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Keeping My Gaze Up

Mary Law | Assistant to the Senior Pastor & Office Manager

For most of my life, the phrase “Keep your eyes fixed on Jesus” has been said to me and I’ve even said it to others. But sometimes that phrase is easier said than done.

The month of August is always a busy one, especially when you have kids. Back to school shopping, physicals and eye appointments, gear to be purchased for fall sports, squeezing in trips to the farm or the lake, enjoying a day or two at the Minnesota State Fair, and the list goes on and on. The busyness causes chaos and stress, and in the midst of that, staying focused on Jesus is hard. We end up like Peter, losing our focus and sinking beneath the water.

But when you look Up and focus on Him, you realize that He’s got you. Your eyes are locked with His. You have clarity. Your anxiety subsides.

So how do we remember to look Up? I encourage you to remember that He is our Savior, our Redeemer and our Comforter. Begin and end each day with Him. Engage at church by joining a small group or serve in one of our many ministry areas. Focus on His promises!

Keep Your Gaze on Jesus

*"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. **We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith.**"*
-- Hebrews 12:1-2

WLC is a large congregation, filled with people of all ages from different backgrounds. Just last week I was having a conversation with one of our seniors who was talking about their grandkids' music. It was pretty funny...she kind of caught herself complaining about the music and then she said something profound, **"My grandparents didn't like my music very much either."**

A few weeks ago in worship I became emotional as I looked out into the congregation at Valley Creek and saw 300 people of all different ages; it truly was beautiful. I'm sure not everyone liked all the songs or the sermon that day, **but we were all bound together as this huge crowd of witnesses by something so much more powerful than preferences—Jesus Christ and His death and resurrection.**

It can be easy for us (*myself included*) to get so distracted that we miss out on the bigger picture. When you are feeling that way about something in worship, let me encourage you to stay engaged by keeping your gaze on Jesus.

When it comes specifically to our in-person worship schedule for the fall we are considering many factors, including:

- **What are the current numbers for in-person worship and how do they impact the worship**

schedule? We have been averaging roughly 800 people for in-person worship (125 at Wakota Ridge, 200 at Oak Hill and 500 at Valley Creek).

- **Worship Styles.** Which worship style or styles best serve our congregation and those we are trying to reach? We have been working hard at having elements in our services that represent many different styles/preferences.
- **What is the right number of services to offer?** We want to be able to offer a variety of opportunities for people to worship, but we also do not want to stretch our volunteer teams or have empty services.
- **The COVID factor.** I don't have to tell you that there are a wide spectrum of views around COVID that continue to have a profound impact on peoples' patterns when it comes to in-person worship habits.
- **Your feedback.** Many of you have shared your thoughts, ideas and feelings around worship at WLC. Thank you for your input.

Our Elders and Council worked through a worship survey and there was strong support for the direction of worship at WLC, but also a variety of opinions on what makes the most sense for schedule and style.

We are continuing to hash through all the data, praying, and listening with the expectation of making a decision around our fall in-person worship schedule very soon. **I appreciate your prayers for wisdom and discernment as we continue to seek to Multiply Disciples and Transform Lives.**

Peace,
Pastor Tom, Senior Pastor



Colorado Peaches!

Colorado Peaches will be here! Our annual fundraiser for our Youth Scholarship Fund has ended.

Orders for these wonderful peaches will be ready to pick up on August 15th and 16th!

Thanks to everyone who supported our youth in this awesome fundraiser!

What A Difference A Year Makes

Andrew Asp | WLC Vicar 2020-2021

What a difference a year makes. We have a picture that hangs on our wall from the week we moved to Woodbury. It's of my daughter Claire, sitting on the floor of the empty townhouse which houses the vicar and his family while they serve Woodbury Lutheran. It's a place we have called home for the last year of our lives. It's where our daughter has called home for the majority of her life. As I write these words, I continue to glance up at that photo of a little baby, who was just cutting her first teeth, and barely learning to crawl, and then look down to see an all-too-quickly growing up toddler sprinting around yelling "dada" as loud as she can and pulling books down to read by herself. What a difference a year makes.

