



## Loneliness in a Covid World

These recent months have been quite a challenge since Covid 19 began interfering with our daily routines... from closures of a variety of businesses to online church, things changed in the blink of an eye.

These interruptions necessitated changes in how we care for others as well. Hospital visits, assisted living services, and even in-home visits have been replaced with telecare, virtual care, and outdoor gatherings. During this time, our care ministries have been active in serving in different ways. They have been busy interacting with those they care for over the phone, virtually and, more recently, in person in socially distanced ways. We've had teams of people running errands for those in need, whether it's groceries or prescriptions, or even other needs.

A largely unnoticed need has been the loneliness caused by isolation. For many, loneliness may ultimately lead to depression. In January we updated our Christian Counseling Referrals and Resource guide, providing options to find help. We also have someone available who would be willing to visit with you in your loneliness. If interested, let me know.

Through it all, our God still loves us, walks with us and provides for us, even in the darkest times. Remember his love for you. He fills the loneliness with his Spirit in your life and with those he puts in your place to support you.

Pastor Tim Marshall | Pastoral Care Ministries

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# Avoiding Election Infection

Here we are again in the midst of another election season. The yard signs are popping up, the mailers are filling our recycle bins, and the airwaves are overflowing with ads telling us how bad the other guy or gal is. As followers of Jesus there is an understanding—as members of both the Kingdom of God and the kingdom of the world—that we are called to engage in the political process. But how do we best do it?

I will never forget being a brand new pastor and sitting in on a Bible study when a lady stood up and very sincerely asked, “*Is it even possible to be a Christian and be a Democrat?*” Over the last four years we have heard the cry, “*How could any Christian vote for Donald Trump?*” So who is right? Where do Christians fit in our two-party system?

In 2018 Pastor Tim Keller, a well-known theologically conservative pastor in New York City, wrote an op-ed article in the New York Times titled, [\*How Do Christians Fit Into the Two-Party System? They Don't.\*](#) Throughout the article he dives into the tension that so many Jesus followers feel around where we fit. Here is an excerpt...

*This emphasis on package deals puts pressure on Christians in politics. For example, following both the Bible and the early church, Christians should be committed to racial justice and the poor, but also to the understanding that sex is only for marriage and for nurturing family (being pro-life). One of those views seems liberal and the other looks oppressively conservative (emphasis mine). The historical Christian positions on social issues do not fit into contemporary political alignments.*

*So Christians are pushed toward two main options: One is to*



*withdraw and try to be apolitical. The second is to assimilate and fully adopt one party's whole package in order to have your place at the table. Neither of these options is valid.*

Where does that leave us? Obviously there is no perfect answer, but let me offer a few ways to be engaged in the process and to remain faithful to Jesus. *(Please offer me grace as you read).*

1. **Vote your conscience And go make a difference:** The complexity of the issues before us is overwhelming. For one Christian the most important issue is racial equality, for another it is biblical marriage and so forth. The thing is there is not ONE single solution for any issue, so **vote your conscience and then get out there and make a difference!** For example, for many Christians, their number one issue when it comes to voting is life—and for good reason. If that is the case, then vote that way AND find a way to better live out that value out by volunteering at a pregnancy center, becoming a foster parent or helping a single mother go back to school, etc.
2. **Don't buy into all the negativity:** Part of being Salt and Light is not joining in all the mudslinging and gossiping. Take a deep breath

and pray before writing your next post on Facebook or having that challenging conversation with a friend or family member who has a different viewpoint.

3. **Talk to someone on the other side of the aisle:** I just had a great conversation with someone who has very different political leanings than I do. I came away having learned something about that person and why they believe what they believe, and amazingly we are still friends.
4. **Through it all remember that Jesus is King:** On the two weekends leading up to the election we are going to look at what Jesus has to say about **People** and **Truth** and then, the week after the election, we will gather around the truth that **Jesus is King**. With all the uncertainty surrounding the election, the Supreme Court, etc. the one thing that is certain is that Jesus is still King.

I do not pretend to have all the answers, and I have offered these words in humility as I seek to be a good citizen and a faithful follower of Jesus. Join me in praying for our nation, and may each of us be a part of the solution.

