WOODBURY LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEWS LETTER

WOODBURY LUTHERAN

Multiplying Disciples // Transforming Lives



INSIDE

- Believe Pastor Tom Pfotenhauer
- Summer Blast Nancy Schubbe
- Take Time to Care Pastor Tim Marshall
- Amazed & Excited Pastor-Elect Daniel Langewisch
- · Radically Becoming Bethany Meyer
- Copying Isn't Such a Bad Thing Sara Mulso



Bethany Meyer | Wakota Ridge Kids & Youth Minister and Local Reach Coordinator

Generally, doing something with reckless abandon is just, well... reckless. However, what if we recklessly became more like Jesus? Pastor Ben Griffin recently shared the imagery of a child leaping into their father's arms. He shared that it is one thing for the child to believe their Father would catch them and another for the child to follow through and jump.

Often, we believe that becoming like Jesus is good, but our actions don't follow. So, what would it mean for you to fully jump with reckless abandon into becoming more like Jesus?

I'd argue that if we went all in, with no holding back and truly stepped into a journey of becoming more like Jesus, the outcome would not be reckless, but instead absolutely life changing.



That We May Believe

Joel Wetzstein | Mulitsite Director of Worship

As we dive into Summer, we are going to work through our sermon series, "That You May Believe," based on the Gospel of John. We find ourselves as a church family invited with a very clear call to action - "Believe." It is an invitation to surrender our doubts and fears, and embrace the life-transforming power of faith in Jesus - who shows us through signs and wonders that He's got us.

With hearts stirred and minds open, we embark on a profound journey of discovery and growth. As we delve into the teachings of John's Gospel, we uncover the very essence of Christ's life, ministry, and message. In this pursuit, our focus becomes resolute: "Becoming More Like Him."

I want to invite you, through heartfelt worship, fervent prayer, and diligent study, fueled by the power of the Holy Spirit, to mirror the character of our Savior. His love, compassion, and sacrificial nature become our guiding light. Our desire is to walk in His footsteps, extending grace and kindness to all we encounter.

As we believe and become more like Him, our church becomes a beacon of hope and transformation in our community, drawing others into the abundant life found in Christ.

Believe

In John 20:31 we read, "But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name." At the heart of John's Gospel is a desire for all people to know and believe Jesus. Even in the early stages of the Gospel we see this so clearly. At the wedding of Cana the sign of changing water into wine led to the first disciples of Jesus to believe in Him. Later in chapter 2:23 we read, "Because of the miraculous signs Jesus did in Jerusalem at the Passover celebration, many began to trust in him." We see it in John 3 in the incredible conversation between Jesus and the Pharisee Nicodemus where Jesus is inviting Nicodemus to trust in Him.

We see it in John 4 in the encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman at a well. You may remember that there was a deep cultural divide between Jews and Samaritans, but what we quickly learn about Jesus, is that it is often the wrong people who believe. In Samaria the whole town of Sychar was turning to Jesus as the Messiah. In John 4:42 we read, "Now we believe, not just because of what you told us, but because we have heard him ourselves. Now we know that he is indeed the Savior of the world."

Notice all the things that are not at the center of Jesus' purpose. His purpose is not to make our lives easier. His purpose is not to make us important. His purpose is not to make us happy. His purpose is not to give us control and authority culturally. His purpose is that we would believe and have life.

The other thing that we see happening in John is that belief leads us to a new place. As those who have received the beautiful gift of resurrection from Jesus, we too are now called to live lives that look more and more like Jesus, not out of our strength, but out of Him living in us!

Here are a few thoughts around what it looks like to be become more like Jesus:

- When you see someone who is different from you is your first response judgement or compassion?
- Are you actively looking for ways that you can bring joy to those around you?
- Are you growing in what it means to be generous in all areas of your life?
- Do you take time away to pray and recharge?

Living the disciple life is always powered by Jesus showing us more and more who we are in Him. Becoming more like Jesus is a lifelong journey that always grows out of belief in Jesus the Great I Am.

Following Jesus! Pastor Tom





Throughout the summer all of our campuses will be hosting a week of Summer Blast, where kids will come to learn about Jesus and his love for them.

