



## Be A Light!

Kandi Chavie | Director of Communications

As believers, we have the hope of the Christmas season: that Jesus Christ the Messiah has come to bring salvation to mankind! No matter what life brings or how high our stress levels climb...we can take a deep breath and cling to that good news.

Now imagine if you didn't have that hope. So many people around us—the clerk at the grocery store, the barista at the coffee shop, the coworker in the next cubicle or student at the desk next to you—are faced with overwhelming circumstances every day. Marriages end, loved ones pass away, health deteriorates, and many people are frustrated, stressed, heart-broken, and without hope.

Christmas is a perfect time to reach out to those around us and invite them to experience the hope that we have found in Jesus. Who do you sense He is nudging you to invite to Christmas services this year? ***As you pray and listen to where Jesus is leading you, stop by the Connection Center in December to pick up invitations to WLC's Christmas services then hand them out and invite those people to worship with us this Christmas!***

Let's be a light during these hard times and invite those around us to know the hope of Jesus!

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# Invited to Be Loved

*"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord." -- Luke 2:11*

**I just love everything about Christmas; the decorations, the songs, the presents, the food and most of all the worship!** Even as a kid when we would be running around like crazy on Christmas Eve, I always loved the church part of things. There is something, dare I say, magical about standing in a room full of people holding candles and singing Silent Night.

Over the last several weeks we have been kicking off our Follow initiative and maybe you have caught that the tagline is, **"Everyone's Invited."** When it comes to Jesus and His invitation no one is excluded, everyone is invited. Here is the thing, there are millions of people in the world who don't even know that they are invited.

In the middle of the Christmas account we hear the angel sharing these wonderful words with the shepherds, ***"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord."*** I love those two little words, ***"to you."***

Shepherds were outsiders in the culture, they were dirty and smelly, but that didn't mean they were not invited. **I bet that there are some "dirty, smelly" people in your life that would be surprised by an invitation** to come with you to experience the truth in Christmas that everyone's invited to be loved.

I cannot promise you that they will say yes, but I can promise you that across all of our campuses we are crafting times of worship that will point us in compelling and exciting ways to the reason for our hope, they will point us to our Good Shepherd, the

one who knows His sheep and calls them to follow Him.

As we journey to the manger may each of you know that You are invited to be loved!

Merry Christmas,

Pastor Tom, Senior Pastor



## Financial Peace University

Coming in January....These 9 weeks may just change your life!





## The Care of A Stephen Minister

Pastor Tim Marshall | Pastoral Care Ministry

The holidays can be a challenging time for those whose lives have been disrupted by the brokenness in the world around us. Whether it is related to the loss of a loved one, a broken relationship, health challenges, or other hurts this world brings, you might benefit from the care provided by a Stephen Minister.

Our Stephen Ministers provide care to those who are hurting through a one on one caregiving relationship. If you or someone you know might benefit from this ministry, or if you are seeking more information, please reach out to Pastor Tim at the church or Shirley Mertens at 651-276-7224.

## Christmas :: Everyone's Invited

Joel Wetzstein | Multisite Director of Worship

I'm sure that none of you want to hear anything about COVID-19 and how difficult these past 18-20 months have been. I can't even believe that March 14, 2022 will be a 2-year mark for the shut-down that impacted us, here, at Woodbury Lutheran Church. I'm sorry to bring it up.

When this year's newsletter theme was planned it struck a chord with me... and it isn't really a pleasant place. For the sake of some of my family members I'll have to remain a little vague. I appreciate your patience with me on that.

If you're married you may understand the process of sharing holidays. You may be an "every other year family" or perhaps you're a "first come first serve" family. My experience has been less about rotation and more about initiative... we lean toward the "first come first serve" side and there's usually not even another option. One side initiates more than the other - so we go, typically, where we're invited to be.

Sometimes there's a road trip involved. We've gone international, twice, on some pretty decent gifted vacations - invited once from each side. But as a church worker, we usually don't travel until Christmas Day - which means we've opened our own presents at home early... typically the Saturday before Christmas. We wake up and pretend it's Christmas morning. I digress.

Anyway... about this time last year my family was looking forward to our Christmas gathering. There was an invitation. It was on the calendar. There were conversations about the menu, excitement

about sharing presents with one another... and then, "out of an abundance of caution"... well... you probably know what happened. I work in a setting with relatively high exposure and there was a lack of comfort surrounding that.

Logically - we could make some sense of it. The way the decision came about left something to be desired. But there was no way around, as far as how it felt. We were un-invited. The invitation was revoked. So our family - for the first time in a long time - had our own family Christmas. We made the best of it - and it was fun. We did great.

When it comes to the celebration of Christmas, from the perspective of our Worship Department at Woodbury Lutheran - I know that I can speak, on behalf of all of our Pastors, Worship Leaders, Musicians & Technicians - Everyone's Invited to encounter the supernatural event that took place - out of "an abundance of LOVE for us."

