



October 2019

What Happens NEXT?

What is NEXT?

At Woodbury Lutheran, we want to help people see and discover who God has made them to be as His disciples. We believe this best happens by walking the Discipleship Path. NEXT is a 90 minute connection time to help people find out more about WLC, where God is leading us, and what their next step might be as they follow Jesus. NEXT features two concrete invitations to test-drive a small group, serving, or both.

Who is NEXT for?

NEXT is for people new to WLC, and it's for folks who are looking to incorporate the Grow or Serve elements of the Discipleship Path into their rhythms of life.

Why NEXT?

As a church we want to get better at *actively* engaging people in the Discipleship Path. Part of this is changing passive processes to be more personal and active. NEXT is all about creating on-ramps to the Path and engaging our community in walking the Path while also removing guess-work as to what a small group is, what it means to serve, and where someone might best fit.

What's happening to the New Member Class?

We will no longer be offering New Member Classes. But this is not because we're no longer taking members!

We desire that membership at WLC means that a person is meaningfully engaged and committed to walking as a disciple of Jesus within the Woodbury Lutheran Church community. Thus, the conversation about membership will now happen as a personal discussion with one of our pastors. People who have formed their lives around the four elements of the Discipleship Path (Worship, Grow, Serve, and Reach) are invited to contact their campus pastor to talk about formalizing their commitment to our church community by becoming a member.

Thus, if your question is "How do I become a member of Woodbury Lutheran Church?" The answer is, "Attend the next NEXT! There you'll learn more about our community and be invited to take the first step into walking as Jesus' disciples with us."

Questions? Clarifications?

Pastor Tom has said that as a church our responsibility is to point people to Jesus, and then make it as easy as possible for them to be connected to Him. To do that we have to offer a clear, simple process that makes it easy for a disciple to find their next step. That's the heart behind NEXT. If you'd like further clarification behind this new approach to discipleship and membership, please contact Karl Grant (grantk@woodburylutheran.org) or sign-up at the Connection Center.

NEXT has already happened at Oak Hill and is coming to the Valley Creek Campus on Sunday, November 10th, from 12:20-1:50PM (a light lunch will be served)! Liberty Ridge folks, stay tuned for when NEXT will arrive at your campus!



DISCIPLESHIP PATH









"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations..."

(This article was written by Pastor Tom in January of 2015. In October we will be in a series that once again looks at the Discipleship Path and how it helps us to grow to be more and more like Jesus.)

Over the last two years we have talked a lot about how a disciple is someone who is growing more and more like Jesus, but the one question left to be answered is how does this happen at Woodbury Lutheran How is God making Church? disciples in our church? What is the process that He has called us as a church to focus our energies on so that disciples will be multiplied and lives will be transformed? We know that disciples of Jesus are not mass produced, they are handcrafted through the power of the Holy Spirit, but how will that happen at our church?

If you have been paying attention over the last two years to the direction we have been moving, I hope that you have noticed an increased emphasis on the four parts of what we are calling the Discipleship Path: Worship, Grow, Serve and Reach. One of the truths that we have learned is that there is not a correlation between being busy at church and spiritual growth, but there is a definite correlation between spiritual growth and the

practices found in the four parts of the Path.

What I am most excited about is that this is not just another program, but it truly is a process that has grown out of where God is leading our church. The Discipleship Path is our answer to the question of how our vision *Multiplying Disciples// Transforming Lives* will come to life. We thank and praise God for how He has made disciples at WLC for the last 50 years and are excited to see how He will continue to make disciples for years to come, all for His glory and honor!

Peace, Pastor Tom

What is the Discipleship Path?

- Woodbury Lutheran Church's defined discipleship process that helps people to grow as disciples of Jesus.
- We desire people to experience the four parts of the path in all areas of their lives.
- Designed to include everyone regardless of where they are in their faith.

Why the Discipleship Path?

- We are called to make disciples.
- The Path reflects the early church model of discipleship.
- We desire to offer a more straight forward process that helps people more easily to take their next step in faith.