This year our theme is *Ready, Set, Move! Follow Jesus Here, There, and Everywhere!* We're learning how to:

- DO What He Says
- BELIEVE Who He Is
- · LOVE Who He Loves
- GO Where He Leads

Summer Blast theme verse:

"Let us keep looking to Jesus. He is the one who started this journey of faith. And he is the one who completes the journey of faith." Hebrews 12:2a NIrV

Summer Blast provides an opportunity to teach children about Jesus so that they can learn ways to be like Christ. "Jesus matured in wisdom and years, and in favor with God and with people" (Luke 2:52). Children grow in wisdom as they experience teachings from the Bible. They grow in relationships with other kids and other adults during the week too!

That sounds great for the kids, but why should adults be interested in VBS? Summer Blast offers the church fun and creative methods of teaching about Jesus and relationship-building skills.

It's a great outreach tool into the community—a way to invite those who do not normally attend to come into the church, get involved, and build relationships with others and with Jesus Christ. It offers a variety of ways for the entire congregation to become involved. There is something for everyone if you have an interest in serving!

Why should you, at your age and stage in life, be concerned about Summer Blast? If you care about kids and how they will learn about Jesus, then joining the team is a great way to make an impact on the next generation of believers!

It is our responsibility to empower and equip children and youth to follow God's call to action. Summer Blast is based on the Bible and the gospel of the living Christ. As older Christian adults, we can provide a solid biblical foundation for faith development for these children.

Summer Blast (VBS) Gives Us Time to Learn How to Be Like Jesus!

Nancy Schubbe | Kids Ministry Director

There are still opportunities to get involved! Summer Blast Dates coming up:

- Oak Hill-July 17-20 9:30-noon Contact Sarah Dibbern to serve. <u>dibberns@woodburylu-</u> theran.org
- Wakota Ridge-August 14-17 6:00-7:30 pm Contact Bethany Meyer to serve. meyerb@ woodburylutheran.org



Take the Time to Care

As we get deeper into the summer, it's not unusual to take a break from a lot of different things that happen in life. We spend more time up north and life seems to slow down a bit more. But one thing we should never take a break from is care. Our Lord doesn't take breaks when it comes to us... in 1 Peter 5:7 we read, "Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you." His love and care remains every day in our lives. At no point does God take a break from us. To that end, let us not take a break in caring for others, and loving them as well.

At Woodbury Lutheran, care is evident in a lot of places. You see care offered in our small groups as people care for each other, in our Stephen Ministry, as Stephen ministers are trained to walk alongside those who are going through the challenges of life, we see it in our pastoral care assistants as well, as they make visits with those who find themselves stuck at home. You will hear from your pastors, your elders, and even a new ministry called SOS, Surrounding our Seniors. I've seen it on Sunday mornings, where parishioners will pray for other parishioners before or after worship. Caring for others is natural and shouldn't be scary. I've seen it from our prayer encouragers/prayer ministers/ prayer teams after worship services, praying for others who are in need of prayer. These are just a few of the care ministries that happen here at WLC.

How are you caring for others? Not just providing for family members, but what about throughout the Kingdom of God? It doesn't have to be serving in these care ministry areas. It could be giving a person a ride to church. It could be sitting next to someone who seems to be alone and talking to them. It could even be a simple smile shared with someone on the elevator. When was the last time someone asked

you how your day was going? When was the last time you asked someone else this question?

There are a lot of distractions in this world that prevent us from caring for others. It's easy to be in our phones when we are out in public, isolating ourselves from those around us. I do it too. But think of the missed opportunities to care for others simply because we weren't paying attention to what was going on around us. Let's continue to be a place where people can feel loved and cared for just as we have been loved and cared for by our Lord.

Peace and Joy in Christ, Pastor Tim





We're Sending People Out on Mission with Jesus!

Please pray for the Short-Term Missions Team to Alaska!

Alaska (Adult Team - July 14-23)

Alaska Team Prayer page

Amazed & Excited!

Daniel Langewisch | Valley Creek Campus Pastor-Elect

Ever since we left at the end of my Vicarage in 2022, our family was praying that we would end up in a place like Woodbury Lutheran Church. There must not be many other places like WLC. From the very first day of my Vicarage, we were not only blown away by all the incredible ministry that was happening, but we were amazed by the people. You could see the love of Jesus at WLC. You could feel the love of Jesus at WLC.