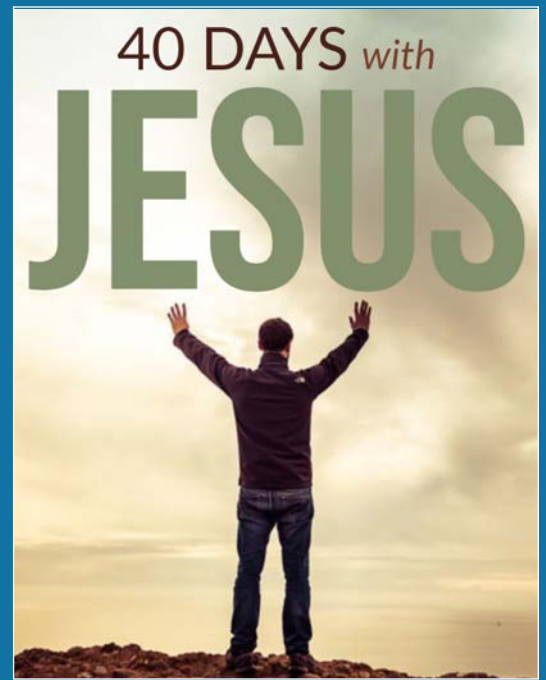
Peace,  
Pastor Tom, Senior Pastor

# 40 Days with Jesus

We are right in the middle of our 40 Days and it's NOT too late to jump in.

You're invited to lean into Jesus, to go deeper in Him by focusing on prayer and fasting.

- Everything you need is on our webpage: [40days.woodburylutheran.org](http://40days.woodburylutheran.org)
- Don't miss the daily videos...2-3 minutes of scripture and prayer from various members of our church family: [Youtube WLC Playlist](#)
- Mark your calendar! **40 Days with Jesus Night of Worship** - Friday, October 23 - 7:00pm Live stream (online)



## Re-Focusing Our Worship

In the song "A Little Longer" by Jenn Johnson, she writes about a conversation with Jesus in which she asks him:

*"What can I do for You,  
What can I bring to You,  
What kind of song would You like me to sing?  
I'll dance a dance for You,  
Pour out my love for You,  
What can I do for You Beautiful King?"*

So often the "busyness" of life lures us away from just *being* with Jesus. I'm guilty of letting noise, distractions, work and activities keep me so preoccupied that spending time with my King is placed on the back-burner.

Taking a cue from the song lyrics above, one way to re-focus on Jesus is through music and **the act of purposeful worship**. Every element of our weekend worship services is important, and I find the times we share in music connects us, unites us, and allows us to tell Jesus we are thankful for all he has done. When we come together, whether in-person or online, in lifting our voices, hearts, and hands to the Savior, something beautiful happens on the inside, and it doesn't have to stop on Sunday morning!

Outside of our worship services there are times when I will sit on my living room floor in the dark and just "be" with Jesus. I will often start by singing or listening to a favorite worship song to thank him and bless him. Sometimes I pour out my heart to him; other times I simply sit in the dark and let him take the lead. It is always a time of refreshment and connection.



At the end of the song "A Little Longer," Jenn writes:

*Then I hear You say:  
"You don't have to do a thing.  
Simply be with me and let those things go,  
They can wait another minute..."*

This response blesses my heart every time I hear it. When life feels too busy, too overwhelming, or too stressful, we can stop and remember that the King who came to Earth in human form to live and die for us, to set us free and to give us every good thing...our wonderful King Jesus, **wants to spend time with us**. The beauty is that whether we worship corporately or one-on-one with him, we are blessed when we bless him.

Kandi Chavie | Worship Administrative Assistant | Director of Communications

# Kids and the Presence of God

Teaching your kids to live in the Presence of God is a wonderful gift to them and to your family! So how do we teach our kids to recognize God?

**Read the Word of God to them. (Use a kids Bible)** It doesn't have to be every morning, or bedtime. If you miss a day, a week, a month, give yourself grace, and begin again.

The Bible is full of true stories that show God talking to people. God spoke to Abraham, Rebecca, Jacob, and many others. He spoke through the prophets in the Old Testament, and he spoke to his church through the apostles. The more your children know of how God spoke to and through people in the Bible, the more they will understand his ways. They'll understand they can hear from God, too. Even better are the words of Jesus who speaks to us in the New Testament!

