

WATER OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
618 Route 1, Newcastle, Maine  
Call: 563-1142  
Visit: [www.wateroflifelutheranchurch.com](http://www.wateroflifelutheranchurch.com)

October is not only the beginning of fall and Halloween, but it is also the time when on the last Sunday of the month we remember and celebrate the heritage of Lutherans that comes about because of the reformer, Martin Luther. It is a **Red Letter Day** for Lutherans. Its easy to remember because Luther posted his 95 Theses on the church door on All Hallowed Evening, the evening before All Saints Day. He did it then because he knew that all the monks would see his writings because they would be in worship on that day.

**(Wear RED on Reformation Sunday!)**

The confirmands are learning about Martin Luther. Of course we have had to clarify the difference between Martin Luther, born in Eisleben, Germany, Nov. 10, 1483 and Martin Luther King, Jr. born in Selma, Alabama in 1929. There really are many things that need to be clarified when we try to understand who Luther was and what it means to be a Lutheran Christian.

I have heard from several members that they don't want to be identified as Lutheran, but rather as Christian. Actually, that is exactly the same way that Luther felt. To be called "Lutheran" was like an epithet; to be not a **True Christian**, a "protestor," (of course meaning not a Roman Catholic). But as the Confirmands (and their parents) are learning, it was not an easy transition to try to reform a tradition; to question and re-think what was traditionally assumed; to question the authority of the day – the pope and the political rulers of the day. Nor was it easy to manage those who wanted to go further with reforms in the church. There was a lot of blood shed as those in power tried to maintain the status quo.

**Wear RED on Reformation Sunday!**

As we think about Martin Luther, the 16th century reformer of the church, we rejoice that God raises men and women in every era to lead movements which serve the kingdom of God. According to Luther, "**Faith is a living, daring confidence in God's grace, so sure and certain that a man could stake his life on it a thousand times.**" It was **faith in God's justifying grace** that helped Luther become such a daring and courageous leader. Yet he was not always courageous. He struggled with doubt often as to how it was that only he had the right interpretation. He had to come back to that **living, daring confidence in God's grace** again and again when confronted with the opposition not only of the Roman Catholic Church, but also other more radical reformers who wanted to tear down traditions and positions he felt were scriptural and

helpful. It often seemed overwhelming that it was what **we** do or don't do that was more important, rather than God's grace,

Luther knew about fear because his father, who was opposed to Martin becoming a monk, had early on raised the question as to whether what Luther thought was more likely from the devil rather than from God. Of course, his dad wanted him to be a wealthy lawyer who could care for his mother and him in their old age.

The columnist Walter Lippmann once wrote: "*The final test of a leader is that he leaves behind him, in other men, the conviction and the will to carry on.*" Of course, that applies to both men and women. It certainly applied not only to Jesus, the disciples, St. Paul and the early Church Fathers, but also to Luther.

Lutherans, by virtue of our "confessions," actually occupy a distinct place among those Christians known as Protestants. Lutherans aren't just the same as all others because of the ways in which Luther and some of his earliest followers such as Philip Melancthon carefully discerned the LAW and the GOSPEL throughout scripture and wrote about their distinctive positions based in scripture as to how and why Christ is not only central, but essential in understanding how God relates to God's people.

Many protestants proclaim a "theology of GLORY," but Luther and the reformers were concerned to constantly refer to the "theology of the CROSS," and the role it plays in how we are justified. It is that we stress that it is what God has done, not what we do that puts Lutherans in a unique position between and among the different denominations.

Luther learned that God calls men and women out of the world to learn the meaning of **Faith** (more than mere obedience motivated by fear) – **trust in God's Promise of justification by grace through faith** (rather than trust in or fear about what **we** do or don't do) – **a gift given in and through the life, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus which frees us to gratefully live lives of commitment, love and service** (rather than forcing us to jump through hoops to please an angry God). Luther discovered that rather than scaring the hell out of us, God loves the hell out of us. He saw that God sends those grateful, faithful men and women back into the world to put their faith, trust and commitment, love and service to work. It **is** important to understand and to celebrate the difference.