Many of you have probably heard this... but in case you haven't - The Son of God came to live among us. To love us. To redeem and restore us. The shepherds, in the account of Christmas, among the first to know - were invited by a host of heaven's angels heralding the news to go and see.

Let's respond to God's plan, hear His invitation and FOLLOW as he leads... Let's come to Christmas... Everyone's Invited.

P.S. You can find all of our Christmas Worship Service opportunities listed at [\*\*Christmas. WoodburyLutheran.org\*\*](https://www.woodburylutheran.org/Christmas)



## Thank You Woodbury Lutheran Church

Liz Thompson | FMSC Coordinator at WLC

Since our first **Feed My Starving Children** (FMSC) MobilePack in 2014, members of Woodbury Lutheran Church have provided more than **2 million meals** to hungry children throughout the world. Whether or not you actually packed a meal – you have helped to support FMSC through your giving to WLC. Hosting FMSC MobilePacks also means hundreds and hundreds of people – members and non-members, adults and kids – had the opportunity to demonstrate love and compassion by donating just a couple hours of their time.

World events pushed the number of hungry kids higher this year than just a couple years ago. With this in mind, there are a couple of ways that you can continue to support FMSC as they work to nourish children physically and spiritually. The first way is financial ([click here to give](#)). It costs less than 30 cents to provide a well-balanced meal to a child. You can also shop at their [Marketplace](#).

Second, if you enjoyed packing food at WLC, you can still pack at FMSC locations. The closest site to Woodbury is their Eagan location where they are packing meals 6 days a week. You can sign up to pack on the FMSC website [here](#). Ninety-eight percent of the meals make it to their final destination, demonstrating the power of prayer. Each trailer load of food is prayed over before it leaves the packing site.

From FMSC, hungry children and WLC staff – thank you for your continual commitment to FMSC!





# Jesus Shows Up in the Quiet Places

Diana Vander Pas | Multisite Director of Small Group Ministries

As we celebrate Christmas with all the flurry of events and activity, we sometimes forget all the ways Jesus showed up in the unexpected, quiet places. He came to this earth as a baby, not as a mighty warrior. Born in a stable, not in a palace. This was not what anyone was expecting from the King of Kings, God incarnate! In 1 Kings 19 the prophet Elijah is waiting for the LORD to pass by. The LORD does not come in the wind, earthquake, or fire, but instead God comes in a gentle whisper.

Are you looking for God in the gentle whispers? I love to see God show up in our quiet, everyday life. Sometimes amid a conversation, we are standing on holy ground where God is breaking in with His Kingdom purposes bringing hope and healing. Perhaps it's having coffee with a friend when the deep questions of life come up, or when someone steps out of their comfort zone to pray out loud for the first time in small group. I've seen it when someone risks sharing a personal struggle and others come alongside them listening deeply and speaking Jesus' life-giving words against the lies of the evil one.

These Jesus moments remind me of a quote shared by Fred Rogers in the book, *The World According to Mister Rogers: Important Things to Remember*. He says, "A high school student wrote to ask, 'What was the greatest event in American history?' I can't say. However, I suspect that like so many 'great' events, it was something very simple and very quiet with little or no fanfare (such as someone forgiving someone else for a deep hurt that eventually changed the course of history). The really important 'great' things are never center stage of life's dramas; they're always 'in the wings.' That's why it's so essential for us to be mindful of the humble and the deep rather than the flashy and the superficial."

Jesus' ways are humble and deep. In behind-the-scenes personal places where two or more are gathered in His name. Where Jesus followers live out in community what it means to trust God when things are tough, to grow in grace and forgiveness, to bring healing and hope to the hurting. These things likely won't be publicized on a billboard or posted to an Instagram video, but they may just be the greatest events of all where everyone is invited, and where Jesus shows up.



Joy  
&  
Peace

## Joyful January: Listening to Immanuel

Brad Miller | Multisite Director of Serve & Reach

Want more **JOY**? Especially in January? All campuses (& friends!) are invited to join us for 4 Saturday mornings in January. We will be learning about and practicing a directed prayer journaling process designed to increase our **JOY & PEACE**.

