

THE NEWS LETTER



July 2020

Made In the Image of God

“Let US make human beings in OUR image, to be like US.”
-- God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

There is an incredibly timely account for us from Matthew 8 where Jesus heals a man with leprosy. On the surface it is just your standard, run of the mill miracle; in fact the episode is only 4 verses long. But tucked in the middle of the scene are these amazing words, **“Jesus reached out and touched him.”**

We all know that it was a big deal for Jesus to touch this man because there were all kinds of religious and social restrictions and reasons not to. Despite all the reasons not to, Jesus took the initiative; Jesus made the move across significant barriers in a mind blowing way, through a simple touch.

Sure, it is really cool that Jesus healed the man immediately of his leprosy, but Jesus did something so much greater. **This was an act of restorative justice**, Jesus reminded both the man- and just as importantly the crowd -that this leper was so much more than that. **He was in fact a person deserving of all the rights that come with being made and formed in the image of God.**

The words above from Genesis 1 teach us everything we need to know about human beings. **First, we are all created in the image of God** (of course we also carry the image of our fallen father Adam and his sinfulness, but at our core we are created in the image of God.) That tells us something very significant about who we are and how we treat other people as they also bear this same image.

Secondly, we were created to be like God. This does not mean that we pursue becoming our own little gods; that is what got Adam and Eve into hot water. What it means is that we pursue the attributes that make God, well, God in our lives. In other words we were made to reflect God into the world around us. How great is that? So what is God like? Why don't you take a few minutes and write out some of the attributes of God and think about what it would look like to live them out in our current context?

My heart is broken over all that has happened over the last month and at times like this it can be hard to find the right words; there is just so much fear and polarization. So what if, as disciples of Jesus, we pursued two things:

- Ask God to help me better see that all people are made in His image and ponder what that means for our own attitudes and assumptions about others.
- Ask God to help me become more like Him through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Maybe that is what our world needs from us right now.
Peace,
Tom Pfothauer, Sr. Pastor



**WOODBURY
LUTHERAN**

Vicar Quincy

Grateful Joy

I wanted to start by saying how grateful I am to have been a vicar here at Woodbury Lutheran. I know that I am one of many who have come through here over the last 20 or so years. This church has a reputation of being one of the best and most desired vicarage placements and having been here for 11 months I can see why. It has truly been a joy to get to know this community.

My wife Courtney and I have been overwhelmed by the kindness shown to us during our time here. This is such a great place to experience and learn about ministry. There are so many skilled volunteers and staff that I was able to shadow and learn from. Many who took extra time to teach me and coach me during my time here. I am truly grateful for them. I am also grateful for the kind words and notes that I received from many of you during my time here. It's intimidating to stand up and speak or preach in a big place like our Valley Creek sanctuary but after the service I would be flooded by encouragement from you all. I received that same warmth no matter which campus I was on.

I had a lot of fun watching the dutiful volunteers at Liberty Ridge work together to transform an elementary school gymnasium into a house of worship and then pack it all back up and do it again the next week. I had a lot of fun at Oak Hill with my weekly Bible study on Wednesday mornings. That group had some truly amazing questions that reminded me that my study of God's word will never be finished. I have certainly missed seeing many of you over these past few months but I have gotten to connect with a lot of you over email and phone calls. I know that I probably received more encouragement than I gave during these calls but it was fun to get to know more about you and share a little about myself.

If I had to boil down what I learned on my vicarage I think it would be this: Life is better together. The church staff has these cubes on our desks and they highlight the values we all strive to live out. One such value that continues to stand out to me is "life is better together". Even during our shelter-in-place orders I heard about and saw many wonderful things you all did to maintain togetherness. Connecting with one another over the phone and Zoom. Picking up groceries and prescriptions for those who weren't able to do so themselves. Gathering for socially distanced outdoor prayer and parking lot worship.

It has been my joy to serve here this year. I am certain that you will welcome your next vicar and his family with the same kindness you showed my wife and me.