In the past year, you all have made a difference in our lives. You have been such a blessing to my family and I, as we have navigated a vicarage year unlike any other. You have come alongside us, and supported us, encouraged us, and befriended us in a way that we have truly felt and needed. But most of all, you have shown us what it means to be the church, and challenged us to continually be following as disciples, in the footsteps of Jesus.

From a personal standpoint, you have taught me so much about what it really means to be a pastor. It's about more than just writing sermons and leading worship; it's about loving and caring for your hearts and reminding you of how much you are loved by Jesus. And it's about doing life together, for I am now thoroughly convinced that life is better together.

And so, as my family and I prepare to move on to the next chapter of our journey in ministry, know that while we might be leaving this place physically, we are taking you with us wherever we go. We will take and cherish the experiences and the memories you have given to us through this year. We will take the things you have taught us and apply them to whatever situations we might find ourselves in. But mostly, we will take the ways you have transformed us and molded us into the people we are today, by how you have challenged us and loved us with the love Christ has shown.

As the years come to pass, it is my prayer and my confidence, that we will continue to make a difference for The Kingdom, as we continue together walking in the footsteps of Christ. But as we part ways for now, it is my joy to say to you the words I have had the pleasure and honor of saying to you as we have closed so many worship services together. *"The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you, His peace."*



Staying Engaged Through Care Ministries

Tim Marshall | Pastor of Care Ministries

The month of August can be a challenging month to stay engaged. There are so many things that go on in August, from final weekends at the cabin to vacations. There is also the task of preparing for the start of school, and all the activities that go along with that. It can be easy to miss a week or two of worship, and then the snowball happens... that turns into a month, then two, then four, and before you know it, you find yourself no longer engaged.

There are many ways to stay connected, including worship, either in person or online, serving, including Serventure opportunities in August, and remaining connected to your small group (or joining a small group if you aren't in one at the moment).

Care ministries can be another way to stay engaged. One ministry that will be starting up again in September is our Disabilities Ministry. On Sunday mornings we will have our Faith and Friends Bible Class. This is an opportunity to share God's love through Biblical stories. Hearts and Hands will meet three times over the course of the year as well, where fun, games and food happen. These are wonderful opportunities to stay engaged in the life of Christ! Reach out to **Pastor Tim** to get connected.



Middle School Mission Experience in Duluth

Stacy Winter | Youth Small Group Leader & Parent

In June I was able to see a different side of Duluth when I went with my daughter on a Middle School mission experience. Along with serving, we had personal devotions, music, and teaching/testimonies as we focused on what it means to be a neighbor.

Serving in the midst of Covid had its challenges. Like wearing masks all the time, and not being able to interact directly with those we served. But that was nothing like what those whom we served had to endure. During Covid the Union Gospel Mission was the only program open to serve meals

downtown. The city shut down, which meant all businesses, bathrooms and sources of water were gone for those who were homeless or in need. The Vineyard Church, which hosts a food shelf, had to lay off six church staff after the Cares Act money ran out. It truly made me appreciate how blessed we are.

I would challenge all of us to look at the world through the eyes of Jesus and find some way to give back in response to how much we have been given. It could be a mission experience, but more likely it will involve the person standing next you in the line or your next door neighbor.

“Which of these...was a neighbor to the man? Jesus asked. The man replied, “The one who showed him mercy.” Then Jesus said, “Yes, now go and do the same.” Luke 10:36-37

Keep Your Family Engaged This Summer!

Nancy Schubbe | Director of NextGen and Kids Ministry

During the summer, there are many ways to help your kids engage in worship. You might wonder what your kids will get out of a worship service, but there are several reasons that this can be a great experience for the whole family with a little effort from a parent!

Your kids are young in their faith. They may not understand the need for continued learning and growth in their walk with Christ yet. They go to church because they follow you to church; they are your disciples and they are learning what being a Christian looks like by watching and emulating you.

There are many studies that show definitively **that** these times of worship and learning in the midst of the larger congregation are one of the leading reasons for increased “stickiness” of faith in young adults. So there must be something to it, even if what they get out of church is not the same as what we adults “get” out of attending church services.

So, what is it? What do kids “get” out of going to “big church”?