**Answer their questions with eternity in mind.** This is a lifestyle choice. When your kids are upset about a pet dying and wonder if their pet is going to heaven, answer the best you can. (It's fine if you don't know the answer for sure!) Tell what you do know about heaven. If you're outside marveling at a beautiful flower or sunset, remind them of our Creator who made such a beautiful world for us to live in.

If your child has an angry outburst and has concerns about another child getting away with something unfair or wrong, you can remind them of who they are. Children of God, forgiven by Jesus, loved by the Lord of the Universe, created with a purpose. Answering their questions about the sins of others is often more beneficial after emotions have calmed and they've accepted their responsibility (if any) in the situation.

**Pray or bless your kids in front of your kids, and with your kids.** My kids each chose their own blessing we said over them after bedtime prayers. Were some of them a little funny? You bet! For example, "God is great God is

good, let us thank Him for our sleep." was one that was chosen. The important thing is that my adult children remember their parents blessing them nightly.

It's important that we create an environment that prompts wonder about God in our kids. We need to make space that invites them to ask questions about him. It's not a waste of our time or resources to create spaces that nurture a child's curiosity about their Creator. This time spent together is time spent in *The Presence of God*.

Nancy Schubbe | Director of NextGen & Kids Ministry



## Next

If you're new to our church or if you've been with us for a while but aren't sure what your next step should be, register here to attend our upcoming offering of NEXT on Sunday, October 4 or Sunday, November 8 at 1:00pm via Zoom. This is a time to connect, meet some of our leaders, find out more about our church and where God is leading us, and help you consider what your next step might be on your faith journey. Contact **Karl Grant** to get signed up!



# Paying Attention to God's Creation

Cooler temps + campfires + conversations = FUN and something sacred as I enjoy the presence of friends and family...the presence of God in His creation...the reminder of the Holy Spirit's presence as the flames jump around the fire pit.

But, if I'm not paying attention, I can miss the opportunity to invite others to notice God's presence too.

Laura wrote these devotional prompts to help us pause and start brief faith conversations in these sacred relational moments:

1. Find something to notice and marvel at God's creation (Observe)
2. Share memories or favorite aspects of the activity. (Share)
3. Highlight natural connections between creation and God's Word. (Connect/Read) Consider bringing a Bible or downloading the Bible app.

For example:

**Take a walk** - Bring a magnifying glass, hammock, or blanket  
Observe: the animals and insects you can see. What details can you notice about them?

Share: Recall an animal encounter you've had. What's an animal you find interesting? Why?

Connect: Read about creation in Genesis 1:1-2:4 or the creation of animals and humans in Genesis 1:20-31.

- **Notice God's power in the weather** - Jesus calms the storm. Mark 5:35-41 or The sun stands still. Joshua 10:12-15
- **Look at the stars** - God's promise to Abraham (we are part of that promise). Genesis 15:1-6, Romans 4:16, 23-25
- **Campfires** - Moses and the Burning Bush. Exodus 3:1-6 or Pillars of Cloud and Fire. Exodus 13:20-22
- **Ball fields** - Run with endurance, eyes on Jesus. Hebrews 12:1-4

Lindsey Schmidt & Laura Stennes | Youth Ministry Leaders



## We Need Your Leaves

Have leaves that you need to dispose of? Bring them to the WLC garden on the Afton property (NE corner of Bailey and Manning) Saturday/Sunday, October 24/25 or Saturday/Sunday, October 31/November 1.

It is important to bring them at those times as we want to place them so the garden will be ready for spring planting. If that is impossible for you, please call Ted Bolles at 651-308-5775. Leaves only - no garden waste, house plants, shrubs, etc.

Our WLC garden has had a great year, harvesting about 4,000 pounds of fresh, nutritious food for the Christian Cupboard. You can help us prepare for next year! Please call Ted Bolles 651-308-5775 with any questions.



# Settled.

A Community First  
approach to *homelessness*.

