Lakeside
Christian Fellowship
Ripples

NOVEMBER 2026 VOLUME XVI, NUMBER 11

I decided for the month of Thanksgiving to share a poem that has touched my heart for some time. Its titled "How Can I Keep from Singing?" The first known publication of the words was on August 27, 1868, in *The New York Observer*. Titled "Always Rejoicing", and attributed to "Pauline T.", the text reads:

My life flows on in endless song;
Above earth's lamentation,
I catch the sweet, tho' far-off hymn
That hails a new creation;
Thro' all the tumult and the strife
I hear the music ringing;
It finds an echo in my soul—
How can I keep from singing?

What tho' my joys and comforts die?
The Lord my Saviour liveth;
What tho' the darkness gather round?
Songs in the night he giveth.
No storm can shake my inmost calm
While to that refuge clinging;
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,
How can I keep from singing?

I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin;
I see the blue above it;
And day by day this pathway smooths,
Since first I learned to love it,
The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
A fountain ever springing;
All things are mine since I am his—
How can I keep from singing?

Happy Thanksgiving and keep on singing,
Pastor Chuck

LAKESIDE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Leadership Council Report for October 12, 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, Judy Guthrie, Warwick Andrews, Ginger Halsted and Fred Pontesso. A quorum was present. Pastor Chuck Smith was present for this meeting.

Invocation: Pastor Chuck opened with a prayer.

Thoughts to Ponder: Bill stated our church is open to make major adjustments to join God in work. The question to Council is and continues to be "What does that change look like? What aspects of our church does it embody?" We need more involvement with the congregation outside of just Sundays. There was a discussion about our church being a traditional church with Bibles, hymnals and bulletins. Also, there was a long talk about possibly having a Youth Ministry in the future.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the September 14, 2026 Council meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

Outreach Committee: Pastor Chuck stated there was a Ministerial Alliance Meeting held on Wednesday. There will be another meeting in November or December at Northlake Church. He talked about other churches having a problem with their Youth Program being successful.

Promotions & Marketing Committee: Warwick thanked Larry Thyssen and the Council members that were involved with the National Night Out event, which helped to promote our church within the Lago Vista community. He also thanked the WOW ladies that prepared the Welcome Baskets that are distributed to the newcomers to our church. There was a discussion about having a "canopy" for our church events in the community, which would have our church logo printed on the side. Laurie made a **Motion (1)** that we purchase a basic canopy (10x10 ft) with our logo for church events with a price not to exceed $500. Judy seconded the motion. The Council voted and the motion was approved. Laurie added that we could also use our church banner with this canopy. Warwick talked about having "The Last Supper" again, which was well attended years ago in our community and raised some money for our church. He has all the facts and figures for this program and feels it would be good publicity for our church. He said we could maybe have it on Munday Thursday and offer free tickets to control the numbers. There was a long discussion about this program and what is involved. He will talk to Jim Christie about the 5 choir pieces and if he would be available for this event. Warwick stated that maybe we could have a Treasure Hunt or Scavenger Hunt to promote our church. Bill suggested having an additional church slogan, "Not Just A Sunday Morning Thing". There was a discussion about who in the congregation might be interested in Promotion and Marketing for the church through the Volunteer Resources Chairman, Norma James.

Faith in Action Committee: Russell asked who is responsible for keeping our church website updated. Bill is the person that does this, but would like to have a volunteer help to do this. Pastor Chuck offered to help with this and will get with Bill later. Russell talked about having an Alzheimer's/ Dementia Day Out to give the caregivers some respite time. We could hold it in the Fellowship Hall possibly once a month. He will talk with Donna Nash on how to set this up. He relayed that the Fresh Food Program will change in November and December because of the holidays. The dates are November 20 and December 18.

Pastor Search Committee: Nancy stated that we now have one candidate to consider and his name is Mike Acker from Dripping Springs, Texas. He will be visiting us next Sunday. She talked about his experience as a pastor, as well as his family. Nancy also stated that she has 3-4 more applications and has requested videos from them, but has not received any at this time.

