

THE NEWS LETTER



January 2020

Strengthening Our Ties with Highwood Hills Elementary School

Do you love kids? Do you want to help local immigrant families succeed? WLC is expanding its role with Highwood Hills Elementary School to include helping kids with homework! We have partnered with the staff and school for several years through the Sheridan Story food program; our volunteers have served the kids at the school faithfully with their time, in just 1 hour each week. We're strengthening our ties with the school because of its need and the potential impact our church can have in the community.

Homework help is provided each Tuesday and Thursday afternoon from 2:00 to 3:00 at the school. The students come from a variety of cultural backgrounds, and in many cases English is not the primary language spoken in their homes. It's likely you will be assisting first generation Americans! You won't need to serve every week (or both days) if your schedule doesn't allow it. What a blessing you can be as their families assimilate into our culture over the coming years. And it's an opportunity to learn about the other cultures that make up our own diverse community.

God created each of us to be in relationships with others. This may be just the opportunity for you to build into the life of a child, educationally and relationally! It's a wonderful role for empty nesters, former educators, retired folks, or maybe for someone just like you! Please contact Mike Sabbann to learn more (651-739-5144 or sabbannm@woodburylutheran.org).

Highwood Hills is only 3 miles west of our Valley Creek campus, not far from the intersection of Lower Afton Road and McKnight Avenue in St. Paul.

**the picture above is of Kindergarten students performing at Highwood Hills*



**WOODBURY
LUTHERAN**

Multiplying Disciples// Transforming Lives

If you have spent time at any of our three campuses, then you have heard the phrase ***Multiplying Disciples//Transforming Lives***. That phrase encapsulates the vision that God has given to us a church to carry out His mission to go and make disciples. What I love about our vision, is that it is the starting place for the ministry of WLC. It is out of the vision that our mission and strategy flow. Think of it this way...

VISION DEPICTS THE FUTURE GOD IS CALLING US TO.

MISSION GUIDES THE CHURCH'S ACTION.

**STRATEGY IS HOW WE WILL ACCOMPLISH OUR MISSION
AND VISION.**



The **Discipleship Path** describes the process that we believe God is using at Woodbury Lutheran to make disciples, people who are becoming more like Jesus, people who...

WORSHIP: gathering with other believers at weekend services and connecting with God through personal prayer.

GROW: joining with other believers in Small Groups and spending time in regular, personal reflection on God's word.

SERVE: using God-given gifts in ministries of the congregation and seeing all serving as being the presence of Jesus in the world.

REACH: outside yourself, inviting others to weekend worship and telling others the story of God's work in your own lives.

As we enter into a New Year, would you pray with me about where God might be calling you to take a Next Step in connecting with the Vision of WLC by walking the Discipleship Path? The staff is ready to get you connected and walk with you. Remember Jesus loves each of us deeply and desires for us to step into the full life of being His disciple. Young or old it is never too late or too early to step more deeply into a relationship with Jesus. What are you waiting for?

Peace,
Pastor Tom

Baptisms:

Gino Shi Ferrara
Peixin Shi
Maxwell Daniel Jorgensen
Vincent Andrew Peterson
Bennett Collin Sauer
Ariana Grace Sauer
Blair Kay Kuehne
Tyler Anthony Printon
Kahleesi Kay Lehman
Addilyn Fehlow Johnson
Calvin Michael Nelson

Deaths:

Jeff Hagen ~ father, Donald

Service Times at WLC:

Saturdays at Valley Creek:
Contemporary, 5pm

Sundays at Valley Creek:
Sanctuary, Blended 8 & 11am
Sanctuary, Contemporary 9:30am

Sundays at Oak Hill:
Blended 9:00am
Contemporary 10:30am

Sundays at Liberty Ridge
Contemporary 10:00am

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7380 Afton Road
Woodbury, MN 55125

Office Hours:
Mon. - Thurs.: 9am-4pm
Friday: 9am-3pm

Phone: (651) 739-5144
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Website: www.woodburylutheran.org



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 Tuesday, December 10th 2019 6:30am - 8:00am	
Call to Order & Quorum Determination	
Devotions/Prayer	
Consent Agenda	Approval
<ul style="list-style-type: none">November Meeting MinutesNovember Financial Report	
Information	Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Senior Pastor report2020 Budget Draft	
Discussion	Discussion
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Liberty Ridge Permanent Home Project - Update and Next StepsEndowments - Direction and Next StepsArticle on Leadership and Church Size Dynamics - Council reactionTransition of Heidi Hove from Council - Recommendations for replacementAnnual & Budget Meetings - Proposed time change and venue considerations	
Closing Prayer	
Adjourn	

Meeting Highlights:

- As we look ahead to 2020 the budget will be based roughly on 2019 actual giving.
- The Liberty Ridge Action Team has had several meetings and looks forward to updating the congregation at our annual meeting in January.
- The Endowment Team back up and meeting as we work toward a new strategy around legacy and long term giving for WLC.
- We discussed a great article by Pastor Tim Keller ([Click Here](#)) discussing the dynamics around church size and decision making. It is a very informative read and is helpful to better understand why we have had to make some of the changes around governance and structure that we have as we have grown at WLC.
- The annual budget meeting will remain at the same time and will be held January 19th following the 11am service on our Valley Creek Campus. The Annual Meeting will be the following Sunday, but at 4 PM to help make the meeting more accessible to all of our campuses.