- Coming October 2020 -

## Build A Home With Us - Learn With Us

Homeless people. Living in the woods, hanging around outside a shelter downtown, or “signing” at the top of an exit ramp. What feelings do you have when you read these words and imagine the pictures in your mind? There’s probably some tension in your gut, right? It’s not comfortable to think about these folks. It wasn’t for WLC members Jeff Linert and Andrew Abicht either. But they learned a different way to think about these folks when they got involved with Settled, a Christ-centered non-profit that utilizes a “Community First” approach to chronic homelessness. More about Jeff and Andrew in a minute ...

Woodbury Lutheran Church has an exciting opportunity: we’re partnering with Settled to create a new community for some friends suffering from not having a home. We want you to join us **October 8-19** as we build “tiny homes” with several other metro churches. The homes will be built by servants like you at a large parking lot at Woodland Hills Church in St. Paul. And they’ll become part of what Settled calls a Sacred Settlement!

Pray about joining one of these servant teams; you can serve 1 day or all 8 days! Besides helping to build, we need help providing lunch to the work crew, praying for this exciting mission, and being a general helper

onsite. You are also welcome to donate to the cost of the tiny home. If you’re interested in signing up, go to this [link](#). For more information contact [Mike Sabbann](#) and visit [BeSettled.org](#) to learn of this ministry.

Let’s get back to Jeff and Andrew. After meeting in January 2019 with the CEO of Settled, Gabrielle Clowdus, they had a new perspective of the homeless. One that adopts Jesus’ view of them: His children whom He loves. And they acted quickly. During the deadly Polar Vortex (remember those bitter sub-zero temperatures in February 2019?), they mobilized WLC with other churches to help many chronically homeless get off the streets. Two of these people are David and Laura. God’s radical love changed the hearts of Jeff and Andrew, and they’ve walked alongside David and Laura, helping them find stable housing, and more importantly, becoming dear friends. Over the last year, other WLC disciples have supported David & Laura through acts of love and social belonging. Instead of feelings of tension and discomfort, Jeff and Andrew have compassion when they think of the “homeless”. We have a lot to learn about homelessness. Come learn with us in October as we build a community for them.

### Settled’s Approach

Unlike most social service organizations and governmental entities that aim to provide “housing first,” Settled’s approach is more holistic, and focuses on providing “community first”. Their research indicates the chronically homeless suffer from a profound loss of community and family. Thus, a key part of the solution must be providing a pathway to community. The approach helps people find social belonging and addresses some of the underlying problems that come with a life of experiencing homelessness. It surrounds those who are newly housed with a support network of advocates, working on their behalf, to help mentor them and journey with them. Please visit [BeSettled.org](#) to learn more.

Mike Sabbann | Reach Coordinator



# Red Light...Green Light...Go!

I've had nearly all of my teachers comment that it is SO GOOD to have children back with us in school. Having them present in-person is one of the aspects of teaching that gives us energy and motivates us to come in each day. As educators, we feed off of their excitement, curiosity, joy, and desire to learn. It is encouraging for us to have them ask questions and apply concepts that we've been talking about.

One of the Bible stories that we do each September is Jesus and the Children. One of the options that some of the teachers have used is to play Red Light, Green Light with the children. Red light "STOP" the disciples said "Jesus is too busy and you can't bother him." Green light "GO" said Jesus, "I'm never too busy for children! I love them and I want to spend time with them." Just like our teachers find joy in children, clearly so did Jesus.

As our school year goes on, children will repeatedly hear the message that "Jesus is their forever friend" and that "Jesus loves YOU!" We talk about how Jesus is with us on good days and on bad days and that he doesn't leave us when we're sad or mad but he is with us always.

Being in the presence of Jesus is an important concept but also a big one! Do we always grasp that we are being loved and cared for unconditionally by Jesus? Do you ever write him in on your list of best friends? It can be easy to say this but how does this look? Thankfully we have a God who blesses us with people around us who love us unconditionally. My hope is that this year is filled with many green light GO moments for our children as our school team blesses them with love and grace and



maybe just a glimpse of what it will really be like to be in the presence of Jesus someday.

