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## The Disciple Life

Joel Symmank | Director of Ministries

The beginning of a new calendar year, for many of us, is a time to pause and reflect on what was, and to dream and imagine what might be. Resolutions are made with the intent of forming new habits, changing old ways, and moving forward.

Moving forward is a thing for us at Woodbury Lutheran. It's one of our core values: Movement: Faith doesn't stand still. And yet, who we are as a church revolves around an old, unchanging truth: that our perfect and holy God has chosen to love imperfect and broken people, and, in Jesus, has made a way for the two to be reconciled.

It's an interesting question: How do we move forward while clinging to this steadfast truth? The answer... Portability. We have to be sure that discipleship isn't something that we just pay lip service to or something we do only at church. That it's not just one aspect of our life. Being a disciple is something that we are...last year, next year, that we carry with us here, there, everywhere, and anywhere our journey takes us.

As we step into a new year and a new ministry season, look and listen for the idea of The Disciple Life. WLC is on the move. Faith doesn't stand still.

# People Must Know

*"After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child."  
– Luke 2:17*

By the time you read this, Christmas will be in the rear-view mirror and we will be moving on to the next thing (Lent is always just around the corner). As we head into another New Year filled with unknowns and opportunities we will continue to be a people who listen to the voice of Jesus and follow where He leads us. The big question we all need to wrestle with is, ***how will Christmas impact us for the rest of the year?***

We see this in an incredible way with the shepherds, ***"After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child."***

A few weeks before Christmas my family and I went to see the Chosen Christmas Special. The Chosen is a crowd-funded show about the life of Jesus that is spreading like wildfire. If you have not watched it, I would highly recommend making it a part of your 2022. The show does an incredible job of humanizing Jesus in a way that makes Him accessible to everyone; my 8-year-old has been riveted and transformed by watching.

The pilot episode was actually a short film that was produced to be used in a Christmas Eve service and it was titled *The Shepherd*. As the shepherds were leaving their visit to Jesus one of them turned and said, ***"People must know."***

What an incredible line! We see this happening in the lives of the shepherds, as they returned to their

lives they were glorifying God along the way. We do not ever hear from the shepherds again, but I would bet that they spent the rest of their lives living out the call that people must know.

We too have encountered Jesus. We too have received His love and forgiveness. We too have been given a mission as we return to our lives and the mission is summed up in three words, ***"People must know."***

***As we head into 2022 who is the Holy Spirit putting on your heart?*** A family member, a friend, a neighbor, a coworker? Start praying for opportunities where you can share—maybe even just a little—about how Jesus has impacted your life. It could be in a simple prayer or note or text, it doesn't have to be complicated or awkward.

As we follow Jesus we are invited to share the good news about Him with those He brings into our lives.

Happy New Year,

Pastor Tom, Senior Pastor



## NEXT: Pizza with the Pastor

What's your NEXT Step at Woodbury Lutheran? If you're new to WLC and wondering how to get connected into this church family, this is the perfect place to start!

### 4th Sunday of the Month on all campuses

- January 23, February 27, March 27, April 24
- Wakota Ridge Campus: 10:45-Noon
- Oak Hill and Valley Creek Campuses: 11:45am-1pm

**Come, have some pizza, and get connected!**

Find more info and register at [info.woodburylutheran.org](http://info.woodburylutheran.org).





## Backpacks for Good update!

**Thank you WLC Family,** for caring about kids in foster care and their providers...we are excited to announce that 346 backpacks were collected from all campuses in December!

WANT TO DO MORE? Feeling nudged by God to investigate helping in other ways? There is a need. Go to the Together for Good website at [tfgood.org/get-involved](https://tfgood.org/get-involved) to learn more about ways you can help this organization.

## Take a New Step

Joel Wetzstein | Multisite Director of Worship

A friend of mine who was the Senior Pastor at the first church I ever worked for started an organization called “FiveTwo”. The title is based on the account of Jesus and what he did with just Five loaves of bread and Two fish. The premise behind the title is to capture the entrepreneurial spirit to bring what you have—namely your time, energy, talents, passions, and ideas—to Jesus and then you join Him in the miracles He’ll do when those gifts are given/offered in faith. One of my friend’s key phrases is that you have to “Start New to Reach New.”

