WOODBURY LUTHERAN CHURCH

# **NEWS LETTER** Multiplying Disciples // Transforming Lives

### November 2023 WOODBURY LUTHERAN



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## **Faithful in Hope**

Joel Symmank | Campus Lead Wakota Ridge Campus

"...hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently." Romans 8:24b-25

In these verses, the apostle Paul is talking about the hope we have been given in Jesus-the hope of a new creation, of finally and fully receiving the rewards of being God's adopted children. Our hope can look forward with confidence to these unseen things because we can look back on what has been done for us. Jesus' death and resurrection are what our hope is built on. Nothing more and nothing less.

So let our prayer always be, "Lord Jesus, even as you were faithful in giving your life for me, make me faithful to the cross, my only source of hope." Amen.



### With

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

Jesus made a priority of complying <u>with</u> the will of God, even to the point of death. It is through His death that we receive hope for this life and the life to come. Over and over, Jesus welcomes us to a life <u>with</u> God. Are you picking up on the word "with?" Rather than us complying TO God's will, we are invited to comply WITH God's will. The visual that comes to mind is hooking arms with Jesus, like two friends. Doesn't that image give you hope? Maybe even comfort in knowing we never go alone, but that God is always <u>with</u> us.

We can remain faithful by going with God where He leads, and having hope in what He is doing in and through us. As you reach out to your neighbor, your friend, or the stranger in the store, consider what God is wanting to do WITH you for that person. Pause, ask for His help, and watch as God walks <u>with</u> them, too.

# **Clinging to the Cross**

I just returned from spending a couple of weeks in Turkey exploring the "Seven Churches" in the book of Revelation along with other incredible historical and religious sites. One of the places we visited in Istanbul was the Hagia Sophia Mosque. The Hagia Sophia was completed in 537 AD and was built by the Byzantine emperor Justinian I as the Christian cathedral of Constantinople for the Byzantine Empire. That's right this Mosque was once one of the most important churches in Christianity.

In 1453 after the conquest of the Ottoman Empire it became a mosque until 1935 and then it became a museum until 2020 when it



became a mosque again. What struck me as I walked through this magnificent piece of architecture was the Christian symbols that remained.

There were beautiful mosaics of Jesus and crosses etched into the stone. Even as the call to prayer was ongoing the hope of the cross was prominent. It was an incredible reminder to me that even amid challenges and struggles because of the resurrection of Jesus I will never lose hope, because our hope is built on the truth that Jesus is alive and coming again.

Speaking of coming again many are pointing to

the events currently happening in Israel as a sure and certain time that Jesus is coming again any moment. The truth is we don't know, only the Father knows the day and the hour. What we know is that today we are one day closer to His return than we were yesterday. Remember, with God a day is like a thousand years and a thousand vears are like a day!



As we wait, we remain faithful to the cross and we live with hope. We pray for all the people who are suffering because of the actions of a few terrorists in Israel and Palestine. We pray for peace and reconciliation to win the day. We take action as we love our neighbors and seek justice and mercy for all people.

Through it all we cling to the cross and we live with hope because Jesus is coming again and when He does, He will make every wrong right, He will wipe away every tear, there will be no more death or sin and we will reign with Him on the new earth in our perfected bodies for all eternity! Now that is real hope!

Following Jesus! Pastor Tom



# Thank YOU for Giving HOPE!

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



Thank you, WLC, for remaining faithful to the cross as we packed meals to give HOPE to the "least of these" across the globe. I had the pleasure of witnessing the whole event, and it was encouraging to see so many people walk through our doors, coming together for those in need. Here are some highlights to celebrate:

- We had 815 total volunteers serving in packing, hospitality, set-up, tear down and more! About 25% of those were kids & youth, 25% from local businesses, churches, and organizations, and about 75% were WLC attendees. These numbers don't just represent involvement and local impact. They also epresent a community that cares for families who need to be fed, who need to experience the love of Christ through a warm meal.

