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## Remain In Me

Diana Vander Pas | Multisite Director of Small Groups

*John 15:5 "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing." (NLT)*

As we look to Lent and turn toward God, what do you need? What does God want for you? Jesus tells us to remain in Him, connected to the vine, because the vine provides all the nutrients and refreshment needed for the branch. How do we do that?

Where do you find refreshment? A Netflix binge with a bag of Oreos doesn't really do the trick. But other activities can renew and re-create you into the person God made you to be. Maybe it's finding refreshment in God's creation, music or the arts, active outdoor activities, reading and journaling, time in community, reflecting on God's Word, and in prayer. How has God wired your soul for refreshment?

Create some rhythms or patterns in life to regularly soak in God's goodness. Not only for 40 days in Lent, but throughout the year. Put a block of time on your calendar to be refreshed in the Lord yearly, quarterly, weekly, and daily. It might look like a yearly getaway, a quarterly special activity day, a weekly Sabbath day, and a daily few moments away with the Lord. The fruit of God's Kingdom comes from first abiding in Him. So rest, relax, and breathe. Let God refresh you!

# COVID Ten Commandments

In January I had the opportunity to be on a Zoom call with Pastor Rick Warren, the founder of Saddleback Church in California. We discussed the impact of 2020 on the church, and he shared his Ten Commandments for surviving COVID. As we enter into the season of Lent under the theme of Rest, Relax, and Breathe; I pray that you find his words refreshing.

1. Show grace to myself and to others (James 4:6).
2. Start and end each day refueling your soul (James 1:21, Psalm 92:2).
3. Set and stick to a simple routine (Ephesians 5:15-16).
4. Stop watching so much news; what I see is what I become (Proverbs 15:14).
5. Schedule a daily connection with those you love (1 Thessalonians 5:11).
6. Share your feelings instead of stuffing them (Galatians 6:2, James 5:16).
7. Seek advice for big decisions (Proverbs 15:22).
8. Space renewal breaks throughout the day (Isaiah 58:11).
9. Serve someone else who is suffering more than me (Matthew 25:34-36).
10. Control what you can control and trust God for the rest (James 2:22).

As you make your way through the list, I encourage you to spend some time with each of them. Pay attention to see if you sense God opening your heart to any of the commandments where He might be inviting you to grow.

I was especially drawn to commandment number 2. Rick shared the acronym HWFHWLW (*His Word First Word His Word Last Word*) as a way to think about being in the Word. Too often I start my day looking at my phone and end my day doing the same. What if instead I spent a moment or two reading the Word until something grabbed my attention? It might only be a verse or two, but, what better way to start and end the day!

May this season of Lent be a time where you can be refreshed by Jesus as you Rest, Relax, and Breathe.

Peace,  
Pastor Tom, Senior Pastor



## Join us for Vicar Dean's Ordination!

WLC is excited to announce the Ordination of Dean Dunavan on Sunday, February 14 at 2pm at the Valley Creek campus.

**RSVP to attend in-person** (we will follow MDH AND CDC guidelines) or tune in online at **[live.woodburylutheran.org](https://live.woodburylutheran.org)** to join the live celebration!



# WLC Brand Ministry Action Team Update

In December the Church Council chartered a Ministry Action Team to explore Woodbury Lutheran's name and brand. Below is information and Q & A's from the work that the team has done to-date.

## Background

The Woodbury Lutheran Church (WLC) brand has served our church well. As our church continues to explore and pursue multi-site ministry and more strategic outreach, we must consider if our name should become more reflective of our people, culture, and mission rather than a place on the map or a particular denomination.

A unique challenge for Woodbury Lutheran is our community driven name, which works great in Woodbury, but becomes clumsy and not as meaningful in different communities. That being said, Woodbury Lutheran has brand equity due to more than 50 years of great history, so to just scrap it in favor of a whole new brand may not be wise.

We have created a small team made up of church staff, council members, and elders to lead a rebranding exploration to answer three core questions:

1. How does having "Woodbury" in our name impact us as we move into multiple communities?
2. How does having "Lutheran" in our name impact us in a changing culture?
3. Does the name "Woodbury Lutheran" allow us to best fulfill our vision?