1. They get **Seen**. It has been shown that one of the most important and meaningful things for kids is that someone knows their name. When kids ministry is located away from the congregation, not only are their names unknown, their faces aren't even recognized.
2. They get to **SEE**. One of the main ways that kids learn

is through emulation by watching activities and actions and imitating them. Churches have their own form of liturgy or way to worship and all of these things are imperative for kids to be disciplined in. It may seem like they are not “getting” anything out of it, but they are learning and growing in those moments. They are watching Mom and Dad, and other adults they respect and trust, show them how to worship. And if they don't learn from the church, they will learn somewhere else. The world has plenty of things to worship and it is more than willing to teach kids how to do so.

3. They get **EXPERIENCE**. For a moment, I want you to think back on your own walk of faith. Do you remember the first time you took communion? Found a verse in the Bible by yourself? Put money in the offering plate? For many of us, those things happened in the context of congregational worship. Now, I bet you did some of those things in Sunday school before you did them with the larger congregation, but I also bet there was something meaningful and affirming about doing it with the whole church.

Sometimes this isn't an easy task for parents. I mean kids are kids, right? But I firmly believe it's worth working through these moments rather than the alternative – a generation who is unknown, disengaged, and separated from the larger body of Christ. By giving our children a place to be seen, to see, and to experience their faith with others, we give them so much more – we give them a foundation for their faith that will leave eternal impressions on their heart.

Heads Up!

Sara Mulso | Director of Kindergarten & Preschool

Over the summer months, we offer some different camps for preschool/kindergarten age children. Our August camp's theme is We're Having A Ball! One of the skills or ideas that children will learn is that you need to watch the ball. Soccer, baseball, basketball and golf along with countless other sports rely on participants to watch a ball of some size in order to be successful. We all know that when you don't watch you can get hit with that very same ball.

Beyond just participating in sports, there is still a need for "heads up" as we watch sports. Over the past months with our son's baseball games, there are countless yells of "heads up" as foul balls make their way into the areas where families are watching. Now if you know me (or someone like me) multitasking at the ball field is a real thing and by the time my ears hear "heads up" it can almost be too late! Just watch the game. Words I often hear

from my family.

We also need to have our "heads up" as we do life! We can trip if we're not watching where we are walking. We might steer our shopping cart into another cart while we shop and walk in the store unaware of what might be in front of us. Life gives us many opportunities to keep our "heads up."

Our faith walk can also require us to have our "heads up" and when our heads are up and we are aware, our eyes are also open to the world around us. When we look at the world with our heads up and our gaze fixed on what we can do as children of God we realize that we need to be just as aware of life in everyday settings and not just around ball fields. Our eyes see opportunities to rejoice in God's beauty in the world around us. Our eyes see the abundant blessings which have been and continue to be richly poured out onto us. Our eyes see those who need to be loved on, cared for or just simply heard.

Simon Peter was in a "heads

up" situation. Jesus and the disciples had been teaching and were tired. Jesus sent the disciples off in a boat and he went off to pray. While they were at sea the wind began to blow and the waves became more intense. Jesus began to walk on the water towards the boat and Simon Peter asked Jesus to call out to him. Simon Peter is fine walking towards Jesus UNTIL he took his eyes off of Jesus. "But when he saw the strong wind and the waves, he was terrified and began to sink. "Save me, Lord!" he shouted" (Matthew 14:30).

Jesus was right there for Simon Peter. He caught him and he catches us, too! We multitask in this game of life. We keep our eyes on different balls, but not always the ones that matter. We find worldly places to fix our eyes. You know what's great? Jesus is right there. He sends people alongside us to give us a "heads up" and we know the final score of this game. Stay confident even when the score is down because we know the final outcome. Jesus for the win!



WL Preschool & Kindergarten is Hiring!

The staff at WL Preschool & Kindergarten are looking to fill several support staff positions. If this is something you or someone you know would be interested in, please contact Sara Mulso at: mulsos@woodburylutheran.org or 651-739-5146. All applicants must meet the MN Department of DHS's requirements for the positions applied for.