- 6 FMSC staff members worked alongside us and were poured into by our lead hospitality team through warm meals, delicious snacks, and space for them to take a breath in their ministry as we encouraged them in the break room.

- We labeled and packed 36,288 bags, and warehouse volunteers

placed them into 1008 boxes that filled up 28 pallets. And while we don't know yet where these meals are going, we can know that they will answer prayers that are being prayed right now.

- Through \$1,836 in donations and \$2,195 in marketplace purchases, thousands of additional meals have been funded. Those meals will be packed by volunteers very soon, and the ripple effect that you started by attending our mobile pack with continue for years to come.

- 16 hours of packing resulted in 217,728 meals. That fed 596 kids for one year! That is 596 kids who have more hope because you said yes to spending a couple hours together in community, joining hands to feed the hungry.

THANK YOU for being a true representation of the love of Christ. I pray that this spurs you on to step into bringing hope to others. If this event set you on fire to reach out to others more, but you don't know where to start – let me know! I'd be happy to help you get connected to an organization that feels like a good fit.







# Sharing the Hope of God with Your Kids

Nancy Schubbe | Director of Kids Ministry

I hope I can go to the birthday party–it's at a water park! I hope I get a dog for Christmas! I hope I get to play for the Vikings when I grow up!

Ever heard your kids say something like this? When we use the word "hope", we usually mean it like a "wish." Most kids are great at hoping (wishing) for certain things in life, even if they're not very realistic about it, like playing for the Vikings when they grow up!

And you know what? I absolutely love the optimism of kids! Their energetic enthusiasm for everything in life reminds me to be enthusiastic and optimistic more often. So, what we can do as parents is to teach our kids about what HOPE means from a Bible-centered viewpoint?

Biblical hope isn't a "wish and a prayer" outlook, where we want something with all our hearts even though we aren't sure if it will really happen. The word "hope" in Greek is "elpis," which means "expectation, trust, confidence". When that word is used in the Bible, it refers to actively waiting for God's fulfillment of what He promised.

In Bible times having hope meant that you were waiting in for the fulfillment of God's greatest promise-the Messiah! Jesus, the One who came to set us free, is the "promise and confidence" of all the world! He is who believing people of the Bible trusted and expected to deliver them from sin and He is who believing people of all times continue to hope in as well.

Next time your kids say they are hoping for something have a conversation about how Jesus is our hope and that we can have confidence in Him, even if we don't get everything else in life we are hoping for! Here are five Bible passages about hope in Jesus that you can share with your kids!

#### **Bible Verses About Hope for Kids**

"I pray that God, **the source of hope**, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with **confident hope** through the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13

"We have this **hope as an anchor for the soul**, firm and secure." Hebrews 6:19

"And this **hope will not lead to disappointment**. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love." Romans 5:5

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." 1 Peter 1:3-4

Because of this promise, our children can have a hope that will not disappoint them. Jesus isn't a wish or a daydream, He is the perfect Savior who they can rely on and receive grace from each day!





## "Glad Tidings" Christmas Tree Lighting Event

Invite friends and neighbors to join you at our annual Christmas tree lighting event on **Friday**, **December 1**! Don't miss this fun, all campus, family-friendly night!

Come at 6pm to warm up by our outdoor fire pits, then head inside for a family ornament creation station, photobooth, live music in the lobby, treats and hot cocoa, and a gift market benefitting our mission partners around the world.

At 7pm, head to the sanctuary for the main event! Enjoy a night of inspiring music, laughter, the tree lighting, and celebrate the joy and hope of the Christmas season with us!



Diana Vander Pas | Multisite Director of Small Groups

The WLC 'Together Mentoring' Ministry celebrated on October 9th with Mentors and Mentees from all WLC campuses with desserts and stories of how they have been encouraged and grown in the [Disciple] LIFE through this experience. The evening also included potential next steps for each pair, additional book resources, and some fun door prizes.