## Key Questions

**Q. Has a decision been made to change our name?**

**A.** No. A decision has not been made, but we are strongly considering other options that may better describe our people, culture and mission.

**Q. How will the church congregation be involved in the process?**

**A.** We plan to actively include people from the congregation in the process. We will be forming a congregational steering committee to provide feedback and input into the process. In addition, we will share insights and name options with the larger congregation as they are established.

**Q. Who gets to make the final decision?**

**A.** While multiple voices and inputs will be used in the process, the Church Council will make a recommendation and the congregation will make the final decision by vote.

**Q. What's the timeline for this effort?**

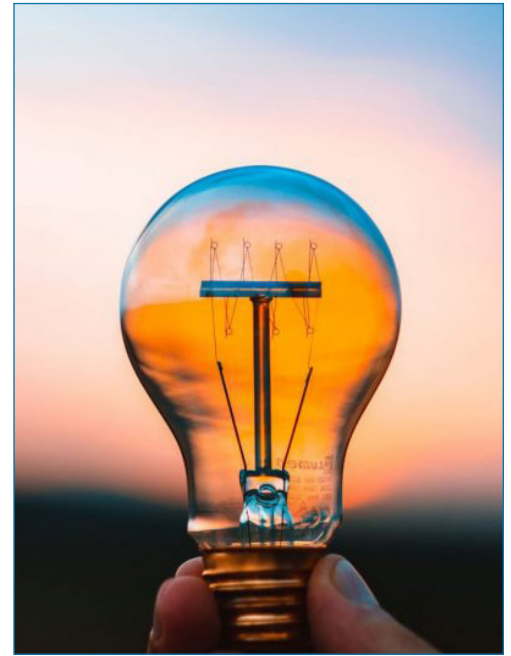
**A.** The team is planning to have a recommendation for consideration on or before June 1st. If a decision to change the name is made, we would target launching the new brand in Fall 2021.

**Q. Would we consider changing our name even if the Concordia merger is not approved?**

**A.** Yes. Our three existing campuses (Valley Creek, Oak Hill, Online) could still potentially benefit from a brand change.

**Q. Will we change what we believe? Are we considering leaving the LCMS?**

**A.** Our mission, values, and



beliefs will not be changing nor are we considering leaving the LCMS.

**Q. Rebranding will mean extra costs to change names on buildings, websites, etc. Do we have a budget for that?**

**A.** Yes. We have been putting money aside as part of our multi-site fund to pay for expenses like this should we choose a change.



## Ideas for Lent with Youth

Lindsey Schmidt | Director of Middle School Youth Ministry

Lent is a season in the church year that has grown to be one of my favorites. A season where rhythms change, we are invited to fast, to pause, reflect, make space for confession, and yearn for Easter... Heaven...Renewal.

- Youth & Families, this could be a great time as a family to consider how to create daily reminders of our need for forgiveness and the beauty of God's mercy.
- Maybe a new ritual: instead of saying your normal meal prayer, take a minute to silently ask God for forgiveness as a family and conclude with a spoken prayer of thanksgiving that through Jesus' sacrifice for us we are truly forgiven.
- What if each night as you hugged each other you said: "You are a forgiven and loved child of God"?

Any time spent turning our eyes to Jesus and growing in our relationship with Him is well spent. May this season invite you and your family to rest, relax, and breathe deeply God's forgiveness & grace.

## Lent and Families

Nancy Schubbe | Director of Kids Ministry

Lent is a season of reflection and preparation before the celebrations of Easter. Because Easter is such an important time of celebration, it takes us a while to get ready for it. We use the 40 days of Lent to draw us closer to him, just like when Jesus went into the desert for 40 days. Lent starts on Ash Wednesday, February 17th.

Our families are the "training grounds" for life and a place to establish healthy habits and disciplines for our kids. Teaching your kids spiritual habits gives them a foundation of faith that will continue to help them grow as disciples of Jesus. This can be a challenge! We all know how busy our lives get. Even with a pandemic, we manage to fill our calendars and lives with activities.