Campus Updates from Liberty Ridge & Oak Hill



LIBERTY RIDGE UPDATES

Here are some quick updates from our Liberty Ridge Campus:

- Attendance for 2019 is up over 10% at the Liberty Ridge Campus! We are so thankful for what God is doing at Liberty Ridge.
- This month, the 99th child/adult was registered for baptism at WLC. We were able to celebrate that baptism in December at Liberty Ridge. We are so excited that we've been able to be part of what God is doing at baptism!
- We had an awesome Kids and Youth Christmas Program at Liberty Ridge on December 15. The kids retold the Christmas account, shared their Christmas artwork and sang songs. Youth read, served as musicians, ushers, and door greeters. It was a great time for the children to help lead worship for our community!
- Did you know? Almost every Thursday Pastor Jon hangs out in the morning at Dunn Brothers in Woodbury to connect and pray with people (he even buys people coffee!). If you want to connect, drop by or send him an email at kuehnej@woodburylutheran.org.
- The church council has a Ministry Action Team to explore options for a permanent future for the Liberty Ridge Campus. This is an exciting time! Please pray that God would open the doors that need to be opened and close the ones that need to be closed. Questions? Contact Council member Troy Wenck, Council President Renee Boeheme, Pastor Jon, or Pastor Tom.
- We continue to celebrate what God is doing at the Liberty Ridge Campus and we pray that He would bless us to be a blessing to the many people that live near the campus.



OAK HILL UPDATES

Here are some quick updates from our Oak Hill Campus:

- What a wonderful December. The Holy Spirit has been moving powerfully at our Oak Hill Campus. We had an incredible time at our Living Nativity and were certainly blessed by all who braved the cold to attend. Over 200 people were in attendance to watch the Christmas story come to life!
- We also enjoyed having the first youth performance for the Living Nativity! The youth braved the cold like good ole' Minnesotans and we were so proud of them!
- The youth group celebrated Christmas together on December 18th with cookie decorating and game playing. We are so thankful for how much our youth love to be in community with each other! They fully embody the WLC value of "life is done better together."
- Our first ever Lay Reader workshop, led by Alicia Leemkul, was held in December. This was such a blessing to enhance our readers' confidence and excellence in declaring the Word of God.
- We resume youth programming on January 8 with our annual Iron Chef Brownie bake-off. Say a prayer for the stomachs of our judges as they get to judge unique brownies prepared by our youth. Our Kids LINK starts up again Jan. 5.
- We continue to celebrate what God is doing at the Oak Hill Campus and we pray that He would bless us to be a blessing to the many people that live near the campus.



Campus Update from Valley Creek

Here are some quick updates from our Valley Creek Campus:

- The Valley Creek campus hosted Christmas MasterPEACE, the All Campus Woodbury Lutheran Family-Fun Christmas Celebration on December 6. It was a wonderful evening of music and fellowship. We're so thankful for the skills of our musicians and technical arts folks for putting together a wonderful evening.
- Woodbury Lutheran Preschool held a Christmas MasterPEACE concert on Sunday, December 8. A packed sanctuary heard the good news of Jesus' birth from our Preschool students partnering with our worship department. We're thankful for our Preschool, the staff who teach and care for our children so well, the parents who have chosen to send their kids through our Program, and our congregation for its support of this incredible program.
- Youth Ministry held an all-campus Christmas celebration at Valley Creek on December 11. Middle and High school students from all three campuses came together for fun and worship and a celebration of Jesus, the light of the world.
- The month of December has seen our admin and custodial staffs working hard to prepare for Advent and Christmas. We're so thankful for such dedicated people who make it possible for all our events to take place!
- We continue to celebrate what God is doing at the Valley Creek Campus and we pray that He would bless us to be a blessing to the many people that live near the campus.



Join Us For NEXT!

At Woodbury Lutheran church we're serious about growing together as a community of believers. We are striving for a robust sense of community here, because life is better together. Our Lord has made us a "holy people"—a holy community.

So it's important that we focus on growing into that reality. Our primary on-ramp into deeper connection with the community here is a thing called NEXT.

NEXT is a 90-minute time to share a meal and learn more about the Woodbury Lutheran community, concluding with a concrete invitation into your next step. You'll hear from your campus pastor about his own story and how we walk together as disciples of Jesus at WLC.

Then you'll hear from two other folks: one sharing about how serving on a ministry team (think tech booth, greeter, usher, etc.) has been a blessing to them. And another person will talk about how impactful their experience in a small group has been.

Before you leave NEXT, you'll get an invitation to say *"I want to be a part of this"*—for either serving, or small groups (or both!). And we'll all start working together to make it happen.

At Valley Creek, NEXT is happening on Sunday, February 9th after morning services.

At Oak Hill, NEXT will happen in early March after Sunday morning services.

If you attend Liberty Ridge and you're interested in taking your next step into the life of this community, please approach Pastor Jon to discuss what your next steps might be.





A Conversation About Faith Starting Point

Starting Point is for people who are brand-new to Christianity, are processing things after having been away from church for a while, or just have questions or doubts about faith and spirituality. You're invited to a conversational environment where you can explore faith and experience real community.

What is Starting Point? Starting Point (SP) is an 8-week gathering where questions about God turn into conversations about faith.

When is it?

- Sunday evenings, starting January 12. The 8 weeks concludes on March 8 (skipping Feb. 2, Super Bowl Sunday)
- 6:30 to 8pm
- Meeting in the Fireside Room at the Valley Creek Campus
- Light snacks and beverages will be served

Maybe you know someone OR you could ask God to bring someone to mind who might find this helpful? Why not invite someone you know to this or even sign up with them!

