



Lightwork

Many hands. Light work.

A partner kit for pastors, elders, and ministry coordinators — how to help your congregation carry each other's burdens, plainly.

The work the church has always done

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

GALATIANS 6:2

Every congregation already does this work — the meal after a baby, the ride to chemo, the hands for a move, school pickup during a hard week. What most churches feel is the operational gap: the awkward call, the missed prayer-request slip, the unanswered group thread, the coordinator patching together five group chats and a spreadsheet to get one meal calendar going.

What Lightwork does for a church:

- **Lets people ask plainly** when they need help — without the awkward call or the slip that never gets read.
- **Lets people offer plainly** — *here's what I can do, here's when* — without committing to a months-long ministry team to serve in a small way.
- **Surfaces what's needed in the body**, so the body can respond.
- **Keeps it small.** A meal. A ride. Hands for a move. The small acts that make Galatians 6:2 actually happen, not just preached.

Take my yoke upon you and learn from me ... For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

MATTHEW 11:28-30

The name sits on that verse. Jesus uses the word *light* (ἐλαφρόν — easy, not heavy) for what shared service feels like under his yoke. The proverb "many hands make light work" — English folk wisdom, not scripture — points at the same truth from a different direction.

HOW IT WORKS

Post an ask. Offer help. See who's coming.

1

They post plainly

Someone in your congregation posts the ask once — no awkward call, no waiting for the right moment after service.

"We could use meals for the next two weeks."

2

The body responds

People offer what they can, when they can. Sarah signs up for Tuesday. Tom for Friday. Small commitments, freely given.

3

The work gets done

Everyone sees who's coming and what's still needed — without a spreadsheet, without a group-thread pileup, without the coordinator burnout.

WHY IT FITS A CHURCH

Galatians 6:2, made operational

Built around the posture of "bear one another's burdens." Asking is just as easy as offering — sometimes harder, as every pastor who's tried to get the elder board to admit they need help knows.

Small, faithful presence

No gamification. No badges or leaderboards comparing who helped most. Matthew 6:1–4 is built into the product, not a value pasted on.

Private group support

Asks can be scoped to your congregation only. Sensitive needs — financial, grief, mental health — stay inside the group.

It serves the whole rhythm of life

The same tool works for the HOA, the school class, the neighborhood mutual-aid circle. One app for life-together.

For the leader actually deploying it

— Start small

Don't roll out to the whole church at once. Pilot with one small group, one mission team, one demographic — young moms, college students, seniors. Learn the rhythm before scaling.

— Don't gamify it

The app intentionally has no badges, leaderboards, or helping streaks. Don't add a "Helper of the Month" announcement that imports the gamification back in via the pulpit. Matthew 6 is the rule for a reason.

— Watch who's asking

Pastoral wisdom: the people who most need help are usually the worst at asking. If nobody in a particular small group is *ever* posting an ask, that's a flag — go find them. The app surfaces the need; it doesn't replace pastoral attention.

— The app is a means, not the ministry

A casserole dropped at a doorstep is the ministry. Lightwork just makes the coordination invisible. Don't celebrate the app; celebrate what the body did with it.

— Privacy and sensitive asks

Some asks are too sensitive for the whole congregation — a mental-health crisis, a marital separation, an abuse situation. The private-group feature scopes asks to the group. For situations that shouldn't even be in a small group, default to direct pastoral care outside the app.

— Not a substitute for diaconal care

Deacons — or whatever your tradition calls them — exist for reasons that predate the app and outlast it. Lightwork helps the body coordinate small acts of mutual aid; it doesn't replace the deacon visiting the widow or the body sitting with the grieving for a week.

From sign-up to your first ask

- 1 Sign up as the church admin**
Create your own account first — free. You'll be the group's first administrator.
- 2 Create your church as a private group**
A private group keeps your congregation's asks scoped to your congregation. Name it the way your people say it out loud.
- 3 Invite your members**
Start with the pilot circle from the stewardship guidance — one small group or team — and share the invite link. Widen from there as the rhythm takes hold.
- 4 Use it for the first real need**
The next meal-train, the next ride request, the next "we're moving." Post the first ask yourself if you have one — leaders asking plainly gives everyone else permission to.

What it costs: we don't charge for churches under 200 attending. Talk to us about larger congregations — we'll figure something fair out.

FAQ

Q. What does it cost?

Free for churches under 200 attending. For larger congregations, talk to us — we'll figure something fair out.

Q. Can people outside our congregation see our asks?

Not when your church is set up as a private group — asks are scoped to your members only.

Q. What about needs too sensitive even for the group?

Some situations — a mental-health crisis, a marital separation, an abuse situation — shouldn't be in any group thread. For those, default to direct pastoral care outside the app.

Q. Does it rank or reward who helps most?

No. There are no badges, leaderboards, or streaks, by design. Matthew 6:1–4 — *do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing* — is built into the product.

Q. Can members use it outside of church life?

Yes. The same tool serves their HOA, their kids' school class, their neighborhood mutual-aid circle. One app for the whole rhythm of life-together.

Q. Does this replace our deacons?

No. Lightwork coordinates small acts of mutual aid. Diaconal care, elder counsel, and pastoral presence predate the app and outlast it.

Talk to us

Questions about deploying Lightwork in your congregation — or a larger-church conversation:

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