**Wear RED on Reformation Sunday!**

# PASTORAL NEEDS AND SERVICES

**Pastor Hugh Holm**

**Church Phone: 563-1142**

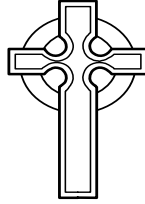
**Home Phone: 563-6027**

**Cell Phone: (207) 350-0309**

**E-Mail: holm.hubert@gmail.com**

**Church E-Mail: wolnewcastle@gmail.com**

**Office Hours: Saturday – Monday 9 am - 5 pm**



Please keep these people in your hearts and prayers: Mollie Fehlau, The Newell Family, Mike Murphy, Ruth Jones, The Peterson Family, Dean Ness, 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)	<a href="mailto:lgomland@gmail.com">lgomland@gmail.com</a>
VP/Long Range Planning	Ragnhild Baade	882-7794	None
Secretary	Nancy Parker	563-8455	<a href="mailto:parker@tidewater.net">parker@tidewater.net</a>
Treasurer	Giselle White	623-8411 ext. 5696(W)	<a href="mailto:Giselle.white@va.gov">Giselle.white@va.gov</a>
Parish Life	VACANT		
Music and Worship	Trish Higgins	582-7211	<a href="mailto:tandj776@msn.com">tandj776@msn.com</a>
Mission and Outreach	Joan Owen	563-2515	<a href="mailto:djowen@roadrunner.com">djowen@roadrunner.com</a>
Christian Education	Dawn Gildersleeve	677-2382(H)/380-5634(C)	<a href="mailto:nyamom@hotmail.com">nyamom@hotmail.com</a>
Property	William Leinonen	832-6619	<a href="mailto:musti@midcoast.com">musti@midcoast.com</a>

To submit newsletter information contact Sally Farrell at 563-5378 or [swp@woodenbobbins.com](mailto:swp@woodenbobbins.com)

## We're Thinking Ahead

Thanksgiving is about two months away but you may want to consider sharing the meal with friends and family at Water of Life Church. Last year Carolyn and Linda hosted more than 2 dozen folks at the church for the traditional Thanksgiving meal with all the fixins'. And they would like to do it all over again this year. If you are interested in joining in the day, please talk to Carolyn or Linda. All are welcome. So let's talk it up!

## A Note from Music and Worship

Our Committee would like to thank everyone (and there are many to thank) for all the help making our worship this past summer so meaningful! We kept our services going strong even when Pastor Hugh and Lois were away. We still have the suggestion box out on the table if you have ideas or thoughts! Haven't heard many comments about the hymns lately - so we're feeling that we are going in the right direction with that!

We would like to remind the congregation that when Lois starts the prelude before the service, it is considered to be a time to sit quietly and meditate if you wish. We appreciate your help in this matter.

God is Good! Trish and committee

## OCTOBER

### ***Readers***

**2 - Baade**  
**9 - J Neighoff**  
**16 - Baade**  
**23 - J Neighoff**  
**30 - Baade**

### ***Flowers***

**2 - Hutchinson**  
**9 - Omland**  
**16 - Powell**  
**23 - Schilling**

### ***Acolytes -***

**2 - Rick**  
**9 - Adam**  
**16 - Lorin**  
**23 - Robert**  
**30 - Samuel**

### ***Refreshments -***

**2 - Newells**  
**16 - Powell and Vogel**  
**30 - Yedlin**

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

## Regular Schedule Starting 9/11

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

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In a letter which I sent out in late July, I informed you that the Executive Committee of the Synod Council appointed a six-person Ad Hoc Committee to work on a process leading up to the election of a new Bishop of the New England Synod.

We have met five times since you received the letter – praying, contemplating, brainstorming, discussing and planning. We have just completed the first part of our work – a draft of a process which will be presented to the Synod Council for their review and approval at their Sept. 23-24 meeting.

In the hopes that it will be approved, the plan will be presented to all Rostered Leaders at the Bishop's Convocation (Oct. 24-26) and to the entire Synod at the "Doing What Matters" workshops on Nov. 5 (at three different locations in the Synod).