We will build our capacity for interactive connection with Immanuel, the God who is always glad to be with us. Grounded in scripture, spiritual disciplines and neuroscience, this simple tool will help you grow deeper in your identity in Jesus. "Everyone's Invited"

- Led by Brad & Sandi Miller
- Wakota Ridge Campus
- January 8, 15, 22, 29, 2022
- 10:00-11:30 a.m.
- Register online at [woodburylutheran.org](http://woodburylutheran.org) beginning December 5
- For more information contact Brad ([millerb@woodburylutheran.org](mailto:millerb@woodburylutheran.org)) or
- Sandi ([sandi.g.miller@gmail.com](mailto:sandi.g.miller@gmail.com))

# Advent & Christmas Ideas for Youth

Lindsey Schmidt | Director of Middle School Youth Ministry

*Gather your ribbons, your candles, your holly, powder your sugar,  
it's time to be jolly!*

*Gather 'round tables and open God's Word; Read it aloud, the best  
news ever heard.*

*Celebrate Him, that's why we're all here, Make room in your hearts,  
our God has come near.*

(She Reads Truth, Advent 2016)

Advent and Christmas...time to prepare and to celebrate. And yet, this season can so easily become all about expectations, cooking, cleaning, and to-do lists. Here's a few words of encouragement from a few youth families around WLC as they share ways they've shaped their Christ-mas season around Christ and following Him. Maybe one of these ideas will inspire your family as you celebrate this year.

- We talk about it. When the commercialized version of Christmas is thrown at us, we make sure to talk about the true meaning of our celebrations: it's always about Jesus.
- We have an advent tree with Christmas ornaments. Starting on December 1st we add an ornament each day until Christmas. Each ornament has a scripture reading and some questions to think about related to Christmas. As the kids have gotten older they take turns reading the scripture and their answers to the questions have changed over the years as well.
- We've made a point to slow down during Advent instead of speed up. We do things like baking cookies together and giving them away. More family time.
- Our family looks for ways to serve: we sign up to ring bells with the WLC Ding-a-lings every year. Some years we've packed shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. It keeps us humble and aware of the many blessings they have and they enjoy picking things out for another child in a different country.
- It's tricky to keep Jesus the focus. We don't have a routine or tradition each year. Kids change and so does what is appropriate. One year we did the Ann Voskamp advent

Bible study. We've read the Christmas story. Sometimes the kids pick out gifts to donate. We've served at the Operation Christmas Child warehouse. We've made tie blankets to put in care packages for folks experiencing homelessness. We've hung flyers on doors asking neighbors to buy socks and place them in a bin outside our front door and we took them to the homeless shelter. We have invited neighbors over for a Christmas event.

- At the heart of it, we give because Jesus is the greatest gift.
- Our kids get three gifts at Christmas (one from Santa, one from each other (collectively as siblings), and pajamas with a book from us). We made this choice when our oldest was a baby to align with baby Jesus receiving three gifts.
- Each of the kids bedrooms has a manger scene on their dresser during Christmas. In addition we have a manger on the main floor along with a kids manger that they can play with and one that has puppet characters. We also put a small manger in the middle of the kitchen table. The kids love the different mangers and it keeps us always focused on why we celebrate Christmas.
- Our family attends 11pm Christmas Eve service every year together. Even the littles. The kids can wear their new pajamas if they want. Since the service always goes into Christmas Day it helps us to all really be focused on Jesus.



## Outdoor Living Nativity

The animals are back! Mark your calendar for **Sunday, 12/12 from 3-5pm at the Oak Hill Campus** for our Outdoor Living Nativity!

Come and kick-off the Christmas season with a family-friendly walkthrough of the Nativity story leading to Mary, Joseph, and the baby Jesus at the stable.

Invite friends and neighbors to this fun, **FREE** event. Kids will receive a treat bag and a take-home craft!

# Advent & Christmas Ideas for Kids

Nancy Schubbe | Director of Kids Ministry

*"Christmas doesn't come from a store, maybe Christmas perhaps means a little bit more." Dr. Suess*

Some people are excited about the coming of the Christmas season, while others seem to dread all the preparation, shopping, and number of places everyone is expected to go. No matter what camp you're in at this very moment, read on! We asked families from Woodbury Lutheran to share ideas with us about how they keep Jesus in their Advent and Christmas preparations. Maybe there are one or two ideas that would inspire your family and help make this a wonderful time of remembering the birth of Jesus!

- Every year we read these books and talk about the true meaning of Christmas. The Grinch even makes an appearance too. Every night before our prayers we sing either Silent Night or Away in a Manger. We also set up the nativity set as a family and discuss its importance and the kiddos have little people nativity set they can play and set up as well!
- One thing we do to get our hearts ready for Christmas is a RACK calendar. (Random Acts of Christmas Kindness calendar). Each day for the month of December each kid takes turns opening and reading the RACK for the day. They range from: "Visit or call a grandparent" to "make someone else's bed today" to "give someone else a compliment today" to "pray for someone else today" to "write the mail carrier a thank you" to "bake cookies for a neighbor or friend" to "Bring a thank you to your teacher." We feel by doing a random act of kindness each day it

helps us to think about others and get our hearts ready for Jesus!