Sara Mulso | Director of WL Preschool & Kindergarten

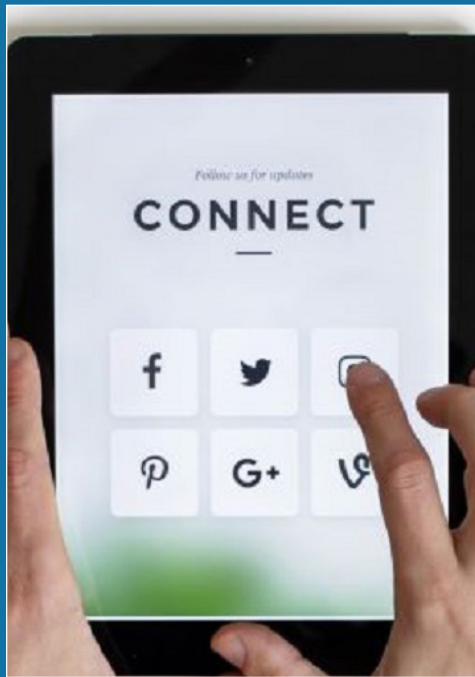


## Don't Miss This!!

Do you want to hear about the amazing ways God is at work on college campuses?

Our "sent" missionaries ***Danielle and Grant Hoel*** (and family) will be spending time with our congregation on November 14 - 16. This is a great opportunity to hear about the university ministry they lead in Duluth (UMD)... and even get involved!!

The Hoels will be introduced and prayed for at each of our worship services, and will also speak at a couple gatherings about the exciting work God is doing. Watch for more information.



## Staying Connected

Did you know that each week since March, we've sent out a weekly update? You can find encouragement from our Senior Pastor, current updates from our ministries, and calendar updates as well. Watch for that weekly email on Thursdays.

You can also find lots of information on our website such as the weekly prayer page! Information that we used to print up each week can be found here. Online classes and RSVP for worship are some other items that you can access on our website. Visit: [woodburylutheran.org](http://woodburylutheran.org) today!

If you ever have any questions about what was mentioned in this newsletter or something else, please call the office at 651-739-5144 and we will assist you with whatever it may be!

## The Group's Role in Spiritual Growth

Small groups are important. One of the benefits of a healthy small group is growing your faith. It's why we have groups and encourage our members to be in a group. Faith is personal, but that doesn't mean faith is private. Small groups help us to actually live our faith with others. Here are three things the group contributes to an individual's spiritual growth.

1. **Support**—Whether it's building muscle at the gym or building faith in God, resistance is a necessary ingredient of growth. In order to learn to trust God more, we have to experience the kind of challenging circumstances in which trust is required. That's not easy. The emotional and spiritual support of community can sustain us through adversity, help us to see God in action in our lives, and remind us to hold onto faith even when doing so is difficult or doesn't seem to make sense.
2. **Encouragement**—We human beings aren't all that adept at recognizing our own potential. Too often it takes someone else pointing out the gap between where we are and where we could be in order for us to catch a vision for our possible futures. Most of us had parents, teachers, or coaches who changed the course of our lives by pointing out our gifts and giving us confidence to pursue those gifts. When it comes to spiritual growth, groups can help individuals recognize and reach for their own potential.
3. **Challenge**—Real growth requires a level of self-awareness that doesn't shy away from one's shortcomings. We all have them. None of us is perfect. When we enter into intentional community with others who are also trying to grow spiritually, we have an opportunity to tap into an outside perspective on



ourselves. We may have to face some hard truths, but facing those truths is the only way we can overcome the obstacles to our growth.

*Adapted from Dan Mancini*

Contact [Diana Vander Pas](mailto:Diana.VanderPas@woodburylutheran.org) for more information about small groups.