Weddings:

Jessami Bruesehoff & Alexander Schaefer

Baptisms:

Ole Carson Anderson Liam Th<u>omas Roeller</u> Brooklyn Loretta Benke Hannah Lee Mewhorter Cole Matthew Cardwell Lucy Mae Cardwell Everett James Everson Mireille Fenelon Taylor Nicole Hawkinson Kennedy Anne Margaret Huber Margot Elizabeth Huska Bruce Kato

Jake William Kato Vivienne Ava Mattson Wyatt Alan Schnell Madison Marie Schnell Macie Jean Schnell McKenzie Ann Schnell McKenna Lee Schowalter Josie Louise Schowalter

Deaths:

Steve Retter ~ brother, Michael Retter The Family of Justin Bloomer The Family of Sandy Lewis Marlene Ingvalson ~ sister-in-law, Nina Ingvalson July Fitzgerald ~ mother, Shirlee McCoy Kelly Lockhart ~ mother, Shirlee

McCoy The Family of Mildred Roznick Jan Miller ~ brother, Gordy Maier Dave Butina ~ father, Frank Butina

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

Office & Mailing Address: 7380 Afton Road Woodbury, MN 55125

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

Phone: (651) 739-5144 Fax: (651) 739-3536 Website: www.woodbury lutheran.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 <u>clicking here...</u>

Woodbury Lutheran Church - Council Meeting Tuesday, September 10th 2019 6:30am - 8:00am

Call to Order & Quorum Determination

August 13, 2019

Devotions/Prayer

Consent Agenda

- August Meeting Minutes
- August Financial Report
- Pre-school business plan/budget for balance of 2019

Information

Information

Approval

- Senior pastor report
- Recommendations for new council members
- · Staffing updates
- Partnership opportunity with World Vision
- Scorecard to track progress toward strategic goals

Discussion

Discussion

- Update on St. Croix project
 - Clarity of purpose and scope for project
 - Skills/experience needed on the action committee
- Update from Elder's Meeting Feedback on Name Change
- Strategy around endowments and long term giving

Closing Prayer

Adjourn

Meeting Highlights:

- Financially we are just below budgeted income for the year, praise God!
- Pastor Tom presented the process that staff will be using to track progress against the big goals in the five year vision plan.
- The Council is putting together a Ministry Action Team to continue to keep the process around our St. Croix land moving.
 - o The focus of this team is to help find a permanent home for the Liberty Campus by exploring all land and building options in the area around Stonemill Farms.
- Secretary Brian Schouviller and at large member Linda Tank will be working with Pastor Tom
 in connecting with our Endowment Team Lead John Kuhrmeyer to develop a better strategy
 moving forward around WLC's long term giving strategy.
- At a very high level the Council discussed the pros and cons of the name Woodbury Lutheran
 and believe we should continue to ask the question if it is helpful or a roadblock to fulfilling
 our vision of Multiplying Disciples//Transforming Lives.
 - Our church was named Woodbury Lutheran in an intentional effort to connect with our community; does Woodbury Lutheran still convey that message?
 - o As we move into other communities, does the name Woodbury Lutheran detract from our ability to connect in a different community?
 - o Does the name Woodbury Lutheran help or detract from connecting with people who, more and more, don't identify with a denomination?



Campus Updates from Liberty Ridge & Oak Hill

LIBERTY RIDGE UPDATES

Here are some quick updates from our Liberty Ridge Campus:

- We had a great BBQ on Sunday, September 8. Rain didn't dampen the joy as we were able to move inflatables inside. We had just enough food for everyone who attended. We're praising God for a great turnout!
- We are thankful for all of the leaders who are helping with Kids LINK this year. The first Sunday of Kids LINK was September 15.
- The church council has started 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 Pastor Tom or Pastor Jon or Council President Renee Boehme.
- Chosen Sunday, September 22, was absolutely incredible! We had 40 individuals/families say yes (with more to come) to being chosen by a child in Bangladesh!
- 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:

- September was an exciting month at Oak Hill. We kicked it off with a
 full weekend celebration that included a concert by Hillary and Kate,
 a tractor parade the following morning that 38 folks, 2 tractors and 2
 haywagons took home the "Community" trophy for WLC Oak Hill. We
 capped off the weekend with a ministry fair, highlighting bible studies,
 youth opportunities, music/tech booth/choir openings and a 'Meet Your
 Elder' time.
- October brings out the beauty of our Oak Hill setting! We will be holding a
 'Family Meeting' for everyone attending/connected to our congregation
 October 20th immediately following the 10:30 service. Come at 11:45
 to hear Vicar Dean cast vision for the year ahead and celebrate our
 fellowship.
- 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.