Over the past ten months these pairs got to know each other, encourage one another, and pray together as they looked to Jesus in the midst of life's ups and downs. 57 people are involved with the ministry including: 42 mentors and mentees paired since the beginning of 2023, 8 mentors and mentees that have continued to meet since the pilot in 2021, and an additional 7 leaders who provide overall ministry leadership or mentor coaching.

The ministry seeks for people to experience more of Jesus through intentional prayer-focused, one-onone relational discipleship providing a little bit of structure and a lot of freedom and flexibility to fit busy schedules.

To learn more about Together Mentoring go to <u>Mentoring.WLC.Church.</u> If you are interested in finding out more about being a mentor or a mentee, email Diana Vander Pas at <u>vanderpasd@woodburylutheran.</u> <u>org</u> or Kim Hughes at <u>kim.hughes1671@comcast.net.</u>

### **Financial Peace University**

Financial Peace University is a nine-lesson class that teaches you the step-by-step class to win with money! Get FPU plus all the tools you need to make the plan work for your life, exclusively inside a Ramsey+ membership.

Join us Sundays from 3:00-4:30pm at the Valley Creek Campus starting **January 14**. Registration opens December 1. Watch for details coming soon! For more information, contact Brad Miller at <u>Brad@</u> woodburylutheran.org.



## **WLC Bell Ringers**

Cheryl Christiansen, Bell Ringing Coordinator



Our WLC Community of Bell Ringers was recognized by The Salvation Army as a 2022 Volunteer of the Year and were also recognized at a banquet for "Generous Service to the Community through The Salvation Army

Christmas Effort." Congratulations to all of our dedicated Bell Ringers! Unmanned kettles are usually empty. The Salvation Army estimates manned kettles generate about \$30/hour. The WLC Bell Ringers raise over \$100/hour! We raised over \$15,000 last year by ringing bells at the Cub stores in Woodbury, Stillwater, and Inver Grove Heights. Sign up here to help us ring again this year on Fridays and Saturdays from Thanksgiving until Christmas.

The Twin Cities Salvation Army provides services including weekday meal programs, lodging, utility assistance, clothing giveaways, groceries, Christmas toys, and disaster assistance serving 144,000 people!

Join our Bell Ringing Community and find out how fun it is to ring in the Christmas Season! No one is too young, too old, or too cold to ring! Contact Cheryl Christiansen at <u>wlcbellring@outlook.com</u> with questions or <u>sign up to serve here!</u>



### Davanni's Pizza Night for WLPreschool!

Take a night off from cooking and support families and staff of Woodbury Lutheran Preschool! On **Tuesday, November 14 between 4-8pm**, head to Davanni's (Woodbury location) to dine-in or take-out. When you mention Woodbury Lutheran Preschool, 20% of the proceeds from your order will go to back to the school!



Robin's Nest 25th Anniversary

On **Saturday, November 18 at 6:30pm**, come to the Wakota Ridge Campus for a dessert reception to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Robin's Nest Children's Home! Seven locations around the U.S. and Jamaica will gather virtually to celebrate the incredible work this ministry has done! Questions? Contact Todd Breiholz at <u>tabreiholz@gmail.com</u>.

### **Be Hope-Filled!**

Sarah Dibbern | Kids & Youth Minister, Social Media Manager

This morning, my brother Jon, Andreé Payares (Valley Creek campus worship leader), and I spent some time leading chapel for the students of Concordia Academy and I was able to share some words with them on how we can be like Jesus to the people in our lives when we show up for them in hard seasons. While we led these students in worship, I was filled with hope.

You see, it's pretty easy for us, as adults, to get caught up in our own stuff and in our own routines. But to be able to step back, on a Monday morning, and see hundreds of teenagers worshiping and singing songs about how their God is with them in the midst of everything? You can't help but be filled with hope. This week, I want to challenge you to spend time connecting with God and



remembering the hope that we have in Jesus. Spend time in the Bible, pray, whatever you need to do. But remember. God is with you and He is for you.