Clearing the Haze

Joel Wetzstein | Director of Worship

By the time you're reading this newsletter article, the smoky thick haze that hovered over the Greater Twin Cities area (and most of the upper Midwest, frankly) may have already cleared away...changes in atmospheric pressures may have (hopefully) moved the haze along to other parts of the country and the little bit of rain that we got in the midst of our mid-summer drought may have been enough to at least clean the air, even though my grass is still dying. But today, as I'm writing this, I can't see anything past the roofline of the building in front of me and the air smells of smoke. I would imagine that the visibility while on a flight path into MSP or the little airport by the Wakota Ridge Campus is very limited, probably even more than how it feels here on the ground.

While the sunsets and the moonlight at night have had an intense warm orange and red hue to them, and were actually

very pretty, the daylight hours have been veiled all day, every day for well over a week. The light of the sun is still here, but it looks more like a diffused glow coming from everywhere rather than rays of light with a pointed source and a very clear path as the sun traveled from east to west across the sky. It reminds me of those polluted scenes from the old Dr. Seuss book/movie - "The Lorax."

It's hard to see the sun when it's veiled. I have no idea where the sun is right now. But when the haze clears, if my eyes don't look up then I won't see the sun, even though it's been there all along.

Sometimes in our life circumstances, there are situations we cause, and things that happen to us and the world around us that are out of our control, can cause us to feel as though we've been veiled. Things get hazy. As you continue along your faith journey, regardless of where you are, I want to

encourage you to keep your focus on Jesus.

I invite you to keep your gaze up and know that the Lord sees you and knows you, fully.

I am reminded of this song. Most people will recognize it from the chorus.

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in his wonderful face
And the things of earth will grow
strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace*

*O soul are you weary and troubled
No light in the darkness you see
There's light for a look at the Savior
And life more abundant and free*

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in his wonderful face
And the things of earth will grow
strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace*

Throw a Party for Your Neighbors?

Brad Miller | Director of Discipleship & Reach

Who does that? Actually, “Wakota Ridge” does!!

As followers of Jesus, we’re all on mission with Jesus! We want to find ways to get to know and love our neighbors.

On July 18, Wakota Ridge, our new campus in South Saint Paul, threw a Party and invited the 200 closest neighbors to the church, complete with free food, El Jiberito Puerto Rican Food Truck plus hot dogs, chips and ice-cream.

There were also lots of games and activities for kids and families including things like face-painting, carnival games, yard games, tattoos and balloon animals. We also shot off streamers and played water balloon games.

It was an amazing day of food and fun, meeting people, beginning friendships and demonstrating the love of Jesus!



Serventure 2.0! Great Results... and More to Come!

Mike Sabbann | Reach Coordinator

Wow! When Jesus provides opportunities to Serve, you folks step up! You not only raise your gaze to Him, you gaze outward to the world around you, too! The results? New relationships and learning how He can shine through your service! (**August Opportunities are here!**)

Here are just a few of the intentional serving experiences and challenges that you did:

- Prepared lunches for kids at an inner city school summer camp - Trinity First Lutheran
- Created an “Outdoor Learning Center” with school teachers at Highwood Hills Elementary
- Toured the inner city of Minneapolis and learned about the richness of ethnic families and communities in the “Love our City Event”
- Brightened the day for a bunch of kids with “birthday bags” delivered to our food shelf partners
- Weeded the garden on the Afton land - these veggies will be harvested and delivered to the food shelf

Try Serventure this month. Raise your gaze, and take a look at these fun opportunities. Sign-up today! **Click here!**

Jesus said this about Himself: ...“For even (I) came not to be served, but to serve others....” (Mark 10:45) Amazing! **God sets the example for us!** And we get to *follow His example!*

South St. Paul Campus Update

Brad Miller | Director of Discipleship & Reach

Campus Name

Our newest campus has a name! During July name ideas were gathered from members of the campus and from WLC staff. The Launch Leadership Team (LLT) narrowed the list and presented three options to the campus congregation for a vote. From votes and input at a town hall meeting and other conversations, Wakota Ridge was chosen as the campus name. Wakota is a combination of Washington and Dakota counties, chosen in 1960 when the then-new Wakota Bridge was built. The campus sits west of a 125 foot high ridge rising from the Mississippi River.

Campus Pastor Call Process

Pastor Anthony Celia has declined our Call to serve as campus pastor for the Wakota Ridge campus. ([See his letter here](#)). The Search Team will regather and begin working on a new list of names and interviews. Please keep the Search Team and the WR campus in your prayers as we work toward finding the man God has chosen to be the campus pastor.