- We also sign up to ring bells together as a family each December too. We hope that our smiles and "Merry CHRISTmas" wishes touch the hearts of the people who are shopping while we ring bells to raise money for families in need. Again, this helps us to shift our focus from off of ourselves and onto others.
- We have a little flip book that we leave in the center of our kitchen table for the month of December where we read a couple of verses from the Christmas stories told in Matthew and Luke at dinner each night.
- Look at neighborhood Christmas lights, recognizing that the Christmas lights symbolize Jesus is the light of the world. Write a Christmas card to the home(s) with the best lights, thanking them.
- Reverse Advent calendar to a food shelf. Grab an empty box. Each day after Thanksgiving, have each child put one non-perishable food item in the box. A few days before Christmas, donate it to a food shelf, mentioning your process.
- Have each family member draw a picture of the nativity. We hang ours on the fridge each December. It is so cool to see what figures each person highlights.



## Karl Grant's Ordination

Karl Grant has been a part of WLC for many years in a variety of roles...and we are excited to host his Pastoral Ordination on Sunday, 12/5 at 2pm at the Valley Creek Campus.

Gather with us as we celebrate with the Grant Family and send them with joy to Karl's pastoral call at St. Peter's Lutheran in Gibbon, MN





## Book Club :: Discovering God's Heart for the Nations!

Join us once-a-month for 90 minutes an evening

- Starting November 29 - 7pm
- Jan 3 / Feb 7 / March 7 / April 4 / May 2
- For more information: [millerb@woodburylutheran.org](mailto:millerb@woodburylutheran.org)

## The Greatest Gift

Sara Mulso | Director of Preschool & Kindergarten

We're in that season of great expectations -and in the land of little people that points so much to the wish list of things that they hope they find under their tree on Christmas morning! For some children, if you are willing to give them the time, they are more than happy to share what they hope for. Their excitement, expectation, and the joy they express cannot be contained!

As we get older, our expectations around December 25th change. The joy and excitement of childhood can be replaced by anxiousness, busyness, and a desire to create perfection! Our vision can be clouded by trying to create an ideal that we can lose sight of the real.

As we begin this season of great expectations, my prayer is that you can rest in the joy of the season. God invites all of us to be part of celebrating the birth of His Son. He wants us to see that this baby Jesus isn't just a routine that we go through each year but instead it is a gift -one that can't compete with the most elegantly wrapped present or most expensive item on a wish list.

God invites each of us to be part of this celebration! Are you excited to tell everyone about the greatest

gift? Not one that you are expecting this year but the one you have already received!



*Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift*



# Summer 2022 Short-Term Mission Teams

Brad Miller | Multisite Director of Serve & Reach

Are you ready to be stretched? Ready to experience God and see the world he loves with new eyes?

Are you being called to be a blessing and, at the same time, watch God give you a grander vision for your life?

**What:** 2 different Short-Term Mission Experiences (Teams) - 8-12 days each

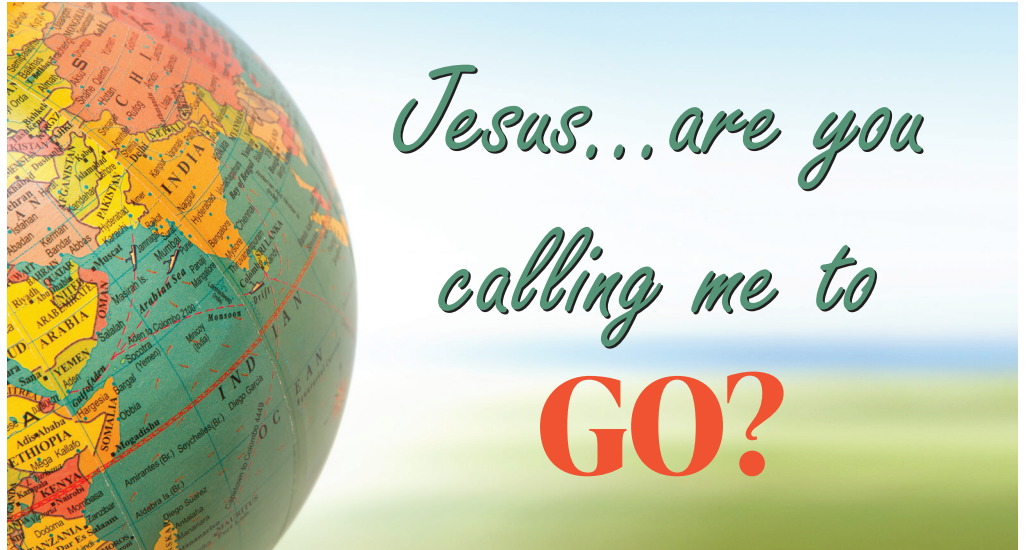
**When:** July and August 2022

**Where to:** Quito Ecuador and Kake Alaska

**Who can go:** Adults, college students, ages 15+ (with parent) and 17+ (without a parent)

**Coming in January:** dates, costs, applications and deadlines, etc.

**Are you interested? Questions?**  
Contact Brad Miller at [millerb@woodburylutheran.org](mailto:millerb@woodburylutheran.org)



## FOLLOW :: Everyone's Invited

We are three weeks into our Follow journey and I pray that you have been blessed by the invitation from Jesus to come and Follow Him. You should receive a Follow Commitment Card in the mail (they are also available online at [follow.woodburylutheran.org](https://follow.woodburylutheran.org)).

