

WATER OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH
618 Route 1, Newcastle, Maine
Call: 563-1142
Visit: www.wateroflifelutheranchurch.com

Pastor's Perspective

November means many things: Thanksgiving, Advent (the beginning of a new church year), All Saints Sunday when we remember those who have died during the past year, preparing a budget for the coming year and also nominating leaders to be elected in January.

We remember this year on All Saints Sunday November 6th especially members of Water of Life who have gone on before us during this past year: **Doris Bailey, Harold "Pete" Peterson and Herb O'Dell.** You may wish to add others to the list. Please let me know.

We are also beginning the process of choosing leaders for the coming year. The **Nominating Committee** is being convened and is considering the positions which need staffing as well as who God might want to see in those positions of responsibility. Below are criteria which I feel we need to use in the selection process. **I pray that each of us might see the call from a member of the nominating committee as a call to service from God and the church and give it prayerful consideration.**

Criteria for choosing Church Leaders

1. **Spiritual Leadership:** Is this a person who has God's perspective or searches for it? A person who places the welfare of the church above her/his own desires and whims? A person who understands the church is not just property or a group of volunteers, but *the church is people whom God has chosen to grow in His love, serve others and share the Good News of God's Love locally and throughout the world.* Do they recognize a leadership position is God's **Calling them to ministry.** It is not just a job someone is asking them to do.

2. **Gift:** Has the person demonstrated or indicated a gift or ability for the job being considered?

3. **Interest:** Is this a person to whom the life and spirit of the church is of great importance and demonstrates their support physically and fiscally **through thick and thin?**

4. **Worship attendance:** Anyone who attends worship less than 50% of the Sundays is likely to be out of touch with the mission of the congregation. Consistency in worship is important. Consideration needs to be given in some cases if there is a job conflict.

5. **Growing:** intellectually, spiritually, emotionally. Are they nourishing themselves devotionally or in Bible Study or are they willing to attend training events or classes to help them grow in their ability to lead in their area of service? Do they encourage others to grow by their example?

6. **Male/Female Balance:** Recognizing the whole family of God, are we letting one gender carry too much of the burden of church leadership?

7. **Harmonious:** Does this person have the ability to resolve conflict rather than avoid, deny or stimulate it. Do they lead in a manner that does not consistently alienate others.

8. **Maturity:** (not necessarily age) Does this person know how to balance having a good time with getting the work accomplished while respecting different points of view.

9. **Previous Service:** Has the person performed faithfully in other positions in ways consistent with the effort and ability desired in this position?

10. **Family Balance:** Are other members of the family serving in similar positions, and are a variety of families represented in leadership positions?

11. **Length of time since last service:** Are we burning people out? Do they need a challenge or a rest?

12. **Length of membership here:** This is the last and least consideration, but necessary so that they know enough to be able to accomplish the tasks with the people available here, or whether we will need to arrange for support and/or training to help them do the job.

The task of Leadership is not everyone's calling, but it needs to be prayerfully and carefully done if God's will is to be done in the church. Also there are some reasons NOT to elect someone.

Negative reasons

to nominate someone to leadership:

1. To reactivate an inactive member.
2. To appease someone who has hurt feelings.
3. They are a member of a prominent family.
4. Just because they have volunteered.
5. To avoid making someone mad.
6. Length of membership (short or long term).
7. They are your friend/family member, (but may not be qualified for the job)
8. You can twist their arm or hook their guilt or force them to fill the position. (i.e. They always say yes and the can never say no to a request for help or you as the recruiter.)
9. Because they aren't present at the meeting to decline, therefore we'll "stick it to 'em."

The Nominating Committee is being appointed by the Council. If you are aware of persons who you feel would be good leaders for Water of Life, please convey their names to the Nominating Committee or Pastor for consideration, along with the reasons why you feel this person is a good candidate for a certain position.

