NEWS LETTER Multiplying Disciples // Transforming Lives

WOODBURY LUTHERAN



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You've seen this in movies and on TV: The situation is dire, something is about to happen and two characters are watching it unfold. One of the characters tenses, ready to spring into action. The other grabs him by the arm, holds him back, and says, in a confident tone, "Wait for it..." And then the unexpected happens, the situation suddenly isn't as dire as expected, and the day is saved. The first character looks on in bewilderment, while the second flashes that self-satisfied grin. He knew what was coming all along.

I love those scenes. I love the surprise outcome. I always find myself saying to the second character, "Why you..." But I can't help but smile with him.

We're in the season of Advent now, the season that reminds us that the church waits. We wait for Jesus' return, for his Kingdom to finally fully come, for his will to finally fully be done, for him to take all the brokenness and make it good again, the way it was. We wait.

It's not a passive waiting, though. The church acts, too. In times that feel dire, we live out our calling to grab our neighbor's arm and say, "Wait for it..." Maybe not in so many words, but in the way we love, and care, and speak grace and truth.

We're the ones who know what's coming. Let's live that way. Actively. Passionately, Gracefully.

This Advent may you find and give joy in the waiting. Come quickly, Lord Jesus.

Small Groups Zooming Through the Holidays

Thinking of Christmas reminds us of the story of Christ's birth told in Luke chapter 2. Living in a pandemic today, we might tell a story that starts out, "In those days, there was a decree issued, and everyone went to their own home computer to register for Zoom." Our small groups continue to gather in this time, meeting over Zoom and other video conferencing options.

Online gatherings allow for options that aren't usually available: you can participate while wintering south, in the midst of a snow storm, early in the morning without a commute, or in the evening after the kids go to bed.

Don't forget to have some fun on Zoom too! Everyone can make a cup of hot chocolate or cider and share their favorite holiday traditions. Read Luke 2 together and watch "A Charlie Brown Christmas". Or host an ugly sweater or crazy hat day on Zoom while each household fills a backpack for Backpacks for Good.

In addition to our men's, women's, couples, family, and co-ed groups, we are also offering Women of the Word groups meeting on Zoom Wednesday mornings from 9:20-11:20am. Contact Diana Vander Pas at vanderpasd@woodburylutheran.org to connect to any of these groups!



Christmas...

"And she will have a son, and you are to name Him Jesus, for *He will save His people* from their sins."

Matthew 1:21

I love, love, love the season of Christmas! When I was a kid I would hang lights all over the place in our basement. My favorite lights were the old-school oversized bulbs...in fact I just bought 12 more strands of them for my house! Even though I love the season of Christmas I actually hate waiting for Christmas to finally get here. It always seems like an eternity for the four candles on the Advent wreath to get lit.

As we wait for Christmas again this year life feels pretty overwhelming. Just yesterday we found out that our daughter's school will be going fully virtual after Thanksgiving. Tonight the Governor is going to make an announcement about additional closures to help stop the spread of COVID-19. As we speak there are still unresolved lawsuits around the election. Thanksgiving is limited to 10 people and who knows what Christmas is going to look like.

Through it all, I want to encourage you to patiently wait for it. What is the "it" you ask? "And she will have a son, and you are to name Him Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

You better believe that I am still hanging lights and buying more strands of oversized bulbs, but this year I am waiting with anticipation knowing that my



most important circumstance has changed, I have been saved from my sins. May that be more than enough...

Peace, Pastor Tom, Senior Pastor

A Stable Christmas

Joel Wetzstein | Director of Worship

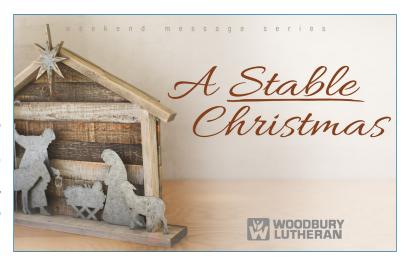
Life seems doomed to instability...

Don't believe me? Look ground!

We've got COVID and all the restrictions that go along with that! Even our Thanksgiving plans were in jeopardy. Then we have the shootings, protests, the brink of civil war in Ethiopia, hurricanes in Central America, unrest in our election process, emergency closure of in-person learning and in-person worship services!