Ok, I know what you're thinking. Lent is sounding like something else you have to add to your calendar. Let's think about it another way. What if you made space in your family life to have dinner together a couple of times a week? What if during dinner together you read a Bible verse and talked about it together? What if you prayed together as a family? What if you set aside some time to do something kind for someone you know has been struggling during Covid because they can't see their extended family or grandkids? What if Lent was a time set aside to Rest, Relax, and Breathe? Making it a time to contemplate the sacrifice Jesus made for all

of us.

One of the biggest challenges of Lent is helping kids understand this more serious season of the church year and finding meaningful, age-appropriate ways to observe it as a family in our harried, hurried lives. Kids Ministry is making a resource available for you this year during Lent that we think will be a great way to experience this special time together. We'll be emailing this resource out to our families. If you know a family that would benefit from this resource, please let us know and we can easily send one to you to forward on to them.

No matter how you choose to observe Lent with your kids, the key is that you actually do it. Talk to your kids about Jesus, about His sacrifice, about their Savior.





# Lent at WLC

Brad Miller | Director of Discipleship & Reach

We are taking a journey through the Psalms of Lament, those Psalms that acknowledge in no uncertain terms, that the world is broken. This journey reminds us that, as followers of Jesus, we hold both grief and hope in our two hands. Psalms (sad) Psalms ultimately lead us closer to the cross, closer to the Savior who meets us in our grief, in our tears, and offers us hope.

## Midweek: February 17 - March 24 (Beginning with Ash Wednesday)

- VC | 12PM in person devotional & 7PM in person evening worship and live streamed
- OH | 7PM in person evening worship

## Maundy Thursday: April 1

- VC | 7PM in person and live streamed

## Good Friday: April 2

- VC | 12PM & 7PM in person and live streamed
- OH | 7PM evening worship in person

## Easter Sunday: April 4 - TBD

### Interested in taking it deeper during the 40 days of Lent?

You're invited to read the book, *Walking with God through Pain and Suffering* by Tim Keller. You can buy the paperback or ebook yourself; we're also making a limited number of paperback books available at all of our campuses for a reduced price (\$5.00). Purchase them on Sundays or Wednesdays starting February 14.

**How about forming a Book Club?** Grab a few friends, read and discuss as a family/extended family, start a book club or small group for these 40 days. Go ahead and invite some people, maybe even people from church, work, or the neighborhood, whom you don't know all that well. If you need help getting connected to others, contact Brad Miller ([millerb@woodburylutheran.org](mailto:millerb@woodburylutheran.org)) and we'll help you form book club groups (online or in person). A brief guide with a few questions for all book club groups will be provided.

**48 Hour Prayer Vigil - Beginning 9PM Maundy Thursday through 9PM Saturday** On the night that Jesus was betrayed, he invited 3 of his closest friends to the garden of Gethsemane to be with him and to pray. You're invited to keep vigil with Jesus on the days leading up to his resurrection. Sign up to sit with Jesus for 30 or 60 minutes as you reflect on His death on the cross and your life. You can do this in your homes or at either Oak Hill or Valley Creek campuses. Watch for more information, including how to sign up.



## You Helped Host this Christmas Party!

Mike Sabbann | Reach Coordinator

Did you know that you and WLC are connected to a group that supports enslaved women? During Christmastime End Slavery Ministries Ecuador (ESME) hosts Christmas parties for hundreds of women in prostitution. ESME brings a message of hope through Jesus. Listen as ESME worker (and WLC missionary) Hannah Zook shares about the Christmas party hosted in late-December in the city of Quito:

*"It's all about relationship ... as I sat across the table from woman after woman in prostitution, listening to their stories, praying together, laughing, crying, sharing photos of my son with them, I was reminded again that relationship HAS to be the basis of everything we do."*

*"When I gave Cristina her Christmas gift she said, 'Thanks, but more than anything you can give me, thanks for your time.'"*

*"Nothing is better than genuine connection, friendship with no ulterior motives & time spent just being together. Such a good reminder this Christmas. Aren't we all in need of those that will just sit with us, make time for us & linger in sweet friendship? I know I need that in my life."*

To learn more about ESME's work, follow [@endslaveryecuador](https://www.instagram.com/endslaveryecuador) on Instagram. Connect with our sent missionary Hannah Zook at [jhzook93@gmail.com](mailto:jhzook93@gmail.com) to receive their newsletter, pray for the ministry, or help financially. YOU can help connect women in need with Jesus!