# Celebrate Our Sent Missionaries, the Hoel Family!

Brad Miller | Multisite Director of Discipleship and Reach

Danielle and Grant Hoel have been our sent missionaries, ministering to college students at University of Minnesota -Duluth and coaching ministry leaders since 2009.

Their life and calling is changing. God is leading them in a different direction, and they will no longer be our sent missionaries. Come Celebrate what God has done in and through them on Sunday, November 5!

- They will be celebrated and prayed for in each service at all campuses...9 & 10:30am
- At the Valley Creek Campus, they will be available to connect after each service.
- There will be a time of praying over the family at 11:45 outside the Library in the Valley Creek lobby.

Come and meet the Hoels and thank them for their ministries and the impact of their lives as an extension of WLC. Contact Brad Miller at brad@woodburylutheran. org for more info.



### Joyful January Prayer Journaling Workshop

Develop a deeper connection with Jesus through training and practical experience in this method of prayer journaling. Never journaled? Perfect! We'll learn together. Journaling something you enjoy? Great! This is a specific and intentional process of communicating with God and receiving what he wants to share with you. Watch for more details coming soon!

- 4 Saturday Mornings in January starting January 7.
- 10-11:30am at the Valley Creek Campus Sanctuary.
- Registration opens December 1.
- Contact Brad Miller at <u>brad@woodburylutheran.org</u> for more information.



#### Future Glory Joel Wetzstein | Multisite Director of Worship

In our faith journey, we're given an invitation to remain faithful to the ross as Christ has remained faithful to us. To help us with this mission, let's delve into Romans 8, a chapter that beautifully shines a light on the theme of hope.

Romans 8 paints a vivid picture of our future glory. It reminds us that, even when life gets tough, we possess an enduring hope rooted in the sacrifice of Christ on the cross - a clear demonstration of his commitment to us that sustains us. This hope is the driving force behind our faith, guiding us through life's ups and downs.

Our corporate worship gatherings play a vital role in keeping us focused on our commitment to the cross and deepening our understanding of hope in Romans 8. As we come together, we find strength in fellowship, supporting and encouraging one another. Corporate prayer strengthens our faith and keeps our hope alive, while engaging with Romans 8 during worship deepens our understanding of the hope it offers. Through the music and hymns that resonate with our souls, we reinforce our commitment to the cross.

In our corporate worship, we submit to the cross and nurture the hope that Romans 8 reveals, becoming beacons of light to guide others toward the enduring love of our Savior.

# Wakota Ridge Campus Update

The end of the summer and these first months of fall have seen some pretty exciting changes to the Wakota Ridge Campus buildings. Back in April Bethany Meyer, Wakota Ridge's kids and youth minister, and I realized that our kids ministry had outgrown the first-floor classrooms we had been using since the campus opened in 2021. It was time to move WLCkids upstairs into the wonderful classroom spaces there! A wonderful crew of volunteers painted the stairwell, hallway, and classroom walls. New tables and chairs, supplies, and AV equipment were added, and on September 17, our kids got to step into their new space. The nursery was relocated to a larger room to accommodate the growing need for that space, and our WLCyouth got a space they can call their own. It has been great fun this fall making use of these new spaces!

In October a group got together one Saturday morning and pulled all of the paver bricks out of the courtyard to make way for a new concrete slab that would be poured there. The new slab along with landscaping work this coming spring will make the courtyard space more accessible, more usable, and more beautiful. I am so grateful for the ongoing work of members and staff to make our building and space more useful and more accommodating!

In addition to working on our building, we have a team working together on strengthening the ways we serve our community. Our Local Reach team had its first meeting in September coordinating our campus efforts with Every Meal, Kaposia Education Center, Neighbors Inc. social-service agency, our immediate neighborhood, as well as the multisite efforts of WLC as a whole. The work of this team will help us to make good use of our time and resources as we serve in South St. Paul. God continues to bring new people through our doors, and we continue to hear how welcomed and cared for people joining us feel. I was struck again this past Sunday by the lingering conversations going on after worship in the lobby and in the sanctuary. People talking and sharing, drinking coffee, and enjoying the sense of community. It was a beautiful example of our value of **Relationships: Life is Better Together** playing out.

