

Living Waters News

November 2022



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God's peace be with you.

"They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." Revelation 7: 16, 17

Greetings to you from the beautiful mountains of Western North Carolina. The foliage of the mountains were beautiful this year, no human being could have painted the colors that God gave the trees in their last gasp before falling to the earth. As we end the time after Pentecost, the reading above from comes from Revelation on All Saints Sunday.

As we approach the holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas, these two verses seem appropriate; by that I mean it seems as though our lives center around eating and gift giving during these two holidays. Since we have opened our food pantry, we are more aware of the needs of some folks during these hard economic times. More and more are coming to seek help and we are very thankful that for the time being we can supply most of their needs, although we are a very small congregation we have partners in ministry who are able to supplement our financial needs to restock the food pantry. It is by the grace of God and you who read our newsletters, that we're praying that we will be able to continue with this vital and important ministry. Else where in this month's newsletter you will see our "wish list" for donated items and for other contributions that assist us with the food pantry.

We pray that the time will never come when we cannot help those who are hungry and thirsty. Revelation 7: 9 reads: "I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands."

Hunger and thirsting will be with us on this earth, but think of the feast that is to come.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Amen

Pastor Jack

You Are Invited!



We invite you to come and visit us anytime you are in our area or to plan a mission trip to the Cherokee Indian Reservation and join us for Worship.

At Living Waters we honor our culture and Native Traditions as well as our Lutheran Theology.














We begin our Worship Service by smudging to cleanse our hearts and minds and prepare us for worship.

We open our worship service using the hand drum and singing the Cherokee Morning song.












Living Waters is blessed to have Partners in Ministry who support us through financial giving, Spiritual support and visits.

If you would like to become a Partner in Ministry with Living Waters we invite you to contact Pastor Jack at prjack@frontier.com

It is no accident that those who contribute most to life are often the most adventurous.

 <p>Living Waters has updated their member directory. Thank you to everyone that has submitted their contact information.</p> <p>There are copies on the back table where the hymnals are at.</p>	 <p>Women's Group Officers</p> <p>Dorine George – President Debra Uhler – Vice President Josephine Teesateskie – Treasurer Lisa Russell – Secretary</p> <p>For more information, please contact Any women's group member.</p>
<p>One of the most powerful gifts we can give our children while they figure out who they want to be is to let them know how much we love who they already are.</p>	 <p>If you would like to receive a Text Message reminder of happenings at Living Waters please make sure that Lisa or Le has a current cell phone number for you.</p>
 <p>November 20, 2022</p>	<p>Thank You!</p>  <p>Thank you to Martha for the donation of craft supplies for the Methodist Children's Home.</p>
 <p>Remembering our Veterans on November 11th. On Veterans Day we honor men and women who have served and sacrificed in one of America's armed services. The holiday is also meant to highlight America's quest for world peace and our nation's desire for justice and freedom throughout the world — our nation's higher goals.</p>	 <p>Reminder to all who signed up to be a Secret Sister for 2022 Please try to do at least one kindness for your sister each month. Please pray for your sister. If you have any questions please see JoJo or Dorine.</p>
 <p>Living Waters will be holding their Annual Thanksgiving Dinner on November 20th. If you plan to attend please bring a dish to pass.</p>	 <p>November 6th Daylight Savings Time Ends. Remember to set your clock back.</p>
 <p>Thank you to those who helped prepare the food for the Staff from Lenoir Rhyne University. Your hard work was appreciated by all.</p>	 <p>Living Waters Women's Group will be holding a dream catcher workshop on November 27th. If you would like to attend please see Jo Jo, Dorine or Lisa to sign up.</p>
 <p>Some of the women from Living Waters Women's Group went on the Annual Wagon Ride with Rob on October 29th. After the wagon ride the women went to Collins Creek for a picnic. Thank you to all the women who participated in the outing.</p>	 <p>Thank you to those who have helped deliver fruit baskets to those in our community who are quarantined due to Covid and the flu. We appreciate your help. Thank you to those who helped with the cost to purchase the fruit baskets</p>

Keep on choosing what's true, what's good, what has lasting value,
what has meaning beyond the moment.