A New Year is the perfect time to Start New...to bring your time, energy, talents, passions, and ideas and FOLLOW Jesus in this new season of ministry as we continue to strive to reach more people for the sake of their eternity in the Kingdom of God.

In the worship department across all of our campuses, we have vocal, instrumental, technical, and scenic serving opportunities. If you’re interested in Taking A New Step to do something new, please email me, Joel Wetzstein, Multisite Director of Worship at [wetzsteinj@woodburylutheran.org](mailto:wetzsteinj@woodburylutheran.org) and I’ll help you discover the possibilities of coming alongside other like-minded people who are excited to see what Jesus will do as we step out in faith.







# Perspectives™

## Gain a New Perspective!

Mike Sabbann | Reach Coordinator

**Take a Step:** do you understand the role God has for you in His global purpose? When you make that connection, things can get very exciting! But you need to hurry...this specific opportunity is coming up FAST—**Tuesday, January 18!**

**“Perspectives”** is a renowned 15-week course designed around four vantage points or perspectives: **Biblical, Historical, Cultural, and Strategic.** Each one highlights different aspects of God’s global purpose. When Connie and I attended this, we learned a ton and had fun, too (see the pic of our “learning table”!) Below are some details, but call me (Mike Sabbann, 651-235-0447) right now if you have questions.

- **Where:** Hope Community Church in downtown Minneapolis very close to U.S. Bank Stadium
- **Days & Time:** Every Tuesday, 6:00-8:45 pm, Jan. 18-May 3
- **Format:** Live lectures by missionaries and missions leaders; homework reading is required.
- Cost - \$220 (scholarship opportunities are available, ask Mike)
- **More info:** Visit the [Perspectives website](#) for more info, sample lessons, and to register.

This isn’t a “baby step” but it is a great one! You’ll get to dig into the heart of “missions” and develop friendships with others as you learn together! Contact Mike Sabbann at [SabbannM@woodburylutheran.org](mailto:SabbannM@woodburylutheran.org) with questions.



*WLC members Mike & Connie Sabbann with their Perspectives learning group*

# Women of the Word New Studies Starting January

Diana Vander Pas | Multisite Director of Small Group Ministries

The New Year is a great time to start fresh habits and reconnect with God. Below are new group studies kicking off Wednesday mornings at **9:15am on January 12**. All women are welcome! No registration is necessary. Please attend the first day and jump in!

- **“Now That Faith Has Come: A Study of Galatians” by Beth Moore and Melissa Moore. In-person at Wakota Ridge**

This 6-session video-based study is a deep dive into Paul’s letter to the Galatians. Discover what makes the gospel of Jesus Christ revolutionary. We may take 2 weeks for each session and meet through the beginning of April.

- **“Scouting the Divine: Searching for God in wine, wool, and honey” by Margaret Feinberg. In-person at Valley Creek.**

This 6-session video-based study explores how ancient livelihoods described in Biblical times (grape grower, shepherd, beekeeper) shed light on truths that apply to our lives today.

- **“God of Creation: a study of Genesis 1-11” by Jen Wilkin. In-person at Valley Creek.**

This 10-session video-based study looks at God bringing light after darkness, order after chaos, and rest after toil. We only begin to understand ourselves when we first glimpse the character, attributes, and promises of our Creator.

- **“Better: a study of Hebrews” by Jen Wilkin. Mom’s Group. In-Person at Valley Creek.**

This 10-session study on Hebrews explores how God provides something better for us through Jesus Christ, in whom we put all our hope and faith. At this time childcare may not be available. Contact Diana Vander Pas with questions.

- **A study on Galatians. Online Group via Zoom.**

This online group working through the New Testament will finish up 2 Corinthians and then move to Galatians beginning January 28. Read and discuss Paul’s letter to the church in Galatia with us. No video and no book to purchase!

For questions or to receive the Zoom link for the online group, please contact Diana Vander Pas, Multi-site Director of Small Groups at [vanderpasd@woodburylutheran.org](mailto:vanderpasd@woodburylutheran.org).



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 over 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 January 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))



# Praying Over the School Year

Sara Mulso | Preschool Director

As we turn the page to January, there are dates of Open Houses that will be happening as we begin enrolling students for the upcoming school year. When it is ONLY January, September seems so very far away and yet it will be here before we know it. It's never too early to think about next year and to pray over where students are at now and what the "nexts" are for them in this journey.