I am impressed with the current leadership at Water of Life, as well as the fact that there are other persons who meet the above criteria who are available for service here. Working together in dependence upon the Holy Spirit, I am sure that we will continue **Growing in God's Love, through faith in Christ.**

So there is much about which to be thankful, including the ability to worship freely according to the dictates of our conscience and God as well as to lead as we are able. May each of us be Thankful enough to take advantage of the opportunity.

Peace & Courage,

Pastor Hugh

PASTORAL NEEDS AND SERVICES

Pastor Hugh Holm

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Church E-Mail: wolnewcastle@gmail.com

Office Hours: Saturday – Monday 9 am - 5 pm



Please keep these people in your hearts and prayers: The Newell Family, Mike Murphy, Ruth Jones, The Peterson Family, Dean Ness, Gwen Swank and The O'Dell Family, Dan Jameson and Joe Marks. Your continued prayers are asked for Water of Life: the Church Council; for Susan and Hugh Holm; and for the community of faith that makes up Water of Life Lutheran Church.

Watered by God's Word

We are Growing in God's Love through faith in Christ

Our thirst for a faith Community is Quenched

We are refreshed by the Holy Spirit to Serve

IN OUR PRAYERS...

WATER OF LIFE MISSION STATEMENT

Since we are the body of Christ and Jesus is the Head of the Church, we seek the mind of Christ in unity and act upon His leading. Our mission is to make disciples of all people by proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This evangelism is a personal commitment and an intentional ministry of the congregation continually discovering our personal talents by means of prayer, praise and fellowship.

These we share in service to the congregation, the community, and the world.

Water of Life Lutheran Church 2011 Church Council Make Note of Our New Slate Of Officers!

President	Larry Omland	882-6280(H)/449-9240(C)	lgomland@gmail.com
VP/Long Range Planning	Ragnhild Baade	882-7794	None
Secretary	Nancy Parker	563-8455	parker@tidewater.net
Treasurer	Giselle White	623-8411 ext. 5696(W)	Giselle.white@va.gov
Parish Life	VACANT		
Music and Worship	Trish Higgins	582-7211	tandj776@msn.com
Mission and Outreach	Joan Owen	563-2515	djowen@roadrunner.com
Christian Education	Dawn Gildersleeve	677-2382(H)/380-5634(C)	nyamom@hotmail.com
Property	William Leinonen	832-6619	musti@midcoast.com

To submit newsletter information contact Sally Farrell at 563-5378 or swp@woodenbobbins.com

Artful Prayer . . . A contemplative experience of prayer . . . will be offered again during the Sunday School Hour on Sunday mornings.

This prayer experience offers time for silence and time for your own personal reflections (using colored pencils on paper and/or writing). If you haven't had this experience before, you are invited to "try it." As a trained Spiritual Director (St. Aquinas Theological Institute, St. Louis, MO) I had the opportunity to participate in and lead this type of prayer for six years. Each of us, being individuals on our unique earthly journey, will have different responses to this prayer practice. It is life changing for some (me included) and not so helpful for others. You are invited to come see if it's something *you* desire to practice.

If you are interested, don't let the "art" part keep you away. This expression of prayer has NOTHING to do with drawing pretty pictures . . . it has everything to do with "remembering." Stick figures, shading, circles, stars . . . all assist us in remembering.

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to share them with me.
Susan Holm, 563-6027 (home); 350-0301 (cell); sjeholm@mac.com (email)

NOVEMBER
Ushers:
6 - Bill and Lori
13 - Bill and Lori
20 - Jack and Carolyn
27 - P

Refreshments -
27 - Yedlin

Please help us by signing up for jobs in the Fellowship Hall!