God's Blessing,
Quincy



Weddings:

Sarah Mazareese & Dan Peterson
Angela Eberspacher & Ryan Mroszak
Laura McDaniel & Bill DeRoche

Baptisms:

Catelynn Rose Jones
Camille Marie Jones
Carmen Elise Jones

Deaths:

The Family of Glenn Jenkins
Mavis Rubsam ~ mother, Hazelle Rubsam
Karen Roberts ~ father, Richard Dolby
The Family of Jack Lindau
Karla Edwards ~ father, Fred Chamberlain
The Family of Mike Wilk
Jack Lavers ~ brother, Charles Lavers

WLC Building Information:

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Church Council Monthly Update

In order to continue to grow in our communication to the congregation, each month in the Newsletter we will share an update from the previous Council meeting. Full minutes for the Council can be found by [clicking here...](#)

Woodbury Lutheran Church - Council Meeting Saturday, June 9th, 2020 6:30am - 8:30am	
Call to Order & Quorum Determination	
Devotions/Prayer	
Consent Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none">May Meeting MinutesMay Financial Report	Approval
Information/Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">Sr. Pastor ReportWLC Continued response to COVID-19	Information
Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">Update Liberty RidgeResponse to the death of George Floyd	Discussion
Closing Prayer	
Adjourn	

Meeting Highlights:

- Financials:** Thanks to strong giving and managing our expenses, our receipts have exceeded our expenses by roughly \$42,000.
- Pre-School:** The staff has been doing considerable planning to determine how WLC will accommodate the space needs for the number of enrolled kids with new guidelines.
- WLC Return to Indoor Services:** The Council encouraged Pastor Tom to look at July 12 for the first 'Back-in-Church' services and to continue to provide other worship opportunities to bridge the gap.
- Survey:** Roughly 400 people responded and the quick finding is that 25% are ready to return to in-person worship and for the next several weeks 75% prefer other options, which is one reason to wait until July 12 when more people will be ready to return.
- Liberty Ridge:** The Directional Leadership Team continues to discuss what makes the most sense for the Liberty Ridge Campus and the overall Vision of WLC. In the coming weeks there will be further conversation with stakeholders and the Council.
- Civil Unrest:** Pastor Tom advised that the pivot away from the planned summer preaching scripture to Micah 6:8 was the result of the George Floyd incident and subsequent protests. The Council discussed various ways WLC can achieve some continuity in helping to bring about change in our members understanding of race relations and God's intent for all His children.

A Behind the Scenes Look at Youth Ministry

During the month of March, it appeared as if life as we knew it had completely changed. Students transitioned to distanced learning, in-person services transitioned to online only. There's a word that's been the theme of the WLC staff over the past few months:

"Pivot"

It means that we have to be ready to change our plans, lessons, events, etc. and be flexible when things might look differently than we had originally planned. There's some sadness in that but there's also joy and excitement. "Pivoting" allowed us to get creative in ways we never imagined, and it allowed us to have a different type of fun than anything we've experienced.

So now the really fun stuff. What has youth ministry looked like during the past few months?

Zoom has become the best friend of the youth staff being used in a lot of different ways:

- In March and April, we used Zoom for daily student and youth staff hangouts.
- Our first communion classes switched to an online format with virtual teachings (it was so cool seeing all of the pictures from our first-communion families on Maundy Thursday!).
- In May we had Friday night game nights.
- Wednesday-night programming for Sixers, Foundations, and Roots continued virtually for all three campuses.

As we transition from school-year programming to summer programming, I need to say thank you to the small group leaders across all three campuses. These are the people who have consistently shown up for our youth, they've called, texted, Snapchatted, FaceTimed, etc. to make sure that our youth have still felt known by the people who care for them. Our small group leaders have been flexible, have pivoted along with us, and shown us how much they love God and our students. We couldn't do ministry without them.

So thank you, WLC community, for your support. We can't wait to see what Summer 2020 brings!