Building Updates

New doors and locks have been installed. The whole first floor has been painted and new carpet is coming this month. Audio, video, and lighting in the sanctuary will be installed during the week of August 16.

Neighborhood Connections

Teams of volunteers canvassed the surrounding neighborhood in July letting neighbors know that something new is happening. Everyone was invited to a Neighborhood Party on July 18th with games for kids, free food, and even some pyrotechnics.

Summer programming for kids (VBS) will be held on Wednesday evenings throughout August.

Public Launch

Sunday, September 12 will be the "Public Launch" of the new campus with worship and ministry opening up in full swing. Between now and then there is a lot to be done, but excitement continues to build as we look forward to this new season of ministry. Please join in praying for the new campus that through ministry there many would hear and receive Jesus' invitation, "Come, follow me."

Contact Joel Symmank at joels@woodburylutheran.org or call the church office at 651-739-5144 with questions or interest in being a part of the new campus.



Ministry Servants Needed!

At WLC we value Movement and Relationships. As we jump into the many opportunities to serve this fall and throughout the year, we grow in relationships and it moves our faith forward.

If you are wondering how you can serve and grow, please contact the WLC office at 651-739-5144 or wlc@woodburylutheran.org.

August Birthdays

- | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|---|--|
| 1 Chauncey Charlson
Hazel Crist
Jeanne Dicke
Carol Edwards
Eugene Eineke
Jon Gage
Justin Heintz
Jon Kuehne
Liam LeMay
Sophia McFarland
Jan Prange
Daria Turner
Grace Wesser | David Johnson
Brant Larsen
Michelle Manship
Mark Shepperd
Peter Shepperd
Shari Todd
Morgan Voyda | Mike Sabbann
10 Wyatt Clifford
Michael Hunst
Gail Kamrath
Katie Pillman
Nancy Schultz
Nathan Xiong | Kaitlyn Mammenga
Cassandra Menge
Holton Sailer
Mary Beth Schwartz | Erica Zilka
20 Kayla Berg
Zach Brocker
Joseph Doane
Jack Fossan
Eloise Gehring
Sawyer Molina
Madelyn Murray
Calvin Nelson
Daniel Ogren
Tim Zeller | Jaxon Dwyer
Morgan Gibbs
Ronald Hintz
Jenny Jurek
Herb Larson
Avery Rourk
Rachel Symmank |
| 2 Justin Brigl
Louie Doane
Janice Grizzel
Eleanor Grotha
Sarai Kieser
Doug Mortneson
Jessica Munn
LeAnn Perry
Ellyson Roepke
Erika Roepke
Sara Kieser
Emma Wiering
Sarika Wolfgram
MaKenna Yonkovich | 6 Lauryn Bambenek
Kris Brandon
Kris Carlson
Bob Engen
Ron Gehring
Katy Hohenstein
Allison Pokrandt
Luke Rodemeyer
Lindsey Schmidt
Laura Stennes
Perry Varin
Cali Yee
Matthew Young | 11 Abigail Finnegan
Everett Gilbert
Susan Haukland
Bryan Hawkinson
Hoyt Olson
Susie Nadasdy
Breana Voss | 16 Cody Arend
Tami Bauer
Kristen Bettmann
Maggie Haines
Corey Houseman
