

Lakeside Christian Fellowship Ripples



SEPTEMBER 2026

VOLUME XIV, NUMBER 9



The Coming Fall Season and God's Hand in It

As summer slowly loosens its grip and the first hints of autumn begin to appear, we are reminded once again that creation moves according to a rhythm greater than our own. The days grow shorter, the air turns cooler, and the trees prepare to trade their summer green for shades of gold, orange, and crimson. Fall arrives not suddenly, but gently, like a whisper from God reminding us that change can be beautiful.

The fall season has a way of drawing our attention to the wonder of God's creation. Every changing leaf, every crisp morning, every harvest gathered from the fields speaks of His faithfulness. Long before we marked calendars or named the seasons, God established order in the world. Genesis tells us that He placed lights in the heavens "to separate the day from the night" and to mark "signs and seasons and days and years." Autumn is not an accident of nature; it is part of God's design.

Fall teaches us about change. Many people resist change because it can feel uncertain or uncomfortable. Yet the trees do not fight the turning of the season. They release what they have held and prepare for what is next. In the same way, God sometimes calls us to let go—of old worries, past hurts, unhealthy habits, or seasons of life that have come to an end. What may look like loss can actually be preparation for renewal.

Autumn also reminds us of harvest. Farmers and gardeners know that the fruit of fall began long before the season arrived. Seeds were planted, watered, tended, and patiently watched. Spiritually, our lives are much the same. Galatians 6:9 encourages us not to grow weary in doing good, "for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up." God sees the seeds of faithfulness we plant, even when no one else does. In His time, He brings forth a harvest.

There is also gratitude woven deeply into this season. As tables fill with food, families gather, and communities prepare for Thanksgiving, fall invites us to pause and count our blessings. The beauty around us is not merely decoration; it is a call to worship. The colors of the leaves, the abundance of the harvest, and the simple comfort of a warm home all point us back to the Giver of every good gift.

But fall also carries a quieter message. As leaves fall and the earth prepares for winter, we are reminded that rest is holy. God did not create us to live in constant busyness. Just as the land has seasons of production and seasons of rest, so do our souls. Autumn invites us to slow down, reflect, and trust God with what we cannot control.

The coming fall season is more than a change in weather. It is a sermon written across the landscape. It tells us that God is faithful in every season, present in every transition, and generous in every harvest. Whether we are entering a season of change, gratitude, release, or rest, we can be sure of this: the same God who paints the leaves and orders the seasons is also guiding our lives.

As fall approaches, may we receive it with open hearts. May we notice God's beauty in the world around us. May we trust His timing, give thanks for His blessings, and remember that every season, spring, summer, fall, and winter, belongs to Him.

Blessings, Rev. Chuck Smith

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LAKESIDE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Leadership Council Report for August 6, 2026

The Leadership Council Meeting was called to order at 9:31AM by Moderator Bill Bush. Members present were Bill Bush, Nancy Meierhoff, Russell Reese, Judy Guthrie, Wilma Sanders, Laurie Glass, Gene Glass, Ginger Halsted, Warwick Andrews and Fred Pontesso. A quorum was present. Pastor Chuck Smith, Regina Holmes and Genie Carroll were present for this meeting.

Invocation: Pastor Chuck opened with a prayer.

Thoughts to Ponder: Bill talked about decision-making. When you flip a coin, you don't pay attention to the coin result, but how the toss makes you feel. This opens up thinking that we want to do God's will. The best way to fill out God's will is in a group of people. He stated he feels God works through our group. He takes great value in everybody's input to help God move with us.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the June 8, 2026 Council meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

Summary of Meeting: The meeting of Lakeside Christian Fellowship's Leadership Council covered outreach, promotion, facilities, finances, and pastoral matters. The group discussed community outreach, including a back-to-school prayer service and signage options, and approved the purchase of a temporary feather flag for Sundays. They reviewed the recent successful participation in a local parade float and ongoing marketing efforts, including regular advertising and a possible revival of a community Last Supper event. The council decided on the style and color of new church polo shirts and approved plaques and signage for the Scattering Garden. Updates were given on the Pastor Search Committee's progress, the schedule of guest preachers, and the honoring of Rick Waters as Pastor Emeritus. Worship and facility topics included the possibility of installing video screens for presentations, completion of deck painting, and approval to replace carpet in the fellowship hall and Pastor's office. The treasurer reported on recent income, a grant from the estate of Jean Mangum, and the approval of the

next year's budget with an adjustment for insurance. The council also noted the resignation of the nominating committee chair and the need for new committee members.