**Pray for Wisdom:** We believe the parents are their child's first and most important teachers. As educators, we are in the business of teaching, and we partner with you for a season. You, as parents, are with your child their entire educational career. It is important to advocate for them and trust your instincts about what is best for them.

**Pray for Your Child's Teachers :** Lift them up so that they are strong in mind and spirit. We have the distinct privilege of teaching children about Jesus at Woodbury Lutheran Preschool. We know that this isn't the case in public schools, but we also know that public schools are filled with many wonderful Christian teachers who honor God in their actions through their vocation.

**Pray for their Friends and their Friend's Families:** Friendships are a very important part of life both in and out of school. In preschool, we begin to nurture these first friendships and parents are very involved. As children get older, friendships are driven more by children than by parents. Pray that God surrounds your kiddo with friends who bring out the best in them. Proverbs 27:17 reminds us that "as iron sharpens iron, one person sharpens another."

**Pray for your Student to be Successful:** Success looks different for each student. I remember when our son went through his high school interview process, he was told by the principal "It's always important to do YOUR best. If your best is a C in a class then that is your best but by always giving your best, you are honoring God in becoming the young man that God desires you be". That stuck with me because success isn't always about grades. It's about kindness, relationships, following directions, and trying. Also pray that you can be satisfied with your child's success even though it may be a bit different than what you may have hoped for.

**Pray for God's Favor and Blessing on their School:** Ezekiel 34:26 says "I will make them and the places surrounding my hill a blessing. I will send down showers in season; there will be showers of blessing. At WLP we covet your prayers that we may be blessed as we do ministry but it's wonderful to be in prayer for all schools. As an educator, I desire nothing more than that my actions, interactions, and instruction bless children and help them become the best child of God that they can become.

Continued blessings as you enter this new year (both the calendar year and looking ahead to the new academic year)!



# A New Year for Parenting

Nancy Schubbe | Director of Kids Ministry

Happy New Year! I don't know about you, but every year I try to get better at something in my life. Sometimes I resolve not to eat junk food, maybe this year, it should be not to stream so much! But how often do you set New Year's goals for yourself about your parenting? Maybe this is the year!

As a Christian parent, you have the important task of leading your child to Christ. Everything we do shows our kids who Jesus is...but none of us are perfect at it! Parenting is one of the hardest jobs on the planet and to make matters worse, none of our kids come with an operator's manual. Let's look at a couple of ideas for resolutions to help our parenting skills grow next year.

## Put God First and Seek His Will for Your Kids

As a Christian parent it's important to seek God's will for your children's lives. The way you parent should be guided by God's teaching and example in the Bible. You can do this through weekly worship, prayer, and Bible study in a small group or on your own.



## Focus on Your Child's Positive Behaviors

You may have noticed that pointing out your child's bad behaviors can become a habit—and it doesn't seem to change anything! Instead, try to catch your child being good, acting kind to their siblings, etc. Children are like us and respond so much better to positive reinforcement.

A new year is coming and there is no time like the present to take a next step in parenting!

## Shhh.....(sensitive information)



Did you know some missionaries serve where worshiping the Lord is against the law?! Join us to hear from a couple serving people in a restricted country in South Asia. For security purposes, we cannot reveal their names in this newsletter.

Our virtual World Prayer Dive is 60 minutes of learning about WLC's global missionaries. **We'll be joined by Dr. & Mrs. Undisclosed** who serve people living where owning a Bible is illegal! They'll help us understand what it's like to be on mission with Jesus, bringing the Gospel to people who believe Christianity—and Christians—are evil.

**Mark your calendars:** Thursday, January 27 at 7:00 pm

**Join the Zoom meeting at this link:** World Prayer Dive (passcode = 66ziUE)

Questions? Contact Mike at [SabbannM@woodburylutheran.org](mailto:SabbannM@woodburylutheran.org).

Be intentional—take a step to learn about God's desire for all people in every nation!



# Financial Peace University



*Financial Peace University* (FPU) is the nine-lesson class that teaches you the step-by-step plan to win with money. Get FPU, plus all the tools you need to make the plan work for your life, exclusively inside a Ramsey+ membership.