This season has also afforded us a tremendous opportunity to really lean into growing in our crafts/skills to bring our worship services home to you. Our worship planning team is going off campus to film our ONLINE Christmas Services - pulling together an amazing cast/crew to proclaim the good news that is found in the solid rock, Jesus. But, ironically, even the filming of our Stable Christmas service and music is on shaky ground. We were supposed to film on Saturday, November 14... and as of this writing - we still don't know when we will be able to pull it off. We are waiting. Still waiting for it.

Waiting. It reminds me of the other side of the Advent/Christmas season that we don't talk about quite as often - but it's waiting for Jesus' second coming! Christmas is the season we celebrate his first coming into the world in the form of a baby - born in a stable. At the same time during this Advent season, don't forget that we also look forward to his second coming. And while this time is unknown, it is promised.



So we watch. We wait. We wait for it... it will be worth the wait. He is worth the wait.

In the meantime, we pray that you do your best to look ahead with hope and while you press on, living in the moment, be filled with joy this Christmas season and don't miss what God is doing in us and through us right now!

Join us for *A Stable Christmas*, ONLINE or IN-PERSON.

Either way, WAIT FOR IT... it'll be here soon! When it finally gets here you won't want to miss it.

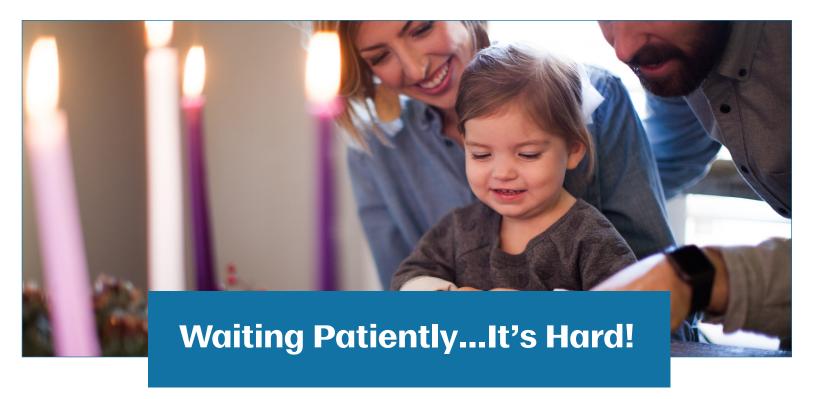
Starting 12/7, invite friends and family to visit **stablechristmas.com**...because this year, more than ever, we all need a **stable** Christmas.



NEXT

If you're new to our church or if you've been with us for a while but aren't sure what your next step should be, <u>register here</u> to attend our upcoming offering of NEXT on Sunday, February 14 & March 14 at 1:00pm via Zoom.

This is a time to connect, meet some of our leaders, find out more about our church and where God is leading us, and help you consider what your next step might be on your faith journey. Contact **Karl Grant** to get signed up!



Nancy Schubbe | Director of Kids Ministry

What am I waiting for? I find myself waiting a lot lately. My list is long! Waiting to go to a movie, a play, a concert, a ball game, Valley Fair...with no mask, or fear of getting too close to someone. I'm waiting to see my extended family, and let's face it, I'm waiting to see the many kids and families who are watching Kids LINK and church at home weekly. I miss my friends, and frankly some of the freedom I had just a year ago. This happens to be a time of waiting for most of us. But when I compare it to the waiting that God's people experienced while waiting centuries for their Messiah. I guess I'm not very good at waiting patiently! So in this time of waiting, maybe we should take a look at Advent and add a new dimension to the waiting we're all experiencing.

Advent is different than Lent where we are encouraged to live a kind of whole-life consecration in anticipating Jesus' final week and sacrifice. The season of Advent in particular is one where are asked to wait patiently. This could be the

year to take it a bit slower during the holidays, to take the time to remember what a gift the birth of baby Jesus is to all of us!

So how do we get started? Buy, or make an Advent wreath. Pinterest has lots of great ideas! Then start by setting aside 10 minutes every Sunday to light the candles one at a time, lighting another candle each week. Each of the candles on an Advent wreath has a special name: hope, love, joy, and peace. If you would like to add a candle in the middle of your wreath to light on Christmas, this candle is often called the Christ candle. It reminds us of the light Jesus brings to the world.

Add to the fun by having your kids who are old enough to read take turns reading portions of the Christmas story in the book of Luke, ending with the birth of Jesus.

Maybe this Christmas we can take our eyes off of all of the many distractions around us so that we can focus on the birth of Jesus our Savior.

