium and watched the Round Rock Express play the El Paso Chihuahuas. It was \$1. hot dog night and a fun time was had by all! Unfortunately, after a great effort the Round Rock Express lost 1-14.



A family of faith connecting people to Christ and to each other!

In March, I informed you about the Fresh Food for All (FFFA) program initiative offered by the Hill Country Community Ministries, Leander, Texas. FFFA is a targeted approach to tackling hunger and promoting better nutrition. HCCM steps up by extending help to underserved areas, granting clients direct access to fresh produce, and allowing them to select their preferred fruits and vegetables - all for **FREE!**

Although HCCM has been providing this service to Jonestown and other areas for quite some time, HCCM began to offer this program in Lago Vista on Friday March 27th from 9am to 11am in the Lago Vista City Hall parking lot located at 5803 Thunderbird Street and will continue this program **on the 4th Friday** of each month at the same time and location.



Please inform your neighbors and friends that if they know of anyone that may be experiencing food insecurities and may need a helping hand are made aware of this very beneficial program.

I would also like to share with you some numbers from the first inaugural Lago Vista FFFA. We were able to provide **64 families with 1,195 lbs. of fresh food.** For the first time offering in Lago Vista, I was told by HCCM these are rather good numbers. We had a total number of 11 volunteers to help out this time, of which six volunteers were from LCF. I would like to thank all of the volunteers that committed their time to make the inaugural FFFA very successful.

I ask that you continue to give your food and clothing/linen donations and Tanya and I will ensure they are taken to the appropriated location. If you are not able to bring them to the church, please let Tanya or I know and we will make arrangements with you to pick your donations up.

Or, I would also like to make you aware of a couple of different donating options for you to consider below:

- 1) if you do not wish to drop off food donations to LCF to be taken to the Hope Center, you can go on line to the Hope Center's homepage website and there is a place for you to scroll down until you see "Help Stock Our Pantry Heading" and right below that you will see click on "Shop Needed Items Here" and after you click on this it will take you to an Amazon website page that is linked to the Hope Center. This page will reflect all of the food items currently in need by the Hope Center. You can then select the items that you wish to choose and pay for them. It will automatically default to delivering it to the Hope Center in Lago Vista. *(P.S. I recently purchased food for the Hope Center using this option and found it very beneficial since I only purchased food they actually needed and it was delivered to their location by Amazon.)*
- 2) the Lyons Club of Lago Vista offers a very good program to help feed kids that are in need. Here is an excerpt from their website: *"We have developed a sustainable program to supply the nutritional needs of these children. In conjunction with the community Thanksgiving distribution, we supply breakfast and lunch items for children. During the winter and spring school breaks, we deliver curated boxes of such items – families with several children or older kids receive extra food. The summer involves four separate deliveries of curated boxes with enough food to last for three weeks at a time."*

For additional information on this program, please visit the Lago Vista Lions Club website using this link <https://www.lagolionsclub.org/hunger>

Faith in Action Chair,

Russell Reese

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FAITH in ACTION



A family of faith connecting people to Christ and to each other!



Remember your loved ones or celebrate a special occasion and rejoice in our church by supplying flowers for a worship service!

If you would like to provide flowers for a Sunday service, please sign up on the Flower Chart posted on the bulletin board in the Worship Sanctuary or contact the church office at (512) 267-1700 or Lakesidechristianfellowship@yahoo.com to place your order.

Let the church office know if you would like something printed in the bulletin for your special occasion!

The flower cost is \$30.00.

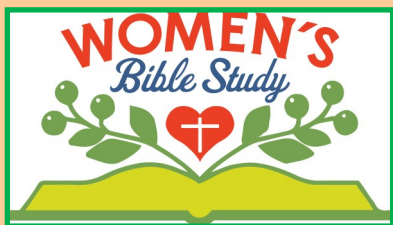
The primary function of ushers/greeters is to welcome the congregation and visitors as they arrive, as well as passing out bulletins.

A warm, friendly smile reveals the church's personality and makes people feel welcomed!