- Sunday afternoons: 3:00-4:30pm
- 9 weeks: January 30 through March 27
- Valley Creek Campus
- Cost: \$129.00 included the live class, digital or paper workbook, all the online tools of Ramsey + including coaching, additional on-demand content, budgeting tools and more for an entire year.
- Scholarships are available (please don't let the cost be an obstacle)
- Class facilitators: Jake & Tara Dalbec and Kimberly Olsen
- For more information (including scholarships and other questions) contact Brad Miller at [millerb@woodburylutheran.org](mailto:millerb@woodburylutheran.org)
- Registration opens January 2 (watch for the link)

## An Invitation

Lindsey Schmidt | Director of Middle School Youth Ministry

Jesus loves hanging out with you!

We regularly invite young people to spend time in the Word. Through Scripture we get to know God and His heart, we discover our identity and purpose in what God says about us as His people, and the Holy Spirit works transformation in us as we spend time with Him. Jesus invites us to follow Him, spending time listening and learning, but jeepers, it can be a hard habit to develop.

My devotional rhythm began as a teen with devotional books given to me by my parents, then invitations and mentoring by friends in college, followed by an invitation to BSF. The past few years, I've been reading through the Bible annually (with lots of starts, stops, and "catch up" days). I was inspired by a few friends who shared what God was showing them as they "tried on" the habit of daily Bible reading. (This is a recurring theme in my life: others inspiring...me benefiting...so please keep on sharing!)

We recently were able to give devotional resources to our Middle School & High School youth. Your generosity helped us put 365 days' worth of invitation, hope, and challenge in the hands of our young people. Extending an invitation to take a first step, to re-start, or step into a new chapter in following Jesus.

Would you join me in praying that we, along with these young people, will say yes this year? Yes to opening our Bibles often (If you need a place to start, let us know! We'll help!), yes to spending time with Him listening, and yes to whatever God prompts as we follow Him.





# 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

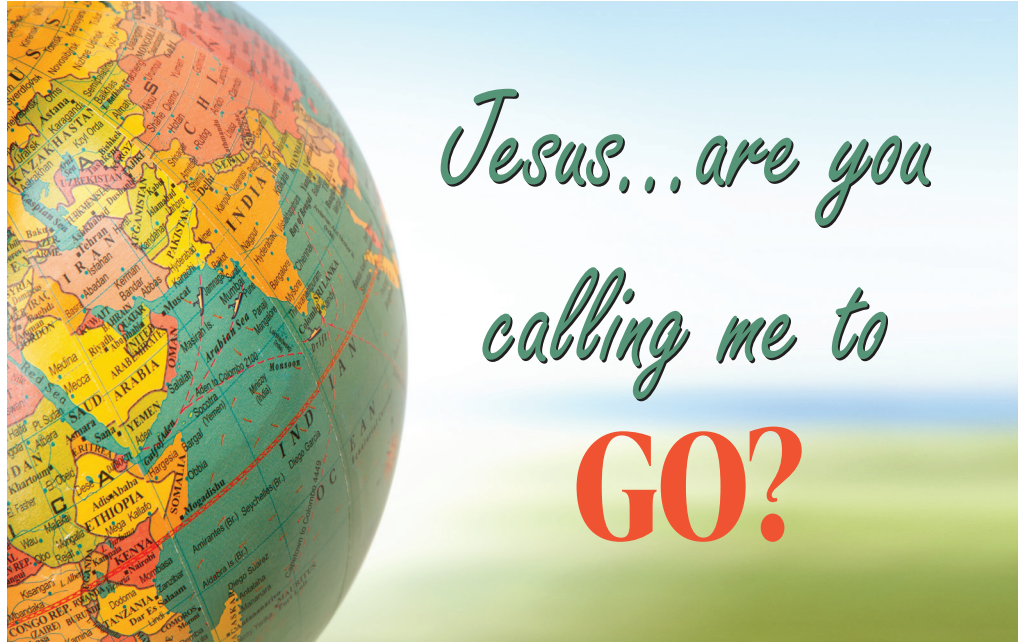
**When:** July and August 2022

**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 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 have received 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 January 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.

# Valley Creek Campus Update

Tom Pfothenhauer | Senior Pastor

2021 was a busy year at our Valley Creek Campus. It has been great seeing the physical space filled up again with people for ministry far beyond Sunday mornings. Almost all the community groups who use our space are back and it has been a joy to see groups like BSF and others roaming the halls.