# Like a Kid Again

Sara Mulso | Director of WL Preschool & Kindergarten

If you were to step into many of our classrooms, you would find a quiet spot. A spot to rest, relax, and reflect. It isn't anything fancy. It typically has a soft rug, a pillow or two and maybe a stuffed animal. It's a spot for just one child.

Sometimes parents seem surprised to know that we have these! One thing that I've realized is that we often expect children to be extroverted all of the time. They should want to be with their friends playing all of the time, right? Whoa! That's a lot to expect, even for the most extroverted adult.

Having a place for children to be by themselves for a few minutes is important to their learning. It's a chance to take a break, relax from the busy, and sometimes just take a few deep breaths if sharing life with others seems to be too much.

But I know that this isn't just about young children! Have you ever wanted to duck away for a few minutes at work or even at home? Have you ever thought that we were made to do that? Jesus found moments to be away and he modeled that this time was important; a time to go to his Father in prayer.

*One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray,  
and spent the night praying to God.  
Luke 6:12*

Being "like a kid again" and just taking a break

from it all is something I am challenging you to do during this Lenten season. Find a few minutes away. Time with your Father, just as Jesus did. Time in prayer will do your heart, your mind, and your soul some good!



## WL Preschool & Kindergarten Open House

Join us for an Open House on Monday, February, 15th. This is a great opportunity to meet teachers, see our classrooms and explore options for your child for the upcoming school year. Join us from 3:30-5pm. We're looking forward to partnering with you for your child's first school experience!

If you'd like to learn more, you can visit our [website](https://www.wlpreschool.org) or contact Sara at [mulsos@woodburylutheran.org](mailto:mulsos@woodburylutheran.org) or call the school office at 651-739-5146.



# 2021-2022 Woodbury Lutheran Class Offerings



## Mixed Age 3's and 4's

This is our traditional preschool program. Children come together to learn important early skills which prepare them for kindergarten. Our small class sizes offer opportunities for individualized learning to ensure each child experiences growth and success.

- Teacher Child Ratio of 1:10 maximum
- Children must be 34 months by September 1st and must be fully potty trained

3 Half Days Monday -Wednesday-Friday 9am-12pm \$288 per month

3 Full Days Monday -Wednesday-Friday 9am-2pm \$423 per month

2 Half Days Tuesday & Thursday 9am-12pm \$220 per month

2 Full Days Tuesday & Thursday 9am-2pm \$316 per month

5 Full Days Monday-Friday 9am-2pm \$667 per month

\*4 day a week option is available if space allows. Please contact the office to inquire about the rate for this class.

Have a kindergartner? We can support you with a similar drop off and pick up time so both of your children can be at the same program.



## High 5's

Designed just for children with summer or early fall birthdays, this class builds on concepts previously introduced and prepares children to flourish in kindergarten.

- Teacher Child Ratio of 1:10 maximum
- Children must be 5 by October 31st and have previous preschool experience.

3 Full Days Monday -Wednesday-Friday 9am-2pm \$423 per month

**For ALL Preschool Programs** - there is an \$85 registration fee and a one time \$150 fee for snacks, activities and all supplies

## Kindergarten

High-quality kindergarten experience which includes hands-on learning alongside key academic skills

- Teacher Child Ratio of 1:15 maximum
- Children must be 5 by the first day of school

**Tuition and fees \$6,200**

There is an \$85 registration fee; transportation and lunch are not provided



## Extended Learning

Before and after care for preschoolers which give families the flexibility they may need on the days when your child attends school

- 8am-9am or 2pm-4pm -you set your schedule
- Billed at \$8.25 per hour

There is an \$20 registration fee; Schedule is set per semester  
Space is limited so we encourage you to work with us early.

# Rest. Relax. Breathe.

Joel Wetzstein | Multisite Director of Worship

I have a confession to make... and while you may not find it to be all that interesting when it comes to "confessions" - it is, nevertheless true - and something that I'm not happy about.