If you are interested in being a Greeter/Usher you can sign up on the sheet provided on the bulletin board in the Worship Sanctuary or contact the church office at (512) 267-1700.



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**Join us each Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.
Downstairs in the Office Building in the
WOW Room.
There is parking downstairs for your
convenience.**

**The WOW Bible Study Group
is studying scripture and
books of the bible
listening to podcasts by
Gary Hambrick
with discussions to follow.**

All ladies are welcome to attend!.



Men's Bible Study is taking a break.

**The study will start up again on
Tuesday, May 26, 2026 at 9:30 am
In the WOW Room.**

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ALL-CHURCH

POTLUCK

Our next 5th Sunday Pot Luck will be held on May 31, 2026 and have a patriotic theme, in honor of Memorial Day. The Pot Luck will begin immediately following the Sunday Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall.



The congregation is asked to bring their favorite dish to share.

Only beverages of tea, water and lemonade will be provided.

Bring a friend and join us for fabulous food and fellowship!

**New
Member
Luncheon**



New Members mark your calendars!

A New Members Luncheon will be held for the new members of LCF along with the Leadership Council on Sunday, June 14, 2026, immediately following the Sunday Worship Service.

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**Church
Office
Hours:
Wednesday
and Thursday
from 9:30 am
to 3:30 pm.**



Please remember
that all church
activities should be
scheduled on the
master calendar in
the church office.
Thank you!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 9:30 AM Choir Practice @ WS 10:00 AM Meet and Greet @WS 10:30 AM Worship Service @ WS Live Streaming	4 9:30 AM Leadership Council Meeting @Fellowship Hall	5 No Men's Bible Study	6 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study Downstairs in WOW Room	7 National Day of PRAYER 	8	9
10 9:30 AM Choir Practice @ WS 10:00 AM Meet and Greet @WS 10:30 AM Worship Service @ WS Live Streaming 	11	12 No Men's Bible Study	13 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study Downstairs in WOW Room	14	15	16
17 Ascension Sunday 9:30 AM Choir Practice @ WS 10:00 AM Meet and Greet @WS 10:30 AM Worship Service @ WS Live Streaming	18	19 No Men's Bible Study	20 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study Downstairs in WOW Room	21 Alzheimer Group 10:30 AM @LV Library 	22	23
24 Pentecost 9:30 AM Choir Practice @ WS 10:00 AM Meet and Greet @WS 10:30 AM Worship Service @ WS Live Streaming	25 	26 9:30 AM Men's Bible Study Downstairs in WOW Room	27 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study Downstairs in WOW Room	28	29	30
31 Trinity Sunday 9:30 AM Choir Practice @ WS 10:00 AM Meet and Greet @WS 10:30 AM Worship Service @ WS Live Streaming 5th Sunday Pot Luck	1	2 9:30 AM Men's Bible Study Downstairs in WOW Room	3 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study Downstairs in WOW Room	For more information visit the LCF website at www.lakesidechristians.org		



Sally Wood 2
Bonnie McClung..... 6
Linda Brown 9
Rev. Rick Waters 20
Iain Alexander..... 27



Joe & Glynda Wolverton
May 6

If you would like your dates to be included, please send your information to the church office:
lakesidechristianfellowship@yahoo.com

Prayer Corner

<https://christianstt.com/prayer-for-the-month-of-may/>

As I look forward to the rest of this month,
I do so with a heart filled with
thanksgiving and praise.

Thank You, Father, for the beauty of May,
for the promise of growth, and for the hope of
good things to come.

I praise You for Your steadfast presence and
Your unchanging love.

May my days be a continual offering of praise
to You, as I witness
Your grace and blessings unfold.

Let this month be a testament to Your
goodness, and may my life reflect Your light
and love to all around me.

In Jesus' most precious name,

Amen.

April 30, 2026

YTD Offerings..... \$82,330.42

YTD Expenses..... \$63,219.52

Lakeside Christian Fellowship

Worship & Office Location
3305 Pinnacle Cove, Lago Vista, TX 78645

Contact:
512-267-1700, lakesidechristianfellowship@yahoo.com

Mailing Address
P. O. Box 4874, Lago Vista, TX 78645

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