For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

Backpacks for Good

Brad Miller | Director of Discipleship & Reach

Imagine for a moment being a child again. Now imagine being a child and waking up in an unfamiliar home, surrounded by different smells, sounds, and people...EVERYTHING. Many of us grew up in stable (or at least somewhat stable) homes. We must remember that there are hundreds....even thousands of children who do not have that privilege and must enter foster care. Many of these kids are uprooted at the drop of a hat without notice.

As a church, we can bring a bit of HOPE to these kids, their providers, AND their social workers, through an organization called "Together for Good."* This December, we're partnering with Together for Good and their program called BACKPACKS FOR GOOD.

Backpacks and contents are purchased and packed by individuals, families, small groups, or with a few friends. Then they're delivered to Oak Hill or Valley Creek. A team of servants from WLC will take loads of backpacks to the Together for Good offices in St. Paul.

It all starts the first week of December. All the information you need will be provided AND you can choose the age group you'd like to pack for... from infants to late teenagers.

Let's join together to purchase and fill "Backpacks for Good" so these children entering foster care can have some essentials and comfort items during their time of transition.

Drop off backpacks: December 6



through December 20 (Hang them on Backpack Racks in the church lobbies)

- Sunday mornings at <u>OH</u> and <u>VC</u> (8am-Noon)
- Tuesdays 10am-Noon AND Thursdays 6-8pm at <u>OH</u>
- Monday Friday 9am-9pm at VC
- No drop offs on Saturdays please

(Please do NOT drop them in the church offices)

More details, including informational fliers, are found at info.woodburylutheran.org and on our <u>WLC website</u>. Contact <u>Brad Miller</u> with questions.

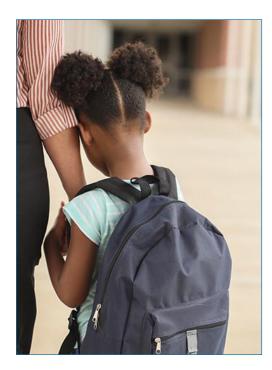
*Who is Together for Good?

At Together for Good, we're bringing hope and healing to one child, one family at a time by creating pathways for the church to come alongside vulnerable families in Christ-centered ministry. What drives us? Our vision is to live out Isaiah 1:17. "Learn to do good. Seek justice. Correct oppression. Bring justice to the fatherless. Plead the widow's cause."

When parents face a crisis with no support system, they

become vulnerable. When a parent becomes vulnerable, their children are at an increased risk of trauma. Together we work to ensure that vulnerable families and children never walk alone.

Find out more and join our volunteer team today at <u>tfgood</u>. <u>org</u>.



Caring for One Another During the Holidays

Tim Marshall | Pastor for Pastoral Care Ministries

Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere. -- Ephesians 6:18

Caring for others in 2020 has been more challenging than ever before. In-person care options have been hindered by isolation and quarantines. And with the holidays upon us and more restrictions as well, things aren't getting any easier. But that doesn't mean we can't be caring for one another. While it may seem impersonal, there are many online prayer options for us to really be caring for others.

One of the ways you can continue to care is through our online prayer engine. It can be found at the bottom of the home page on our website, woodburylutheran.org. You don't have to submit prayers to see the prayers that are being requested. Simply click on the praying hands icon and you will be taken to the prayer requests that have been submitted. You can even let people know you have prayed their prayer request by simply clicking the button after you have prayed.

If you have prayer requests of your own, you can submit them on the same page. The request will be moderated and made available for the prayers of our congregation and community. You can submit requests anonymously or share your name, depending on your prayer needs. The more people we have watching our prayer engine, the more people we have dedicated to praying for God's people.

And while you're looking on the website, you can also access our prayer page and pray for God's

people listed there as well. You can reach the prayer page by hovering over the "Resources & Media" tab, then scrolling down to the "Newsletters & Prayer Page" tab. There are a lot of prayer needs on our prayer page, and many of you are prayer warriors who have been praying the prayer page often. If you haven't been able to pray the prayer page, now is a great time to start. Again, it is a wonderful way to be caring for others, as God invites us to pray without ceasing. Please join with me in praying for God's people!





WLC Office Holiday Hours

- Mondays-Thursdays: 9AM-4PM
- Fridays: 9AM-3PM
- Christmas Day: Holiday, Offices Closed
- December 28-31: 9AM-12noon
- January 1: Holiday, Offices Closed

Ring the Bell! Be A Woodbury Bellringer

Brad Miller | Director of Discipleship & Reach

For 21 years, Woodbury Lutheran Church has partnered with the Salvation Army Red Kettle campaign. Last year, over \$12,000 was raised by our faithful volunteers who rang bells at the Cub Stores in Woodbury and Stillwater.