 <p>Current wish list of the Food Pantry and Resource Center</p> <p>Canned Meat, Cereal, Saltine Crackers, Cooking Oil, Sugar, Toilet Tissue, Dish Soap, Shampoo, Deoderant, Bar Soap,</p> <p>Women's and Men's Large, XL, 2X, 3X clothing. Teen Girl, Teen Boy and Children's clothing Linens</p>	 <p>Living Waters Food Pantry November 9th & 10th 23rd</p> <p>If you or your organization would like to have a food drive for LW food pantry please contact Lisa or Pastor Jack. If you would like to contribute financially to the Living Waters Food Pantry please designate your check in the memo line to Food Pantry.</p>
 <p>Thank You to Grace Lutheran Church, Hendersonville for holding a food drive for Living Waters Food Pantry. We appreciate all your help.</p>	 <p>Thank you to those who helped prepare the Halloween goody bags that were handed out to the families who came for distribution the last week of October.</p>
 <p>Thank you to Karen for donating funds to purchase lunch for our amazing volunteers. We appreciate your kindness.</p>	 <p>Thank you to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for donating items for the walkers bags. We appreciate your support for this ministry.</p>
 <p>Thank you to the Pregnancy Center in Nashville, TN for donating diapers, wipes and baby clothes to the Resource Center. We appreciate your help.</p>	 <p>Thank you to John and Debra Davis for donating 157 pairs of Halloween pajamas that were distributed to the families who came to pick up food boxes the last week of October.</p>
 <p>You may have noticed work going on around the grounds outside the church. The Resource Center has resumed its program for those who are needing to acquire Community Service Hours. The cleaning and beautification projects are being completed by the CS workers as the weather permits.</p>	<p>Charles Stanley writes: "A hoarded blessing is never enjoyed as richly as a shared one. Using your gift to meet someone else's need glorifies God by demonstrating his grace at work in your life. Don't let his generous provisions end with you. Pass them on and discover the joy of a never-ending cycle of blessings."</p>
 <p>Wish list for walker bags: Individual cereal, shelf stable lunchables, individual soup, pop tarts, individual chili. If your would like to make a monetary donation to be used for the walker bags please make a notation in the memo line of the check specifying it is for walker bags.</p>	 <p>Thank you to those who help prepare the walker bags and to those who donate specific foods that are put in the walker bags. We are currently making 15-20 bags each day. If you would like to help with this ministry please see Lisa.</p>

The courage to act in the face of fear is well within your reach. Summon that courage by reminding yourself of what you must do to support and nurture all you love and care about.

How to Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars Online

Visit Thrivent.com/thrivent.choice

Scroll down and click the "Get Started" button in the "How do I Direct My Designated Choice Dollars" box

Log in and enter your user ID and password

Look for your Choice Dollars to direct on the right side of your screen

Search for "Living Waters Lutheran Church" in "Cherokee, NC" to be taken right to our listing.

Click on "Direct Now" to direct your designated Choice Dollars to benefit
Living Waters Lutheran Church.

By Phone

Call 1-800-847-4836 and when prompted, say "Thrivent Choice"

Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars or press 2 to hear the Thrivent Choice program terms and conditions.

Please be sure to specify that you want to designate Living Waters Lutheran Church in Cherokee, NC



November is the month of Thanksgiving, but it often also includes the beginning of a new church year. This year, November 27 is the first Sunday of Advent.

The season of Advent is about Jesus, the Word, "coming."
It's about anticipating and preparing for Christ's arrival.

God comes to us in many and various ways. He speaks to us through the prophets and saints. He comes and speaks to us when we are listening. He comes in the beauty and mysteries of nature. Most of all, God comes in the person of Christ, speaking to his listeners face to face.