~Sarah Dibbern
Youth Minister-Oak Hill Campus



WLC Kids New Summer Day Camp

We know you're planning your summer fun and we want you to add Family Summer Day Camp to your calendar!

This summer our camps will look a little different. Your family will gather in our parking lot at both the Oak Hill or Valley Creek locations for a 30 minute large group teaching and some interactive music before heading home with your family's box of camp supplies. The box will contain all your family needs to have a great week of camp! Provided will be craft supplies, links to video teaching, and information about our mission opportunity for the week.

Choose a week that works for you and register at Summer.Woodburylutheran.org.

Please register so we can prepare supplies in advance for your family.

- **Summer Day Camp Oak Hill Campus:** July 20-23 Large Group and Interactive Music 6:00-6:30 pm daily
- **Summer Day Camp Liberty Ridge and Valley Creek Campus:** August 3-6: Large Group and Interactive Music 6:00-6:30 pm

We pray that you'll join us this summer!

We have some great opportunities to serve, too! If you are interested in filling family boxes, calling families to remind them about camp, or helping us set up or clean up, contact Nancy Schubbe at schubben@woodburylutheran.org.

Kids Ministry Team

WLC Engaging with our Homeless Neighbors

You're invited to be Jesus' hands and feet with some of our community's most vulnerable people. People whom Jesus cares about.

Through the teamwork of Settled, WLC, UMN, and a network of other organizations and churches, we're working to create more abundant lives for His followers and our homeless neighbors.

Now more than ever, the work of building Sacred Settlements- cities on hills, that welcome the poor, the oppressed, the widow, orphan, and the others into a loving, accepting, and welcoming community with beautiful, safe, affordable homes -is needed. Our black and brown brothers and sisters are disproportionately homeless as a result of a variety of issues, including systemic racism. Our church, small but mighty, can be part of God's provision. Together, we can offer hope in the face of chaos, uncertainty, and despair.

We're part of helping to create Sacred Settlements, providing safe, beautiful tiny homes in a caring community provided by a host church and supportive network and fueled by the Holy Spirit to the glory of the Father. The settlements will be self-contained, family-like units that will allow people to *stay at home* like all of us to minimize the impact of COVID-19.

There are a number of ways to be involved...from getting to know some homeless friends, to helping provide for some basic needs, to joining a tiny home building team sometime in the next months (dates TBA), to giving towards the construction of one tiny home. A matching fund of \$10K has been set up with donations from the WLC Mission Fund and Legacy Wealth with the hope of building a tiny home in 2020.

For more information contact Andrew Abicht at abichta@yahoo.com or call or text 651- 343-5616.

Brad Miller, Jeff Linert and Andrew Abicht

Watch the Zoom meeting from late April [here](#).
Check out Settled here... besettled.org.



WLC Staff Directory

Tom Pfothauer

Senior Pastor

Tim Marshall

Pastoral Care Ministries

Pastor Jon Kuehne

LR Campus Pastor

Quincy Koll

Vicar

Dean Dunavan

OH Campus Vicar

Mark Stutelberg

Business Administrator

Joel Symmank

Director of Ministries

Joel Wetzstein

Director of Worship

Karl Grant

VC Organist / Choir Director

Jyl Dunavan

OH Worship Leader

Kendall Johnson

Technical Arts Coordinator

Kandi Chavie

LR Worship Ldr/Admin Assistant

Brad Miller

Director of Discipleship and Reach

Mike Sabbann

Reach Coordinator

Diana Vander Pas

Director of Small Groups

Nancy Schubbe

Director of Kids Ministry

Lindsey Schmidt

Middle School Youth Minister

Patrick Brewer

High School Youth Minister

Cindy Linert

VC Kids Minister

Sarah Dibbern

OH Youth Minister/VC Kids Minister

Molly Schulze

OH Kids Minister

Laura Stennes

LR Kids & Youth Minister

Sara Mulso

Director of Preschool

Lisa Schommer

Preschool Business Manager

Mary Law

Office Mgr/Assist to the Sr Pastor

Sunny Marshall

Administrative Assistant, Database

Stacy Winter

Admin Assistant, Youth Ministries

Brian Ingram

Co-Director of Custodial Services

Theresa Ingram

Co-Director of Custodial Services

John Stutelberg

Custodial Services



WLC's Partnership with Casa Adalia and Casa Gabriel

Although we could not send a Short-Term Team to Ecuador this summer, we continue partnering with and supporting the ongoing ministry there.