We have the opportunity again to ring bells on Fridays and Saturdays now through December 19th and WE NEED YOU!!

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic these safety guidelines are in effect:

- All volunteers are required to wear an approved mask, winter or disposable gloves, and to use provided hand sanitizer when appropriate.
- Please keep at least 6 feet between you and any store customer, maintaining safe social distancing.
- Group ringing is discouraged, unless it is from those in the same household.

Since March, the Salvation Army has served well over 2.8 million meals to many who would have nothing to eat without it. The need has always been there, this year it just happens to be greater for families facing poverty. With fewer Red Kettles and more people in need, will you join us in bell ringing this season?

Sign up here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0B 4EACAA2FA2FE3-wlcsalvation

For more information, call or text Cheryl Christiansen at 651-207-3739.





A Live Nativity!

Sarah Dibbern | Youth Minister, Oak Hill Campus Molly Schulze | Kids Minister, Oak Hill Campus

Even though December has just started, it feels like we've been waiting for the Christmas season to start since the leaves began to change colors back in September. We get it. 2020 has been a rough year, and we are just waiting to feel the joy of Christmas once again. Christmas will look significantly different but thankfully, our circumstances don't hinder the coming of our Messiah. No matter what, one day the wait for our King will be over.

On December 13, from 4:00pm-6:00pm, WLC has this awesome opportunity to safely get into the Christmas spirit. We're offering a walking nativity at our Oak Hill campus. Come anytime throughout those two hours and walk through the nativity. Bible passages will guide your way beginning with the prophesying of Jesus' birth to Jesus in the manger at Bethlehem. There will even be live animals to visit along the way, and a goody bag once you finish your travels!

At Woodbury Lutheran we value community and bringing people together. This Christ-centered event is a socially-distanced way to be together as a church family and celebrate Jesus' coming. So mark your calendars. December 13, 4:00pm-6:00pm, Oak Hill campus. Christmas blessings to you and yours!

Good Things are Worth the Wait!

Sara Mulso | Director of Preschool & Kindergarten

Recently one of our classes made homemade <u>ice cream in a bag</u>. Some of them guessed how long it would take for the half and half to become ice cream. They were somewhat surprised at how much time it took time for them to shake and mix and work the mixture in a bag of ice to get it to freeze! One little friend told me it took forever (with an eye roll for emphasis). Another child reminded them that if they didn't wait they wouldn't have had yummy ice cream.

Waiting. This is not an inherent trait for children. Wait-scratch that-it's not an inherent trait for people. Drive through meals, Target pick-up orders in less than four hours, text messaging! We love instant results!



During this time called Advent, we look forward with anticipation. We wait to celebrate. Some of us handle this better than others! (Can you resist opening a package that came to you and says to open on Christmas Day?) Good things are worth the wait! Jesus was worth the wait!

As you spend time with those you love, celebrate the opportunities to wait. Make some ice cream and celebrate that some things take time. This attitude of finding joy in the waiting is a special gift that you can pass on to a world where we often miss the sweet (and even yummy) things that we've been blessed with.

A Letter from Pastor Jon Kuehne

Dear Disciples of Jesus at Woodbury Lutheran:

The last few weeks have been both difficult and exciting for Cassie and me. We have been blessed to have seen and experienced a larger piece of God's Church in ways we hadn't before. God is doing some amazing things at WLC, and he is doing some amazing things outside of WLC as well.

Over the last few weeks we have been praying over what God has in store for our future. As many of you know I have been contemplating calls to serve as pastor to a congregation in Washington, to Trinity First in Minneapolis, and here at WLC. Thank you for praying for us during this time. After much thought and prayer, I am leaving my Call at WLC and accepting the Call to be Campus Pastor at Trinity First Lutheran School. I feel the possibilities and opportunity best align with my gifts and heart.

I am and will always be grateful for WLC. In a recent conversation with a friend from WLC, we talked about how much WLC has shaped us. You all have helped me see and discover what it means to be a pastor. Thank you! I really cannot say that enough. We will miss you all.

I will be leaving WLC shortly after Christmas. Watch for more information on how the transition will happen. While it is sad to leave, I know God has great things in store for WLC and for us. Through



it all and no matter where we go, God is good, God is in control, and God is working through us by his Spirit. Together or apart, let's keep living as disciples of Jesus: multiplying disciples and transforming lives!