Psalm 127 opens with these words, "Unless the Lord builds a house, the work of the builders is wasted." It's clear to see, whether in the actual house (our building) or in the gathering of God's people that He is at work, calling, gathering, building, and strengthening. I'm so thankful for what God is doing and eager to see how His work will continue to unfold!

Joel Symmank, Wakota Ridge Campus Lead



## **Pollinator Seed Planting at the Oak Hill Campus**



Help seed the landscape excavation site at the Oak Hill Campus! We're seed-frosting native flowers, grasses, and sedges known to attract pollinator species on **Saturday, November 4 from 9am-1pm**. There are lots of ways to help including grass seeding, grubbing work (shovels and grub axes), hand pollinator seeding, and spading.

Grab some work gloves and meet us there! If you're able, please bring 1-gallon or 2-gallon pails, plastic leaf rakes, and shovels.

(If weather is not conducive, the back-up workday will be November 11.)

Contact Tim Wolfgram at **twolfgram21@gmail.com** with questions. <u>Register</u> in the Church Center app to let us know you're coming...or just show up!

## **November Birthdays**

Gemechu

- 1 Kylee Collyard Joy Hopke Easton Johnson Jon Kush Aviana Lambrides Candice Lee Addison Lower Allison Lower Diane Pannina Dana Southward Steven Stone Rachel Thormodson Karen Wachal 2 Luke Burger
- Lauren Eddinger-Danner Callie Farr Makayla Gillard Betty Krueger Jill Leonard Pat Morsching Angie Niezgocki Jason Pleggenkuhle Connor Reagan Isabella Sanneh Kelly Vo Dianna Weum
- 3 Patty Blomquist Dean Galvin Neil Horn Joshua Hubble Rhys Medill Jerry Miller Pennie Nagbe Susan Ogorek Eli Olson Donna Petina
- Greyson Ash 4 Addy Beucler Lora Bock Kayla Cariveau John Carlson Corina Commers Avery Corrigan Austin Dunham Mike Heggernes Tim Huska Carter Kincade Afton Kirby Addison Lange Madison Lien Lilly Lopez Brady Roloff Sandra Zak 5 Karen Blank
- Jeffery Crane Jessica Dowdall Nolan Harre Bob Heck Donna Herian **Rachel Homuth** Sarah Jahn

Brody Loeffler Natascha Mishacoff Matt Nelson Bridgette Stewart 6 Calvin Bowes Tara Dalbec Erin Fitzgerald Micah Gamble, Jr. Griffin Graham Cindy Grove Liam Jones Logan Longworth Steve Matejka Lawrence Optiz Sarah Riechling Rebekah Stebbing Mae Vincent 7 Natasha Culbertson **Connie Jones** Marian Lensegrav Karen Longworth Liam Pleggenkuhle Vicki Strong Avery Vo Rachel Anderson 8. Kaitlyn Corey Amanda Drinovsky Mark Erickson Ivy Haines Bruce Johnson Calvin Kane David Krehbiel Ron Shriver Steve Skytte John Voyda Brandon Bambenek 9 Leo Johnson **Brian McInerney** Jim Montgomery Ben Muenstermann Paul Neubrand Daniel Schach Kelly Schmidt Angela Zenner 10 Samuel Beucler

Ethan Johnson

Michelle Bunge Greg Carlson Keith Esala Larry Faffler Christopher Hauge David McNally Elsa Minerich Tyler Schutz Kayla Wesser Kelli Wick 11 Erik Ehnstrom Eilev Kieser Kayla Metli Alex Pierson Caleb Pillman