Along with the usual maintenance to our building over the last year we replaced heating and AC units, added a beautiful LED Wall in the Sanctuary as well as special UV virus destroyers in all of our air exchanges. Several projects are on deck for 2022, including, right away in January, having the entire pipe organ cleaned and maintained.

Several months ago we were informed that the Park and Ride lot that we have hosted for almost 30 years will no longer be used. This will be an adjustment for us and will give us the opportunity to think about how that part of our space can best be used in ministry.

One of the areas we could use help in is in serving on Sunday mornings. If you are interested in getting connected in serving in any way on Sunday morning please reach out to Pastor Tom at [tom@woodburylutheran.org](mailto:tom@woodburylutheran.org) and he will get you pointed in the right direction.



## Volunteers Needed!

WLC is partnering with the Salvation Army to host a meat distribution event on January 8 from 7:30am-5pm.

This serving event would be a great opportunity for small groups, families, couples, or individuals! Sign up for a **two-hour shift** to organize, pack, and distribute food to families in need. Find more details at [info.woodburylutheran.org](http://info.woodburylutheran.org).



# January Birthdays

- |  |   |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Shannon Fields<br>Greg Jensen<br>PJ Johnson<br>Ellise Krypel<br>Jane Ogren<br>Lisa Schaefer<br>Evangelyne Souza  | Joseph Seltz  | Debbie Eddy<br>Alayna Larscheid<br>Grace Lavers<br>Leroy Longworth<br>Jacob Rome<br>Linda Wilford<br>Sarah Yonkovich  | Rick Petrich<br>Gordon Spindler<br>Joann Willhite   | Eric Helander<br>Aiden Johnson<br>Parker Knutson<br>Ray Merle<br>Sue Meyer<br>Eleanor Morrison<br>Elijah Nystel<br>Marlene Otterson<br>Angie Spates<br>Teri Trachy      | Nancy Hoffman<br>Joel Mohlenhoff<br>Delana Searles<br>Emily Thommes   |
| 2 Amanda Aalderks<br>Julie Nelson<br>Matt Noblett<br>Kimberlee Seltz<br>Amy Wutke<br>William Young   | 7 Joe Bradshaw<br>Cheryl Butz<br>Julia Cordes<br>Carolyn Howard<br>Jenhua Juan<br>Ann Lavers<br>Thomas Pashina<br>Amanda Ramin<br>Karl Stensvad<br>Livia Vislissel  | 13 Lainey Anderson<br>Spenser Arneson<br>Mindy Follett<br>Wesley Holum<br>Marlys Parker<br>Jenna Severson<br>Olivia Svoboda<br>Katie Young  | 19 Lucia Drevlow<br>John Eineke<br>Susan Gerver<br>Kate Groth<br>Milan Hruby<br>Cristian Link<br>Emmit Luther   | 25 Don Arndt<br>Gavin Bertram<br>Fanny Daniels<br>Harry Gurrola<br>Melody Haines<br>Mary Matasovsky<br>Owen Mensing<br>Bill Rengstorf<br>Rosemary Tongen<br>Mark Willie | 30 Phyl Burger<br>Barb Dunn<br>Kyle Engen<br>Shirley Engen<br>Chuck Jones<br>Brian Herian<br>Toni Lindahl<br>Joel Mba-Ngu'e<br>Barbara Royce<br>Stephanie Ruzich<br>Jeff Schaefer |