We will have a moment in all of our services both—in-person and online—**the weekend of December 12th as we offer our commitments to God.** Our hope is that 100% of us will turn in a Commitment Card. **Our first offerings for Follow will begin in January of 2022.** Check out this [video from Pastor Tom](#) to learn more details about the finances of Follow.

The truth of Christmas is that  
*everyone's invited to be loved.*

We want to celebrate Christmas with you.

You're invited to  
*Christmas*  
at  
WOODBURY LUTHERAN

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Oak Hill Campus | December 24, 3 & 5pm  
9050 60th St S, Stillwater

Wakota Ridge Campus | December 24, 3 & 5pm  
255 W Douglas St, South St. Paul

Valley Creek Campus | December 22, 7pm  
7380 Afton Rd, Woodbury | December 24, 1, 3, 5 & 11pm  
December 25, 10am

*\*All Valley Creek Campus services will be livestreamed at  
[Live.WoodburyLutheran.org](http://Live.WoodburyLutheran.org)*



Find more info at  
***[Christmas.WoodburyLutheran.org](http://Christmas.WoodburyLutheran.org)***



# Backpacks for Good

Brad Miller | Multisite 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 and 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 any of our campuses, hung out on lobby racks, and a team of servants from WLC will take loads of backpacks to 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 1 through December 19  
(Hang them on Backpack Racks in the church lobbies)

- Sunday mornings at OH, VC and WR (8am-11am)
- Monday - Friday 9am-9pm at Valley Creek
- Wednesdays 9am-2pm at Oak Hill
- Thursdays 9am-2pm at Wakota Ridge
- No Saturdays
- (Please do NOT drop them in the church offices)

Informational fliers are available at the connection center on all campuses and on the website...[woodburylutheran.org](http://woodburylutheran.org). Contact Brad Miller with questions, etc. [millerb@woodburylutheran.org](mailto:millerb@woodburylutheran.org)



## Merry Christmas from the WLC Staff!

We hope your Christmas season is filled with love and blessings. We are all grateful for each and every one of you and how you bless us. Merry Christmas!

- Pastor Tom Pfotenhauer
- Pastor Tim Marshall
- Pastor Dean Dunavan
- Vicar Daniel Langewisch
- Joel Symmank
- Mark Stutelberg
- Jyl Dunavan
- Sarah Dibbern
- Miriam Kostecki
- Laura Stennes
- James Bogert
- Kandi Chavie
- Brian Ingram
- Theresa Ingram
- Mary Law
- Sunny Marshall
- Joel Wetzstein
- Stacy Winter
- Nancy Schubbe
- Lindsey Schmidt
- Patrick Brewer
- Cindy Linert
- Brad Miller
- Mike Sabaan
- Diana Vander Pas

# Oak Hill Campus Update

It is an incredible blessing to serve as the campus pastor for our Oak Hill site. We have experienced God's faithfulness in such powerful and tangible ways. Throughout the summer and into November we offered a time on Wednesday evenings called "Wednesdays on the Hill." This was a simple time of worship and a 10-minute devotion that was shared by one of our congregation members. Friendships were begun and people knew each other more as a result.

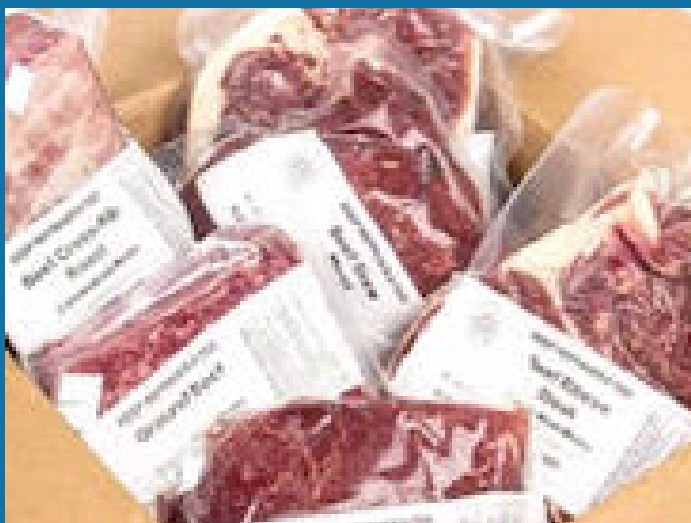
As we have been gathering for prayer, we have asked the Lord to draw people to our campuses who, even as they are waking have no intention of going to a church. It has been awesome to meet so many new people on our campus who tell us they didn't know why they came but found themselves at Oak Hill. The power of the Holy Spirit is moving and in the last six months we have seen an incredible increase in people coming to worship at our Oak Hill campus. Many have been first time guests.