The world is living through a crisis and in Ecuador we are seeing devastating effects, both economically and socially, as we have never seen before. At Casa Gabriel and Casa Adalia*, with your help, we have responded to the situation by packing and delivering bags of non-perishable food supplies to families in need and opened channels online for youth and their families to receive classes and counseling during this desperate time.

In the midst of this pandemic, the Casa Adalia team is working hard to creatively communicate to the young women and children that they are loved and not alone, that includes continuing to celebrate birthdays!

*Note: Casa Adalia is part of the overarching ministry, End Slavery Ministries Ecuador (ESME), for which our sent missionary, Hannah Zook, is the Director.

You can follow these ministries on Facebook, Instagram and at casaadalia.net casagabriel.com.

PLEASE PRAY:

-For all staff as the quarantine has continued to be hard on them. Pray for how to best serve those in need in the healthiest way possible.

-Spiritual, emotional, and physical health for everyone in the two houses and those connected to these ministries.

-Supernatural peace and provision for the people of Ecuador. That the Gospel would be made clear and people would discover hope in Jesus.



Scripture Card Guide for Small Group Discussion

Summer is here! As restrictions on gathering loosen, this is the perfect time to gather your small group, a few friends, or your family to discuss the weekend worship message further. To equip you for this, WLC developed the Scripture Card Guide for Group Discussion.

This guide gives step-by-step instructions to use the Scripture Cards in a group setting and aligns with the weekly message in worship. It provides context to the sermon series, an icebreaker question, additional discussion questions/tips, as well as directions for a guided group prayer time.

You will be able to find the weekly Scripture Card guide on the WLC website from the “Ministries” drop down list, click on “Small Groups”, then “Small Group Resources” or click [here](#) to go directly to the page.

We pray you will use this to stay engaged, guiding vibrant discussion, allowing you to grow closer to God and to others!

Want to start a new group with friends over the summer? Email [Diana Vander Pas](#) for tips and tools to help set you up for success!