- Register [here](#)
- For more information contact Brad Miller at millerb@woodburylutheran.org
- Pick up an invitation card at the Connection Center

Caring for Our Missionaries

Adding Barnabas Teams

"You will do well to send them on their journey in a manner worthy of God. For they have gone out for the sake of the name, accepting nothing from the Gentiles. Therefore we ought to support people like these, that we may be fellow workers for the truth." - 3 John 6b-8

Since 2017, Woodbury Lutheran Church has been in the process of reforming how our church engages in the Great Commission internationally through our sent and supported missionaries and organizations. An October 2018 newsletter article highlighted some of those changes. This has included a change in policy around who makes the decisions about support for missionaries and organizations, the creation of a new template that guides the financial support decisions made by representatives of WLC, addition of staff to Coordinate REACH (Mike Sabbann) and hiring a Director of Discipleship & Reach (Brad Miller). The previous Mission Board became the Missionary Care Team for a period of time. That group no longer meets formally. In its place, our church is in the process of forming Barnabas Teams. These are small teams of people connected with ONE of our missionaries (single, couple or family). We are currently forming these teams for all missionaries sent from WLC and/or who have a deep relational base in our church because of ongoing partnership through our short term team ministry.

What is a Barnabas Team?

A Barnabas Team is a small group (six to twelve) of committed people who come together to care for and encourage our global partners in a variety of ways: relational, emotional, spiritual & practical. It is a group of people with whom the global partner can be open and honest, allowing them to share successes and defeats and to see needs. At this point, WLC expects to grow a Barnabas Team for each of the workers sent out by WLC (i.e., WLC is their sending church.)

What does a Barnabas Team do?

A Barnabas Team works together with the REACH Team to care for, on behalf of, and represent the global partner to you, the larger body of Christ at Woodbury Lutheran.

This team meets together monthly & online with the global worker(s), prays for them regularly & connects with them outside of that time as needed.

We're excited that we currently have one pilot Barnabas Team that has just begun meeting. We anticipate other teams forming in the months ahead.

Barnabas Teams are formed from people whom the worker and/or the REACH Team has identified as having shown an unusual amount of interest and connection to the missionary and their work. If you have a special interest in one or more of our workers or would like more information about Barnabas Teams at WLC, contact Brad Miller or Mike Sabbann.





WLC Value In Action Short-Term Teams 2020

Get out and get connected to what God is doing around the world!!

We have the privilege of building relationships, pouring into, serving, helping, encouraging and joining missionaries and ministries that are impacting lives and building God's Kingdom!

Robin's Nest-Jamaica (March) // Kake Alaska (July) // Quito Ecuador (July)



Launch weekend - Registration opens January 18/19, 2020

Contact Brad Miller for more information: millerb@woodburylutheran.org



WLC Value In Action

Grow Opportunities for Women at Woodbury Lutheran

We believe that God changes us as we open scripture in community with others who are learning to follow Jesus. No registration is required...just come...and bring a friend!!

Monday Morning Women of the Word (WOW) at the Oak Hill Campus

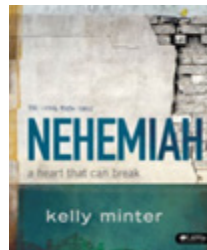
Mondays- 9am – Starting again January 6. Finishing “Even If” a study of the Psalms through January. Facilitated by Jane Dibbern. Coming in February: “It’s Not Supposed to Be This Way”, written by Lysa TerKeurst.

Wednesday Morning Women of the Word (WOW) at the Valley Creek Campus

Wednesdays - 9am - Every week, starting again January 8

- 9:00-9:15 Opening together, worship and devotion
- 9:15-11:15 Classes (descriptions below)
- Child care and help with book cost is available during the WOW morning group

Five Classes Starting January 8:



Beginning Seven Sessions January 8

Nehemiah: A heart that can break, by Kelly Minter. Facilitated by Diane Panning

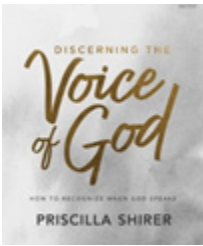
Nehemiah’s heart was so broken for those in need that he left the comfort of his Persian palace to help them. This study challenges women to let God break their hearts for a hurting, lost world and move them in compassion to lead people to Jesus. Nehemiah is a video-based study including real-life ways to put feet to your faith. Are you ready to let God break your heart for a hurting, lost world and move you in compassion to be the hands and feet of Jesus?



Beginning Six Sessions January 8

It's Not Supposed to Be This Way: Finding Unexpected Strength When Disappointments Leave You Shattered, by Lysa TerKeurst. Facilitated by Vicki Strong

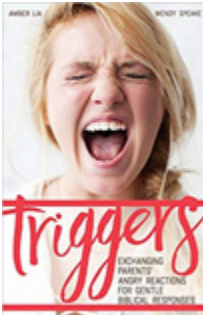
What went wrong? Why did God let this happen? Reality often ends up so very far from the life we long for, doesn't it? By walking through her own valley, Lysa TerKeurst discovered that in God we can find unexpected strength as we wrestle well between our faith and feelings. This six-session video Bible study offers a safe place to share your disappointments, fresh biblical insights to get you through painful situations, and life-giving perspectives for living in between Eden and eternity.