Pastoral Relations Committee: Nancy relayed this



CHURCH COUNCIL

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committee met on September 15 and their next meeting will be December 3. They will be doing staff evaluations at this meeting. She stated that Pastor Rick Waters will be honored as "Pastor Emeritus" after the first of the year (2027). Pastor Chuck Smith will be preaching on Sundays in October. Pastor Rick Waters will preach on November 1 and Jim Christie will preach on November 29. There was a discussion about updating the Prayer List in the bulletin, as it has gotten really long. If any changes or deletions, please let Debbie know of this. She will also put a note in the bulletin that this list needs to be updated. There was a suggestion by Gene that we need to have a screen monitor for the back wall in the Sanctuary in lieu of having a laptop at the pulpit. Nancy made a **Motion (2)** that we purchase a screen monitor installed on the back wall of the Sanctuary with a remote for the pulpit laptop. Judy seconded the motion. The Council voted and the motion was approved. There was a discussion about repairing the squeaking speaker on the right side of the Sanctuary (near the choir area). Bill will run a wire to correct this problem.

Worship Committee:

a. Media in the Sanctuary: Fred stated they are doing quite well. He has ordered 2 TV monitors for the sanctuary and they have been installed and function as expected.

b. Scattering Garden Dedication: There was a conversation about when to dedicate the Scattering Garden in 2026. The ceremony will be in the Sanctuary on November 22 at the close of our Sunday service before the "Sending Forth" song. Pastor Chuck will get with Debbie to include in the bulletin.

Ministries Committee: Laurie stated that we have a volunteer, Russell Reese, who will give a seminar open to the community at LCF on "Getting Your Affairs in Order Before Death". It covers preneed funeral contracts, perpetual care cemetery requirements, other important documents to consider, additional Meeting in November. dressing before death, and a Q&A session at the end of the presentation. This will require prior registration. This seminar will be held in 2027 and the date will be announced later. Laurie relayed that the Lago Vista Players' practices are over for now. There will be a Potluck on November 22 in the Fellowship Hall. This is a Soup and Salad potluck. Drinks will be provided. There was a discussion about just having monetary donations for the Christmas lights, instead of members buying lights. Laurie requested that our PayPal portal be modified to accept payments intended for "Flowers" and for "Christmas Lights".

a. Medicare Informational Presentation: Laurie relayed they are still looking into the changes in Medicare and will update when they have more information.

Building and Grounds Committee: Gene stated we will have new carpet installed on Tuesday and Wednesday this week. The seal coating of our parking lot has been done and looks good. He is also trying to find the right Christmas lights and is working on this. Gene talked about having another exit put in the front of the Sanctuary for safety reasons. There was a discussion about this. He will contact Kyngdom Construction about doing this and the cost. Russell had a question about the light for our church sign and maybe having a LED solar-powered. There was a discussion about this and having a light switch for the front parking lot that can be turned on. Fred suggested having a solar-powered switch that comes on when it gets dark.

Stewardship Committee:

a. Pledge Drive Results for 2027: Ginger reviewed the pledges information for 2027. Fred congratulated Ginger for having such a great response from our members. We now have 17 new members that have joined our church. Bill reminded all committee chairmen that they should be prepared to give a summary of their duties at our Annual Congrega-



CHURCH COUNCIL

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Financial Update (September 2026): Judy summarized the financial report for September 2026. She says we are doing very good, considering we have 3 more months to go, but should end the year in the positive for 2027. Judy made a **Motion (3)** that we increase our Unpledged Monies in the 2027 Budget from $20,000 to $25,000. Ginger seconded the motion. The Council voted and the motion was approved. There was a discussion about the pastor's salary amount based on the size of our church compared to larger member churches. Bill will get with Nancy on this and possibly adjusting the amount accordingly.

Old Business:

a. Planning for Annual Meeting Including Nominations: Bill discussed the Nominating Committee and the Class II members. He suggested we ask these members if they will continue in their positions. Gene made **a Motion (4)** that we accept the list of new committee chairs and members for 2027 at the next Annual Congregational Meeting in November. Russell seconded the motion. The Council voted and the motion was approved. Bill stated that we remove "Coordinator" on the list sent out regarding the Leadership Council and Ministry Members.

b. Status of the Sign: Bill relayed that the city treats a permanent church identification sign that is not on the same platted lot as the church as an off-premises sign. Off-premises signs are generally prohibited. Written landowner permission does not create an exception. A variance from the Board of Adjustment is therefore required before (or concurrently with) the sign permit. So, we have to have a variance to the ordinance and an application for this. Bill will submit the Sign Permit Application, along with the Request for Variance.