Outreach: Pastor Chuck stated that the Ministerial Alliance has not had a meeting yet and does not know when they will meet again. He relayed that the Back to School Prayer Service will be at 5:00PM at the Performing Arts Center in Lago Vista on August 9. This is a community prayer service. Pastor Chuck will make an announcement on Sunday for this event.

Promotions & Marketing: Pastor Chuck talked about having a double-sided "feather" sign for our church at the entrance of Boggy Ford and Pinnacle. The cost is approximately \$400. He passed out copies of a picture of this feather sign. He explained how this could be secured at the base of it and it will be taken down after church on Sundays. Gene will be putting the flag up each Sunday. There was a discussion on what will be printed on the sign. Pastor Chuck will purchase the flag as a donation to the church. There was a discussion regarding the city rules on signs like this. Warwick commented that we need a permanent sign out during the week for our church. Judy suggested asking the people in the house nearby on Boggy Ford possibly allowing a permanent sign put on their property for maybe \$50 a month. Bill talked about all the options and permissions needed to install this sign, beginning with the landowner and then to City Hall. He will be looking into this with the homeowner on Boggy Ford near the church. Judy made a **Motion (1)** that we purchase one double-sided feather flag sign to put out every Sunday at a cost NTE \$400. Nancy seconded the motion. The Council voted and the motion was approved. There was a discussion regarding the base of this sign and how to secure it to the ground. Warwick discussed the July 4th event how successful it was. We had 19 members on the parade float and we were well received in the com-

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munity. He stated that he had put \$1,000 in contingency for next year's event, as we will have to rent a truck and a trailer. We will also have lots more water pistols next year. He says that we advertise in the local "78645" paper. He would like to have half page advertisements in the Navigator to cover special events and holidays. The rest of the year would be the same size as we have now. He talked about the new preacher, our Easter Program, and other upcoming events that could be advertised. Also, he has talked with Pastor Rick about having a program of "The Last Supper", which we did years ago and it was a success. They will need 12 men from the church as the 12 Apostles. There was a discussion about having it at K-Oaks or here in our church. Laurie discussed options on the material for the polo shirts with our church logo embroidered on them. The Council talked about the white polo shirts versus the blue polo shirts. They decided on the blue color (True Blue) polo shirt. Laurie relayed that they have sold 38 polo shirts so far. Laurie made a **Motion (2)** that we purchase the 65-35 blend blue polo shirts with full embroidered patch for the left side. Fred seconded the motion. The Council voted and the motion was approved. There was a discussion about the blue logo would look better on the white polo shirt. Laurie made a **Motion (3)** that we purchase the white polo shirts with the fully stitched logo versus the blue polo shirts. Ginger seconded the motion. The Council voted and the motion was defeated. Judy made a **Motion (4)** that we purchase the 65-35 blend polo shirt in the light blue color (Periwinkle). Gene seconded the motion. The Council voted and the motion was approved. Laurie will send an email out to all people that have ordered asking for the size of the polo shirt, as they have sizes for both men and women. When she returns in September, she will order these polo shirts.

Faith in Action: Russell stated that regarding the Fresh Food Drive, we were able to serve 78 families by donating over 1,200 lbs of fresh food, which more

than doubled the output from the last month; the word is getting out with using the Nextdoor app now. Russell also stated the costs related to purchasing the items for the Scattering Garden was approximately \$485 and he will handle this through an in-kind transfer rather than charging the church directly. Laurie stated that individual Memorial Plaques for church members would cost \$20 each. She relayed that the Memorial Plaque for the Scattering Garden would cost \$112 plus \$40 for 56 letters, total cost is \$188.40. The size of the plaque is 1.5'x3.5'. This plaque will be in the ground near the actual Garden. Laurie made a **Motion (5)** that the Council approve \$188.40 for the Memorial Plaque. Nancy seconded the motion. The Council voted and the motion was approved. Bill relayed that Ampara Giller would like to donate a bench for the Scattering Garden.