Beginning Seven Sessions January 8

Discerning the Voice of God, by Priscilla Shirer. Facilitated by Staci Becker

Through this 7 session DVD study, discover the root to clear and daily communication with God - humble obedience. Learn how surrender unlocks His many blessings intended for us, centers us in His will, and helps us discern His voice in everyday life.



Finishing Four Sessions January 8 - January 29

Triggers: Exchanging Parents' Angry Reactions for Gentle Biblical Responses, by Amber Lia and Wendy Speake. Facilitated by Joy Ostrom

THIS CLASS IS SPECIFICALLY FOR YOUNG MOMS Do you believe your struggle with anger stems from the wrong behavior you see displayed in your children? The knee-jerk reactions and blow-ups you're facing are often a result of a bigger set of "triggers." Some of these are external, like a child's disobedience, backtalk, or selective hearing, while others are internal, like an overflowing schedule, sleep-deprivation, or perhaps your own painful experiences from childhood. The study offers biblical insight and practical tools to equip and encourage you on the journey away from anger-filled reactions toward gentle, biblical responses.



Beginning February 5 - a new study for young mom's. Facilitated by Joy Ostrom

Finishing Three Sessions January 8 - January 22

The Book of Mark from "Shepherd's Notes" Series. Facilitated by Marty Otterson



Beginning January 29, 2020

The Book of Luke from "Shepherd's Notes" Series. Facilitated by Marty Otterson

Shepherd's Notes are designed to give you a quick, step-by-step overview of each book of the Bible. They are not meant to be substituted for the biblical text; rather, they are study guides intended to help you explore the wisdom of Scripture in personal group study or group study and to apply that wisdom successfully in your own life.



Beginning February 26, 2020

Jonah: Navigating a Life Interrupted, by Priscilla Shirer. Facilitated by Lauren Danner

Interruptions. They're aggravating. Sometimes infuriating. But how we handle interruptions actually tell us more about ourselves. What do we do when God interrupts our lives? Many times, like Jonah, we run! Priscilla redefines interruption in this video-based study and shows that interruption is actually God's invitation to do something beyond our wildest dreams. When Jonah was willing to allow God to interrupt his life, the result was revival in an entire city.

Did You Find Joy this Holiday Season?

It can be difficult for some of us to find joy in the holiday season. Was this your experience this year? Sometimes joy isn't found as much as it is chosen. And sometimes the circumstances and memories are just too painful to even go there.

If this speaks to you – come join us at Celebrate Recovery on Thursday night. Here you will find a supportive community to help you on your journey to finding the joy you desire. It is a safe place and you will find new friends to walk alongside you as you process the circumstances that are robbing you of your joy.

God understands our hurts and our pain. However, He doesn't want us to be alone in it. Hope to see you on Thursday night.

- **Dinner served in the Paul Room from 5:30 to 6:15**
- **Worship at 6:30, Small Group at 7:30 and Solid Rock Café at 8:30!**
- **For further information and contacts please visit our website at: <https://www.woodburylutheran.org/resources-media/support/celebrate-recovery/>**





ON YOUR WAY TO PRESCHOOL?

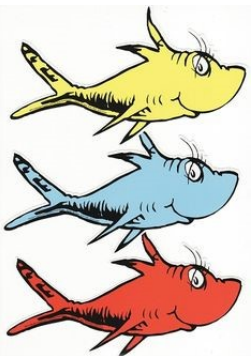
come visit us!

OPEN HOUSE AND FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Tuesday, January 14th

5:30pm-7:00pm

**New Family Enrollment Opens
for 2020-2021 School Year!**



**Visit Our
Classrooms
& Meet Our Staff**

Games—Crafts—Treats

*See how our program can best
meet your family's needs!*

**Dinner Served from
5:30-6:30**



***Pizza
Salad or
Applesauce
& Dessert***

*\$5 per person with a
max of \$20 per family*

**Please invite your
friends and
neighbors to join
us for this event!**



**7380 Afton Road
Woodbury, MN 55125**

**Preschool.woodburylutheran.org
mulsos@woodburylutheran.org**

651-739-5146

w e e k e n d s e r m o n s e r i e s

BAD ADVICE



Bad Advice

DATE RANGE :: 01.05.20 - .01.26.20

It seems like everybody is ready to give us advice and frankly some of it isn't very good. What if instead of just advice, this year we were given the gift of God's direction in some of the most important areas of our everyday lives. Join us for *Bad Advice* and let the good news of Jesus shape your life!

Week #1 | January 4/5

- Title :: **You Should look like this...**
- Readings
 - Primary Reading :: **Daniel 1:8-17**; Key Verse :: **Daniel 1:8**
 - Secondary Reading :: **1 Corinthians 15:51-56**

Sermon Concept

The culture around teaches us what our bodies should look like and what makes certain bodies more valuable than others. Some religions teach that our bodies are something that we are meant to escape from. The Bible teaches us that our bodies are gifts that will one day be restored to perfection when Jesus comes again. I wonder if the way we followed Jesus would be changed if we lived believing the truth that our physical bodies matter?

WLC Value

We Value Each Person: Come as you are

Living It Out

What is one step you can take to better care for your body in the upcoming year? Share your answer with a friend or someone who will encourage and challenge you along the way.