July Birthdays

1 Gretchen Crist	Kathie Widen	Eric Huska	James Conway	22 Roxane Becken	Arlo Perlick	30 Deb Anderson
Bob Everson	Ava Wilk	Kenley McMahon	Iban Drevlow	Tim Bystrzycki	Tanner Theis	Howard Boatman
Matthew Gage	6 Maris Hall	Paul Niezgocki	Wesley Eggers	Isaiah Clauson	Jean Wendlandt	Colleen Dokmo
Melani Hanisch	Lisa Karcher	Renae Omdahl	Mia Hodne	Amanda Dixon	Isaac Wuotila	Amy Graham
Jynessa Hughes	Heather Meek	Lois Plath	Piper Hodne	27 Bev Esala	27 Caden Andrasfi	Owen Heggernes
Shaylee Kamp	Nick Sabatke	Kristal Treadway	Na Lehtonen	Mary Hitzemann	Jana Beck	Hunter Kirby
Diane Kuhrmeyer	Emma Williams	Harold Voth	Addie Michlitsch	Mitchell Hobot	Keith Buchanan	Emma Klinzing
Donna Lorenz	Willow Young	William Young	Nancy Oehlke	Caden MacLeod	Linda Bystrzycki	Mary Kolb
Vincent Mueller	7 Everett Berg	13 Rachel Breiholz	Andrew Parks	Jackie Sprenger	Jayden Carr	Danielle Retica
Vincent Polaski	Lucas Cronin	Larry Edwards	Hailey Rhoades	Valory Tessmer	Collin Flanagan	Ron Unneberg
Evan Rones	John McLean	Penelope Lindberg	Sarah Rodgers	Jack Uebler	Emmanuel Johnson	31 Addison Baty
Aubrey Spates	Dave Schindler	Sally Meyer	18 Jeanette Black	23 Brady Burns	Dale Martinson	Jared Brandvik
Lowell Zeller	Callie Sirovy	Stella Schmidt	Sheryl Breiholz	Stephanie Claugherty	Vida Miles	Lucas Dailey
2 Jordan Berg	Liliane Wilford	Shirley Yates	Ryan Duffy	Lucille Dalbec	Lucy Morrison	Ethan Johnson
Gail Field	8 Katie Barker-Sieling	14 Lynne Arneson	Rylan Lange	Thomas Deverell	Billy Mzenga	Meghan Konop
Brayden Holmgren	David Brandmire	Karina Barabash	Brenda Mammenga	Alison Fedorowski	Eileen Reinhardt	Julie Kordosky
Beth Kothe	Ann Carlson	Brandon Dowdall	19 Steven Awiszus	Mckenna Fedorowski	Baylee Scholz	Davin Morri
Paige McNeill	Steven Conley	Michael Dowdall, Jr.	Francile Cummings	Reid Fedorowski	Jennifer Stevensen-	Jessica Norring
Robert Olson	Daniel Hammerstrom	Parker Field	Cheri Frost	Barb Fleming	Waldo	Alexa Rosin
Grayson Petrich	Laurie Helgason	Patti Nelson	Mary Jeske	Lauren Mortenson	28 Whitney Berkman	Jonathan Schulze
3 Jacob Anderson	Pat Kyndberg	Dorothy Olson	Ben Koch	Elle Peterson	Dale Bjorkman	Zaidyn Wagner
Bob Benson	9 Grant Anderson	Yvonne Pilot	Patricia Marchewka	Mary Powers	Alex Dailey	Tanner Zuehlke
Josh Boyd	Jori Bernier	John Sakizadeh	Mitchell Monson	Lori Raebel	Amelia Deckert	
J.J. Brusewitz	Del Howard	Sandy Southward	20 Greg Cloose	Lisa Vitela	Marvin Hammer	
Julianne Gage	Gary Isakson	Marci Speckhard	Tyler Cowles	24 Joseph Bauer	Marlene Ingvalson	
Emily Law	Dillon Peterson	Preston Widen	Lincoln Gehring	Lee Bunge	Caden Jamison	
Cynthia Mertens	Robbie Rizzardi	15 Audrie Bauer	Lucas Howard	Scott Homuth	Terri Kanne	
Todd Muellner	Andrea Sobaski	Elsie Corrigan	Jack Lavers	Roger Olstad	Gabriella Nassios	
Kay Noennig	10 Kelly Bass	Erik Dikken	Cheri McKusky	Riley Rivera	Scott Schank	
Dan Rose	Wendy Baumgarn	Grace Dunavan	Amber Salzman	Wyatt Shugg	Jesse Vislisl	
Steven Stensvad	Jason Brusewitz	Robert Durfee	Cole Schuessler	25 John Colton	29 Susan Boon	
Rachel Sweet	Casey Charlson	Luke Featherstone	Molly Smith	Allisa DeCoteau	Jenny Bouthilet	
4 Kirsten Benke	Lauren Froseth	Emily Fisher-	Anna Terzian	Dean Huska	Ethan Gage	
Steve Braun	Monroe Lisson	Damsgard	Jeff Yonkovich	Aaron Raebel	Lynne Geistfeld	
Carolyn Carlson	Sara Norton	Karen Grovender	21 Ethan Blakeman	Clark Dailey	Justin Hall	
Rachel Krueger	James Reed	Jackson Norring	John Clappier	Kelsey Deverell	Rob Krueger	
Zachary Roth	Benjamin Reinhard	Chris Odegaard	Marty Coughlin	Jake Droel	Dan Meyer	
John Schoenewald	Liam Roeller	Hide Sudoh	Anders Dahlin	Chris Edwards	Isabelle Olek	
5 Brandon Conway	Alice Schultze	16 Zoe Dittmann	Winston Ko	Kaitlyn Ginkel	Greg Opheim	
Luke LeMay	Chris Tveit	Gary Melin	Jenna Kurth	Pamela Hall	Heidi Sorgert	
Lisa Martinson	11 Tammy Ablan	Anna Young	Josh Matysik	Cal Janacek	Scott Stebbing	
Doug McMahon	Garrett Horn	Maeve Zilka	Barbara Riehle	Adela Lopez	Tom Stork	
Maxwell Moris	Brynleigh Hunter	17 Kylee Bass	Sarah Tveit	Makenzie McCuskey	Mary Timmers	
Rick Pieper	12 Kennedy Bailen	Ashley Boyd	Sophia Vitela	Connor McKeen	Diana Wende	
Cindy Schmitt	Lukas Hruby	Cary Charlson	Ella Wenck	Blake McNeill	Tristan Wesser	