New Business: None.

Future Topics: Next meeting: The next regular Council meeting will be on November 9, 2026.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 11:45AM.

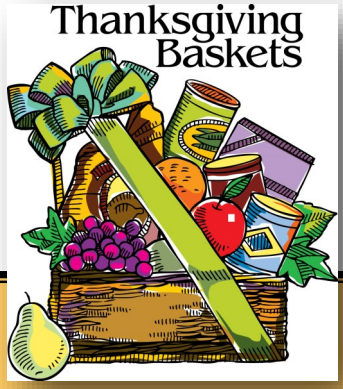


Daylight Savings Time Ends November 1, 2026

Set clocks back one hour on Saturday night, October 31, 2026!



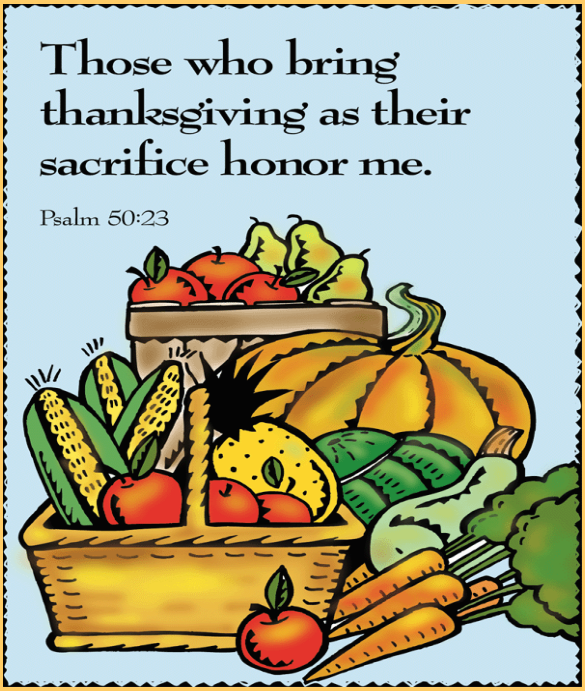
CHURCH COUNCIL



If you would like to help sponsor a Lago Vista family Thanksgiving dinner, please fill out this form and return it the church office by November 8, 2026 along with your check. Thank you!

Lakeside Christian Fellowship will be working with the Lago Vista School District to provide grocery shopping gift certificates to Lago Vista families for their Thanksgiving dinners.

Yes!, I wish to sponsor one family Thanksgiving dinner!



_____

Name

$ 25.00 Suggested Gift

_____

Name

$ 25.00 Suggested Gift

Since the fifth Sunday of November falls on Thanksgiving weekend again this year, we will have our 5th Sunday Pot Luck celebration on November 22, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, immediately following the Sunday Worship Service.