Week #2 | January 11/12

- Title :: **You Should just be Happy...**
- Readings
 - Primary Reading :: **1 Kings 19:1-9**; Key Verse :: **1 Kings 19:4**

- Secondary Reading :: **Philippians 4:4-9**

Sermon Concept

From the beginning of time and even in the Bible we see all sorts of people who deal with mental illness. David battled deep despair (Psalm 38:4, Psalm 42:11). Elijah was discouraged and afraid (1 Kings 19:4). Jonah was angry (Jonah 4:3, 9). Throughout all the loss he experienced Job wondered why he was even born (Job 3:11, 26). Jeremiah was lonely and insecure (Jeremiah 20:14, 20:18). God never promises to take away our suffering and yet even in all the bad advice that we are given He promises to be with us in it (Psalm 34:18, John 16:33).

WLC Values

We Value Compassionate Care: Bringing Hope to the Hurting

Living It Out

Each day this week pray specifically for those who are struggling with mental illness. If you find yourself struggling, take the step of talking to someone who can help guide you to get the help you need. Do not hesitate to contact one of your pastors, we are here for you.

Week #3 | January 18/19

- Title :: **You Should be better with money...**
- Readings
 - Primary Reading :: **Matthew 15:14-30**; Key Verse :: **Matthew 15:29**
 - Secondary Reading :: **Acts 20:32-37**

Sermon Concept

It is January and all the Holiday bills are rolling in and needing to be paid off, can you feel your stress growing? Even Jesus understood the stress of Holiday bills which is why He talked about money so much, not because He wants to take it from you, but He wants you to understand its purpose so that you can better live of fulfillment and joy. What if it truly is better to give than receive? And if so how can we order our finances in such a way that whether rich or poor we can be generous.

WLC Values

We Value Movement: Faith Doesn't Stand Still

Living It Out

If you are struggling financially consider taking Dave Ramsey's *Financial Peace University* (for more information contact Karl Grant). If your finances are in order, have you taken the next step of writing your will and considering your legacy giving (for more information on how to do this talk to Pastor Tom).

Week #4 | January 25/26

- Title :: **You Should be more relevant...**
- Readings
 - Primary Reading :: **John 1:14-18 (NIV)**; Key Verse :: **John 1:14**
 - Secondary Reading :: **Acts 2:42-47**

Sermon Concept

The news concerning the state of the Church in the United States does not look good. In our own denomination in the last 5 years alone we have lost more than 400,000 members, nearly half of our congregations did not baptize a single person in the last year and our Seminary classes are as small as they have ever been. What does this all mean for Woodbury Lutheran and where God is leading us into the future?

WLC Value

We Value Relationships: Life is Better Together

Living It Out

How can you take a Next Step in the support of the ministry of your church this year? Here are a few ideas: step into a serving role, pray daily for unity in the body, change your attitude from griping to positive, be generous in your giving, send the staff a note of encouragement.

doing OUR PART

"It's not fair!" My seven-year-old stood, hands on her hips, glaring at her older brother. "He took the last granola bar," she shouted, "and I was going to take that in my lunch tomorrow!" With six children at home, the number of times a day I hear, "It's not fair" rivals the number of times I hear, "Mom, where is my ...?"

Children have an innate sense of justice. They are acutely aware of how many cookies are in the jar, whether a sister finished her chores before going out to play, and who got to choose the movie for family night last time. But have you ever noticed that a child's focus on justice is one-sided? I mean, you probably have never heard your child complain, "I think you have given my sister the harder job, Mom. I would like to offer to help her with her chores. After all, it's only fair!"

Children aren't the only ones who cry, "It's not fair!" Sometimes it is the injustice we see in the world that ignites our passion. Human trafficking, poverty, abuse, and a host of other crises can bring us to our knees in prayer and compel us to take action to alleviate the suffering of others. Sometimes it is close to home: a serious illness, losing a child, a divorce. "It's not supposed to be like this," we remind God. And standing with our hands on our hips, like my seven-year-old, we protest, "It's not fair!"

And yet how often do we protest against the blessings that we enjoy every day? How often do we remind God that it isn't fair that He sent His own Son to take our place, to pay the penalty of sin so we could enjoy fellowship with our Creator for all eternity? God is a God of justice and mercy. We can receive His mercy with gratitude and trust His justice with the things we don't understand. Then we can do our part.

1. ACT JUSTLY

Instead of focusing on injustice toward ourselves, measuring how others are treating us, we are told to act justly. To do what is right. We can take opportunities to model this for our children, being aware of others and treating them considerately. Our prayers can reflect this as we pray with our children about injustices they encounter.

2. LOVE MERCY

Acting justly toward others gives us a chance to practice mercy. Who doesn't love to be shown mercy? Justice without mercy lacks the transforming power of love. But together, justice and mercy reflect God's nature.

3. WALK HUMBLY WITH YOUR GOD

When we pray from a position of humility, we remember who God is and what He requires of us and what He will enable us to do and to teach our children: acting justly, loving mercy, and walking humbly with God.

PARENTS

Choose an area of injustice and pray with your children for God's mercy to bring change.

by Debbie Cox

Debbie is a mother of six, from newborn to nearly graduated. She loves to dance, take long walks, enjoy the beauty of God's creation, read great books with her children, and discover ways to live a simple, healthy life. Her seasons of marriage and motherhood have caused her to draw closer to Jesus and find His grace really is sufficient! Finding joy in the moment and significance in the mundane, Debbie endeavors to live with a vision of eternity.

Taken from the January 2020 HomeFront Monthly Newsletter.