- "Till We Meet Again"
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- Two of our dear gentlemen members at Water Of Life recently left our midst to go to their eternal home. Harold "Pete" Peterson passed away on August 31. His quiet ways and ready smile were shared with one and all. Herbert "Herb" O'Dell passed away on September 3 at the age of 88. His keen sense of humor can be appreciated by the comment he made when asked to serve on the Church Council. "It takes a lot of faith to ask a man in his 80's to serve on the Lon Range Planning Committee." He ably served!
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- Our thoughts and prayers are with Phyllis and Joyce and their families. May they feel and know God's loving embrace and the friendship and love of the Community of Faith that is Water Of Life.

WATER OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH
618 US Route 1, P.O. Box 206
Newcastle, Maine 04553
(Route 1, south of the large American Flag)

Worship Schedule:

Bible Study 9:00 AM
Worship Service: 10:30 AM
Fellowship Time: 11:45 AM

Operation Christmas Child

It's time to think about those shoe boxes filled with items for children as part of Operation Christmas Child sponsored by Samaritan's Purse. This is our only global Christmas project here at WOL. If you have any questions please speak with Nancy Parker, Joan Owen, or Carolyn Neighoff. We need someone willing to deliver the boxes to Damariscotta Baptist Church during the drop off hours, which can be found on the Operation Christmas Child web site.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Use an empty shoe box (standard size, please) or a plastic shoe box size container. You can wrap the box (lid separately), but wrapping is not required. Most importantly, pray for the child who will receive your gift.

Simply determine whether your gift will be for a boy or a girl, and the child's age category: 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14. Mark the correct age category on the label, and tape the label to the top of your box. Labels will be available on the decorated table in the fellowship room. This will be done mid-October.

Next fill with a variety of gifts, school supplies, hygiene items and other sundries like, hard candy, t shirts, hats, hair clips. In a separate envelope, you may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. (If you include your name and address, the child may write back.)

DO NOT INCLUDE: Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; out-of-date candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

Place a rubber band around each closed shoe box and drop off at the Collection Center nearest you during our collection week, November 14-21. We need someone who will take all of our boxes.

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• The 6th annual Meyer/Chase Family Service Project "Serving to End World Hunger", will be held November 19 at Midcoast Recreation Center (MRC) in Rockport, ME. This tennis benefit raises money for the ELCA World Hunger initiative as well as a local hunger program. Players of any age who are rated a 4.0 or higher by the United States Tennis Association (USTA) are invited to play. (Note: Krista is not allowed to play!) The tourney which accommodates 30 players fills up very quickly. The day of festivities begins with a "Beat the Meyer Men" challenge where players pay to play Bruce and Seth.(to date only 1 team has beat them) The losers donate to the fund. 😊 Next is the tennis tournament and finally "raffle time" & announcement of the winners! Throughout the day the Meyer grandchildren (Landen,6, Caiden, 3, William, 2 and Kamryn Dorothy, 1) ring the bells and provide entertainment.

• Last year we raised over 5,000.00 to be donated. What an amount! Thrivent via Nativity Lutheran in Rockland and Water of Life have supported this event over the years. Thank you for that support. If anyone wishes to donate a raffle item (anything goes!) or baked good (we feed the players well) for the event, call Krista Chase at 522-9156. If you happen to be in the Rockland area that day and enjoy good tennis, come on by!!! It's a pretty cool thing to see all these tennis fanatics supporting a great Lutheran charity project!

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NOVEMBER 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 *Lois Omland	2 6:00 pm Girl Scouts 6:30 pm Choir	3 7:00 am Community Prayer *Gail Perry	4	5
6 - All Saint's Day 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Fellowship	7	8	9 5:00 pm Music & Worship 6:30 pm Choir	10 7:00 am Community Prayer	11 VETERAN'S	12
13 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Fellowship	14 * Jim Newell	15	16 6:30 pm Choir	17 7:00 am Community Prayer * Ragnhild Baade	18	19 *Bailey
20 - Noisy Offering 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Fellowship *Bret Chase	21 * Fred Wedemeyer	22	23 6:30 pm Choir	24 7:00 am Community Prayer THANKSGIVING	25	26
27 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Fellowship	28	29	30			