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

Peace, Pastor Jon

November's Town Hall Follow Up

Tom Pfotenhauer | Senior Pastor

On Thursday, November 19th we gathered for a congregational Town Hall to discuss a merger opportunity that we have with Concordia Lutheran in South St. Paul. You can <u>click here</u> to watch the full recording of the town hall.

Why would we consider a merger at this time?

Multisite is one of the strategies to carry out our vision of Multiplying Disciples || Transforming Lives. We believe that this is a great opportunity to help bring multiplication and transformation into a new community. After much prayer and consideration we feel led to continue to explore what God has brought before us.

What does this mean for the Liberty Ridge Campus?

If we are to merge with Concordia it would mean that we close the chapter on our Liberty Ridge Campus and intentionally help those who were at Liberty Ridge connect to one of our other campuses. This new campus would not simply be Liberty Ridge in a new place; rather it would be a new campus of WLC.

What happens now that Pastor Jon has taken the Call to Trinity First?

We would continue to move forward in the process of a merger.

What would a possible timeline look like?

Over the next several months both congregations



will have town hall meetings, which will be followed by a joint town hall, and if all goes well, voting by both congregations (late winter/spring). Concordia would vote to close as a congregation and WLC would vote to take on Concordia as another campus. If both congregations vote to move forward, we would begin connecting to the community and remodeling work in the spring, with an eye on launching in the fall of 2021.

How can I get involved?

If you feel the nudge to take on a leadership role or to be a part of the launch team you can contact Joel Symmank at symmankj@woodburylutheran.org If you desire to be a part of the prayer team please contact Brad Miller at millerb@woodburylutheran.org.



Youth Summer Mission Experiences (6th-12th grade)

The High School (HS) Summer Mission Experience will be June 11-18, 2021 for 8th -12th graders. We will be going to Idaho! Contact **Patrick Brewer** with questions.

The Middle School (MS) Summer Mission Experience will be June 27-July 2, 2021 for 6th-8th graders. We will be going to Duluth, MN! Space is limited, sign up soon. Contact **Lindsey Schmidt** with questions.

More information and registration at wlcyouth.org.

Team World Vision

Jenny Granlund | WLC TWV Runner

My husband is a reluctant runner. He'll openly admit to anyone that he really hates running. (Two years ago, Josh said it would be impossible for him to run a mile.) However, this fall we crossed the finish line at the Twin Cities Marathon together motivated by a mission and strengthened in faith. It seems foolish to think that running 26 miles in Minnesota can make a difference halfway around the world to women and children who must walk four miles on average to fill dirty buckets with diseased pond water just to survive. World Vision can take \$50 and turn that into clean water for life for one person.

TWV first launched at WLC in 2015. In 2016, we raised over \$98,000 and 50 runners participated in a half or full marathon, including several of our pastors. This year, 21 runners ran in the Twin Cities Marathon (26.2 miles), 3 runners ran a half marathon (13.1 miles), and 3 runners participated in Hood to Coast (200-mile team relay). Collectively we have raised over \$100,000 this year with almost half the participants of last year! Our success is largely because of the generous family in Christ we call Woodbury Lutheran. This year, WLC TWV runners averaged \$3,700 per runner as compared to the local average of \$1750. Romans 12:8 "If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly."

Nicole Murray ran the New York Marathon on November 5th. The funds she raised specifically promoted child protection/anti-trafficking in Africa. Let's put our shoulder behind her and give her a fundraising push: <u>teamworldvision.org/participant/</u>NMrunNYC.

Next year we will have the opportunity to participate in a 6K in May for water where we can have many more Woodbury Lutheran runners participate and show how God loves the world through us.

There is a common African proverb that gets used around World Vision. "If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." Let us go farther together through the faith Christ Jesus has given to us. Thank you for your support.





Beware of Holiday Scams

Recently a member of ours was scammed through her iPhone and her PayPal account. After a lenthy conversation, the scammer ended up convincing her that he was legimate and she allowed him to remotely log into her computer. From there the scammer downloaded all of her info. Unfortunately, they did steal some money, but our member's bank has insured that.

Please remember to be on the look out for this type of behavior. If you are unsure, call your bank or payment company directly.