The words the Apostle Paul wrote to the church in Thessalonica are echoing in my mind; "We cared so deeply that we were delighted to share with you not only the Gospel of God but our own lives as well. That is how beloved you have become to us." 1 Thessalonians 2:8. The Apostle Paul understood that we were created for connection and relationship, to walk with each other in this faith journey. The connection we are seeing with our elders, mentors, pastoral care assistants, Stephen's ministry, new small groups, prayer team and so much more have given evidence that we don't have to do life alone. As we draw closer to Christmas it is essential that we are ready to intentionally reach out with the love of Jesus to welcome, encourage and connect with people. What a blessing to be on this mission with

our Valley Creek and Wakota Ridge brothers and sisters!

On Sunday afternoon, December 12th our Oak Hill Living Nativity will be a wonderful event you will not want to miss. Last year close to 400 people came out to celebrate with us. Community does not happen by accident. I would encourage you to think of people in your life that might not yet know of the love of Jesus. The Living Nativity is an awesome way to connect them with the gospel and lead them into a relationship with Jesus. Again, I am so honored to be in ministry with you and see disciples made and lives transformed.

Blessings,  
Pastor Dean, Campus Pastor



## Volunteers Needed!

WLC is partnering with the Salvation Army to host a meat distribution event to distribute meal bundles for families in need on a date to be determined. Watch for more information coming soon!

This serving event would be a great opportunity for small groups, families, couples, or individuals! Sign up for a **two-hour shift**



# December Birthdays

1 Julie Fett Elaina Hane Emelia Johnson Bob Kamrath Joe Kroohn Tiffany Perl Madeline Taylor	Cindy Carmona Matt Christopherson Keegan Deilke Travis Ginn Joyce Moran Francisco Penaloza Knox Richardson Elizabeth Sofie	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 Janice Weir	Lila McKinley 19 Steven Affield Brian Cartier Nancy Dittmer Steve Hall Donna Ignaszewski Layla Kennedy Ivy Laney Lucy LeMay Natalie Mack Jonah Niere Fran Oehlke Caden Schlattman Athena Stifter Kevin Tacheny Rob Ulrich Jessica Wicker	Jared Goerlitz Oliver Herian Lucille Johnson Brian Mueller Evelyn Peltier Holly Rome Debra Varin Ron Vogt	Drew Lanz Jamie Linert-Arnold Nick Moody Dan Moris Dawn Osladil Liz Thompson Abner Williams Alliette Williams
2 Rachel Carr Cora Clifford Joel Feldkamp Alison Kurth Samuel Nassios Peter Pontius Alexandra Retica Sonia Spitz	8 Tom Danner Elli LeClair Jerry Rowe Scott Tuman	14 Kenna Bass Sue Chad Brandon Crist Katie Dailey Paul Grizzell Chris Kroohn Elizabeth Leis Jovanna Ronz Freya Sinclair Richard Stehr Alexander Trujillo Ella Wesser	20 Dan Anderson Brody Cattell William Conway Vonnice Liljedahl Kasey Reagan Richard Schult Luke Symmank	25 Alayah Anderson Carol Doyle Tara Huppert Thomas St. Jacques Marj Starner Shaina Strong Tom Tibbetts Rhonda Topp Elliott Walther	29 Annmarie Gibbs Trecie Horner Elyse Ko Aiden Loeffler Cara Lutes Alicia McGuire Herb Morsching Tom Roeller Norah Wesser
3 Benjamin Beucier Roxy Bjornson Tatum Brigl Landon Graham Jordan Holmquist Jan Karlstrand Kimberly Koreltz Scott McNally Shirley Schelling Ethan Stork	9 Mayonne Benson Kevin Esboldt Jennifer Hamann Ava Kincade Mary Maroney Katie Whitemarsh Mary Zarnke	15 Wes Bolin Gavin Cowles Elise Dittmann Mary Emerson Brad Fisher Debbie Fleming Keegan Lien Lucy Whitemarsh	21 Shelly Ahlquist Frederick Anderson Sandy Engen Eric Fernandez Sharon Fitzenberger Audrey Grant Ryan Groth Jimmy Jensen Pete Olofson Samuel Opitz Axel Rogotzke Lisa Smith Tim Wolfgram	26 Michele Atkinson Owen Braatz Mark Carlson Emmanuel Choragudi Gerald Coates Maximus DeCoteau Rajesh Kulandesu Scott Larson Linda McCuskey Brent Meissner Hunter Parker Kristin Retica Steven Spaudie Linda Tank Lauren Trachy	30 Paula Dikken Harper Frechette Beth Heintz Amy Lanz Peter Miner Jerry Moran Dean Nadasdy Maureen Nelson Jeannie Parks Paul Pflieger Lucas Pillman
4 Rich Ahlquist Raelynn Flood Marie Haukland Nicholas Haut Trinity Hobot John Horner Parker Krause Jim Manship	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	16 Elaine Easley Betty Fockler Jill Olson Mark Reagan Charlotte Sonn Nicholas Wolsky	22 Wayne Franzen Madden Koger Lisa Lojovich John Muse Kaylie Sand Bob Schlichenmaier	27 Tim Buchholz Andrew Dolan Rachel Eastenson Julie Fisher Troy Hanisch Nathalie Hauge Tina Raasch Karen Rheinberger Garrett Sabatke Amy Schlichenmaier Wendy Sikorski	31 Taelyn Albrecht Mary Brandmire Logan Delaney Natalie Feldkamp Rick Hoffman Adrian Kjelshus Sheri Lewis Josiah Parker Peyten Pfothenhauer Marilyn Ruzich
5 Carlos Carmona Max Danner Cindy Kuhn Joshua Mertens Katie Peltier Ben Stakston Jerry Swanson	11 Peg Albrecht Brenda Bertram Derek Hegna Becca Hohenstein Diann Lindeman Dick Lindemeier Guinevere Marth Jerry Schmidt	17 Gerald Bohrer Harper Casselberry John Jeevanandam Brad Johnson Kahleesi Lehman Chuck McDonald John McKinley Dawn Radecki Parker Schmidt	23 Gavin Graham Nancy Hettinger Tyler Kinmounth Michael Myers Janeth Nicandro Dan Peterson	28 Brooks Anderson Benson Berg Justin Gehring Danielle Hoel Midori Howard Cassidy Huebner Arline Kenow Steve Knutson	
6 Ann Crist Laurel Hannula Charles Herian Beverly Herr Steve Lindeman Naomi Stohlmann Jim Tobin	12 Sandi Bloomquist Delford Bystzycki Michelle Hawkinson Marissa Jagger Carter Kush Steve Lauderbaugh Christopher Londino Jan Lyson Len Neutz Larry Smith Jacky Stoddard	18 Karen Dopson Gavin Hall Jeff Linert	24 Michelle Anderson Anna Cartier		
7 Marcie Anderson Pixie Anderson Lucy Beane John Bystrzycki					