This newsletter article was due last Friday. It's late. I told Mary, the one compiling and editing the entire newsletter, that I would write it earlier today before leaving work.

I'm late. Not because I'm a procrastinator, but because I've been VERY busy doing other things that I have given higher priority: my work week is filled, literally, with appointments, meetings and some creative time for bringing together ideas, processes and plans for our worship services. I feel like my days off are spent making up for the focus that I give to my work.

I'm not complaining. But I am late. And somehow, I'm supposed to write something that has a focus on the words **"Rest", "Relax," and "Breathe."**

I had to laugh. Isn't it ironic, don't you think?...[10 hours later]... It's after midnight - and I'm finally getting started. The first word of my topic is REST. But I have a

breakfast meeting in the morning, so I'll be getting less than 6 hours of sleep tonight. How does one even approach authoring an article like that when everything your feeling is the antithesis of the article?

I'm tired, under pressure, and all I want to do is snore (my wife can vouch for this one) because I'm sound asleep.

So I prayed..."God, speak to me now. Let the words that You give me connect with others and allow them to form my own heart. Amen."

As the Multisite Worship Director, you may not be surprised to know that my mind immediately went to worship song lyrics.

*In You I rest... in You I find my hope.  
In You I trust... You never let me go.  
I put my life into Your hands alone -  
be still my soul.*

**"Be Still My Soul"** by Kari Jobe

I don't know of any worship songs that have the word "relax" in them - but in this context, I think "relax" is less about the idea of a spa treatment and more about "letting go" of the grip we pretend to have in order to keep things from spinning out of control. But God is faithful.

*All I have needed Thy hand hath provided.*

*Great is thy faithfulness - Lord unto me.*

**Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

Remember **"Breathe"**?

*This is the air I breathe. Your Holy presence living in me.*

It reminds me of **"Great Are You Lord"**

*"It's Your breath, in our lungs - so we pour out our praise to You only!"*

As I've written this, I've been reminded, by the Spirit of God through the lyrics of some powerful worship songs - that:

- While I'm about to get some sleep...my soul and yours finds REST in the promises of God;
- And that after a very long day of work, God's got me. God's got US. Our yesterdays, our todays, and our tomorrows;
- And finally, that all my days are already His. Yours too.

Fortunately, writing a newsletter article pales in comparison to the stresses, difficulties, trials, hardships, and challenges any of us face - yet all of the above promises and attributes of God remain true.

Forgive my late submission, a word of encouragement that I humbly submit to you.



## Special Guests from Paraguay!

Join us for our virtual World Prayer Dive, 50 minutes of prayer and learning about WLC's global missionaries. We'll be joined by **Dario & Juanita Guerrero from Paraguay**. They moved recently to a remote village that doesn't have a Bible-teaching church. They'll spend 15 minutes helping us understand what it's like to be church-planters and standard-bearers for Jesus!

Mark your calendars: Thursday, March 4, 7:00 pm

- Join the Zoom meeting at this link: **World Prayer Dive** - with the Passcode = **Praying**
- Questions? Contact Mike Sabbann ([SabbannM@woodburylutheran.org](mailto:SabbannM@woodburylutheran.org)). Be intentional in 2021! Spend time learning about God's desire for all people in every nation!