December Birthdays

- 1 Julie Fett
 Elaina Hane
 Emelia Johnson
 Bob Kamrath
 Joe Kroohn
 Tiffany Perlt
 Madeline Taylor
- 2 Rachel Carr Cora Clifford Joel Feldkamp Alison Kurth Samuel Nassios Peter Pontius Alexandra Retica
- 3 Benjamin Beucler Roxy Bjornson Tatum Brigl Landon Graham Jordan Holmquist Alen Jepson Jan Karlstrand Kimberly Koreltz Scott McNally Shirley Schelling Ethan Stork
- 4 Rich Ahlquist
 Raelynn Flood
 Marie Haukland
 Nicholas Haut
 Trinity Hobot
 John Horner
 Parker Krause
 Jim Manship
 John Rothchild
- 5 Carlos Carmona Max Danner Jake Fischbach Cindy Kuhn Joshua Mertens Katie Peltier Jerry Swanson
- 6 Ann Crist Laurel Hannula Charles Herian Beverly Herr Steve Lindeman Naomi Stohlmann Jim Tobin
- 7 Marcie Anderson Pixie Anderson Lucy Beane

- John Bystrzycki
 Cindy Carmona
 Matt Christopherson
 Keegan Deilke
 Travis Ginn
 Joyce Moran
 Fransico Penaloza
 Knox Richardson
 Elizabeth Sofie
- 8 Tom Danner Elli LeClair Jerry Rowe Scott Tuman
- 9 Mayonne Benson Kevin Esboldt Jennifer Hamann Mary Maroney Katie Whitemarsh Mary Zarnke
- 10 Jennifer Achterling
 Elijah Bohren
 Jan Braun
 Benjamin Clappier
 Sally Dunn
 Carol Hadrits
 Evan Korsgren
 Samuel Larson
 Scott Rizzardi
 Joseph Salava
 Eric Sandrock
 Parker Theis
 Susan Wildman
- 11 Peg Albrecht
 Brenda Bertram
 Derek Hegna
 Diann Lindeman
 Dick Lindemeier
 Becca Hohenstein
 Guinevere Marth
 Jerry Schmidt
- 12 Sandi Bloomquist
 Delford Bystzycki
 Marissa Jagger
 Carter Kush
 Steve Lauderbaugh
 Christopher Londino
 Jan Lyson
 Len Neutz
 Larry Smith
 Jacky Stoddard
- 13 Samuel Bolles

- Lois Carlson Connor Charlson Jill Connolly Amy Fields Derek Fong Fiona Frost Joey Murphy Steve Retter Myia Schuessler Francis Shugg Tom Vaaler
- 14 Kenna Bass
 Sue Chad
 Brandon Crist
 Katie Dailey
 Paul Grizzell
 Chris Kroohn
 Elizabeth Leis
 Ariana Sauer
 Freya Sinclair
 Richard Stehr
 Don Thaemert
 Alexander Trujillo
- Ella Wesser
 15 Wes Bolin
 Gavin Cowles
 Elise Dittmann
 Mary Emerson
 Brad Fisher
 Keegan Lien
 Lucy Whitemarsh
- 16 Elaine Easley
 Debbie Flemming
 Betty Fockler
 Jill Olson
 Mark Reagan
 Charlotte Sonn
 Nicholas Wolsky
- 17 Gerald Bohrer
 Harper Casselberry
 John Jeevanandam
 Brad Johnson
 Kahleesi Lehman
 Chuck McDonald
 John McKinley
 Dawn Radecki
- 18 Karen Dopson Gavin Hall Jeff Linert Lila McKinley
- 19 Steven Affield

- Brian Cartier
 Nancy Dittmer
 Steve Hall
 Donna Ignaszewski
 Jessica Jechort
 Layla Kennedy
 Ivy Laney
 Lucy LeMay
 Natalie Mack
 Jonah Niere
 Fran Oehlke
 Caden Schlattman
 Athena Stifter
 Kevin Tacheny
 Rob Ulrich
- 20 Dan Anderson Brody Cattell William Conway Vonnie Liljedahl Kasey Reagan Jason Schuldt Luke Symmank
- 21 Shelly Ahlquist
 Frederick Anderson
 Sandy Engen
 Eric Fernandez
 Sharon Fitzenberger
 Ryan Groth
 Jimmy Jensen
 Pete Olofson
 Samuel Opitz
 Axel Rogotzke
 Lisa Smith
- Tim Wolfgram
 22 Wayne Franzen
 Madden Koger
 John Muse
 Bob Schlichenmaier
- 23 Gavin Graham
 Audrey Grant
 Nancy Hettinger
 Tyler Kinmounth
 Michael Myers
 Janeth Nicandro
 Dan Peterson
- 24 Michelle Anderson Anna Cartier Nancy Erickson Jared Goerlitz Oliver Herian Lucille Johnson