January Birthdays

1	Greg Jensen PJ Johnson Ellise Krypel Jane Ogren Lisa Schaefer Evangelyne Souza	8	Amanda Ramin Karl Stensvad Livia Vislisl Kris Amundson Noah Heintz Amy Huebner	14	Spenser Arneson Mindy Follett Everett Jurek Marlys Parker Jenna Severson Katie Young	21	Gwen Froseth Abby Krueger John Mitterholzer Dick Rowan Alex Schuenke Mary Jo Young	26	Jane Dibbern Gary Halleen Greg Lewis Rachel Mergens Scott Meyer Hudson Peltier
2	Amanda Aalderks Julie Nelson Matt Noblett Kimberlee Seltz Amy Wutke William Young		Angie Lauderbaugh Doug Mackey Tim Nelson Donna Retter Mike Rosin Nancy Schubbe	15	Reese Brandt Anthony Conant Kristin Esboldt Jim Hayden Cheryl Hohenstien Tanner Johnson Hazel Phillipson	22	Deborah Burandt Grace Bystrycki Angie Crane Janet Erickson Marco Howard Phil Johnson Max Meyer Mady Parker	27	Liam Powell Andrew Rhoades Jamie Anderson Brooke Bunge Alexandra Finnegan Judy Goetsch Maya IntVeld Horst Kraft Mila Lottering Jenni Panek
3	Sang Albrecht Aaron Everson Grace Hafner Jake Hasapopoulos Izzy Kordosky Natalie Lewis	9	Jennifer Alford-Beck Penelope Begnaud Bev Faust Sara Kowalke Emma Perl Georgiana Rothchild	16	Liam Powell, Jr. Shirley Rubbert Gabriella Tyler Margaret Claugherty Reagan Esboldt Juli Feldkamp Alyssa Meyer	23	Robin Brown Gavin Browning Mike Huber Tom Nelson Dustin Nystel Lindsey Weiler Brett Corrigan Lee Fischer Joyce Jenkins	28	Michael Steffen Grayson Young Elijah Cronin Brenda Haut Bryan Hughes Paul Johnson Alexandra Leonard Madeline Lorence Kevin Stifter Nancy Hoffman Joel Mohlenhoff Tammy Price Delana Searles Emily Thommes
4	Lynne Blass Joe Droel Brian Fong Samuel Howard Lily Juliano Chase Klusmann Jessica McMahon Hannah Mewhorter Eric Perry Jack Usalis	10	Adam Voth Louis Bernier Angela Coffey Trenton Lutterman Timothy Olson Bailey Perryman Nolan Salzman Steve Schach Hal Schmidt Elaine Schlenner	17	Charlotte Everson Avery Horacek Regina Kehl Owen Kreutzfeldt Joseph Mahlke Gayla Pleggenkuhle Connor Price Parker Goerlitz Kaye Montgomery Bob Petrich Rick Petrich Anna Pillman Gordon Spindler Joann Willhite	24	Ben Lower Aaron Stadt Mary Jean Bannert Geoff Boyd Tony Boyd Rachel Brocker Eric Helander Aiden Johnson Parker Knutson Ray Merle Sue Meyer Eleanor Morrison Elijah Nystel Marlene Otterson Angie Spates Teri Trachy	29	Grayson Young Elijah Cronin Brenda Haut Bryan Hughes Paul Johnson Alexandra Leonard Madeline Lorence Kevin Stifter Nancy Hoffman Joel Mohlenhoff Tammy Price Delana Searles Emily Thommes Phyl Burger Barb Dunn Kyle Engen Shirley Engen Chuck Jones Brian Herian Toni Lindahl Joel Mba-Ngu'e Stephanie Ruzich Jeff Schaefer Marnie Andrews Bev Hintz Leah Huebner Natalie Klasinski Brad Miller Abigail Wiebe
5	Blake Boehme Emma Cloose Ross Dahlin Julie Duffy Lori Golden Krista Hobot Nate Jones Jacqueline Konop Melia Mackey Joshua Peterson Donna Peters Bob Zick	11	Scott Zuehlke Gunnar Edlund Janet Jacobson Melissa Larsen Rhoda Pfotenhauer Renee Schneider Samantha Schumaker Jack Anderson Jyl Dunavan Debbie Eddy Grace Lavers Leroy Longworth Mavis McGorman Jacob Rome Alayna Scibak	18	Bob Petrich Rick Petrich Anna Pillman Gordon Spindler Joann Willhite Lucia Drevlow John Eineke Susan Gerver Kate Groth Milan Hruby Cristian Link Emmit Luther Ethan Bloom Jill Colton Joslyn Fitzgerald David Frost	25	Ben Lower Aaron Stadt Mary Jean Bannert Geoff Boyd Tony Boyd Rachel Brocker Eric Helander Aiden Johnson Parker Knutson Ray Merle Sue Meyer Eleanor Morrison Elijah Nystel Marlene Otterson Angie Spates Teri Trachy Don Arndt Gavin Bertram Fanny Daniels Harry Gurrola Melody Haines Mary Matasovsky Bill Rengstorf Rosemary Tongen Mark Willie	30	Barb Dunn Kyle Engen Shirley Engen Chuck Jones Brian Herian Toni Lindahl Joel Mba-Ngu'e Stephanie Ruzich Jeff Schaefer Marnie Andrews Bev Hintz Leah Huebner Natalie Klasinski Brad Miller Abigail Wiebe
6	Lainie Bailen Barrett Rothchild Joseph Seltz Joe Bradshaw Cheryl Butz Julia Cordes Carolyn Howard Jenhua Juan Ann Lavers Thomas Pashina	12	Jack Anderson Jyl Dunavan Debbie Eddy Grace Lavers Leroy Longworth Mavis McGorman Jacob Rome Alayna Scibak Linda Wilford Sarah Yonkovich Lainey Anderson	19	Lucia Drevlow John Eineke Susan Gerver Kate Groth Milan Hruby Cristian Link Emmit Luther Ethan Bloom Jill Colton Joslyn Fitzgerald David Frost	25	Don Arndt Gavin Bertram Fanny Daniels Harry Gurrola Melody Haines Mary Matasovsky Bill Rengstorf Rosemary Tongen Mark Willie	31	Leah Huebner Natalie Klasinski Brad Miller Abigail Wiebe
7		13		20					