## December Anniversaries

1 Bradley & Amie Butler Weston & Kristin Johnson	13 Del & Liz Anderson Eldon & Sandy Engen	29 Jerry & Jan Rowe Joel & Rachel Symmank John & Marna Uebler Robert & Jo Youngquist
2 Todd & Sheryl Breiholz Owen & Nancy McDonagh	15 Mike & Lori Charron	30 Austin & Megan Dyck David & Beth Johnson Steven & Yvonne Neils
4 Dan Quiros & Joyce Biagini	17 Steve & Angie Lauderbaugh Todd & Jodee Watanabe	31 Jerry & Jeannie Backlund Gerald & Kristine Bohrer Matthew & Julianne Gage Nick & Michelle Sabatke
5 Patrick & Margaret Clagherty Josh & Allison Miller Gerald & Joyce Moran	19 Keith & Susan Ogorek Steve & Shannon Schach	
6 Paul & Marlys Kuehnast Roger & Cheryl Olstad Rick & Diane Theissen	20 Larry & Judith Poss	
8 Marshall & Valerie Freeman	22 Bob & Suzanne Horning	
9 Tom & Sara Murphy Jim & Kathie Widen	23 Larry & Kally Lombard	
11 Daniel & Lyn Foley Ron Vogt & Shirley Yates	26 Marvin & Karen Heaton	
12 Jerry & MaryAnne Linser	27 Mike & Debbie Broucker Don & Janet Harrison Tim & Nancy Schubbe	
	28 Casey & Kristin Charlson Larry & Pamela Hall Mike & Jan Rygh	

# Church Council Update

*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 9, 2021**  
**6:30-8:30am**

## Meeting Highlights

### 2022 WLC Scorecard and Vision Plan:

Joel Symmank shared an example of our updated and weighted scorecard. We will be measuring overall and by campus: attendance, first-time guests, baptisms, giving and servants. These are measured against our goals for each area and will give us a quick insight into where we are doing well and where we need some work. These goals are closely tied to our 2019-2024 Vision plan and to the Follow initiative.

### Oak Hill Pit Project:

For several years the pit at Oak Hill has been an eyesore and hindrance to ministry. Elden Lambrecht has worked tirelessly for several years at helping to put together a plan to develop the pit into useable space. The project is in the queue for long term capital projects and details will be worked out in the weeks ahead.

### Follow Initiative:

We have had close to 200 WLC members join in pacesetter events to learn more about Follow. These events have been very uplifting times of sharing and prayer. We will kick off things to the greater congregation on the weekend of November 14th. We are praying that this will be a great unifier of our congregation around Jesus.