Here are some quick updates from our Valley Creek Campus:

- Ministry programming is back in full swing with Kids Ministry and Youth Ministry, Women of the Word, and Sunday adult classes.
- Chorale, Church Mouse Choir, and JuBELLee Ringers have begun rehearsing and providing music for Sunday morning worship.
- The communion kneeling pads are being recovered and the lights in the sanctuary are being replaced with LED lights. Work will be finished soon.
- Woodbury Lutheran Preschool has begun with new and returning staff, expanded class offerings and strong enrollment.
- 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 On the **WLC Confirmation Journey!**

In the Spring of 2016 we began a new rhythm of inviting students and families to engage in a faith confirming process that would be individually paced, available for anyone in 7th-12th grades, that runs alongside but not within weekly youth ministries, invites families to engage, and is full of space for growth in understanding what it means to be a disciple following Jesus. We describe the confirmation process as being a journey. Our prayer continues to be that students and families aren't the same when they come out the other end of this journey, that the Holy Spirit works transformation in the midst of their prayers, Bible reading, family discussions, catechism exploration, serving, testimony preparations, and

Friends, the journey has led to so many beautiful growth stories and discoveries. It's not an easy journey without bumps and detours for most, but it's been these stretching moments that seem to have led to growth and awareness of God's presence and heart...kind of like life. Here are some thoughts from some of our recent and current Confirmation families about the journey:

worshipping.

"The journey involved a variety of avenues for our child to explore her faith. For this reason our daughter was able to benefit from the strengths she already possessed while developing new skills she will be able to use as she continues down her path." (Tami & Ben Lower, parents of Sara, 14 who confirmed her faith March 2019)

"Before confirmation I didn't read the bible on my own very much but going through confirmation forces you to read the bible and you are able to connect and just be with God on your own. The questions that they asked you would be a lot of "what did you think?" and "how did you feel about this?" and it gave you an opportunity to reflect on what you read. At the end it would ask if you had any prayer requests and that would be a reminder that there were other people here to help you." (Sara Lower, 14)

"I found the lessons and time with my daughter to be a space in life to pause, reflect about my own relationship with Jesus, and to apply the learning to my own life. I think it is good for my spirit to be intentional about reading the Word,

studying the Catechism, processing and talking about my faith with my child. I believe I grew deeper in my faith by sharing this experience with my daughter. I was blown away by the rich content. It was simple to read and yet, deep in the ways that it allowed us to learn and share with each other. I think the application of words on a page to her life was invaluable. I'm grateful that this quality material is available along with the support of the staff to help us work through the process of confirmation at WLC. The confirmation journey is a huge blessing and gift to our family. I am excited to go through the material with my other daughter." (Molly Kieser, mom to Eiley, 13 confirming her faith November 2019)

"Working through confirmation with my children was such an amazing, impactful experience. It helped remind me about some of the aspects of my faith that I've known for years, and allowed me to see them again through the eyes of someone wrestling with them for the first time. It also provided lots of opportunities to pray with and for my kids and grow closer to them as well. As a parent, I also appreciate the personal level that doing confirmation 1 on 1 with them provides. They need to wrestle with their own answers and not just take the group consensus, which makes their faith confirmation their very own decision. " (Jenelle Rodemeyer, mom of Stephen, 15, confirmed his faith March of 2019 and Matthew, 13 confirming his faith November 2019)

Our next opportunity to celebrate with a group of young people ready to confirm that they are disciples of Jesus and want to follow Him the rest of their lives is coming up next month, November 2nd and 3rd. If your family is interested in learning more about the confirmation journey process, please contact me (Lindsey Schmidt) to set up a launch meeting, I'd love to help y'all get started.

Thank you for cheering on, supporting, including, and discipling the young people in our faith family.







Spring Confirmation 2018







Digging Deeper In God's Word

One thing that's always impressed me about Woodbury Lutheran Church is how many different opportunities there are to dive deeper into Scripture. At every stage of life, we take seriously the command of our Lord to make disciples by teaching them to follow all that Jesus has said (Matthew 28:20). But sometimes having too many options can hinder growth rather than stimulate it. To help prevent "analysis paralysis," our pastoral Bible studies at Oak Hill and Valley Creek are changing trajectory somewhat.