| 3 Sang Albrecht<br>Aaron Everson<br>Grace Hafner<br>Jake Hasapopoulos<br>Izzy Kordosky<br>Natalie Lewis<br>Jayda Revier  | 8 Kris Amundson<br>Noah Heintz<br>Amy Huebner<br>Angie Lauderbaugh<br>Tim Nelson<br>Donna Retter<br>Mike Rosin<br>Nancy Schubbe<br>Aaron Sieling<br>Sharon Wolfgram | 14 Spencer Cowley<br>Shirley Mertens<br>Harper Vossen   | 20 Ethan Bloom<br>Jill Colton<br>Joslyn Fitzgerald<br>David Frost<br>Gwen Froseth<br>Hans Heggernes<br>Abby Krueger<br>John Mitterholzer<br>Dick Rowan<br>Alex Schuenke<br>Kristin Esboldt<br>Mary Jo Young | 26 Jane Dibbern<br>Gary Halleen<br>Greg Lewis<br>Rachel Mergens<br>Scott Meyer<br>Hudson Peltier<br>Liam Powell<br>Andrew Rhoades                                       | 31 Bev Hintz<br>Leah Huebner<br>Natalie Klasinski<br>Adelaide Lisson<br>Brad Miller<br>Abigail Wiebe  |
| 4 Lynne Blass<br>Joe Droel<br>Brian Fong<br>Samuel Howard<br>Lily Juliano<br>Chase Klusmann<br>Jessica McMahon<br>Hannah Mewhorter<br>Eric Perry<br>Jack Usalis  | 9 Penelope Begnaud<br>Bev Faust<br>Emma Perl<br>Timm Spindler<br>Tina Stebbing<br>Sara Terrill<br>Adam Voth   | 15 Reese Brandt<br>Anthony Conant<br>Kristin Esboldt<br>Jim Hayden<br>Cheryl Hohenstien<br>Tanner Johnson<br>Hazel Phillipson<br>Liam Powell, Jr.<br>Shirley Rubbert<br>Gabriella Tyler | 21 Tyler Anderson<br>Kay Banitt<br>Deborah Burandt<br>Grace Bystrzycki<br>Angie Crane<br>Janet Erickson<br>Marco Howard<br>Phil Johnson<br>Mady Parker  | 27 Jamie Anderson<br>Brooke Bunge<br>Alexandra Finnegan<br>Judy Goetsch<br>Maya IntVeld<br>Horst Kraft<br>Mila Lottering<br>Jenni Panek<br>Michael Steffen              |   |
| 5 Blake Boehme<br>Emma Cloose<br>Ross Dahlin<br>Julie Duffy<br>Lori Golden<br>Krista Hobot<br>Kenneth Huebscher<br>Nate Jones<br>Jacqueline Konop<br>Brittany McCarty<br>Joshua Peterson<br>Donna Peters<br>Bob Zick | 10 Louis Bernier<br>Angela Coffey<br>Trenton Lutterman<br>Timothy Olson<br>Bailey Perryman<br>Nolan Salzmann<br>Steve Schach<br>Elaine Schlenner<br>Scott Zuehlke   | 16 Margaret Claugherty<br>Reagan Esboldt<br>Juli Feldkamp<br>Alyssa Meyer<br>Cameron Ochiagha<br>Julie Wolfgram   | 22 Robin Brown<br>Gavin Browning<br>Mike Huber<br>Alisia Macioch<br>Tom Nelson<br>Dustin Nystel<br>Ally Stoffer<br>Lindsey Weiler   | 28 Elijah Cronin<br>Brenda Haut<br>Bryan Hughes<br>Paul Johnson<br>Alexandra Leonard<br>Madeline Lorence<br>Kevin Stifter   |   |
| 6 Lainie Bailen<br>Barrett Rothchild<br>Muriel Rose  | 11 Gunnar Edlund<br>Janet Jacobson<br>Melissa Larsen<br>Rhoda Pfotenhauer<br>Renee Schneider<br>Samantha Schumaker  | 17 Bennett Everson<br>Charlotte Everson<br>Avery Horacek<br>Regina Kehl<br>Owen Kreutzfeldt<br>Joseph Mahlke<br>Anna Pillman<br>Gayla Pleggenkuhle<br>Connor Price                      | 23 Brett Corrigan<br>Lee Fischer<br>Ben Lower<br>Aaron Stadt<br>Mary Jean Bannert<br>Geoff Boyd<br>Tony Boyd<br>Rachel Brocker  |   |   |
|  | 12 Jack Anderson<br>Jyl Dunavan   | 18 Parker Goerlitz<br>Kaye Montgomery<br>Bob Petrich  |   |   |   |