Thomas Mertens
Marilyn Myers
LaRee Opdahl
Colette Sand
Nate Schank
Ethan Wess | 21 Harold Converse
James Finell
Alexis Huber
Brooklyn Peltier
Cheryl Wasko
Charlie Wesser | 28 Ashley Arneson
Matt Brocker
Lisa Cordes
Debbie Grimmer
Lilyana Howard
Mark LeClair
Joel Schuessler
Brad Scibak
Lori Standly
Joyce Stiebner |
| 3 Del Anderson
Chad Ellwein
Helen Engman
Pam Evans
Jenni Fors
Brian Wiebe
Jill Wiebe
Michelle Wright | 7 Susan Ackerman
Pat Durfee
Nancy Gustason
Carl Jackson
Sue Lange
Maria Mueller
Kaleb Munn
Greg Rome
Brenda Sirovy | 12 Connor Bertram
Linnea Friemann
Ellie Hanisch
Ellen Kistner
Tim Loeffler
Jeff Mueller
Jim Noren
Stephanie Penaloza
Piper Timmers
Corey Topp
Carley Tuman
Amanda Yantes | 17 Courtney Barringer
Nora Bystrzycki
Gino Ferrard
Jeffrey Figimiller
Desiree Ginn
Sharon Gullickson
Jake Kato
Deborah Maves
Allison Ortiz
Susan Reichling
Alyssa Salava
Beth Tessmer | 22 Cerise Diedrich
Brandon Firkus
Stephanie Gow
Julia Granlund
Michael Hamann
Charles Helgason
Kathleen Janssen
Richard Markgraf
Camille Weiss | 29 Lisa Ginn
Janet Kochmann
Justin Mack
Vivienne Mattson
Cary Mielke
Adriana Tacheny
John Welsh |
| 4 Erin Bowes
Madison Bieniek
Greyson Ellis
Kate Griffin
Margot Huska
Tom Koch
Mary Jo McNeal
Samantha Meyer
Matt Raymer
Jaylin Tuman
Grace Wiebe | 8 Lowell Ackerman
Rick Carlson
Twyla Franzen
Matthew Hæhn
Todd Hanson
Elsie Hetrick
Nancy Kapernick
Karen Miner
Alex Tonolli | 13 Jacob Bloomer
Marvin Heaton
Dan Lofthus
Abigail Menge
Jeff Miner
Austin Raebel
Lisa Reberg
John Swanlund
Ryan Wegner
Michael Weir | 18 Michael Karcher
Margaret Kilb
Olivia Lueders
Nichole Murray
Mike Steffel
Mitchell Watanabe
Riley Wick | 23 Norm Berg
Christine Borscheid
Kim Cox
Deborah Tacheny
Jonathan Wesser
Beckett Wyeth | 30 Isaac Anderson
Grace Burrows
Mara DePalma
Dylan Gallahue
Jim Krengel
MaryAnne Linser
Kathy Lutes
Mike Mills
Addison Mohlenhoff
Mariah Nasby
David Noblett
Dennis O'Connor
Audrey Rogotzke |
| 5 Grant Boehme
Joe Bonnette
Joan Figimiller | 9 Lacey Anderson
Levi Burrows
Charlotte Crane
Kylie Fischbach
Frankie Hines
Dave Jacobson
Joel Jensen
Gloria Johnson
Kayley Johnson
Tony Moran
Matthew Nepsund | 14 Brynna Cattell
Tom Christianson
Sally Cronin
Carson Jeske
Dawn Ludwig
Zora Pankratz
Andrew Rose | 19 Bruce Avenson
Judy Cameron
Kevin Doyle
Bob Drayton
Jennifer Drayton
Mia Faeth
Kelly Frisque
Elijah Ginkel
Larry Hall
Edna Hunter
Jason Matthews
Sue McDowell
Leah Peterson
Meghan Schach
Dave Voss | 24 Abby Eggers
Castiel Khang
Dave Martini
Marta Rowcliffe
Drew Sirovy
25 Dylan Anderson
Sienna Nordman
Cheryl Schindeldecke
Daniel Stoerzinger
Grace Winter
26 Joseph Grovers
Christian Hall
Madison Mayer
Javen Vislisel
John Wilke
Virgie Wright
27 Alicia Bata | 31 Katie Benson
Dawn Drael
Morgan Gillard
Troy Goetz
Bob Horning
Adam Koreltz
Paul Reberg
Karen Roberts
Steve Wagner |