Pastor Edmund Steimle put it this way: "The Christian story is a story of God coming into the middle of life, of our lives, opening the dialogue with us."

That's what Advent is really all about: God visiting the earth in person to speak with anyone and everyone who is ready to do so.

You Are Invited to the
NC Women of the ELCA
2022 SMOKY MOUNTAIN FALL GATHERING
Nov. 19th @ Nativity, Arden
*"Renewal Day By Day
Through Rest & Meditation"*

If you are interested in attending this gathering or would like more information please let Lisa know ASAP.

Do you not know that God entrusted you with that money — all above what buys necessities for your families — to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to help the stranger, the widow, the fatherless; and, indeed, as far as it will go, to relieve the wants of all mankind? How can you, how dare you, defraud the Lord, by applying it to any other purpose?
—from a sermon by John Wesley

Step back from what you think about it and feel about it. Look carefully and more clearly at the reality of what is. Remind yourself that your perspective is not the only valid perspective.

You don't have to be rich to be generous. You do have to be generous to be truly rich.



Living Waters Resource Center will be adopting 2 families for Christmas. If you would like to contribute to this project please see Lisa.



Living Waters Resource Center is preparing Thanksgiving Baskets for Elders in our Community. Thank you to all those who helped with this project.

Christmas "Stuff"



Before you go buy a bunch of "stuff" for family and friends this holiday season, try asking them what they really NEED. Maybe they need help with a utility bill, car payment or the rent. Maybe they need a kid-free, night and could use a babysitter. Maybe they need a night free of cooking, and could use a home made meal. Maybe they need help with gas in the car of a night out with friends. Maybe they need a cup of coffee, and just someone who will listen. Maybe they need help making the Holidays a little brighter for their children. Maybe they need help in some other way, but they either don't know how to ask or are too embarrassed to ask. Maybe YOU could be the one to give them exactly what they need this season, rather, than just more "stuff."



This is the 9th Annual Christmas Store at Living Waters.

Each year as we prepare the items to be used at the Christmas Store we get excited by the thoughts of the many families that will be able to have Christmas Gifts under their tree. Families that otherwise would not be able to give their families anything for Christmas. The Christmas Store allows them to come and pick out items that are best suited for their own family. The parents are excited to pick out toys, clothing, stocking stuffers and decorations for their family. The grandparents are happy to pick out items for their grandchildren. We offer toys, clothing, books, housewares, quilts/blankets, Christmas Decorations, wrapping paper, stocking stuffers, stuffed animals, Christmas snacks, (candies, popcorn tins, summer sausage/cheese, etc.) We also offer a coat giveaway at the same time as the Christmas store, where each family is able to pick out a coat for the members of their families.

Each year the number of families we help grows larger. We are expecting a record number of families this year. If you would like to donate items specific to the Christmas Store please contact Lisa. If you would like to make a donation to be used to purchase needed items for the Christmas Store please specify "Christmas Store" in the memo line of your check.

Thank you to everyone who has already donated items and made monetary donations to help with the Christmas Store. Thank you to those who have been taking the time to purchase items for us.

Thank you to those who have already begun to sort the items we have already received. Every little bit helps make a difference in the lives of those in our community who otherwise would have a very unsure Christmas Season.



Recently while walking into a building I noticed a young lady sitting to the side of the building. She was noticeably upset. Usually I would have stopped and inquired as to her well being, however, I was late for a meeting so I did not. During the meeting I felt awful for not having stopped to check on the young lady and I prayed she would be alright.

As I was exiting the building she was still sitting in the same spot, still upset. Because I did not know the young lady I approached slowly as to not scare her. I simply went over, put my arm around her and sat with her.

When she calmed down a bit, I told her it was going to get better and ask how I could help.

Her reply was simple, "You just did, you noticed me and cared. That is what I needed most."