Pastor Search Committee: Nancy gave an update on some candidates for the Pastor position. She noted that Ben Langley has until August 15 to make a decision of accepting the position as Pastor for LCF. She said he has already turned down other churches offers. She is waiting on the information from another candidate, Billy Robby. She stated that depending on Ben's decision, she will be posting our advertisement for Pastor on churchstaffing.com website. The Committee's next meeting is August 17. There was a discussion regarding the new Pastor's duties, salary, etc. Nancy said he would be a full-time Pastor. His salary is based on the market rate. He will pastor according to LCF's Constitution and By-Laws.

Pastoral Relations: Nancy relayed the upcoming schedule of preachers. Dale Hill will preach on August 23 and Jim Christie will preach on August 30. Dale Hill will not be preaching on September 13, as he has accepted an interim position with the Chapel of the Hill Church for a short time. Pastor Rick Waters may be available to preach sometime in September (date not available). Nancy said the Pastoral Relations Committee met on June 23 and discussed

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their budget. Genie Carroll is on this Committee and suggested the Council make Pastor Rick Waters "Pastor Emeritus". Nancy made a **Motion (6)** that we honor Rick Waters as "Pastor Emeritus". Gene seconded the motion. The Council voted and the motion was approved. Nancy will get with Linda Anderson on what needs to be done to accomplish this title. Nancy also stated that the Committee is reviewing staff evaluation forms. She then asked Pastor Chuck if we have a Traveling Home Communion for homebound members, such as Peggy Gibson. Pastor Chuck replied that we do have this available. He will make an announcement on Sunday and also it will be added into the Ripples Newsletter.

Worship Commission: Fred commented on the liturgical colors for the paraments will be done according to the church calendar. There was a discussion regarding having TV screens in the Sanctuary. Bill suggested having two TV screens installed on each side of the front of the Sanctuary. There was a long discussion on how the screens would work, who would be the responsible AV person for them, what would be displayed on these screens, etc. Nancy commented that in this day and age, screens are used for Memorial Services and this could be a blessing for our church. Fred volunteered to gather all the information needed for this project of two TV screens for the Sanctuary. Laurie relayed that the blue books have been cleaned and put in the cabinets. There was a discussion about sending out a church letter with our new logo to newcomers to Lago Vista and Point Venture. Laurie stated that Nancy is getting a list of newcomers for this letter. Laurie passed out three small cards to put in the pews that Gene printed out. She also suggested having small note pads (4.5"x5.5") for "sermon notes" and placing in the pews for churchgoers. We can purchase 50 pads for \$98.79. Laurie made a **Motion (7)** that we purchase 50 note pads, size 4.5"x5.5", to put in the pews for churchgoers to make "sermon

notes". Russell seconded the motion. The Council voted and the motion was approved.

Ministries Committee: Laurie stated that the Lago Vista Players are still using our facility to practice. The Veterans Group is still doing its Ice Cream Social and any ice cream leftover will be used at our Potluck on August 30. Also, the Lago Vista Leos will meet here on August 11.

Building and Grounds: Gene relayed that the deck painting as been finished. He will be painting the stairs to the lower parking lot next. He has painted the sheetrock inside the WOW Room. He stated that Russell will be setting out the garbage on Wednesday nights until he returns home on August 28. There was a discussion about the estimate on new carpet in the Fellowship Hall and the Pastor's office for \$13,050. Gene made a **Motion (8)** that we purchase new carpet for the Fellowship Hall and the Pastor's office for \$13,050. This money will come from Building or Reserve Funds. Judy seconded the motion. The Council voted and the motion was approved.