# October Birthdays

1 Janna Duban Marianne Eineke Mason Himes Victoria Riehle Brian Smith Rick Stinogel	Michelle Sabatke Garrett Sailer Kimberly Sorgert Dave Wegner	Dottie Tillery Dominique Villaume	17 Brooke Albrecht Paige Albrecht Cynthia Martin Kristen Nesvig Lillian Stenzel Matt Weiss	Warren Weum Adam Wiering	Katie Schultze Wendy Schultze
2 Rhonda Affield Kaylee Amundson Nathan Bloomquist Kurt Brammer Josh Brocker Barrett Connolly Scott Stevens	7 Linda Atchison Julia Gibbs Luanne Greengard Roger Haukland Shirley Hensel Audrey Nisbit Lisa Noblett Veronica Pettit Don Piper April Reed Nick Weiler	11 Kevin Graham Eric Heintz Jill Hodne Dan Krause Eileen Lund Amy Meyer Bruce Montgomery Seryozha Mzenga Kayla Towne Irene Sczublewski Lorraine Wohlhuter	24 Nora Bauer Melissa Butzler Zachary Cartier Jenny Granlund Arlene Halleen Presley Olafson Arul Ramesh Pat Stevens Justin Topp	29 Beth Bauer Amanda Brigl Bennett Lodermeier David Schelling Cheryl Stensvad Beejay Zager	Anastacia Speckhard Parris Vitela LeRoy Wilke
3 Alex Barker BJ Brown Lyn Foley Cynthia Freeman Nate Griffin Amber Ignaszewski Bethany Mathot Gabe Peterson Kavin Ramesh Nancy Ritter Carol Score	8 Aaron Bauman Ellen Cochran Nate Foster Parker Huebsch Tyler Huebsch Bob Kolb Katie Luger Etta Meyer Scott Reinhard Mark Smith Patrick Brewer Cheryl Tveit	12 Barb Groth Melanie Haberman Dawn Kroohn Christopher Neutz Celina Reyes Cindy Schwartz Ella Schwarzenbach Mike Steingraber	18 Will Bartley Erin Brandvik Julia Glatzmaier Ryan Lindstrom Addison Rohm Jim Sobaski	25 Ashish Abraham Kaitlin Albrecht Nancy Brezina Julie Drevnick Maggie Law Ryan Loss Abraham Matthews Desiree Morningstar Valerie Reichel John Rodemeyer	30 Bob Albrecht Simona Awiszus Rylea Casselberry Chad Helgason Candace Lilleboe Aspyn Offenhauser Thomas Ogren Kassie Raasch Keira Rosin Macey Salzmann Murphy Sczublewski
4 Elias Aune Patrick Brewer Paul Burandt Jerry Helander Kendel McKinley Marvel Mitterholzer Jason Sirovoy	9 Terri Albrecht Steve Dopson Jeff Konop Matt Meek Grant Schouvelier Jesse Spates Rick Theissen Bennett Zeller Griffin Zeller	13 Tommy Albrecht Jenniffer Anderson Cortney Heerwald Hannah Rodemeyer Michael Zenner	20 Heidi Hove Benjamin Jacobus Judy Pirk Lois Setten	26 Rick Albrecht Don Arneson James Belmonte Kaylee Bierdeman Eric Bjornson Cristina Gurrola Vicki Huebsch Mason Kuhrmeyer Alyssa Kreutzfeldt Craig McHenry Katherine Reinhard Karin Stensvad Lisa Winter David Wolterstorff	31 Trevor Brammer LaVonne Hamilton Renee Kenow Brian Kieser Latha Kirubakaran Emelynn Klotthor Janice Lindau Quinn McHarg Alyxia Morris Katherine Parker Tyler Printon Michael Scheid Jean Steinbraber
5 Sophia Carlson Aubrey Chavie Camryn Goerlitz Janet Harrison Elizabeth Huebsch Rod Lund Neil Perryman Deb Reynolds Brenda Stoffel Alejandro Trujillo- Corona Lori Voth John Wilford Michele Wolf	10 Gene Anderson Georgina Cavanaugh Kaye Christianson Logan Duis Stella Hall Debbie Heggernes Olivia Hillmeyer Fran Menge Danielle Nelson Gradey Olafson Delaney Palmer Ruth Premiah Gradey Olafson Brian Stakston	14 Zetta Anderson Rick Blomquist Mackenzie Fossan Carolyn Hernandez Alicia Leemkuil Josephine Mack Charlie McElveen Eva Powers Stacey Wagley	22 Diane Cragoe Hall Hannah Dufresne Kimberly Herr Zach Howard Jan Jeske-Rowe Everett Morri Lisa Peterson	27 Andrew Eineke Michele Jacobus Harper Lopez Tim Pleggenkuhle Roman Rogotzke Connie Sabbann Jeanette Schmidt KC Swanlund Lisa Thao	
6 George Achterling Michele Eggers Fritz Feuerherm Glennae Meyer Gina Pearson		16 Jennifer Foss Sam Froseth Jan McLean Max Schmidt Elise Schuenke Amy Tessmer Eric Varin	23 Hannah Belisle Peter Bloomquist Lesla Clarkson Julia Esboldt Melania Fitzgerald Madeline Haut Jacqueline Hedegaard Tom Kroohn Elden Lamprecht Brad Sweet Annaliese Voss Jen Wenck	28 Nolan Aspen Maria Engen Quinn Haines Carley Kokaisel Bob Nelson Rachel McFarland	