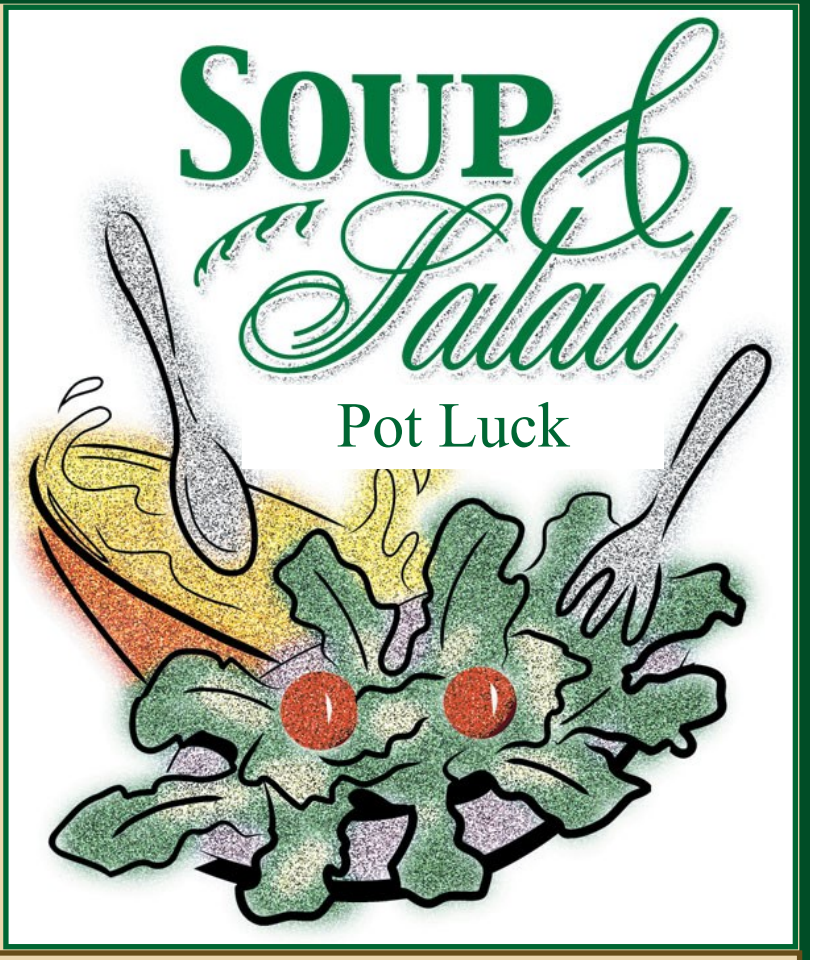
The menu this year will be Soup and Salad.
The soup and salad pot luck last year was well received with a wonderful variety of soups, salads, breads and desserts.

The Ministries Committee will furnish tea and lemonade as well as the condiments.
You bring the rest, your favorite soup, salad, side or dessert.

We are looking forward to celebrating the beginnings of the holiday season.

All are welcome to join our family of friends in the Fellowship Hall.

We hope to see you there!





The September 2026 Fresh Food for All Program (FFFA) Provided by the Hill Country Community Ministries (HCCM), along with the help of volunteers from LCF and other churches was successful, as we were able to distribute 932 pounds of food, which was given to 68 families in need. To date, this is the most families we have served. The FFFA program meets in front of Lago Vista City Hall on the **fourth Friday** of each month, but **due to the holidays the dates for November and December have changed to the third Friday of the month.**

Please not that the
November date will be on November 20 and the December date is December 18.

If you are planning on donating for the Thanksgiving meals, the deadline to turn in your check to the church is Sunday 11/8.

Also, if you are planning on preparing a Samaritan Shoe Box, you need to have it to the church by Friday 11/20.

Russell Reese, Faith in Action



Welcome new members
David and Valerie Johnson
to the LCF Church Family!

David and Valerie joined
Lakeside Christian Fellowship on
October 4, 2026.



The "WOW" (Women of the Word)
Bible Study Group
is studying the book
"You'll Get Through This"
By Max Lucado.
The study begins at 10:00 a.m. each
Wednesday downstairs in the
LCF Fellowship Hall
In the WOW Room #5.

All Women in the area are
welcome to attend.

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday NO BIBLE STUDY will be held on November 25, 2026!





LCF will be hosting a Christmas Cantata on December 13, 2026

More information to come at a later date!



There will be a church decorating day on the Saturday after Thanksgiving,
November 28 at 9:00 a.m.
We will be decorating the church grounds, Fellowship Hall and Worship Sanctuary for the Christmas Season.

All are welcome to participate in decorating, any and all help is appreciated!

National Night Out

Lakeside Christan Fellowship participated in National Night Out on Tuesday, October 6.





We had a fantastic group of volunteers that participated in National Night Out to promote Lakeside Christian Fellowship.

They passed out candy and bottled water along with informational packets about our wonderful church!







ANNUAL MEETING





Moderator, William Bush



On Sunday, October 25, LCF held it's Annual Congregational Meeting where our new television screens in the sanctuary were showcased!