# February Birthdays

- |   |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| 1 Jennifer Conway<br>Heather Dahle<br>Cory Ellis<br>Samuel Figlmiller<br>Sue Horning<br>Timothy Lopez<br>Jan Miller<br>Alex Schreiner<br>Mike Slaughter<br>Oliver Weisbrich<br>Lauren Weiss<br>Cheryl White                         | 7 Dennis Bock<br>Mike Guell<br>Julie Horn<br>Aaron Jenkins<br>Brenda Kavanagh<br>Alyson Nelson<br>Ken Nelson<br>Jennifer Reinhard<br>Kris Sweet   | 14 Lindsey Carciofini<br>Muriel Gimble<br>Sherri King<br>Larry Lombard<br>Mallard Olson<br>Matthew Rodemeyer<br>Elsie Thomas  | 20 Marit Brothen<br>Janice Masanz<br>Terri Swanson<br>21 Aron Howard<br>Julie Huber<br>Isabelle Kurth<br>Gail Mullaney<br>Amanda Nelson<br>Mark Reed  | 26 Thomas Camilli<br>Audrina Conley<br>Stella Oxtan<br>Michael Peter<br>Mike Pokrandt<br>Erin Powell<br>Elaine Southward<br>Carter Wyeth<br>Dean Wohlhuter   |
| 2 Don Hartinger<br>Toni Loeffler<br>Bree Matsysik<br>Quinn Sand<br>Roger Swanson<br>Sharon Wuggazer<br>Diana Wutke  | 8 Jacob Bloom<br>Michael Engstrom<br>Frank Johnson<br>Loren Opdahl<br>Peter Rowcliffe<br>Brett Wilkie   | 15 Jecoah Cedarbloom<br>Bev Diederich<br>Bennett Johnson<br>Roy Klasinski<br>Molly McNeely<br>Hal Shaver<br>Lyn Wilkie  | 22 Karen Boatman<br>Kaye Bradshaw<br>Amiah Casselberry<br>Cole Horak<br>Dominic Ortiz<br>Riley Perryman<br>Ruby Salewski<br>Jeanie Yee  | 27 Bethany Breiholz<br>Dylan Granholm<br>Justin Jurek<br>Mya Lomnes<br>Madison Nystel<br>Ivy Pertsch<br>Daniel Runge<br>Tara Schlattman<br>Hazel Spaeth<br>Quinn Stoerzinger<br>Alex Thao<br>Kari Ulrich<br>Mary Weiss |
| 3 Cary Arneson<br>Kathy Girgen<br>Michael Haut<br>Kaye Larson<br>Jeremiah Parker<br>Kevin Redington<br>Pam Stafford<br>James Stebbing<br>Parker Taylor<br>Richard Wachal  | 9 Dorothy Blaisdell<br>Freyja Brothen<br>Kaylee Dahl<br>Ethan Flotterud<br>Ricardo Lopez<br>Samuel Miner<br>Greta Odegaard<br>Jean Rock   | 16 Harold Easley<br>Ed Erickson<br>Bill Gauwitz<br>Deine Guell<br>Todd Klusmann<br>Denise LaFontaine<br>Alyssa MacLeod<br>Alvin Michlitsch<br>Jonas Michlitsch<br>Sandy Petrich<br>Barb Vik<br>Jan Zeller | 23 Raquel Beucler<br>Jeanne Carlson<br>Dean Danner<br>Nicole Nelson<br>Paula Powell<br>Aubrey Strohfus<br>Nick Yee  | 28 Elyn Barker<br>Nora Barney<br>Adeline Burger<br>Paul Cronin<br>Bennett Fitzgerald<br>Elly Lutz<br>Nicholas Muenstermann<br>Sam Muenstermann<br>Megan Twait<br>Tony Vik<br>Charlotte Vossen                          |
| 4 T.J. Cartier<br>Benjamin Gannon<br>Shane Lombard<br>Brian Michlitsch<br>Arlene Schindeldecker<br>Steve Schreiner<br>Reed Siegling<br>Jodee Watanabe<br>Nicholas Zilge   | 10 Caleb Anderson<br>David Beseman<br>Laura Cloose<br>Lincoln Daniels<br>Arthur Grant<br>Jennifer Krueger<br>Kathleen McNeely<br>Brooklynn Meissner<br>Monte Michel<br>Brian Short<br>Anna Wagner | 17 Jennifer Doehermann<br>Codi Feuerherm<br>Leah Hall<br>Daniel Johnson<br>Dan Meyer<br>Nathan McGuire<br>Lynn Rizzardi<br>Keeva Zilka  | 24 Hadley Burger<br>Wesley Dittman<br>Adrien Everest<br>Roger Jensen<br>Carri McGuire<br>Adalyn McKinley<br>Mirabelle Morri<br>Owen Perl<br>Tina Pokrandt   | 29 Bob Menge<br>Isabella Riehle<br>Isaiah Riehle   |
| 5 Gary Anderson<br>Don Brocker<br>Pamela Clark<br>Oliver Finnegan<br>Rich Horacek<br>Kylee Jacobson<br>Millie Lodahl<br>Duncan MacLeod<br>Diana McHenry<br>Tom Pfothenhauer<br>Carrie Pieper<br>Daniel Quiros<br>Karen Wolterstorff | 11 Lon Berven<br>Zach Droel<br>Margo Garven<br>Tanner Ignaszewski<br>Vanessa McClure<br>Sue Montgomery<br>Nick Rheinberger  | 18 Konnie Harstad<br>Debbie Hukee<br>Sarah John<br>Addison Johnson<br>Andrea O'Keefe<br>Erin Schaefer<br>Steven Widen<br>Nate Williams  | 25 Theodore Charpentier<br>Michelle Hartinger<br>Kim Hughes<br>Jim Jensen<br>Peter Karlstrand<br>Annabel Kush<br>Emma McNally<br>Maridith Parvey<br>Mavis Shriver<br>Roger Strharsky<br>McKenzie Voyda<br>Cathy Yee |  |
| 6 Melanie Anderson<br>Bob Benson<br>Caylee Charlson<br>Margaret Dalbec  | 12 Camden Diekmann<br>Cindy Johnson<br>Jay Olson<br>Addi Strohfus   | 19 Diane Baran<br>Donna Greenlee  |   |  |
|   | 13 Linda Amey<br>Craig Bettman  |   |   |  |