We feel blessed beyond measure to be able to return to such a special place for me to serve as Campus Pastor at the Valley Creek Campus. My prayer is that WLC would continue to be transformed into a place where the gospel becomes so real and the love of Jesus Christ so powerful that we are transformed into radically obedient followers of Him. Please keep me and my family in your prayers during this transition, and we cannot wait to begin this journey together.



You're Invited!

The Ordination and Installation of Pastor-Elect Daniel Langewisch will be on **Sunday, July 16 at 2pm** at the Valley Creek Campus of Woodbury Lutheran Church. Following the service, there will be treats and coffee in the lobby to celebrate and welcome Daniel, Kali & Naomi to the ministry here at WLC.

Mark your calendars for this special and worshipful event! We can't wait!

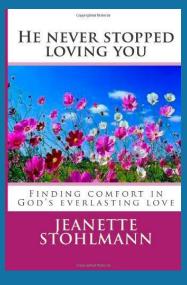


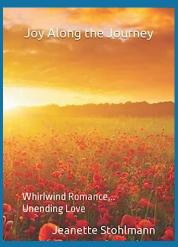
Summer Small Group Rhythms

Diana Vander Pas | Mulitsite Director of Small Groups

Becoming more like Jesus is something that happens in all of life, not just in times when we are praying or discussing the Bible. Times of fellowship and serving help us to grow in authentic community with one another. They get us out of the meeting mentality and into our everyday lives and the lives of the people around us.

Offer to do yardwork for someone on the prayer list, a neighbor out of town, or help at a community garden. Go to a festival or outdoor concert together, or take a prayer walk through your neighborhood. Enjoy summer walks, golf, or fishing? Bring a small group friend or two with you. Make sure to set a date on the calendar for late August or early September when the group will resume regular gathering times again. But think outside the box this summer as you consider ways your small group can love and serve more like Jesus.





Christian Books by Jeanette Stohlmann

He Never Stopped Loving You. This book is a great gift idea for anyone who may be going through suffering. Bible references and real-life experiences give clear clues to why God allows suffering

Joy Along the Journey. This book traces Jeanette's journey as a caregiver for her late husband, Rev. Dr. Stephen Stohlmann. It engages the reader and shows how God provides joyful opportunities to witness to others along the journey.

Jeanette Stohlmann has several other books that can be purchased online. **Book sales will be at the VC Campus on Sunday, July 30 and will benefit WLC Missions.**

Radically Becoming

Bethany Meyer | Wakota Ridge Kids & Youth Minister and Local Reach Coordinator

In a world where being who you want to be, doing what you want to do, and forgetting the rest is the norm, we find that becoming more like Christ feels radical. The world encourages self-investment, while Christ calls us to put others first. As Christ followers we are called to love everyone, including those we find difficult to love, while the world "cancels" and discards those very people. Becoming more like Christ feels entirely opposite of what the world asks for. But isn't that the point?

In the book of John, chapter 17, as Christ is praying to his Father he says: "I have given them your word. And the world hates them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I'm not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. They do not belong to this world any more than I do. Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth. Just as you sent me into the world, I am sending them into the world. And I give myself as a holy sacrifice for them so they can be made holy by your truth" (14-19).

We are not of this world, therefore our walk with Christ is against the rhythms of this world. Take a moment to reflect on the ministry of Christ. He went against the current and there was plenty of hatred towards him for it. Regardless, we see how he so intentionally modeled a life of kindness, selflessness and seeing the human in front of him. It didn't

matter what the world had to say about it, and for that I feel an overwhelming sense of gratitude and I hope you do, too.

I am grateful that we get to receive a grace so wide and freeing because of him. I am grateful that while becoming more like Christ is hard work, we have scripture that gives us respite and foundation as we gain confidence to step into the spaces set before us. I am grateful that many who have walked the Disciple Life following Christ, have also set space for us to continue doing good work for the sake of the Gospel. This world holds space for loneliness, doubt, and despair, but Christ holds space for hope, grace, the beauty of who we are, as well as all the less desirable pieces of our humanhood. The world has nothing to offer, but Christ has everything to offer.

So, how do we become more like Christ despite how radical it feels? By REACHing out to the rest of the world to show and share just how much they are loved, treasured, and valued by God.