Stewardship Commission: Ginger stated that she has four stewardship speakers scheduled. Bill Bush will speak on August 8, Russell Reese will speak on August 16, Pam Thyssen will speak on August 23, and Judy Guthrie will speak on August 30. She showed the Stewardship Book to the Council. She is still waiting for the final Budget to be approved. The book will be passed out to our stewards on August 30 and due back to her by September 27.

Financial Update (April 2026): Judy reviewed the treasury report. She will renew our CD at a 4% interest rate. She stated that we need to increase the budget for insurance to \$16,000, as prices have gone up significantly. Judy made a **Motion (9)** that we increase the budget for insurance to \$16,000 due to price increases. Gene seconded the motion. The Council voted and the motion was approved. Judy relayed that the church received a grant from Jean put in the pews for churchgoers to make "sermon

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and can be used for anything in the church.

Old Business:

1. Details and Action Regarding Membership in Guidestone: Bill read the guidelines for this membership account to the Council. Pending the Council decided Ben Langley's decision, the Council decided not to join this membership at this time.

New Business:

1. Nominating Committee: Bill stated that Linda Brown has resigned as Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Also, we need a replacement for Christine Chapman. He stated that next month the new Council members will be presented to the church.

Future Topics: Next meeting: The next regular Council meeting will be on September 14, 2026.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 11:50AM



Dear LCF Congregation,



Thank you for your prayers, support, and generous heart toward our veterans and first responders. Your kindness reflects Christ's love and means more than words can express.

Very Respectfully,

North Shore Veterans



If you are interested in ordering a Lakeside Christian Fellowship Polo shirt,

Laurie Glass will be taking orders from September 6—September 14.

Email Laurie at laurie@nerdybrew.com for additional information.

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**On week 1, August 9, 2026,
Stewardship Speaker
William Bush gave an inspiring
talk on Stewardship.**



A big Thank You
to our Stewardship Speakers whom
gave heartfelt speeches
during the month of August
in preparation for our
Annual Pledge Drive
which began on
Sunday, August 30 and will end on
September 27.

Be on the lookout for the
Pledge Book to come your way.
Thank you for your support which
helps Lakeside Christian Fellowship
flourish!



**Week 2 - August 16, 2026
Russell Reese**



**Week 3 - August 23, 2026
Pamela Thyssen**



**Week 4 - August 30, 2026
Judy Guthrie, LCF Treasurer,
gives the final
Stewardship Message
before the
Pledge Drive
officially begins.**

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ANNUAL Stewardship CAMPAIGN



A big thank you to all
of our
Stewardship Speakers,
Shepherds
and a special thanks to
our
Stewardship
Chairperson,
Ginger Halsted



The LCF
Stewardship Drive
began on
Sunday August 30, 2026
and will continue until
September 27, 2026.

Please review the budget
and carefully
determine your pledge
for the year 2027.

Your financial
commitment to the
church provides for
the operation of the
church as well as
charitable contributions
which support
our community.

Please keep these
thoughts in mind when
you are determining
your pledge.

LCF Shepherds from left to right:
Rick Waters; Genie Carroll; Linda Brown; Wilma Sander; Jack Tyler and Ginny Parish

(Not Pictured are Lance Bass and Regina Holmes)

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The "WOW" Group meets downstairs in the Lakeside Christian Fellowship Hall in the WOW Room at 10:00 am.

A new study
"You'll Get Through This"
by Max Lucado began on
August 26.
(Think Moses, Noah, Jonah or Job)



On Wednesday, August 19, the (WOW) Women's Bible Study Group met for lunch at SoupGreen Buffet in Cedar Par for a little "Feasting and Fellowship"!

On Tuesday, August 11,
Genie Carroll and Edwina Woolsey hosted a wonderful
"Farewell Brunch"
for Christine Chapman where
members of Lakeside Christian Fellowship and friends
gathered to wish Christine best wishes on her
new life adventure.
Christine will be moving around Labor Day.



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While the choir was on summer break, Lakeside Christian Fellowship had some special musical performances.