# February Anniversaries

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| 1 Dan & Aleesha Berkman<br>2 Mike & Debbie Heggernes<br>John & Beth Welsh                        | John & Jean Rock<br>Jeff & Sarah Yonkovich  | 25 Steve & Elaina Hane<br>Dan & Peggy Krause   |
| 3 Perry & Kelly Rogotzke<br>Mike & Holly Rollefson<br>Eric & Kim Sandrock                        | 15 Steve & Kelly Frisque<br>Mike & Carrie Steffel   | 26 Andres & Carolyn Hernandez<br>Cal & Kathy Janacek   |
| 6 John Jeevanandam & Sarah John<br>7 Ivan & Angie Niezgoeki<br>8 Timothy & Kathleen McNeely      | 16 Robert & Elsie Thomas<br>Jim & Sandy Tobin   | 27 Aaron & Miranda Everson<br>28 Harold & Elaine Easley<br>Adam & Kimberly Jorgenson<br>Gary & Terri Kanne |
| 10 Dan & Jane Rose   | 17 Mark & Linda Erickson<br>18 Adam & Glennae Meyer<br>19 Ben & Kate Griffin<br>Elliott & Paula Walther |  |
| 14 Dan & Jamie Anderson<br>Dave & Midori Howard<br>Joel & Lori Mohlenhoff<br>Wayne & Gwynn Pepin | 21 Paul & Kim Dolan<br>22 Kip & Liz Sander<br>24 Steve & Kris Carlson<br>Troy & Krista Hobot            |  |

# Church Council Update January

*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, January 12, 2021

6:30-8:30am

## Meeting Highlights

### Financially:

2020 income was \$3,441,181 giving a roughly \$156k operating surplus. The surplus will be divided between missions, long term capital improvement, future multisite, and cash flow.

The decision by the Council to pay off another \$500,000 of our mortgage was approved contingent upon WLC receiving confirmation that our \$519,000 PPP loan was forgiven.

The budget for 2021 was approved at \$3,493,000 approx. \$50,000 increase of 2020 actual.

### Concordia, South St. Paul:

The WLC Council approved a resolution to recommend that Concordia become a campus of WLC. The resolution will be voted on by the congregation.

### WLC Brand and Name:

The team has contacted other churches that have gone through a name change. They have researched potential consulting firms that could help with community surveys to establish the BRAND impact or non-impact of the Woodbury Lutheran Church name.

### Council Member Changes for 2021:

Renee Boehme, Troy Wenck, and Larry Hall will have terms ending at the January 2021 Annual congregational Meeting. Sheryl Breiholz, Todd Watanbe, and Wade Amundson will be beginning their terms on Council pending congregational approval.