Copying Isn't Such a Bad Thing

Sara Mulso | Director of WLC Preschool

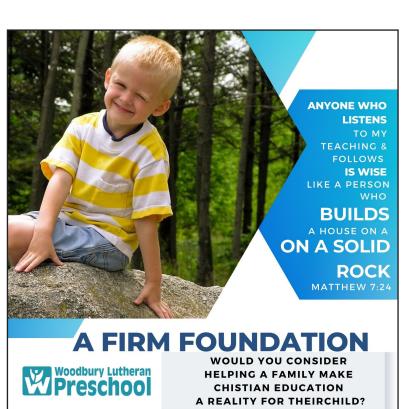
Many of you have watched a child try to do something that a parent is doing -from trying to hammer to wanting to pull weeds from the garden. They are confident! They persist in ways we don't expect. Behind all of this is the belief in their mind that they can do these things.

Jesus came to earth to live among us. He did so many things that we can copy -from befriending someone who really

needs a friend, caring for the sick and spending time in prayer. These are all do-able tasks for us. Not something that ONLY Jesus can do.

Wouldn't it be great if we can take the lead of children who desire to copy their parent as we follow Jesus. When we believe that through the power of the Holy Spirit we can become more like Him we will see the fruit of those efforts.





Our need to financially support preschool

Would you be willing to walk alongside a

family to help them with this remarkable

A scholarship contribution in any amount

families continues to grow.

helps make this a reality.

opportunity?



Say It Again! Rochester Servant Event 2023 Recap

Lindsey Schmidt | NextGen Director

We joined with 11 other Lutheran congregations from MN and WI to serve the Rochester community. Here's a few stats:

- 21 Middle School Youth from WLC, 9 amazing adults
- 70+ Rochester residents/parks/ schools helped-yardwork, painting, windows washed, trash picked up, games played
- 25 different non profits/ organizations served
- 74 shut ins visited and gifted a blessing bag
- 82 vases of flowers gifted throughout the city as a random act of kindness
- 22 teams were sent out as well as a daily support team of over 75 folks making breakfast, lunch, dinner, and keeping everyone hydrated, encouraged, and supplied for the work they were doing.
- 12+ hours worshiping God in song and devotion

Some phrases our youth used to describe the experience: Challenging, Awesome, hard but good, Fun, Insane, New friends, Life changing, God-led, Better than I thought, I grew a lot, I'll be singing these songs forever, I don't like singing—but I loved this, I'm glad we didn't have phones, I loved making people smile, I can do this at home too, God loves me!

Oak Hill Campus Update

1st Century Roman philosopher Cicero said, "Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all others." I agree wholeheartedly as gratitude opens the door of our hearts to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit. But gratitude can be tough too. Especially when times are hard, and we are walking through painful circumstances. Yet even in troubled times there is a path to gratitude. The beauty of a faith community is profoundly expressed in these words, "Life is better together." The Apostle Paul gives us a powerful reminder in 2 Thessalonians 1:3. "Brothers and sisters, we can't help but thank God for you, because your faith is flourishing and your love for one another is growing." Faith flourishing, love growing, what could be better than that? This happens as we live, serve, worship, and play together as a faith family.

Recently, Oak Hill celebrated with great gratitude our annual Oak Hill Family Picnic. Matt and Debbie Eddy graciously hosted at their beautiful farm. We ate, played, and celebrated being a community. There was a double elimination bags tournament, whiffle ball, sand volleyball and a potluck smorgasbord that would have made my great grandmother proud. The following weekend Oak Hill was again bursting with gratitude as we celebrated three baptisms, MN Adult and Teen challenge and the proclamation of freedom found in Jesus. The 30 choir members stayed for our bike blessing and grill out with pulled pork sandwiches, hotdogs, and root beer floats. Meeting new friends and sharing our stories was a sweet picture of "growing in love and flourishing in faith." Bicycles, trikes, and motorcycles filled the parking lot during this picnic, and we prayed for God's blessing, favor, and protection in this riding season, that as we go on our way, we would be a witness of what it means to be forgiven and loved by Jesus. A beautiful winding ride through the country led close to 40 motorcyclists to Marine on St. Croix for more ice cream. Did I mention it was 96 degrees? That's a hot ride.

Looking ahead, Oak Hill is about to begin a project that will serve to deepen our faith family and offer an opportunity to connect with our neighbors. The land to the east of our building is soon to have a significant facelift. Leveled land, sport court, pavillion, and playground will provide greatly needed space for "flourishing in faith and growing in love."