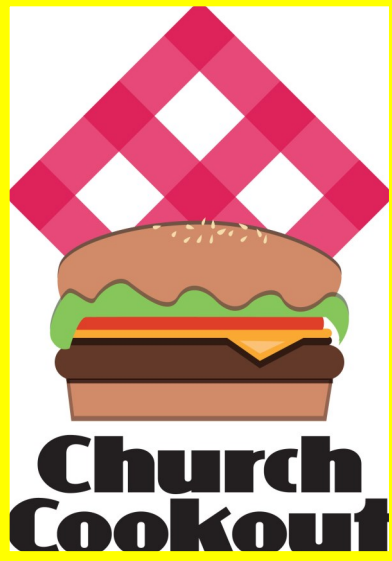
On Sunday, August 9, 2026, Fran Pontesso played the piano and sang “How Great Thou Art” for the musical offering.

On Sunday, August 23, William Bush, Dr. Jim Christie, Julie Christie and Lisa Weaver sang a quartet for the musical offering by performing “When We All Get to Heaven”!

Not pictured are special musical guests Elizabeth Lucking whom sang on July 12 and August 30 and Nancy Moore whom sang on July 19.



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A great time was had by all at the Pot Luck which was held on August 30, after a special Worship Service given by our Minister of Music, Dr. Jim Christie.



Lance Bass and Gene Glass flipped burgers, the congregation provided the many sides and ice cream was provided by the North Shore Veterans as a thank you for allowing them to use our facilities!



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

SEPTEMBER

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
30 10:00 AM Meet & Greet @ LCF Fellowship Hall 10:30 AM Worship Service @ WS STEWARDSHIP DRIVE BEGINS 5th Sunday Pot Luck	31	1	2 Women's Bible Study 10:00 AM @LCF Fellowship Hall Downstairs in the WOW Room	3	4	5
6 9:30 Choir Practice 10:00 AM Meet & Greet @ LCF Fellowship Hall 10:30 AM Worship Service @ WS & Live Streaming	7 	8	9 Women's Bible Study 10:00 AM @LCF Fellowship Hall Downstairs in the WOW Room	10	11	12
13 9:30 Choir Practice 10:00 AM Meet & Greet @ LCF Fellowship Hall 10:30 AM Worship Service @ WS & Live Streaming	14 LCF Council Meeting 9:30 AM WOW Room	15	16 Women's Bible Study 10:00 AM @LCF Fellowship Hall Downstairs in the WOW Room	17 Alzheimer Group 10:30 AM @ LV Library 	18	19
20 9:30 Choir Practice 10:00 AM Meet & Greet @ LCF Fellowship Hall 10:30 AM Worship Service @ WS & Live Streaming	21	22 	23 Women's Bible Study 10:00 AM @LCF Fellowship Hall Downstairs in the WOW Room	24	25	26
27 9:30 Choir Practice 10:00 AM Meet & Greet @ LCF Fellowship Hall 10:30 AM Worship Service @ WS & Live Streaming STEWARDSHIP DRIVE ENDS	28	29	30 Women's Bible Study 10:00 AM @LCF Fellowship Hall Downstairs in the WOW Room	1	2	3
For more information visit the LCF website at www.lakesidechristians.org						



Steve Ernst	10
Betty Houghton	16
Ginny Parish	18
Wilma Sanders.....	24
Warwick Andrews	27



Steve & Elyse Ernst
September 25

Frank and Jan Robbins
September 25

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

Prayer Corner

[https://anglicanprayer.org/index.php/prayer/
personal-stewardship-prayers/](https://anglicanprayer.org/index.php/prayer/personal-stewardship-prayers/)

Oh Lord,
giver of life and source of our freedom,
we are reminded by the Psalmist that
Yours is "the earth and its fullness;
the world and those who dwell in it."

We know that it is from your hand
that we have received all we have, and are, and will be.

Gracious and loving God,
we understand that You call us to be the stewards of
Your abundance,
the caretakers of all You have entrusted to us.

Help us always to use Your gifts wisely
and teach us to share them generously.
May our faithful stewardship bear witness
to the love of Christ in our lives.

We pray with grateful hearts,
In Jesus' name.
Amen

September 3, 2026

YTD Offerings\$151,396.92

YTD Expenses.....\$117,562.33

Lakeside Christian Fellowship

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

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



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