JoAnn Sobaski 12 Rebecca Dittman Gywnn Pepin Len Score Helen Spindler Porter Yee

- 13 Matt Boyd Daniel Ferguson Clavton Houfer Sadie Krause Bohdi Lemke Ivan Niezgocki Chad Peterson Tom Zarnke 14 Samuel Barney Aaron Duffy
- Gary Grohoski Evan Hillmeyer Charlie Jones David Kopesky Mike McNally Laurel Mills Gerald Palesh Lindsay Sandrock Shanessa Schlattman Lisa Sell 15 Jeannie Backlund Nancy Bell
- Nancy Branton Sue Finell Kimberly Jorgenson Thomas Karrow Abriella Lema **Rochelle Michel** Bryce Mohlenhoff Leah Peterson Kristi Rohlf Tom Schlattman Marjorie Seeger Mark Sorgert Earl Staats Zachary Wagner Brian Whitemarsh, II
- 16 Adela Ashby **Brooks Aspen** Megan Becken Doug Cameron Robert Cerza Lynn Clark Tyler Johnson Louis Junker Hailey McNally Emilv Moore Alayna Oehlke Harold Pearl Douglas Spray Phillip Stebbing 17 Callen Brittain Gloria Dale

Beth Ekblad

Moti Yohannes

- Ruth Harrison Michelle Harste Edward Hemmelman Ellyn Holum Sophia Kuhrmeyer Julianne Kurth Emma Lee **Brittany Morrison** Elena Penaloza Tim Plath Faith Schreiber 18 Jackson Jones Vince Lelei Dawn Mroszak Wayne Pepin Kristi Starzynski Harper Weisbrich Shirley Volbrecht
- 19 Brennan Grimm Blaire Kuehne Brynlee Probst Steve Schultze Jeanie Strohfus Chis Thormodson 20 Seth Bridenbecker
- Caylee Clifford Kristing Johnson Adam Krause Caitlin Linert Jameson Mausolf Donna McElveen Colette Miller Colette Nelson Madelyn Rud 21 John Baranick James Barringer
- Gabrielle Baty Craig Bloom James Brewer Keith Gustafson **Kinsley Hove** Roz Johnson Peyton Lange Arthur Williams
- 22 Gloria Bollman Nash Drapinski Dale Kreft Stacey Schuessler Jeff Sieling 23 Thelma Altman Kendra Berkman

Grace Beseman Mike Brocker Emma Feldkamp Angela Fossan Steve Frisque Delanev Goerlitz Tyson Morris **Dick Schmidt** Blake Standly

Sydney Ulrich 24 Kaleb Bloomquist Barbara Daak Penelope Dalbec Kevin Lange Luke Lombard Adi Rones Ian Rones Cael Spates David White Emily Yee

- 25 Wade Amundson Madeline Baumann Cindy Boedecker Ted Bolles Kent Emerson Aroara Friberg June Groth Linda Kontz Lydia Lopez Jennifer Schwarzenbach
- Julia Voss 26 Pat Bouthilet Roy Harrisville, III Maxine Carter-Hunder Abigail Ceaglske Jim Culbertson Pat Duffy Madeline Fong Perry Rogotzke
- Kayla Sonn Cassandra Baty 27 Claire Becken Glen Boedecker Dean Dunavan Marge Helander Eleanor Meyer Mark Retica Anya Steffel Everleigh Vossen Jeffrey Wilford Robert Wilkie
- 28 Madison Buchholz Jarrod Bury Merete Ekiss Lake Jagger Cindy Kucharski Mike Mergens Simon Odegaard Gary Prestegord Gabriella Vitela Grace Wenck
- 29 Scott Conant Gayle Huska Maximus Khang Colton Longworth Sean Ngu'e Linda Pierre Eve Smith Holly Sorgert Eryn Stoerzinger

## **November Anniversaries**

- James & Alex Bogert 1
- 2 Nathan & Alisa Hartwig
- 3 Robert & Kristal Treadway
- Craig & Karen Roberts 4
- 5 Aaron & Desiree Morningstar
- 6 Israel & Cindy Carmona Dale & Elizabeth Thompson David & Diana Wende
- 7 Steve & Michelle Fog Andrew & Amanda Rose
- Timm & Helen Spindler 8
- John & Trecie Horner 9 10