I am incredibly excited about all the Lord is doing to grow this family. Paul's words continue to echo in my mind and heart as I think about all of you. "Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Praying for all of you with joy, for we are partners in spreading the Good News about Christ." Philippians 1:3-5. I want to challenge us all to "flourish in faith and grow in love" as we live, serve, worship, and play together. Life is truly better together. Get connected.

Pastor Dean





Connect with the Zooks - WLC Sent Missionaries to Ecuador!

- Tuesday, August 15
- 6:30pm
- Ice-cream Sundays will be served, connect with the family, hear an update on their lives and ministry and pray for them
- Ron & Mavis Shriver's: 5751 Deer Tr. Woodbury
- Contact Brad Miller for more information <u>millerb@</u>
 woodburvlutheran.org

July Birthdays

- Kaden Bartylla Gretchen Crist **Bob Everson** Matthew Gage Melani Hanisch Jynessa Hughes Shaylee Kamp Diane Kuhrmeyer Donna Lorenz Vincent Mueller Vincent Polaski Galen Prail **Evan Rones Aubrey Spates** Lowell Zeller
- Donn Anderson Jordan Berg Gail Field Beth Kothe Paige McNeill Robert Olson Grayson Petrich
- Jacob Anderson **Bob Benson** Maria Brown Adam Browning Josh Boyd Penelope Frye Julianne Gage Emily Law Cynthia Mertens Todd Muellner Kay Noennia Dan Rose Steven Stensvad Rachel Sweet **Daniel Trost**
- Kirsten Benke Steve Braun Carolyn Carlson Rachel Krueger Zachary Roth John Schoenewald
- **Brandon Conway** Luke LeMay Lisa Martinson Doug McMahon Maxwell Moris Rick Pieper Evelvn Raebel Cindy Schmitt Daniel Schouvieller Kathie Widen
- Ava Wilk Genevieve Fett

- Maris Hall Lisa Karcher Heather Meek Nick Sabatke Jessica Salo Emma Williams Bob Wolf Willow Young
- Everett Berg Maddox Frye John McLean Callie Sirovy Liliane Wilford
- Katie Barker-Sieling David Brandmire Ann Carlson Steven Conley Daniel Hammerstrom Laurie Helgason Pat Kyndberg Dorothy Siebert
- Grant Anderson Jori Bernier Emma Critchley Del Howard Gary Isakson Sydney Parkhurst Joan Pawlik Dillon Peterson Robbie Rizzardi Andrea Sobaski
- 10 Kelly Bass Wendy Baumaarn Jason Brusewitz Casey Charlson Lauren Froseth Monroe Lisson Sara Norton Benjamin Reinhard Liam Roeller Alice Schultze Chris Tveit
- 11 Tammy Ablan Cooper Corliss Garett Horn Brynleigh Hunter Leona Schulz 12 Kennedy Bailen Lukas Hruby Eric Huska
 - Kenley McMahon Paul Niezgocki Renge Omdahl Lois Plath Kristal Treadway

- Harold Voth William Young 13 Rachel Breiholz
- **Grant Conner** Larry Edwards Tom Kuseske Penelope Lindberg Sally Meyer Stella Schmidt Shirley Yates
- Lynne Arneson . Karina Barabash Brandon Dowdall Michael Dowdall, Jr. Parker Field Ruth Kinmounth Patti Nelson Dorothy Olson Yvonne Pilot John Sakizadeh Sandy Southward Marci Speckhard Preston Widen
- 15 Audrie Bauer Elsie Corrigan Erik Dikken Grace Dunavan Emily Fisher-Damsgard Karen Grovender Jackson Norring Chris Odegaard Hide Sudoh
- Joseph Zastrow 16 Zoe Dittmann Gary Melin Anna Peterson Maeve Zilka 17 Kylee Bass
- Ashley Boyd Cary Charlson James Conway Iban Drevlow Wesley Eggers Mia Hodne Piper Hodne Na Lehtonen Addie Michlitsch Nancy Oehlke Andrew Parks Hailey Rhoades
- Sarah Rodaers 18 Jeanette Black Sheryl Breiholz Ryan Duffy