## Meeting Agenda

### Call to Order & Quorum Determination

### Devotions/Prayer

### Consent Agenda

- December Meeting Minutes
- December Financial Report

### Information

- Sr. Pastor Report
- Update on St. Paul Concordia Merger discussions

### Discussion

- 2020 Year End Financials/Proposed 2021 budget
- Concordia Merger Resolution
- WLC Brand and Name Change Team
- 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

### In-Person

Sundays @ 9:00 & 10:30am

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

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

## Baptisms

Lillienne Louise Brocker  
Hudson Joseph Short

## Weddings

Christian Opheim & Julia Gibbs

## Deaths

Kay Banitt - husband, Elden Banitt  
Virginia Obermire  
Janice Zeller - mother, Etta Meyer  
Becky Martini - brother, Tom Reed  
Joy Ostrom - mother, Joyce Swanson





## Staying Connected

### 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.

### Youth Ministry changes in Lent:

**Valley Creek youth:** Starting the week after Ash Wednesday (February 24) both on-campus and online youth will gather from 6:30-8pm. We will have small group from 6:30-7, then worship together using the livestream, and then have small group discussion following worship. Parents, you are welcome to

worship along with your young person in their small group or, if you're attending on-campus worship, your young person is welcome to join you for that.

We will not be gathering on Ash Wednesday (February 17), March 10th or March 31st. We will resume our regular Ministry rhythm after Easter (April 7th). Please let us know if you have questions.

**Oak Hill youth:** Youth will not be meeting on Wednesdays during Lent. Oak Hill Youth Gatherings will take place on Sundays February 28, March 14, and February 28 from 6:30-8pm. Sarah will email locations and other information!

### First Communion Classes begin mid February

This 4 week parent/youth Communion class series is for young people in 6th-12th grade who have not yet had Communion Instruction. There are both online and on- campus class times.

The Sunday Class begins on February 21st (1-2:30pm at VC) and the Tuesday class begins on Feb 23rd (6:30-8pm on Zoom). Register at [wlc youth.org](#). Questions: contact [Lindsey](#).

### Mind the Gap Event for 8th and 12th grade parents & students

Take time to look at the promises of God and his faithfulness. Youth will have the opportunity to talk about questions, excitements, and anxieties about entering the next phase of life: High School & Post High School. Parents will have the chance to discuss what raising

kids who trust in God looks like at these ages. It's going to be great, you don't want to miss it! February 21st, 6-7pm. at the Valley Creek campus. RSVP at [wlc youth.org](#). Questions: contact our CSP Practicum Student--Anna Reineke [reinekea@csp.edu](mailto:reinekea@csp.edu).

### Garage Sale Treasures Update

Due to COVID and for everyone's safety we will not be holding our annual garage sale in May. We are hopeful for a future date! Thank you so much for your past generosity that has helped us develop a youth scholarship fund that is able to continue to support families and youth who would have to otherwise skip mission experiences like these. We are so grateful for your support!



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

# February 2021 Calendar

## **3 (O) Wednesday Morning Bible Study**

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

## **3 (O,V) Youth Mid-Week Classes**

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

## **4 (V) Celebrate Recovery**

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

## **6 (V) Baptism Class**

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

## **6 (V) Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study**

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

## **6 (O) Men's Bible Study**

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

## **7 (O,V) Kids LINK**

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

## **8 (V) Monday Men's Study**

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

## **8 (V) Red Cross Blood Drive**

Thursday, 9:00am  
[www.redcrossblood.org/](http://www.redcrossblood.org/)

## **17 (O) Ash Wednesday Worship**

Wednesday, 7:00pm

## **17 (V) Ash Wednesday Worship**

Wednesday, 12:00pm &  
7:00pm  
[live.woodburylutheran.org](http://live.woodburylutheran.org)

## **24 (O) Lent Worship**

Wednesday, 7:00pm

## **24 (V) Lent Worship**

Wednesday, 12:00pm &  
7:00pm  
[live.woodburylutheran.org](http://live.woodburylutheran.org)

# 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

St. Croix Campus (S)  
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

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