and Anniversaries

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



Worship

HEALING SERVICE

Our Healing Service is held at the Valley Creek Campus every third Sunday. For prayers of healing, attend our service on January 19 at 12:15pm, in room 1-250 (VC Fireside). Questions, call Pastor Tim at 651-739-5144.

MAKING GENEROSITY SIMPLE!

We love to be innovative here at WLC. We are always looking for ways to make life a little easier for you. With that, earlier this year we began a partnership with Pushpay, a great new system for our on-line giving. We are excited about how this new giving solution is providing a simpler and more engaging experience for you. For more information, go to: give.woodburylutheran.org. Or text "WLCGIVE" to 77977 and get set up today! If you have questions, please contact Sunny Marshall at marshalls@woodburylutheran.org.

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!

STOCK DONATIONS

There are many different ways we can donate our time, talents and treasures to Woodbury Lutheran Church. One way some members choose to donate is through the transfer or donation of stocks. A donation form is located by the welcome desk. If you have questions or want more information on how to donate stock, please contact Trecie Horner at 651-731-3349.

IS STEPHEN MINISTRY FOR YOU?

This "caring" ministry provides confidential, one-to-one, Christian care to those who are experiencing difficult life chal-

lenges. Need someone to talk with? At Valley Creek, contact Larry W. (men) 651-458-0147, or Linda W. (women) 651-458-0147. For other information: Shirley M. 651-276-7224.

WLC CHURCH APP

Did you know that Woodbury Lutheran has an app! Check out recent sermons, worship with us "live" at 9:30 & 11:00am, find information on service times, the weekly Scripture card, access myWLC, give your offering online and more! Get connected by searching for "Woodbury Lutheran Church" in your app store.



Grow

SMALL GROUPS

Small Groups are one of the ways that God draws us to deeper connection with Him and with others who are learning to follow Him.

- NEW small groups are forming this fall
- Some existing small groups are welcoming new people

Connect with Diana Vander Pas for more information at vanderpasd@woodburylutheran.org.

MN CROSSROADS CAREER NETWORK - WOODBURY

We welcome Nicole Middendorf as she presents, "Live Life to the Fullest" on January 9, at 7pm, room 1-250 (VC). For more information about this event and MN Crossroads Career Network, check out the website at mncrossroads.com.

WEDNESDAY YOUTH PROGRAMMING

Wednesday night ministries for 6th-12th meets at the VC and OH campuses (LR youth attend at VC) from 6:30-8:15pm. We meet on Wednesdays for games at 6pm, Bible teaching at 6:30pm, and then small group community. Register online: wlc youth.org. There will be no small group programming on January 1, we resume on Jan. 8. Happy New Year.

SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH PROGRAMMING

- Liberty Ridge Sunday Donut and Devotions meets on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month.
- Oak Hill Sunday Youth Bible Study gather at 9:15 am in the youth room (1-106).
- Valley Creek Sunday Small Group is available at 11am for students who aren't available on Wednesday nights.
- Bible and Friends class for youth with special needs, 9:30-10:30am in room 1-301 (VC).

ALL CAMPUS MIDDLE SCHOOL MANIA

Join us at the Oak Hill Campus: 6:30-8:30pm on Friday, January 3. We're going to be playing indoor fun games in the dark! 6-8th graders from all campuses won't want to miss it! Free! Friends welcome.

VC/LR ROOTS & OH BROWNIE BAKE OFF (9TH-12TH)

The Annual Youth Brownie Bake Off will be happening during Wednesday night small groups on January 8 and 15, 6:30-8:15pm! VC/LR bake off is during ROOTS at VC campus and during all small groups at OH campus. Bring a delicious or unique ingredient to make some incredibly memorable brownies with friends on Jan. 8! Then watch as our panel of pastors and youth leaders sample your creations on Jan. 15! It's always fun! Hope to see you there.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

Registration is now open for our Family First Communion class (6th-12th). Go to wlc youth.org to sign up. Classes begin in February/March on Sundays (OH) & Tuesdays (VC).

WINTER CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

Students who are planning to confirm their faith on February 29/March 1 be sure to complete the THREE sign up forms at wlc youth.org by January/February dates requested. We need your completed online registration by January 19 if you plan to confirm that weekend. Contact Lindsey Schmidt at schmidtL@woodburylutheran.org if you have any questions or to register for

Getting Connected

your confirmation celebration interview. Save the date: Saturday, February 29, 9:30-11:30am, Confirmation brunch for students, parents & loved ones. We will take pictures, rehearse, and have a blessing and prayer service.