- Ella Gooch Zuri Harris Rylan Lange Brenda Mammenga **Hudson Short**
- 19 Steven Awiszus Francile Cummings Cheri Frost Mary Jeske Ben Koch Patricia Marchewka Mitchell Monson Allison Peper Dominik Rathousky
- 20 Robert Bous Greg Cloose Tyler Cowles Lucas Howard Jack Lavers Cheri McKusky Amber Salzman Molly Smith Anna Terzian Harrison Tongen
- Jeff Yonkovich 21 Ethan Blakeman John Clappier Marty Coughlin Anders Dahlin Winston Ko Jenna Kurth Josh Matysik Bob Nikl Barbara Riehle Sarah Tveit Sophia Vitela Ella Wenck Sarah Willmott
- 22 Roxane Becken Tim Bystrzycki Isaiah Clauson Bev Esala Mitchell Hobot Joleen Macioch Caden MacLeod Amanda Rose Jackie Sprenger Valory Tessmer Jack Úebler
- 23 Brady Burns Stephanie Claugherty 28 Lily Begnaud Lucille Dalbec Thomas Deverell Alison Fedorowski Mckenna Fedorowski

- Reid Fedorowski Barb Fleming Lauren Mortenson Elle Peterson Mary Powers Lori Raebel Lisa Vitela
- 24 Joseph Bauer Lee Bunge Scott Homuth Roger Olstad Riley Rivera Charlene Sheahan Wyatt Shugg
- 25 Jordyn Bunge John Colton Allisa DeCoteau Dean Huska James Pontius Aaron Raebel Jack Wesser
- 26 Clark Dailey Kelsey Deverell Jake Droel Chris Edwards Kaitlyn Ginkel Cal Janacek Adela Lopez Makenzie McCuskey Blake McNeill Arlo Perlick **Tanner Theis** Jean Wendlandt Isaac Wuotila
- 27 Caden Andrasfi Jana Beck Keith Buchanan Jayden Carr Michael Dolan Aubrey Eddy Collin Flanagan Emmanuel Johnson Pauline Maki Dale Martinson Vida Miles Lucy Morrison Billy Mzenga Eileen Reinhardt **Baylee Scholz** Johnny Voyda
- Whitney Berkman Dale Bjorkman Alex Dailey Amelia Deckert

- Marvin Hammer Marlene Ingvalson Caden Jamison Terri Kanne Gabriella Nassios Scott Schank Jesse Vislisel 29 Susan Boon
- Jenny Bouthilet Ethan Gage Lynne Geistfeld Justin Hall Gwen Krehbiel Rob Krueger Ed Martin Dan Meyer Belle Olek Greg Opheim Angie Siemer Heidi Sorgert Scott Stebbing Tom Stork Mary Timmers Diana Wende Tristan Wesser 30 Deb Anderson
- Howard Boatman Grace Brown Colleen Dokmo Freya Draegen Amy Graham Owen Heggernes Hunter Kirby Emma Klinzing Mary Kolb Danielle Retica Ron Unneberg 31 Addison Baty Jared Brandvik Lucas Dailey Ethan Johnson Meghan Konop Julie Kordosky Davin Morri Jessica Norring Alexa Rosin Jonathan Schulze Zaidyn Wagner Tanner Zuehlke

July Anniversaries

- Patrick & Jenny Brewer Duane & Angela Johnson Tom & Mary Karrow Bob & Arlene Schindeldecker
- Duane & Valory Tessmer Roy & Joy Klasinski
- David & Mary Brandmire Andre & Flaine Nelson
- Frick & Heidi Harre Justin & Kayla Metli Blaine & Teresa Raymer Raun & Liz Lauterbach
- 10 Dean & Mary Galvin Bryan & Kim Hughes Jason & Kathryn LaMott Tom & Stephanie Pfotenhauer Andrew & Julie Rhoades
- 11 Robert & Gabrielle Baty Robert & Sue Chad Michael & Melyssa Ehnstrom Kyle & Maria Engen

- Mike & Julie Huber Ryan & Leah Peterson Rico & Elizabeth Bohren 12 Jon & Sara Carson
 - Christian & Emily Moore Rick & Susan Musta Larry & Vicky Smith
- Devin & Amanda Gervais Bill & Michele Jacobus
- Cory & Kimberly Bauman John & Jenelle Rodemeyer
- Joe & Dawn Droel Alejandro Trujillo & Nancy Brezina
- **Dustin & Christine Davis** Mark & Jane Jechort John & Alicia McGuire Matthew & Angie Siemer Jay & Jill Olson
- Brian & Kelly Schmidt Eli & Angela Coffey Joel & Stacey Schuessler