## January Anniversaries

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| 2 Chris & Dawn Kroohn<br>Dennis & Janice Wenker    | Roger & Shirley Rodgers                              | 25 Robert & Margaret Kilb                       |
| 4 Dave & Rebecca Martini<br>Kyle & Sara McConaughy | 14 Brandon & Heidi Crist<br>Steven & Ann St. Jacques | 26 Ponnalar Ramesh & Ramesh Krishnanmani        |
| 5 Aaron & Tristan Wesser                           | 15 Dan & Nancy Oehlke                                | 27 Patrick & Maggie Svoboda                     |
| 6 Rajesh Kulandesu & Ruth Premiah                  | 16 Brad & Kris Sweet<br>Christian & Julia Opheim     | 28 Mike & Vicki Hunst<br>Todd & Bonnie Rizzardi |
| 7 Ben & Regina Kehl<br>Kevin & Kelli Redington     | 18 Jim & Joy Nassios                                 |   |
| 9 Adrian & Joann Kjelshus                          | 19 Brad and Sharon Fong                              |   |
| 21 Dick & Jan Rowan                                | 20 Tad & Lindsey Schmidt                             |   |
| 10 Craig & Cheryl Wasko                            | 21 Chris & Angela Ginkel<br>Charlie & Donna McElveen |   |
| 11 Howard & Elyse Ko                               | 22 Phillip & Wendy Baumgarn                          |   |

# 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, December 14, 2021 - 6:30-8:30am**

## Meeting Highlights

### Discipleship Refresh

Brad Miller has been working with a team of laypeople and staff looking at the effectiveness of our Discipleship Path. We are very excited about where we have landed on refreshing our strategy around making disciples. Over the next several months we will be rolling this out to the congregation in a variety of ways. At the heart of the refresh is the Disciple Life that focuses on our identity in Jesus, becoming more like Jesus, and helping others do the same.

### Afton Land Guiding Principles:

Several Council members have taken the work done by our past Afton teams and worked up a great document that will help us better understand the long-term vision for our Afton Land. After some more refinement, we will present this to the congregation at the Annual Meeting.

### Follow Initiative:

We have seen great momentum out of all the gatherings and meetings around Follow. We are still in the process of gathering Commitment Cards etc., but we are looking forward to what God will be doing over the next two years at WLC.

### 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 (masked, non-masked, 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.

### Financials:

We continue to be so blessed in so many ways. After November we are on track to exceed our budgeted needs, which will allow us to move resources into long-term accounts, be generous, and continue to be good stewards of all that God has blessed us with.



## Meeting Agenda

### Call to Order & Quorum Determination

### Devotions/Prayer

### Consent Agenda

- October/November Meeting Minutes
- November Financial Report

### Discussion Topics

- Update on Discipleship Refresh
- Review and discuss progress on Afton land guiding principles

### Informational Topics

- Sr. Pastor Report
- Wakota Ridge Campus Pastor Search Update
- In-Home Communion
- 2022 Budget and Congregational Meetings

### Closing Prayer

### Adjourn

## Worship

### Online

[live.woodburylutheran.org](https://live.woodburylutheran.org)

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](https://woodburylutheran.org)

## Baptisms

Lily Monroe Begnaud

Mila Hope Mensing

Owen Ed Mensing

Logan Cummings

## Deaths

Roxanne Anderson

Joan Burger, mother of Phyl Burger

Jan Hill, sister of Mary Matasovsky

Conee Koch, mother of Tim Koch

Michelle La Casse

Jerry Moran

Paul Pope, uncle of Yvonne Pilot

Lorraine Rogers





## 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".

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

Join us once-a-month for 90 minutes as we read *God's Heart for the Nations*. Starts at 7pm in the Valley Creek Campus lounge Jan 3, Feb 7, March 7, April 4, and May 2. For more info, contact Brad at [millerb@woodburylutheran.org](mailto:millerb@woodburylutheran.org)



Looking for more information  
to stay connected?

Scan the  
QR code above!



## New Sermon Series

Starting January 16

**What is The LIFE that God is calling us to?  
What does it really look like to FOLLOW?**

It is an invitation to be and a challenge to be and do. Jesus invited people like us to be with him, to be embraced by him and find their LIFE in him. Jesus also challenged people like us to actually live the LIFE, being shaped into his image, and to do what disciples do, specifically, make other disciples. This is real LIFE!

