

The Crusader

Christ Lutheran Church
315 N Shipley Street
Seaford, DE 19973
Rev. Donn Woolweber
Seaford, DE 19973 Phone: 302-629-9755
8:30 am Praise Worship
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Traditional Worship

MAY 2026



The Pastor's Desk:

Volume 26

Issue # IV

May 2026



That Which is Old Has Gone...

Beloved in Christ:

Spring, with its fresh blooms, warmer weather, and the promise of new life, offers a beautiful metaphor for the growth of our faith in Jesus.

Isn't it great when the barren trees begin to bud, flowers bloom, and animals come out of hibernation? This renewal is a symbol of what happens in our faith when we encounter the love of Jesus Christ.

For Christians, faith in Jesus brings a new beginning, a fresh start, regardless of our past mistakes or failures. As Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"

The Bible frequently uses agricultural imagery to describe spiritual growth. In Matthew 13:31-32, Jesus compares the Kingdom of God to a mustard seed, which starts small but grows into a massive tree. In the same way, our faith in Jesus begins small, remember, it is a journey. However, through daily prayer, reading the Word, attending worship services, and cultivating relationships with fellow believers, our faith grows in that journey. As we allow God's presence and wisdom to guide us, our trust in Him deepens, and we become more confident in His promises.

Spring reminds us that growth takes time and patience. A garden doesn't bloom overnight, nor does our faith. There are seasons of dormancy, struggle, and pruning, but God is always at work in us. Do not give up if you feel you are in a season of difficulty. Keep watering, keep pruning, keep planting, keep going.

Regular prayer, Scripture reading, and worship are crucial components of spiritual growth. Just as a plant needs sunlight, water, and soil to grow, our faith needs daily nourishment through these practices. By setting aside time for God each day, we allow the "spring rains" of His grace to refresh and renew us, enabling our faith to thrive.

We place our hope in the resurrection, knowing that because Christ lives, we too will live. Our faith is built on the assurance that Jesus overcame death, and through Him, we can experience the fullness of life both now and forever.

The beauty and vibrancy of spring serve as a tangible reminder of the hope we have in Christ Jesus, our Living God!

Rev. Donn Woolweber

WHAT STEPHEN MINISTERS CAN DO VS. WHAT ONLY GOD CAN DO

Stephen Ministers care for others in many ways but only God can bring:

Healing - Only God can provide physical, emotional and spiritual healing

Faith – People only grow in faith through the Holy Spirit's work

Forgiveness – Comes only through Jesus Christ, crucified and resurrected.

Hope – "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Romans 15:13)

Peace – Only God can give deep and lasting peace that comes from knowing God is on our side no matter what may happen.

Stephen Ministers can walk alongside you as you seek peace through God's healing. Want more information, call the Pastor or Aileen at 302-930-7070.

Upcoming Events:

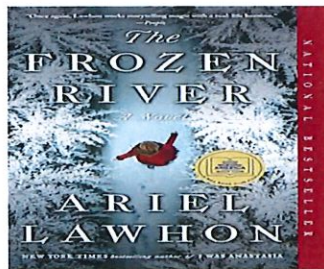
- May 3rd and May 17th Holy Communion at both Services
- Choir Practice Wednesday at 7 pm
- Friends Supporting Friends@11:00 am Mondays
- Saturday, May 2nd@9 am to 11 am CornHole, 10 am BSSP
- Saturday, May 9th@ 10 am BSSP, 6:30 pm Bunco
- Tuesday, May 12th@1:00 pm Book Club
- Saturday, May 16th@10 am BSSP Picnic
- Tuesday, May 19th@2 pm Lay Ministry Meeting
- Thursday, May 21st@5 pm LWML Dinner

May Book Club
Tuesday, May 12, 1:00 pm

The Frozen River By Ariel Lawhon

Based on the real diaries of Martha Ballard, a midwife and healer living in Maine 1789, *The Frozen River* chronicles the birth and death, and every crime and debacle that unfolds in the closeknit community along the Kennebec River shores. When the river freezes, entombing a man in the ice, Martha is summoned to examine the body and determine cause of death. The mystery that unfolds challenges everyone until they discover the truth.

Please join us on May 12. We'd love to see you!





May 3	Linda Davis
May 10	Shirley Jenkins
May 17	Art & Kathi Payne
May 24	Deanna Thomas
May 31	Janet Moore

FOOD SHELF ARTICLE- MAY 2026

Deuteronomy **15:11**: "You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land."

In April, we donated 347 non perishable food items, 2 sets of bike safety lights and 4 bike locks. We also provided 200 lidded coffee cups, 18 travel-sized bottles of hand sanitizer, and a bag of cat food.

GrabNGo lunch supplies (bread, lunch meats, cheese, peanut butter and jelly and apples) were delivered to Love In The Name of Christ's Cross Center.

We assembled 1 emergency food box and 1 emergency food bag (with items suitable for someone who is homeless). Pastor will distribute as needed.

High priority items needed include: granola bars, condensed soup with pop-top lids, canned fruit, cereal, oatmeal, spaghetti sauce, instant potatoes, and canned tuna/beef/chicken. As summer approaches, there is a need for sunblock and sunburn relief items.