# October Anniversaries

1 Gary & Diane Baran Joey & Kirsten Benke Tim & Brittany Bystrzycki Nick & Julie Kordosky	Jeff & Aimee Wilford	15 Justin & Amanda Brigl	23 Peter & Barb Cavanaugh John & Diane Kuhrmeyer Kevin & Deb Tacheny Ed & Cathy Yee
2 Gary & Byrnina Iskason Kevin & Darlene Meissner	7 Jim & Kris Kiltie John & Joy Taraldsen	16 Doug & Yvonne Pilot Bob & Amy Schlichenmaier	24 Grant & Pixie Anderson Tom & Alex Finnegan
3 Rich & Shelly Ahlquist Karl & Cheryl Hohenstein Thomas & Ingrid Kinmounth Dave & Sue McNally Mark & Kim Sorgert	8 Scott & Beth Bauer	17 Larry & Carol Edwards	25 Kelly & Tiffany Fitzgerald
4 Mark & Cindy Johnson Mark & Cameo Kossanke Gene & Phyllis Letendre Jeff & Katie Mueller	9 Aaron & Jamila Drevlow	18 Josh & Melanie Anderson Bill & Karen Klinzing John & Jessica Norring Greg & Sharon Opheim Tom & Kristine Stork	26 Chad & Alison Kurth Brian & Addie Michlitsch
5 John & Dorothy Blaisdell James & Manda Leary Jorge & Acela Lopez Burt & Reighe Nagel	10 Brian & Katie Whitemarsh	19 Ken & Lindsey Babin Scott Habeck & Christine Borscheid Habeck Chuck & Janice Jones Fred & Alyssa Kreutzfeldt	27 Keith & Cynthia Gustafson Michael & Brenda Haut
6 Paul & Sally Cronin	11 Jim & Alicia Culbertson Kevin & Kristin Esboldt David & Cheryl White	20 Chi & Sarah Ociagha Dick & Nancy Ritter	28 Mark & Tami Jelinek
	12 Glen & Cindy Boedecker Brett & Lisa Corrigan Lucas & Ashley Hanon Brian & Donna Herian Tom & Patti Nelson Brian & Kasey Short Matthew & Rachel Solosky	22 Bob & Fran Cummings Jeff & Joan Figlmiller Aaron & Haley Raebel Mark & Tonya Smith	30 Tim & Roxane Becken
	13 Brad & Sandi Miller Chris & Tiffany Perl		31 Dwight & Patti Schultz
	14 Russell & Linda McCuskey Dave & Cheryl Schindler		

# Church Council Update September

*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](#).*

**Woodbury Lutheran Church - Council Meeting**  
**Tuesday, September 8, 2020**  
**6:30-8:30am**

## Meeting Highlights

### Worship:

We are continuing to learn and improve both our online and in-person offerings. Look for a mix of worship offerings into the fall, including indoor services (unless stuff changes). The Council is very supportive of the direction of staff.

### Financially:

We continue to run in the black with income being greater than expenses – as we look toward the end of the year we are exploring some options to pay down our debt and lower our payment significantly as we plan for 2021.

We received a gift of \$107,000 that has been placed in the General Endowment fund. What an incredible blessing. Look for the Endowment Team to make a disbursement this fall.

### Concordia, South St. Paul:

We have had initial conversations about a possible merger where Concordia would become a part of the WLC family as a physical campus. The leadership of both churches will be meeting again in October and if all goes well there will be Town Hall type meetings for both congregations.