& Anniversaries

1 Patrick & Jenny Brewer	Larry & Vicky Smith	Grady & Erin Jensen	Reed & Kathy Siegling
Duane & Angela Johnson	13 Devin & Amanda Gervais	Jonathan & Molly Schulze	29 Brian & Kristi Delaney
Tom & Mary Karrow	Bill & Michele Jacobus	Nathan & Jenni Xiong	30 Matt & Lisa Noblett
Bob & Arlene Schindeldeck	14 Cory & Kimberly Bauman	22 Gerald & Colette Miller	Jason & Brenda Sirovy
3 Duane & Valory Tessmer	John & Jenelle Rodemeyer	Todd & Toni Muellner	31 BJ & Robin Brown
4 Roy & Joy Klasinski	15 Joe & Dawn Droel	Jim & Barbara Riehle	Luches & LaVonne Hamilton
6 David & Mary Brandmire	Roger & Marie Haukland	23 Jim & Lynne Blass	Tim & Erin Lamkin
8 Blaine & Teresa Raymer	Alejandro Trujillo & Nancy Brezina	Paul & Deborah Burandt	
10 Dean & Mary Galvin	16 Mark & Jane Jechort	Herb & Judy Goetsch	
Bryan & Kim Hughes	John & Alicia McGuire	Charles & Laurie Helgason	
Jason & Kathryn LaMott	17 Jay & Jill Olson	Kevin & Mary Landgrebe	
Tom & Stephanie Pfotenhauer	Brian & Kelly Schmidt	Tom & Peggy Novak	
Andrew & Julie Rhoades	18 Eli & Angela Coffey	24 Zach & Courtney Barringer	
John & Vivienne Rothchild	Joel & Stacey Schuessler	25 Cary & Patricia Arneson	
11 Robert & Gabrielle Baty	Jeff Sieling & Katie Barker-Sieling	Robert & Sharon Heck	
Robert & Sue Chad	Jesse & Jenna Vislisl	26 Phil & Sandy Johnson	
Michael & Melyssa Ehnstrom	Dan & Kayla Wesser	Dustin & Molly Nystel	
Mike & Julie Huber	19 Pat & Jenny Bouthilet	Arthur Williams & Adrien Everest	
Chris Medin & Mary Murray-Medin	Scott & Jean Shriver	27 Dean & Jyl Dunavan	
12 Rico & Elizabeth Bohren	20 Jeff & Denise LaFontaine	John & Nora Foster	
Jon & Sara Carson	Lawrence & Stephanie Sadowski	28 Dave & Heidi Hove	
Christian & Emily Moore	21 Kyle & Maria Engen	Stanley & Michelle Schoenecker	