August Anniversaries

- | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Adam & Jennifer Doehrmann
Jared & Melissa Goerlitz | Robert & Kari Ulrich
Warren & Dianna Weum | Corey & Rhonda Topp | 23 Mike & Sherrie Kinmouth
Monte & Rochelle Michel | Ben & Jeanne Doane
Gabe & Casey Howard |
| 2 Bruce & Gail Avenson
Jason & Susan Brusewitz
Matthew & Debbie Eddy
Dean & Susie Nadasdy
Daniel & Mary Powers | 9 Justin & Amber Gehring
Lars & Hannah Heggernes
Gary & Sue McDowell
Steve & Kristi Rohlf
Peter & Molly Shepperd | 15 Chad & Leah Peterson
Don & Joyce Piper
Steve & Lori Raebel | Kirk & Mary Nesvig
Joseph & Kimberlee Seltz
Hal & Nancy Shaver
John & Janice Wilke | 28 Tim & Ruth Bredahl
Marv & Joan Bugnon
Emmanuel Johnson & Penny Nagbe
Brian & Lisa Smith |
| 4 Ron & Kathy Lutes
Scott & Denise Schuenke
Stephen & Ashley St. Clair | 10 Keith & Lavonne Buchanan
Rodney & Diane Nelsestuen
Christopher & Dawn Radecki
Francis & Karen Rheinberger
Jim & Marlys Sobaski | 16 Jim & Lori Golden
Ron & Lori Kane | 24 Roger & Betty Fockler
Jim & Sharon Gullickson
Mike & Carolyn Kohlbeck
Matthew & Kris Nelson
Dan & Kris Peterson
Perry & Deb Varin | 29 Kurt & Kathleen Anderson
Mark & Eli LeClair
Dennis & Mary Ellen O'Connor |
| 5 David & Becky Nelson
Lucas & Katie Pillman
Mark & April Reed | 11 Mark & Darlene Carlson
Patrick & Haley Courteau
Donald & Michelle Hartinger
Lester & Sue Lange
Neil & Liz Perryman | 17 Eddie & Jennifer Carlson
Ricky & Jamie Pearson
Brad & Kim Scibak
Charlie & Rachel Tank | 25 Rod & Kimberly Beseman
Tim & Kathy Johnson
Tom & Barb Koch
Kevin & Leslie Lange
Jerry & Marjorie Seeger
Ross & Stephanie Smith
Jim & Dana Stoffel
Lev & Sondra Wagner | 30 David & Gwen Krehbiel
Brant & Melissa Larsen
John Waldo & Jennifer Stevensen-Waldo |
| 6 Michael & Jennifer Hamann
Steve & Lori Johnson
Phillip & Rebekah Stebbing | 12 Eric & Roxy Bjornson
Brian & Karlee Pitt | 18 Norm & Deb Berg
Christian & Brenda Bertram
Chris & Jolene Deilke
Craig & Diana McHenry
Steven & LuCinda Schwartz
19 Ron & Bev Hintz | 26 Sang & Peg Albrecht
Allen & Karen Bergh
Arthur & Rachel Grant
Tim & Bethany Mathot
Dave & Marsha Voss | 31 Don & JoAnne Arndt
Herb & Jan Lyson |
| 7 Steven & Rhonda Affeld
Matthew & Heather Meek
Mark & Annette Reagan | 13 Michael & Amy Gannon
Nate & Megan Howard
Richard & Jennifer Schmidt | 20 Mike & Tina Pokrandt
Christopher & Sherri Smith | 27 Will & Arlene Bartley
Joshua & Susan Boon | |
| 8 Don & Linda Amey
Zack & Karina Barabash
Daniel & Gail Field
Jim & Helen Gland
Neil & Julie Horn
Jeff & Cindy Linert
Thomas & Katie Luger
Barry & Cindy Thompson | 14 Wes & Patty Bolin
Clark & Katie Dailey
Steven & Susan Joines
Tom & Marci Speckhard
Tom & Darlene Tibbetts | 21 Howard & Karen Boatman
Tom & Ann Crist
Jonathan & Lizzie Wesser
Derek & Kelli Wick
22 Kyle Duffy & Blair Fanning
Bryan & Michelle Hawkinson
Mark & Vicki Hogeboom
Todd & Cayla Klusmann
Bryce & Rikki Mohlenhoff | | |

Church Council Update March

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](#) after the 10th of each month.

Woodbury Lutheran Church - Council Meeting
Tuesday, July 13, 2021
6:30-8:30am

Meeting Highlights

Staffing Updates:

After serving at WLC for 8 years **Molly Schulze** will be stepping down as our Kids Minister at Oak Hill to move more into teaching; she has been a treasure. **Karl Grant** was interviewed by the Synod Colloquy committee and will be ordained as a Pastor at the Valley Creek Campus on Sunday, **October 17th at 2pm**. **James Bogert** has started in his role as our new Technical Director.