### COVID Protocols:

We have very much moved into a time of gray around protocols, vaccines etc. The Council agrees that we do not want to divide people into groups (mask, non-mask, vaxxed, not vaxxed). We will continue to encourage people to care for their neighbors and be willing to be flexible and listen to those with differing points of view. None of it is easy.



## Meeting Agenda

### Call to Order & Quorum Determination

### Devotions/Prayer

### Consent Agenda

- October Meeting Minutes
- October Financial Report

### Discussion Topics

- Review and Discuss 2022 WLC Scorecard and Vision Plan
- Review and Discuss Oak Hill Pit project
- Review and discuss progress on Afton land guiding principles

### Informational Topics

- Follow Update
- Sr, Pastor Report/Dashboard

### Closing Prayer

### Adjourn

## Worship

### Online

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

### In-Person

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

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

[woodburylutheran.org](http://woodburylutheran.org)

## Baptisms

Nathan Scott Norman  
Gabriel Victor Berner  
Loretta Jean Georgi Martinez  
Julia Beth Kosanke  
Mae Laura Roberts  
Riley Jane Junker  
Jocely Patrice Norring  
Carter Richard Kincade  
Ava Rose Kincade  
Gino Michael Doane

## Deaths

Hallyce Peck, sister of Sally Dunn

Lee Davison, father of Kelli Redington  
Craig Byer, brother of Terri Kanne  
Tom Vander Pas, father of Tim Vander Pas  
Elaine Wolsky, mother of John Wolsky  
Leonard Wolfgram, brother of Larry Wolfgram & Claudia Wolfgram  
Pastor Bob Krueger, father of Rob Krueger  
Virginia Sorenson, sister of Bonnie Meingast  
Carol Arndt





## 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.

### 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 email [tskarl@comcast.net](mailto:tskarl@comcast.net) for more info on how to be connected with this ministry.

### Mitten Makers

Come create mittens from sweaters with us! If you can cut, hand sew, or sort, join us at the VC campus on Wednesdays at 12:30pm in room L-900 (VC Paul). All proceeds benefit Robin's Nest Orphanage.

### Holy Land Tour

What could be more exciting than walking where Jesus walked? From the town of Bethlehem where Jesus was born, to the village of Nazareth where He was raised, to the Sea of Galilee, to Capernaum which became Jesus' second home, to Jerusalem and the Upper Room, the Garden of Gethsemane, Golgotha, the garden tomb, and the Mount of Olives, from which Jesus ascended into Heaven.

A trip to the Holy Land, a highlight of our lives, makes our Bibles come alive in awesome ways. Sunday morning readings, Bible studies, daily readings are truly enhanced because you will have been there.

Dates: March 24-April 2, 2022 plus op-

tional extensions to Egypt and Jordan. If interested contact the tour host, Pastor Dennis Bohren (Sunny Marshall's father and Pastor Tim's father-in-law), at 503-460-7733 or [dennis.bohren@comcast.net](mailto:dennis.bohren@comcast.net). (BTW, Sunny and Pastor Tim will be joining this adventure.) This tour, Pastor Bohren's sixth, is a special customized trip highlighting several "extras".



**Looking for more information  
to stay connected?**

**Scan the  
QR code above!**

# December 2021 Calendar

## **1 (W, V) Women of the Word (WOW)**

Wednesdays, 9:15am  
Contact: Diana Vander Pas  
651-739-5114 x208

## **1 (V) Mitten Makers**

Wednesdays, 12:15pm  
Contact: Lyndis Vander Louw  
651-459-3313

## **1 (O, V) Foundations & ROOTS**

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

## **2 (V) Celebrate Recovery**

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

## **2 (W) Hannah Quilters**

Thursdays, 9:00am  
Contact: Miriam Kostecki  
651-739-5114

## **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

## **4 (V) Baptism Class**

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

## **5 (O, W, V) KidsLINK**

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

## **5 (V) KidsLINK**

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

## **22 (V) Christmas Eve Worship**

Wednesday, 7:00pm  
[live.woodburylutheran.org](http://live.woodburylutheran.org)

## **24 (O, W) Christmas Eve Worship**

Friday, 3:00 & 5:00pm

## **24 (V) Christmas Eve Worship**

Friday, 3:00, 5:00 & 11:00pm  
[live.woodburylutheran.org](http://live.woodburylutheran.org)

## **25 (V) Christmas Day Worship**

Saturday, 10:00am  
[live.woodburylutheran.org](http://live.woodburylutheran.org)

## **26 (O, W, V) No In Person Worship**

Sunday, All Day  
[live.woodburylutheran.org](http://live.woodburylutheran.org)

## **31 (O, W, V) WLC Offices Closed**

Friday, All Day

# WLC NEWS LETTER

Looking for something else?

Visit [woodburylutheran.org](http://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 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  
[www.woodburylutheran.org](http://www.woodburylutheran.org)

Woodbury Lutheran Church  
7380 Afton Road  
Woodbury, MN 55125

*Multiplying Disciples // Transforming Lives*