Folks we never know what others are going through. It only takes a moment of your time to care.

You've been making a difference, and life has benefitted from your efforts. Continue those efforts, and discover how you can make them even more effective.



November is Native American Heritage Month, or as it is commonly referred to, American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month.

The month is a time to celebrate rich and diverse cultures, traditions, and histories and to acknowledge the important contributions of Native people. Heritage Month is also an opportune time to educate the general public about tribes, to raise a general awareness about the unique challenges Native people have faced both historically and in the present, and the ways in which tribal citizens have worked to conquer these challenges.

Some of the kindest souls I know have lived in a world that was not so kind to them. Some of the best human beings, I know, have been through so much at the hands of others, and they still love deeply, they still care. Sometimes, it's the people who have been hurt the most, who refuse to be hardened in this world, because they would never want to make another person feel the same way they themselves have felt. If that isn't something to be in awe of, I don't know what it.



The "first Thanksgiving," as a lot of folks understand it, was in 1621 between the Pilgrims of Plymouth Colony and the Wampanoag* tribe in present-day Massachusetts. While records indicate that this celebration did happen, there are a few misconceptions. Because of the erasure (in other words, removal and exclusion) of Native American narratives from the histories a lot of us were taught, we've been left with an incomplete picture of what really happened.

Unfortunately, a lot of US schools just don't accurately teach Native American history -- or sometimes don't teach Native American history at all. But the fact is, Native American history is American history. November is National Native American History Month, which makes it the perfect time to learn about the role Native people have played in shaping our country.

Here's the other thing to keep in mind: Native people are a part of the past, and they're also very much a part of our country's present (and future). About 87% of state-level history standards don't mention Native American history after 1900, but Native American people have had a huge impact on contemporary US society.

We can't use inaccurate histories to inform our understanding of Native communities. The erasure of Native narratives and voices contributes to the invisibility of Native people and issues. By recognizing the true history of these events, we can affirm the experiences of Native communities and do a better job of tackling the systemic issues that they have faced (and continue to face) as a result. After all, how can you properly address a problem if you don't understand its root causes?

Loving Creator, you have generously and graciously given us blessing after blessing, gift after gift, kindness after kindness. Your steadfast love and amazing grace abound in our lives. You are awesome, and we are humbled and deeply grateful.

Now we give our tokens of love and appreciation to you. First, we offer our grateful hearts, minds and souls. Receive our praise and thanksgiving. We also offer the gifts of our labor, our monetary offerings, and our pledge of talent, time and service.

Help us be dedicated servants for you in our daily lives so we may be more worthy of the life you have given us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

November 2022



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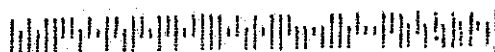
Lisa Phone: 918-868-4373
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	
6. Worship Service 11 am Daylight Savings Time Ends	7.	8. Election Day	9. Food Distribution	10. Food Distribution	11. Veteran's Day	12.
13. Worship Service 11 am	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.
20. Worship Service 11 am Christ the King Sunday Annual Thanksgiving Dinner	21.	22.	23. Food Distribution	24. Thanksgiving Day	25.	26.
27. Worship Service 11 am Women's Group Craft Work Shop	28.	29.	30.			

The day didn't work out the way you hoped.
Perhaps you can enjoy it anyway.
It's good to make plans and see those plans through to fruition.
Even so, you're free to create new goodness from whatever happens,
even if it's unplanned and unexpected.
No matter how you got here,
this moment is yours to live at the highest level of fulfillment.
Regardless of what you have or don't have,
you have the opportunity to make the best of today.
Allow thankfulness for that opportunity to fill your heart.
Then look around, notice the good you can do,
the richness you can experience, and do so.
See the great potential in this imperfect moment.
Step away from your judgments and delight in the experience.
Things are not like you expected.
Now is your chance to make them even better.

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