South St. Paul Campus:

We continue to make great progress at connecting to the community and merging the former Concordia folks into WLC. We are excited that a campus name will be announced on Sunday, July 25th and Pastor Anthony will have a decision on the call by July 23rd.

Follow Initiative:

Starting in November we will be launching the **Follow** initiative focused on re-engaging people on our Discipleship Path and sharing ministry vision and financial needs for 2022-2023.

Oromo Lutheran:

We are in conversations with the Oromo Lutheran Church about using one of our campus spaces for worship and other activities. They currently have about 200 adults and 150 kids/youth; this would be a great opportunity to partner with an ethnic ministry.

Corrie's House:

Over the last several months the Church Council has been in conversation with Corrie's House about the possibility of using a portion (10 acres) of the Afton land (we have 44 acres) to build a home for young women who are in the process of coming out of being trafficked. The Council has several follow up meetings that will be processed in the coming months.

Financials:

Income is ahead of 2020 by \$113,439 and we are roughly \$13k in the black for the year.



Meeting Agenda

Call to Order & Quorum Determination

Devotions/Prayer

Consent Agenda

- June Meeting Minutes
- June Financial Report

Discussion Topics

- South St. Paul Campus / Fall Update
- Corrie's House Update and Afton Land Next Steps
- Ethiopian Church Partnership Opportunity

Informational Topics

- Sr. Pastor Report and Metrics

Closing Prayer

Adjourn

Worship

Online

Saturdays @ 5:00pm
Sundays @ 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am

In-Person

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

Please visit our website for up-to-date worship information.

woodburylutheran.org

Baptisms

Elias Faschingbauer
Edison John Yee

Weddings

Anah Schwartz & David Eddy
Jacob Beckstrom & Madalyn Mills

Deaths

Edward Fleury
Gary Kanne
Judy Schoeberl, sister of Jan Steffel
Gordon Pedersen



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!

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.

Stephen Ministers

If you are going through a difficult time—whether it's losing a loved one, having relationship struggles, financial hardships or any number of challenges one might face—WLC has Stephen Ministers who would like to walk with you through these trying times. Contact [Pastor Tim](#) or [Shirley Mertens](#) for more information.

Middle School Manias

All rising 5th-8th graders are welcome to come join in on the fun! It's free & no registration required.

- Aug 2 (@OH), and
- Aug 16 (@VC)-Water games!

Wednesday Night Youth Ministries

Resume on September 15th! It's time to [register!!!](#) You can find the link at wlc-youth.org. Youth in 6th-12th grades gather weekly to grow as Disciples of Jesus.

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, or bring your completed items to us at the Valley Creek Campus. Call Tamara (651) 734-3974 or tskarl@comcast.net for more info on how to be connected with this ministry.



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

August 2021 Calendar

1 (O, W, V) KidsZone

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

2 (V) Preschool Camp

M-F, 8:30am
Contact: Sara Mulso
651-739-5144 x233

2 (V) Monday Men's Study

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

2 (V) Ladies Gathering Group

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

2 (O) Middle School Mania

Monday, 6:30pm
Contact: Lindsey Schmidt
651-739-5144 x219

4 (W) Summer Family Fun for Kids

Wednesdays, 6:00pm
Contact: Laura Stennes
651-451-0309

4 (O, V) Youth Summer Bible Study

Wednesdays, 6:30pm
Contact: Lindsey Schmidt
651-739-5144 x219

4 (O) Wednesdays on the Hill

Wednesdays, 6:00pm
Contact: Pastor Dean
651-739-5144 x331

5 (V) Pastor Paul's Summer Bible Study

Thursdays, 9:30am
Contact: Karl Grant
651-739-5144 x241

5 (V) Celebrate Recovery

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

7 (V) Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study

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

7 (O) Men's Bible Study

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

7 (V) Baptism Class

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

16 (V) Middle School Mania

Monday, 6:30pm
Contact: Lindsey Schmidt
651-739-5144 x219

WLC NEWS LETTER

Looking for something else?

Visit woodburylutheran.org

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 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
www.woodburylutheran.org

Woodbury Lutheran Church
7380 Afton Road
Woodbury, MN 55125

Multiplying Disciples // Transforming Lives