- Brian Mueller Evelyn Peltier Holly Rome Miki Schneider Debra Varin Ron Vogt
- 25 Alayiah Anderson Carol Doyle Tara Huppert Thomas St. Jacque Marj Starner Shaina Strong Tom Tibbetts Rhonda Topp Elliott Walther
- 26 Michele Atkinson
 Mark Carlson
 Emmanuel Choragudi
 Gerald Coates
 Maximus DeCoteau
 Rajesh Kulandesu
 Scott Larson
 Linda McCuskey
 Brent Meissner
 Hunter Parker
 Kristin Retica
 Linda Tank
 Lauren Trachy
 27 Tim Buchholz
 - Andrew Dolan
 Rachel Eastenson
 Julie Fisher
 Troy Hanisch
 Nathalie Hauge
 Tina Raasch
 Karen Rheinberger
 Garrett Sabatke
 Amy Schlichenmaier
 Wendy Sikorski
- 28 Brooks Anderson
 Justin Gehring
 Danielle Hoel
 Midori Howard
 Cassidy Huebner
 Arline Kenow
 Steve Knutson
 Drew Lanz
 Jamie Linert
 Nick Moody
 Dan Moris
 Dawn Osladil

- Liz Thompson
 29 Annmarie Gibbs
 Trecie Horner
 Elyse Ko
 Aiden Loeffler
 Cara Lutes
 Alicia McGuire
 Herb Morsching
 Tom Roeller
 Norah Wesser
- Norah Wesser
 30 Paula Dikken
 Harper Frechette
 Beth Heintz
 Amy Lanz
 Peter Miner
 Jerry Moran
 Dean Nadasdy
 Maureen Nelson
 Jeannie Parks
 Paul Pflieger
 Lucas Pillman
 Dave Reynolds
 31 Taelyn Albrecht
 Mary Brandmire
 Logan Delaney
 - Logan Delaney Natalie Feldkamp Rick Hoffman Adrian Kjelshus Sheri Lewis Josiah Parker Peyten Pfotenhauer Marilyn Ruzich

December Anniversaries

- Bradley & Amie Butler Weston & Kristin Johnson
- 2 Todd & Sheryl BreiholzOwen & Nancy McDonagh4 Dan Quiros & Joyce Biagini
- 5 Destrict O Management Olevert
- 5 Patrick & Margaret Claugherty Gerald & Joyce Moran
- 6 Roger & Cheryl Olstad Rick & Diane Theissen
- 8 Marshall & Valerie Freeman
- Tom & Sara Murphy Jim & Kathie Widen

- 11 Daniel & Lyn Foley Ron Vogt & Shirley Yates
- 12 Jerry & MaryAnne Linser
- 13 Del & Liz Anderson Eldon & Sandy Engen
- 15 Mike & Lori Charron
- 17 Steve & Angie Lauderbaugh Todd & Jodee Watanabe
- 18 Joel & Lucy Mba-Ngué
- 19 Steve & Shannon Schach
- 22 Bob & Suzanne Horning
- 23 Larry & Kally Lombard

- 26 Marvin & Karen Heaton
- 27 Mike & Debbie Brocker Don & Janet Harrison Tim & Nancy Schubbe
- 28 Casey & Kristin Charlson Larry & Pamela Hall Mike & Jan Rygh
- 29 Jerry & Jan Rowe Joel & Rachel Symmank John & Marna Uebler Robert & Jo Youngquist
- 30 Austin & Megan Dyck

- David & Beth Johnson Justin & Kelly Mack Steven & Yvonne Neils
- 31 Jerry & Jeannie Backlund Gerald & Kristine Bohrer Matthew & Julianne Gage Nick & Michelle Sabatke

Church Council Update November

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, November 10, 2020 6:30-8:30am

Meeting Highlights

Financially:

We continue to run in the black with income being greater than expenses (this is aided by the fact that we had 6 months of mortgage principal delayed by our bank that we will look to pay at the end of the year). As we look toward 2021 we will base the budget on the actual income of 2020 and there may be some tweaking if a merger with Concordia takes place. We have applied for forgiveness for the PPP loan we received through the Cares Act.