If you'd like to make a monetary donation, it can be placed in the offering plate with the envelope marked "Food Shelf".

Checks can be written out to Christ Lutheran Church with "Food Shelf" on the memo line.

Thank you for your continued support. Every donation made blesses the recipient and the giver.

FOOD SHELF TEAM

Linda Boone
Carl Boone
Janet Moore

May 2026 LWML News

**End-of-Year Dinner & Ladies' Night Out @ Passwaters
Heritage Shores, Bridgeville, Thursday, May 21 @ 5:00 pm**

Calling all Ladies of Christ Lutheran! It's time for our year end celebration. All ladies are invited! We'll be relaxing and dining on the veranda enjoying our delicious food and wonderful company. Let's join together and celebrate. If you are coming, please call or text Betty Wilkes @ 302-628-4805.

Easter Egg Project Wrap Up

Our LWML has wrapped up our 2026 Easter Egg Project and have our totals ... total egg count and total money brought in! This annual event has taken place for over 60 years at Christ Lutheran and has been such an important part of funding our mission projects. It has also been a wonderful way to enjoy our church family and get to know one another a little bit (or a whole lot) better. Thank you to everyone who took a part in making our Easter Egg Project a success.

In our total Easter Egg project, our Christ Lutheran Handcrafted Chocolate Egg Production Team made 3,552 eggs – 1,244 large eggs and 2,308 mini eggs. After expenses, all of our hard work and effort brought in \$8,253.36. We were truly an egg production team!

Thank you to every one of our Christ Lutheran Handcrafted Chocolate Egg Production Team workers, from our sales, to our egg making, to our packaging and delivery, you have helped make a difference in our community. Thank you for making this year's Chocolate Covered Easter Egg Project a success!

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you so much for all the cards, calls and prayers resulting from my recent biking accident. My progress has been very good, and I'm almost back to normal. God willing, I'll be back on the bike next week preparing for a trip down the Allegheny Passage (Pittsburg to Cumberland) in June.

Your kindness and thoughtfulness mean so much to me. God is good. All the time.

Linda Rogers

Happy Birthday

Happy Anniversary

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 04 Lawrence Foster | 09 Ron & Carin Vermette |
| 13 Aileen Watkins | 19 Art & Kathi Payne |
| 23 John Filling | 21 Carl & Linda Boone |
| 23 Betty Wilks | 29 Doug & Eileen Halfmann |
| 27 Teresa Lineweaver | |

BSSP May News Article

On Saturday, May 16th, we will be ending our Saturday morning classes for this year with a picnic. Vacation Bible School "Rainforest Falls" is planned for August 3rd - 7th. Look for more information to come in the mail. If you are interested in helping with VBS, please let either Leona or Donna know.

Calendar and Bible Stories for May

- May 2 – The Transfiguration
- May 9 – Jesus Sends the Seventy-two
- May 16 – End of Year Picnic



On a recent Saturday the students practiced being puppeteers.

LWML Mission Project Highlights – May 2026

Update from **Worship Anew** – One of our 2023-25

LWML Mission Grants

Nurturing Faith for the Aging — Lutheran

Ministries Media - Worship Anew — Written by

Seniors for Seniors - \$100,000

Worship Anew, a Recognized Service Organization (RSO) of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), develops and distributes biblical, Christ-centered resources to thousands of people across the United States.

Worship Anew sponsors the publication of a daily devotion booklet, Hope-Full Living, written by seniors and for seniors. Worship Anew also publishes the Broadcaster, a magazine that is free of cost and available by mail or online.

With this grant, Worship Anew will expand the Broadcaster to a monthly magazine which will include feature articles addressing the physical, mental, and spiritual needs of aging adults, a monthly Bible study, activity pages and Bible stories to help in sharing their faith with children and grandchildren.

Pick up your own copy of Worship Anew's *Broadcaster* at our information desk. New issues arrive monthly. We have several back issues with great topics. Check them out!

Chesapeake District LWML Grants – All

district mission grants have been paid in full for the 2024-2026 biennium ending in June 2026. New projects will be selected by voting this summer and announced at the Chesapeake District LWML Convention in September.

Mite Contributions

January 2026 - \$448.00

February 2026 – \$214.50

March 2026 - \$264.50

May 2026

May 2026							Jun 2026 ▶
◀ Apr 2026	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1 Office Closed	2 9:00 am ComHole 10:00 am BSSP	3 8:30 am Praise Service w/Communion 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service w/Communion
4 11 am Friends Supporting Friends 7 pm Council Meeting	5		6	7	8 Office Closed	9 10 am BSSP	10 8:30 am Praise Service 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service
11 11 am Friends Supporting Friends	12 1 pm Book Club		13	14	15 Office Closed	16 10 am BSSP Picnic	17 8:30 am Praise Service w/Communion 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service w/Communion Stephen Minister meeting
18 11 am Friends Supporting Friends	19 2 pm Lay Ministry Meeting		20	21 5 pm LWML Dinner@Passwaters	22 Office Closed	23	24 8:30 am Praise Service 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service
25 Office Closed Happy Memorial Day! 11 am Friends Supporting Friends	26		27	28	29 Office Closed	30	31 8:30 am Praise Service 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service