Wherever you find yourself on this journey of The [Disciple] LIFE, you're invited to lean into this all-encompassing everyday LIFE:

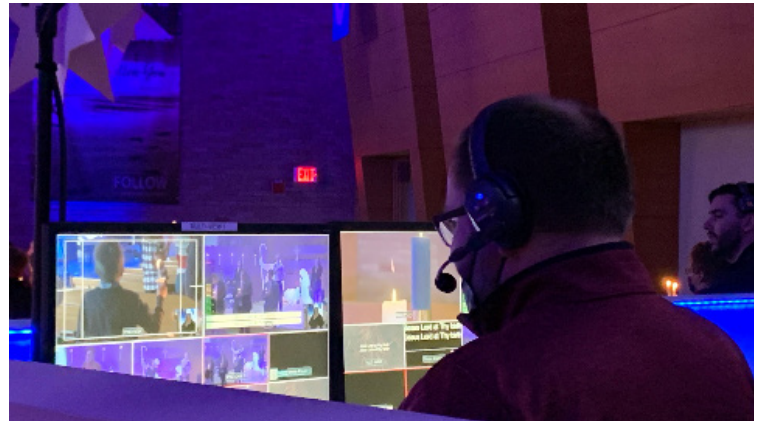
- discovering your identity in Jesus
- becoming more like him
- and helping others do the same!





# Christmas 2021

Thank you to everyone who served, invited friends and family,  
and attended Christmas services!



# January 2022 Calendar

**1 (V) Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study**  
Saturdays, 7:00am  
Contact: Jeff Linert  
651-387-9428

**1 (O) Men's Bible Study**  
Saturdays, 8:00am  
Contact: Pastor Dean  
651-739-5144 x331

**2 (V) Sunday Bible Study**  
Sundays, 9:00am

**3 (V) Monday Men's Study**  
Mondays, 10:45am  
Contact: Pastor Tim  
651-739-5144 x221

**5 (V) Mitten Makers**  
Wednesdays, 12:15pm  
Contact: Lyndis Vander Louw  
651-459-3313

**5 (O, V) Foundations & ROOTS**  
Wednesdays, 6:30pm  
Contact: Lindsey Schmidt  
651-739-5144 x219

**6 (V) Celebrate Recovery**  
Thursdays, 6:30pm  
Contact: Larry Smith  
651-308-9113

**6 (W) Hannah Quilters**  
Thursdays, 9:00am  
Contact: Miriam Kostecki  
651-739-5114

**6 (O) Red Cross Blood Drive**  
Thursday, 1-6:00pm

**7 (W) All Campus Middle School Mania**  
Friday, 6:30-8:00pm  
Contact: Lindsey Schmidt  
651-739-5144 x219

**8 (V) Baptism Class**  
Saturday, 9:30am  
Contact: Rachel Symmank  
651-472-1975

**8 (V) Salvation Army Meat Distribution Event**  
Saturday, 7:30am-5:00pm  
Contact: Mike Sabbann  
651-739-5144 x230

**8 (W) Joyful January: Listening to Immanuel**  
Saturdays, 10:00am  
Contact: Brad Miller  
651-739-5144 x209

**9 (W) Sunday Bible Study**  
Sundays, 10:15am

**9 (O) Sunday Bible Study**  
Sundays, 9:15am

**9 (O, W, V) KidsLINK**  
Sundays, 9:00am  
Contact: Nancy Schubbe  
651-739-5144 x203

**9 (V) KidsLINK**  
Sundays, 10:30am  
Contact: Nancy Schubbe  
651-739-5144 x203

**10 (V) Ladies Gathering Group**  
Mondays, 1:00pm  
Contact: Shirley Mertens  
651-276-7224

**11 (V) Preschool & Kindergarten Open House**  
Tuesday, 4:00pm-5:30pm  
Contact: Sara Mulso  
651-739-5146

**12 (W, V) Women of the Word (WOW)**  
Wednesdays, 9:00am  
Contact: Diana Vander Pas  
651-739-5114 x208

**12 (O) Wednesday Bible Study**  
Wednesdays, 10:00am

**17 (V, O, W) Offices Closed**

**19 (O) Wednesdays on the Hill**  
Wednesdays, 6:00pm

**21 (O) All Campus High School Youth Event**  
Friday, 6:30-8:00pm  
Contact: Sarah Dibbern  
651-739-5144 x332

**23 (O, V) NEXT: Pizza with the Pastor**  
Sunday, 11:45am  
Contact: Brad Miller  
651-739-5144 x209

**23 (W) NEXT: Pizza with the Pastor**  
Sunday, 10:45am  
Contact: Brad Miller  
651-739-5144 x209

**23 (Online) Financial Meeting**  
Sunday, Time TBD

**30 (V) Financial Peace University**  
Sundays, 3:00pm  
Contact: Brad Miller  
651-739-5144 x209

**30 (V) Annual Meeting**  
Sunday, Time TBD

## 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*