The work of this committee was multipronged; however, one of our main thrusts was seeking ways to involve more members throughout the Synod (not just voting members) in the process leading up to the election. Hence, the plan focuses on providing opportunities for members of congregations, conferences and mission areas to be in dialogue with each other about the election of a Bishop beginning this fall and culminating in the spring.

It should be noted and emphasized that the election of a new Bishop at Synod Assembly (in June 2012) will be by Ecclesiastical Ballot, as it has been throughout our life in the New England Synod. That has not changed.

I would like to acknowledge and thank my fellow committee members: Pastor Sharon Hughes, Rebecca Krentz-Wee, Ruth Nunnally, Pastor Dan Wilfrid and Charlene Wright for their work to date. We have worked well together in this work.

In God's Service,  
Mark L. Winzler  
Synod Vice President

### **Mission and Outreach**

Jim and Margee Newell have agreed to be WOL's representatives on the C.H.I.P. Board. Cliff and Nancy Parker are WOL's representatives for the Ecumenical Food Pantry. Please remember to bring in food and put it in the basket!

Noisy Offerings:

- October - People-to-People for Thanksgiving Baskets
- November - The Mid Coast Chapter of the American Red Cross \*
- December - Local Salvation Army kettle  
\* Mission and Outreach will match

Recipients of our recent giving:

- C.H.I.P. (Community Housing Improvement Project ) for fuel \$400
  - Bread of Life Ministries, Augusta \$300
  - Boothbay Harbor Food Pantry \$300
  - Ecumenical Food Pantry, Newcastle \$300
- We will be giving to the Wiscasset Food Pantry, also.

Christmas Projects:

- Operation Christmas Child - start getting those boxes ready!
- Oliver Place located in Bath - \$200 check and items to be collected
- Longcreek Youth Development - \$200 check and items to be collected

We are looking into sending financial support to a relief fund for farmers in Vermont who need help after Tropical Storm Irene devastated their state.

Please take the time to read the many "thank you" notes posted on the bulletin board in response to WOL's giving. They will bless you!

## 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 Water of Life. 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.

### **2. BOY OR GIRL?**

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.

### **3. FILL WITH GIFTS**

Fill the box with a variety of gifts that will bring delight to a child. Here are some ideas:

#### **TOYS**

small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch®, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky®, etc.

#### **SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

#### **HYGIENE ITEMS**

toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, washcloth, etc.

#### **OTHER**

Hard candy and lollipops (please double bag all candy), mints, gum, T-shirts, socks, ball caps; sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries)

#### **A PERSONAL NOTE**

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.

**4. INCLUDE YOUR DONATION—this will be taken care of by our Mission and Outreach committee.**

### **5. DROP OFF**

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.

**Editor's Note: On a recent trip to Camp Calumet, Knute Ogren, asked me to extend a huge "thank you" to everyone at WOL in their support of all Camp Calumet's ministries!**

**October 1st - Happy Anniversary to Zach and Giselle White!**

# OCTOBER 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2</b> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Fellowship	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 6:00 pm Girl Scouts 6:30 pm Choir	<b>6</b> 7:00 am Community Prayer	<b>7</b> * Zach White	<b>8</b> * Janet Leinonen * Bill Hammer
<b>9</b> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Fellowship	<b>10</b> 7:00 pm Church Council * Jack Crommett	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 5:00 pm Music & Worship 6:30 pm Choir	<b>13</b> 7:00 am Community Prayer * Bill Bailey	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> * Dave Owen
<b>16 - Noisy Offering</b> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Fellowship * Tom Gildersleeve	<b>17</b> * Gwen Swank	<b>18</b> * Ruth Jones * Zana Kerber	<b>19</b> 6:30 pm Choir	<b>20</b> 7:00 am Community Prayer	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Fellowship	<b>24</b> * Fred Wedemeyer	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 6:30 pm Choir	<b>27</b> 7:00 am Community Prayer	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Fellowship						