## Meeting Agenda

### Call to Order & Quorum Determination

### Devotions/Prayer

### Consent Agenda

- August Meeting Minutes
- August Financial Report

### Information

- Sr. Pastor Report

### Discussion

- Looking at the future of our mortgage
- Discussion on a recent and large, undesignated gift
- Re-Opening Update
- 2021 Council Considerations

### Closing Prayer

### Adjourn

## Worship

### Online

Saturdays @ 5:00pm  
Sundays @ 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am,  
3:00, 5:00 & 7:00pm  
Mondays @ 7:00pm

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

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

## Weddings

Alexander Bohn & Stephanie Coutts  
Ryan Winter & Lisa Huska  
Daniel Sauro & Jenna Wakefield  
Nathan Belisle & Hannah Baumann

## Baptisms

Lilyana Irene Howard  
Nelson Thomas Kinmounth  
June Marie Groth

## Deaths

The Family of Marnie Andrews  
Mike Zabilla - uncle, Len Zabilla  
Pam Meissner - sister, Karen Merrick  
Kevin Meissner - sister, Karen Merrick





# Staying Connected

## **Caring for the Caregiver Information Session**

Finding the hidden blessings in the challenging journey of dementia. Contact [Pastor Tim](#) for more information.

## **Settled. A Community-First Approach to Homelessness**

Woodbury Lutheran is partnering with Settled, a Christ-centered non-profit with a unique approach regarding homelessness. Volunteer teams are needed to build and outfit a tiny home at Woodland Hills Church in St. Paul. If you're not handy with tools there are many other ways to serve, including providing lunch for the volunteers, praying for the project, interior design, or even donating to the cost of the tiny home. The build will run October 8-19. To volunteer, contact [Mike Sabbann](#). Visit [BeSettled.org](#) to find out more about this ministry.

## **Drive Up Communion**

Mark your calendars for Drive Up Communion on October 8 at the Valley Creek Campus 10-11am and 6-7pm and the Oak Hill Campus from 6-7pm.

## **Fall Youth Registration**

All youth in 6th-12th grades are welcome to join Wednesday night youth ministry. Register at [wlcyyouth.org](#). Weekly we gather to challenge each other to grow as disciples of Jesus through Bible study, games, sharing highs and lows, and prayer. There are online and on campus options available.

## **Red Cross Blood Drive**

The Valley Creek Campus will once again be hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive on Friday, October 7. [Register here](#) to donate blood.

## **Giving at WLC**

Thank you for your ongoing generosity that keeps the ministries of Woodbury Lutheran functioning. Giving may be done online via text WLCGIVE to 77977, through our [website](#), and through the WLC app ([iOS](#) | [GooglePlay](#)). Checks may be mailed to the church office at 7380 Afton Road, Woodbury, MN 55125.

## **Stock Donations**

There are many different ways to donate time, talents and treasures to Woodbury Lutheran Church. One way some members choose to donate is through the transfer or donation of stocks. If you have questions or would like more information on how to donate stock, please contact Trecie Horner at 651-731-3349.

## **Stephen Ministers**

If you are going through a difficult time—whether it's losing a loved one, having relationship struggles, financial hardships or any number of challenges one might face—WLC has Stephen Ministers who would like to walk with you through these trying times. Contact [Pastor Tim](#) or [Shirley Mertens](#) for more information.

## **Valley Creek Campus Open Hours**

The Valley Creek Campus is open Monday–Thursday from 9:00am–4:00pm and Friday from 9:00am–3:00pm if

you'd like to stop in the office, pick up Portals of Prayer, visit the library, or stop in the sanctuary to pray. Please wear a mask and practice the social distancing recommendations.

# October 2020 Calendar

## **1 (V) Celebrate Recovery**

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

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

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

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

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

## **3 (V) Baptism Class**

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

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

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

## **4 (V) NEXT**

Sunday, 1:00pm  
Contact: Karl Grant  
651-739-5144 x241

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **7 (Online) Pastor's Roundtable**

Wednesdays, 7:00pm  
Contact: Vicar Andrew  
651-739-5144 x223

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

Wednesday, 9:15am  
<https://www.redcrossblood.org/>

## **8 (O) Drive Up Communion**

Thursday, 6:00pm

## **8 (V) Drive Up Communion**

Thursday, 10:00am & 6:00pm

## **25 (V) Spirited Feet in the Street**

Saturday, 10:00am  
Contact: Heidi Crist  
651-216-6296

# 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

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

Woodbury Lutheran Church  
7380 Afton Road  
Woodbury, MN 55125

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