Paul & Janice Grizzell

Ben & Marissa Jaager

- 11. Brian & Molly Kieser Matthew & Michelle Price
- 12. Edward & Francina Lelei
- 14 Frederick & Heidi Conrad Gwen & Dan Froseth Abraham Mathews & Vanaja Samuel
- 15 Mike & Lin Peterson
- 16 Lon & Kim Berven Brian & T.J. Cartier
- 17 Calvin & Erin Bowes Matt & Ashlev Bovd Thomas & Cynthia Mertens

- 19 John & Lynnette Mahlke Keith & Susan Ogorek
- 21 Daniel & Jana Beck
- 22 Jerry & Lucy Beane
- 24 Jim & Tracev Jensen
- 25 Kevin & Keri Stifter
- Joshua & Jennifer Granlund 27
- 29 John & Debbie Hukee Frank & Kathleen Janssen
- 30 Doug & Judy Cameron Doug & Rhonda Jones

Gay Wolf 30 Bethany Brocker Nathan Hartwia Teeghan Herian Maggie Kolb Dale Werth

## **Church Council Update October 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 <u>HERE</u> after the **10th** of each month. After you click the link, scroll down to Council Minutes section.

Woodbury Lutheran Church - Council Meeting Tuesday, October 10, 2023 6:30-8:30am

## **Meeting Highlights**

#### **Capital Projects:**

Mike presented an update on the ongoing capital upgrades taking place at each campus. Investments at Oak Hill include land reclamation, new chairs, and a new roof and siding. At Valley Creek, the preschool has received security upgrades and will soon have all new bathrooms within its own building footprint. Finally, Wakota Ridge received new chairs as well as a courtyard renovation.

#### Entrepreneurial Operating System (EOS) Update:

Mike reported that WLC staff leadership held an offsite EOS Focus Day where they created an accountability chart that identified the essential activities and key functions required to execute the WLC mission. This team will perform two more EOS Vision Building sessions in November and December to prepare the staff for full implementation starting in January 2024.

#### **Evolution of Care and Spiritual Support:**

A ministry action team was formed to study the evolution of care and spiritual support with respect to the current and future roles of the church elders. Ann shared the team recommendations to improve the clarity of purpose with respect to worship support, care ministry integration, and providing spiritual support to our campus pastors. This effort is part of a larger project to revise the WLC constitution which will require a vote from the congregation to approve.

## Worship

#### Online

Sundays @ 9:00am, 10:30am Watch the Livestream at Live.WLC.Church

#### **In-Person**

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

Please visit our website for upto-date worship information. at <u>WLC.Church</u>

## Baptisms

Silas Andrew DCamp Abigail Guerin Gabriella Guerin Olivia Drew Vanderlin Jolie June Bystrzycki August Timothy Fett

## Deaths

Rev. John Kallio George Rysdahl, father of Lynette Mahlke Pam Dahlager, friend of Connie Jones



## **Meeting Agenda**

#### **Call to Order & Quorum Determination**

#### **Devotions/Prayer**

#### **Consent Agenda**

- September Meeting Minutes
- September Financial Report

#### **Discussion Topics**

- Capital Projects
- EOS Updaté
- Evolution of Care and Spiritual Support

#### **Closing Prayer**

Adjourn

## Confirmands

Eve Wiebe John Voyda Natalie Munn Heidi Sorgert Audrey Rogotzke Xander Spreigl Abigail Avenson



## **Staying Connected**

#### **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!

#### **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.

#### Monday Afternoon Women's Ministry

Would you be willing to knit or crochet shawls, soft chemo/Neuro surgery caps or baby caps/afghans which would be given to someone who is experiencing a life trauma, an illness, or loss? We would love to have you join us on Monday afternoons at the Valley Creek Campus at 1:00pm, or bring your completed items to us at the Valley Creek Campus. Call Shirley (651) 276-7224 or email sungrams1@gmail.com for more info on how to be connected with this ministry.