The meeting was held to approve the 2027 budget and vote in the Council Members and Nominating Committee for the upcoming year.

Moderator, William Bush opened the meeting and each current board member gave a report before the voting began.

(Not Pictured is Secretary, Wilma Sanders.)



Stewardship Chair, Ginger Halsted



Treasurer, Judy Guthrie



Faith in Action Chair, Russell Reese



Promotions and Marketing, Warwick Andrews



Pastoral Relations, Nancy Meierhoff



Worship Chair, Fred Pontesso



Ministries Chair, Laurie Glass



Building and Grounds Chair, Gene Glass



On Sunday, October 18, Lakeside Christian Fellowship honored June Freeman for her devoted service to the church and community.

Rev. Chuck Smith and Lisa Weaver presented June with letters from the community as well as a certificate of appreciation and flowers from Lakeside Christian Fellowship.

June will be missed, but we wish her the best and much happiness in this new chapter of her life!













On Wednesday, October 14, 2026 a special evening celebrating June Freeman's life in Lago Vista was shared by many. June is moving to Plano, TX to be closer to family.

June was thrilled and honored to see many of her dear close friends come out to support her and wish her well in her future. Janet Cason presented June with many cards of Thanks for all of her past involvement with the Lago Vista Community and Lakeside Christian Fellowship.

June had a moment of gratitude and appreciation for all of her friends throughout the years. As June put it "Getting 40 + people to smile all at once for the camera was like herding cats!"

May God guide your steps June. Thank you for all that you have done for our church and community!
(Written and pictures taken by Donna Nash)











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

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

NOVEMBER 2026

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
						31 
1 9:30 AM Choir Practice @ WS 10:00 AM Meet & Greet @ WS 10:30 AM Worship Service @ Worship Sanctuary Live Streaming	2	3	4 Women's Bible Study 10:00 AM @LCF Fellowship Hall Downstairs	5	6	7
8 9:30 AM Choir Practice @ WS 10:00 AM Meet & Greet @ WS 10:30 AM Worship Service @ Worship Sanctuary Live Streaming Last Day Thanksgiving Donation	9 9:30 AM Leadership Council Meeting@ LCF Fellowship Hall	10	11 Women's Bible Study 10:00 AM @LCF Fellowship Hall Downstairs 	12 	13	14
15 9:30 AM Choir Practice @ WS 10:00 AM Meet & Greet @ WS 10:30 AM Worship Service @ Worship Sanctuary Live Streaming	16	17	18 Women's Bible Study 10:00 AM @LCF Fellowship Hall Downstairs	19 Alzheimer Group 10:30 AM @ LV Library	20	21
22 9:30 AM Choir Practice @ WS 10:00 AM Meet & Greet @ WS 10:30 AM Worship Service @ Worship Sanctuary 	23	24	25 NO Women's Bible Study	26 *Office Closed* 	27	28  Church Decorating Day 9 AM
29 9:30 AM Choir Practice @ WC 10:00 AM Meet & Greet @ LCF Fellowship Hall 10:30 AM Worship Service @ Worship Center Live Streaming	30			For more information visit the LCF website at www.lakesidechristians.org		



Fran Pontesso 5
Paula Fisher 9
Laurie Glass 11
Janet Cason 13
Nancy Meierhoff 14
Russell Reese 25



Wayne & Bonnie Walker
November 29

To be included, please send your information to:
lakesidechristianfellowship@yahoo.com

Prayer Corner

https://finds.life.church/gratitude-prayers-thankfulness-prayers/#prayers

Dear Lord,
I want to pause and say thank You—
not just in the big moments,
but in the ordinary ones, too.
Thank You for the food I eat,
the air I breathe,
and the quiet moments of joy that make up my day.
Teach me to recognize Your work in the small things and to respond with genuine thanks.

In Jesus' name,
Amen.

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NIV

Lakeside Christian Fellowship

Worship and Office Location
3305 Pinnacle Cove, Lago Vista

512-267-1700, lakesidechristianfellowship@yahoo.com

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

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P.O. Box 4874
Lago Vista TX 78645

Phone: 512-267-1700
lakesidechristianfellowship@yahoo.com

www.lakesidechristians.org