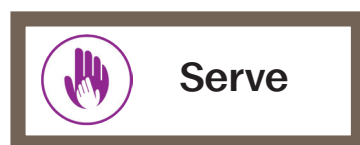
CONFIRMATION JOURNEY

What is Confirmation Journey? A year long, devotion led, family-based experience for students (7th-12th grades) designed to prepare to publicly confirm their faith in Jesus as their Lord and Savior. This process is for mature students who want to explore their personal relationship with Jesus and grow in their understanding of what it looks like to be a disciple of Jesus for a lifetime. The process involves Worshiping, Growing, Serving, and Reaching (sharing their faith with others) and is a great opportunity for students who want to personalize their faith and grow as a disciple. To set up a meeting to start your confirmation journey contact Lindsey Schmidt at schmidt@woodburylutheran.org. Next Confirmation weekend is February 29/ March 1.



HOPE FOR THE JOURNEY HOME

A shelter in Oakdale serving homeless families is seeking volunteers. To be eligible to serve in this safe, family friendly environment you will need to have completed a Safe Church training and have a criminal background check. For details or to sign up contact Trish Brokman (651-503-3380) or go to: guardian-angels.org/hope.



SHORT TERM MISSION TRIPS!

Have you considered living out the Discipleship path through missions? Join a

WLC Short-Term Mission Experience in 2018:

- Robin's Nest, Jamaica - March
- Quito, Ecuador - July
- Kake, Alaska - July

Registration opens January 18/19, 2020. Contact Brad Miller with more information at millerb@woodburylutheran.org.

YOUTH SUMMER MISSION EXPERIENCE (6TH-12TH)

High School (HS) Summer Mission Experience will be June 12-19, 2020 for 8th-12th graders. We will be going to Idaho! Contact Patrick Brewer with questions. Middle School (MS) Summer Mission Experience will be July 19-24, 2020 for 6th-8th graders. We will be going to Duluth, MN! More information and registration at wlc-youth.org. Space is limited, especially the MS trip, sign up soon! Contact Lindsey Schmidt with questions.

HEARTS AND HANDS MENTORS

Like to meet interesting people? Help us share the love of Jesus with individuals who have developmental disabilities by being a mentor at our monthly outreach events. (September-March/Valley Creek). Simply be a friend. Join in. Have fun. A great service opportunity for individuals, small groups or families. No experience necessary. We will train you. You will be blessed by the experience. Contact Jeanne Dicke 651-704-9464 or Steve and Donna Retter 651-739-5326, to learn more.

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 tskarl@comcast.net for more info on how to be connected with this ministry.

EAGER HANDS QUILTERS

We are seeking volunteers who enjoy sewing to sew and assemble quilts for the Salvation Army on Tuesday mornings

at the Valley Creek Campus. If interested, please contact Delores Fitzgerald at 651-738-1812.

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.

CHRISTIAN CLOSET

A clothing ministry of Woodbury Lutheran Church. The closet is open every Friday 8:30am-12pm, at the VC Campus. All clothing is free to those in need in our community. We accept donations of clean seasonal clothing (all ages), shoes, bed linens, towels and blankets (please no more hangers and if possible smaller bags to minimize lifting weight for volunteers). Donation tax receipts are available. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Gloria Johnson at 651-253-5416.

January 2020 Calendar

1 (L, O, V) Offices Closed for New Year's Day

Wednesday, All Day

2 (V) Celebrate Recovery

Thursdays, 6:30pm

Contact: Larry Smith,
651-308-9113

3 (V) Christian Closet

Fridays, 8:30am

Contact: Gloria Johnson,
651-253-5416

6 (V) Monday Men's Bible Study

Mondays, 10:45am

Contact: Pastor Tim,
651-739-5144 x221

6 (V) Monday Afternoon Women's Ministry

Mondays, 12:00pm

Contact: Tamara Karlstrand,
651-734-3974

6 (O) Women of the Word

Mondays, 9:30am

Contact: Jane Dibbern,
612-239-0258

7 (V) Salvation Army Quilters

Tuesdays, 9:00am

Contact: Delores Fitzgerald,
651-738-1812

7 (V) Pastor's Bible Study

Tuesdays, 2:00pm

Contact: Karl Grant,
651-739-5144 x241

8 (O) Pastor's Bible Study

Wednesdays, 10:00am

Contact: Vicar Quincy,
651-739-5144 x223

8 (V) Women of the Word

Wednesdays, 9:15am

Contact: Brad Miller,
651-739-5144 x209

8 (V) Mitten Ladies

Wednesdays, 12:15pm

Contact: Lyndis Vander Louw,
(651) 459-3313

9 (V) Crossroads Career Network - Woodbury

Thursday, 7:00pm

Contact: Tom Colosimo,
612-386-3715

11 (O) Men's Bible Study

Saturdays, 8:00am

Contact: Vicar Dean,
651-739-5144 x331

11 (V) Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study

Saturdays, 7:00am

Contact: Jeff Linert,
651-387-9428

11 (V) Baptism Class

Saturday, 9:30am

Contact: Rachel Symmank,
651-472-1975

14 (V) WL Preschool Open House Event

Tuesday, 6:00pm

Contact: Sara Mulso,
651-739-5144

20 (L, O, V) Offices Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Monday, All Day

THE NEWS LETTER

Want more events?

Visit woodburylutheran.ccbchurch.com

Valley Creek Campus (V)
7380 Afton Road
Woodbury, MN 55125

Oak Hill Campus (O)
9050 60th Street North
Stillwater, MN 55082

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

St. Croix Campus (S)
Afton, MN 55001

(651) 739-5144

Visit us on the web at
www.woodburylutheran.org

Multiplying Disciples // Transforming Lives

Woodbury Lutheran Church
7380 Afton Road
Woodbury, MN 55125