#### WLCyouth Wednesdays

Wednesdays at VC and OH and on Sundays at WR are in full swing! There is no wrong time to jump into these groups! <u>Click here</u> to learn more about both and to register for a year of connection, discipleship growth, and fun!

#### Middle School Mania - November 10th

Middle School Manias are a night of fun, games, a relational devotion and a great way to get more connected for our 6th-8th grade youth. These events are free and friend friendly. This all campus event will take place at the Wakota Ridge (South St. Paul) campus. Your RSVP is appreciated! Please register here: https://woodburylutheran.churchcenter. com/registrations/events/1947706

#### All Campus Youth Christmas Party - December 20th

Join us for a night of games & competition, delicious treats, and Christmas fun! Wear your favorite ugly sweater, christmas outfit, or silly head decor to add to the festivities. More information to come, so keep an eye on your emails!

#### **Youth Mission Experiences**

6th-8th graders are invited to participate in our Middle School Mission experience on July 14-18 to Duluth, MN. Register here: (https:// woodburylutheran. <u>churchcenter.</u> com/registrations/ events/1969799). Our High School Mission experience is full at this time, but they will be traveling to Camp Daniel in WI on July 12-20.



#### **Pizza with the Pastor**

What's your NEXT Step at Woodbury Lutheran? If you're new to WLC and wondering how to get connected into this church family, this is the perfect place to start! **Sunday, November 19 and Sunday, January 21 at all Campuses** <u>Register here</u> or under "Signups" in the Church Center app.



MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION: DULUTH--July 14-18 HIGH SCHOOL MISSION: CAMP DANIEL --July 12-20

# **November 2023 Calendar**

1 (V,W) Women of the Word Wednesdays, 9:30am Contact: Diana Vander Pas 651-739-5144 x208

1 (O) Pastoral Bible Study Wednesdays, 10:00am Contact: Pastor Dean 651-739-5144 x331

1 (0,V) WLCyouth Group Wednesdays, 6:30pm Contact: Lindsey Schmidt 651-739-5144 x219

2 (V) Celebrate Recovery Thursdays, 6:30pm Contact: Larry Smith 651-308-9113

3 (V) Kitchen Band 1st & 3rd Fridays, 9:00am Contact: Margo Garven 651-788-1713

4 (V) Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study Saturdays, 7:00am Contact: Jeff Linert 651-387-9428

4 (O) Men's Bible Study Saturdays, 8:00am Contact: Pastor Dean 651-739-5144 x331

Woodbury Lutheran Church 7380 Afton Road Woodbury, MN 55125

Multiplying Disciples // Transforming Lives

**4 (V) Baptism Class** Saturday, 9:30am Contact: Rachel Symmank 651-472-1975

5 (O,V,W) WLCkids Sundays, 9:00am Contact: Nancy Schubbe 651-739-5144 x203

**5 (V) WLCkids** Sundays, 10:30am Contact: Nancy Schubbe 651-739-5144 x203

6 (V) Monday Men's Study Mondays, 10:45am Contact: Pastor Tim 651-739-5144 x221

6 (V) Ladies' Gathering Group Mondays, 1:00pm Contact: Shirley Mertens 651-276-7224

7 (V) WLC Choir Rehearsal Tuesdays, 7:00pm Contact: Stephanie Pfotenhauer

#### 561-504-5164 18 (W) Robin's Nest Celebration Saturday, 7:00pm

Contact: Todd Breiholz 651-529-4816 19 (O,V,W) Pizza with the Pastor Sunday, Various Times Contact: Brad Miller

651-739-5144 x209 22 (V) All Campus Thanksgiving Eve Worship Wednesday, 7:00pm

23-24 (O,V,W) WLC Offices Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday Thursday & Friday, All Day



#### Looking for something else?

Visit wlc.church

Valley Creek Campus (V) 7380 Afton Road Woodbury, MN 5512<u>5</u>

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 <u>wlc.church</u>