Concordia, South St. Paul:

We are entering into the public phase of this opportunity as both congregations will have congregational town hall meetings to learn more about the opportunity, ask questions, and seek the Lord's will.

WLC's Name:

The Council will be setting up a ministry action team to continue to review how the name Woodbury Lutheran fits into our long term vision of continuing to multisite into areas beyond Woodbury.



Meeting Agenda

Call to Order & Quorum Determination

Devotions/Prayer

Consent Agenda

- October Meeting Minutes
- October Financial Report

Information

Sr. Pastor Report

Discussion

- 2021 budget update
- Risk Management & Internal Controls Update
- Update on Concordia South St. Paul Merger discussions
- Naming Initiative three directions to consider
- Thoughts on Annual Meeting venue(s)

Closing Prayer

Adjourn

Worship

Online

Saturdays @ 5:00pm Sundays @ 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am, 3:00, 5:00 & 7:00pm Mondays @ 7:00pm

Please visit our website for upto-date in person worship information.

Baptisms

Westin Michael Zimmer Layla Blake Kennedy Hazel Louise Spaeth Ivy Louise Pertzsch

Deaths

The Family of Bill Nisbit
Todd Bambenek - mother, Gayle
Bambenek
Linda McCuskey - aunt, Jeanette
Zack
The Family of Dorothy Wolfgram
Sandi Bloomquist - father, Al
Stoskopf

woodburylutheran.org



Red Cross Blood Drive

The Valley Creek Campus will once again be hosting Red Cross Blood Drives on Friday, December 11 and Monday, December 14. Register here to donate blood.

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 77977, 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.

See the Oberammergau Passion Play in Germany in 2022

With the rescheduling of the famous

Passion Play performed by the residents of the Bavarian village of Oberammergau to 2022, Rev. Paul & Rhoda Pfotenhauer are considering orgainizing a group tour to see a performance on July 21, 2022. The play is performed every ten years on the decade and the 2020 performances were sold out before being postponed. contact the Pfotenhauers to express your interest by email to paulrhoda@comcast.net or call 651-707-7144 no later than January 1. If there is enough interest, they will proceed to plan a tour itinerary in parts of Germany and Austria for 11-12 days. A minimum of \$100-\$200 per person non-refundable deposit will be due by the end of this year to hold a passion play ticket. Deposit and registration details will be provided after January 1.

Thrivent Designated Dollars

Thrivent members in our church are encouraged to designate where they want their choice dollars to be sent. Also, please remember that these funds can be sent to our missionaries through their sponsoring agencies. For example, choice dollars can be directed to One Collective with a notation that they are designated to support ministry of Josh and Hannah Zook. If members do not designate where these funds should go within the allotted time, this financial opportunity is lost. Contact Thrivent for more details.



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

December 2020 Calendar

2 (O) Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Wednesdays, 10:00am Contact: Vicar Andrew 651-739-5144 x223

2 (O,V) Youth Mid-Week Classes

Wednesdays, 7:00pm Contact: Lindsey Schmidt 651-739-5144 x219

3 (V) Celebrate Recovery

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

5 (V) Baptism Class

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

5 (V) Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study

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

5 (O) Men's Bible Study

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

6 (O,V) Backpacks for Good Collection Begins

Varying Dates & Times; See this month's article

6 (O,V) Kids LINK

Sundays, Varying Times Contact: Nancy Schubbe 651-739-5144 x203

7 (V) Monday Men's Study

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

11 (V) Red Cross Blood Drive

Friday, 9:00am www.redcrossblood.org/

13 (O) Living Nativity

Sunday, 4:00pm; See this month's article

14 (V) Red Cross Blood Drive

Monday, 1:00pm www.redcrossblood.org/

23 (O) Christmas Eve Worship

Wednesday, 7:00pm

23 (V) Christmas Eve Worship

Wednesday, 7:00pm

23-24 (Online) Christmas Eve Worship

Various Times <u>live.woodburylutheran.org</u>

24 (O) Christmas Eve Worship

Thursday, 3:00pm & 5:00pm

24 (V) Christmas Eve Worship

Thursday, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00 & 11:00pm

25 (Online) Christmas Day Worship

Friday, 10:00am live.woodburylutheran.org

25 (L,O,V) WLC Offices Closed

Friday, All Day



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

Liberty Ridge Campus (L) 11395 Eagle View Blvd Woodbury, MN 55129

St. Croix Campus (S) 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