- Jeff Sieling & Katie Barker-Sieling Jesse & Jenna Vislisel Tom & Carla Waite Dan & Kayla Wesser
- Paul & Gloria Bollman Pat & Jenny Bouthilet
- Scott & Jean Shriver Jeff & Denise LaFontaine
 - Lawrence & Stephanie Sadowski
- 21 Grady & Erin Jensen Jonathan & Molly Schulze Nathan & Jenni Xiong
- 22 Jerry & Colette Miller Todd & Toni Muellner Jim & Barbara Riehle Mike & Bonnie Slaughter
- Jacob & Maddie Beckstrom Jim & Lynne Blass
 - Paul & Deborah Burandt Herb & Judy Goetsch Charles & Laurie Helgason

- Kevin & Mary Landgrebe Zach & Courtney Barringer Donn & Laurel Anderson Cary & Patricia Arneson
 - Robert & Sharon Heck Dustin & Molly Nystel Arthur Williams & Adrien Everest
- AJ & Jessica DCamp Dean & Jyl Dunavan
- John & Nora Foster Dave & Heidi Hove Stanley & Michelle Schoenecker Reed & Kathy Siegling
- Brian & Kristi Delaney Matt & Lisa Noblett
- Jason & Brenda Sirovy BJ & Robin Brown Tim & Frin Lamkin

Church Council Update June 2023

In order to continue to grow in our communication to the congregation, each month we will share an update from the previous month's Council meeting. Full minutes can be found HERE (https://wlc.church/resources/newsletter-and-council-minutes/) after the 10th of each month. After you click the link, scroll down to Council Minute section.

Woodbury Lutheran Church - Council Meeting Tuesday, June 13, 2023 6:30-8:30am

Meeting Highlights

Financial Report:

We are running about 50k in the black as we continue to see strong giving coupled with good management of our expenses. We have qualified for roughly 82k from the employee retention program and are waiting for a significant estate gift later this fall. The Council is also in the process of exploring the possibility of building a small team of financial experts that can support Mike in his new role.

May Meeting Follow Up:

The Council is forming a Ministry Action Team to review our constitution, gather feedback and come up with recommended changes. This process will take several months, and we will not be in a hurry. This team will also review our policy manual for recommended changes.

Executive Director Report:

Our Executive Director Mike Ehnstrom has been doing work around gathering safety best practices from other churches that reflect WLC and we are in the early stages of implementation. There are several projects that are happening across campuses to the physical buildings and we are currently looking at a church database change as well as moving to the EOS operating system to help keep ministries better aligned to our mission and vision.



Meeting Highlights

Call to Order & Quorum Determination

Devotions/Prayer

Consent Agenda

- May Meeting Minutes
- May Financial Report

Discussion Topics

- May Planning Meeting Follow Up
- Financial Support Team

Informational Topics

- Executive Director Report
- Sr. Pastor Report

Closing Prayer

Adjourn

Worship

Online

Sundays @ 9:00, 10:30am Youtube OnDemand <u>live.wlc.church</u>

In-Person

Sundays @ 9:00 (OH, WR & VC) Sundays @ 10:30am (OH & VC)

Please visit our website for upto-date worship information.

Baptisms

Lydia Joy Lopez
Jack Gary Clevenger
Maren Arlys Kuhrmeyer
Joseph James Kuhrmeyer
Grady Frye
Penelope Frye
Stevie Mae Kostuch
Lillian Reagan Smith
Sadie Grace Krause
Adilyn Rones
Ian Rones
Lake Thomas Jagger
Harmony Anderson

Marriages

Andrea Gussel & Ross Hillukka

Deaths

Herb Lyson Tom Helvig, son of Margaret Claugherty Bev Depke, aunt of Joy Hopke Harrold Moll, brother of Sally Dunn Nancy A. Schultz, sister-in-law of Nancy Schultz

wlc.church



Ready to Take Your Next Step?

The WLC Connection Center is available to help you determine what your next step might be on the Discipleship PATH. Whether you want to explore options or you already know what your next step will be, our Connectors would love to help. The Connection Center staff at each of our campuses is available for each worship service. Come and say Hi!

Giving at WLC

Thank you for your ongoing generosity that keeps the ministries of Woodbury Lutheran functioning. Giving may be done by texting WLCGIVE to 833-808-4447, through our website, and through the WLC app (iOS | GooglePlay). Checks may be mailed to the church office at 7380 Afton Road, Woodbury, MN 55125.

Stock Donations

There are many different ways to donate time, talents, and treasures to Woodbury Lutheran Church. One way some members choose to donate is through the transfer or donation of stocks. If you have questions or would like more information on how to donate stock, please contact Trecie Horner at 651-731-3349.

Summer Stretch

Summer Stretch is a Middle School (6-8th, grade completed June 2023) Summer Serving Ministry. We meet on Thursdays 8am-1pm: July 13, July 27 and August 3rd (Valley fair day-8:30-7pm)). We serve in the mornings, come back to the Valley Creek campus to eat our bag lunches & then play games. For more information and to register, visit:

https://woodburylutheran.ccbchurch.

com/goto/forms/364/responses/new

Summer Youth Bible Study

We'll be studying the book of John this summer! Plan to be at the Valley Creek or Oak Hill campus from 6:30-8pm on July 12, 19, 26, and August 2. All new 6th graders through High school Graduates.

MS Mania

Our next MS Mania is Monday, July 10th! All campus Middle School event (and current 5th graders are welcome) held at the Oak Hill campus 6:30-8pm. Come ready for fun! Games, devos, new friends!

Miracle League Wednesday, August 9 5:15-8pm

Miracle League is an adaptive baseball program for kids with special needs and it's one of the most fun ways to serve ever! We'll have pizza before and then

play two games with our new friends. This event is open to both MS and HS youth from all campuses. Save the date and watch for more info soon on WLCYouth.org

HS Kayak Trip Thursday, August 10 9:30am-5pm

High schoolers from all campuses are invited to spend a fun and memorable day on the KinniKinnic River. Save the date and look for a signup at <u>WLCYouth.</u> org soon!



Looking for more information to stay connected? Scan the QR code above!



July 2023 Calendar

1 (V) Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study

Saturdays, 7:00am Contact: Jeff Linert 651-387-9428

1 (O) Men's Bible Study

Saturdays, 8:00am Contact: Pastor Dean 651-739-5144 x331

1 (V) Baptism Class

Saturday, 9:30am Contact: Rachel Symmank 651-472-1975

2 (O,V,W) WLC Kids Summer Spark

Sundays, 9:00am Contact: Nancy Schubbe 651-739-5144 x203

3 (V) Monday Men's Study

Mondays, 10:45am Contact: Pastor Tim 651-739-5144 x221

3 (V) Ladies' Gathering Group

Mondays, 1:00pm Contact: Shirley Mertens 651-276-7224

4 (O,V,W) Offices Closed for Independence Day Holiday Tuesday, All Day

5 (0) Beet and Bible Orest

5 (O) Pastoral Bible Study

Wednesdays, 10:00am Contact: Pastor Dean 651-739-5144 x331

6 (V) Pastor Paul's Summer Bible Study

Thursdays, 9:30am Contact: Pastor Paul 651-261-3416

6 (V) Celebrate Recovery

Thursdays, 6:30pm Contact: Larry Smith 651-308-9113

7 (V) Kitchen Band

1st & 3rd Fridays, 9:00am Contact: Margo Garven 651-788-1713

10 (O) Life Line Screening

Monday, 9:00am Contact: <u>www.</u> <u>lifelinescreening.com</u>

13 (V) MS Summer Stretch

Thursday, 8:00am Contact: Lindsey Schmidt 651-739-5144 x219

14 (V) Red Cross Blood Drive

Friday, 1:00pm Contact: www.redcross.org

17 (O) WLC Kids Summer Blast

M-Th, 9:30am Contact: Nancy Schubbe 651-739-5144 x203

27 (V) MS Summer Stretch

Thursday, 8:00am Contact: Lindsey Schmidt 651-739-5144 x219



Looking for something else?

Visit wlc.church

Valley Creek Campus (V) 7380 Afton Road Woodbury, MN 55125

Oak Hill Campus (O) 9050 60th Street North Stillwater, MN 55082

Wakota Ridge Campus (W) 255 W Douglas Street South St. Paul, MN 55075

Afton Land 12122 40th Street South Afton, MN 55001

(651) 739-5144 Visit us on the web at wlc.church

Woodbury Lutheran Church 7380 Afton Road Woodbury, MN 55125

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