In the past, our pastorally-led Bible studies were on a different topic than our sermon series. Not totally, wildly different; in fact, recently our intent was to offer a complementary study that would anticipate and answer the questions most likely to arise from that day's sermon. But if the desired result is a more thorough, lived-out knowledge of the Scripture that our pastors are proclaiming in their sermons, then why not focus the accompanying Bible study on that very Scripture?

And so, at Oak Hill and Valley Creek, now they are. At Oak Hill, on Wednesday mornings from 10-11:30, Vicar Quincy leads a study on the preceding Sunday's sermon text and topic. And at 9:30 on Sunday mornings at Valley Creek, a rotation of Pastor Tim, Vicar Quincy, and myself lead another session of that study.

We'll bring our exegetical notes, scans from commentaries, and whatever other aids we need to make the time challenging, encouraging, and worthwhile. You come with your questions, concerns, and insights. We will read the sermon text together, share insights with each other, seek to clarify whatever may be confusing, and all leave with God's Word pressed deeper into the soil of our hearts, so that we can more faithfully love and serve our neighbors.

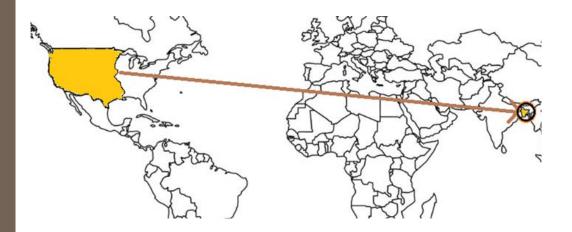
We hope to see you at our next meeting!
-Karl Grant

- Oak Hill: Wednesdays, 10-11:30AM, Workroom (adjacent to office)
- Valley Creek: Sundays, 9:30-10:30AM, Fireside Room

Your Invited ... To "Tongi Tuesday"

Woodbury Lutheran has entered into a relationship with families in the country of Bangladesh. We are currently sponsoring <u>hundreds of kids in the city of Tongi</u>. We're engaging with them through World Vision, using humanitarian resources and a proven process to bring the love of Jesus to this place.

Take a look at this map. Imagine taking all the people that live west of the Mississippi River in the U.S., and cramming them into a nation that's <u>about the size of Iowa!</u> Bangladesh is one of the most densely populated countries in the world.



It's <u>also one of the poorer nations</u> in the world. Most of the kids we sponsor live in conditions that would be very difficult for us. On top of that, nearly everyone there <u>lives without the hope of Jesus!</u> Very few have heard His Name, and <u>less than 1% claim Him as Savior</u>.

So, you're invited to **pray for:**

- WLC's generosity to have a transformational impact on kids and their families in Tongi
- the "next generation" of Bangladeshis to hear and respond to God's Word, and that they will choose to follow Jesus
- long-term improvement in the battle against poverty
- God to raise up spiritually mature leaders in the church who are committed to authentic discipleship

Consider doing this – <u>during your dinner prayer each Tuesday</u> – pray for the kids in Tongi. Make it_"<u>Tongi Tuesday</u>"!





WLC helps local kids and families that struggle with "food insecurity". We do this through Sheridan Story's program at Highwood Hills Elementary School in St. Paul. Every week a team of WLC volunteers meet at the school, pray for the kids, and discreetly place food and meals in the backpacks of kids.

Interested in learning more? We're celebrating our Sheridan Story volunteers by hearing stories, sharing information, and having snacks and desserts. Our church is a blessing to these kids, and we can celebrate that! We'd love to have you join us and consider joining our team. Here are the details:

- What: Celebrating Sheridan Story
- When: Tuesday, October 15, 7:00 8:00 pm
- Where: Isaiah Room, Valley Creek campus of WLC
- Questions: call Mike Sabbann, 651-739-5144



Disciples Are Learners Disciples Are Encouragers

Disciples are learners. Disciples are curious. Disciples encourage others.

Did you know the missionaries WLC supports provide us with prayer requests on an ongoing basis? As disciples, we can learn what their needs are, and about their concerns and joys! This article highlights the latest prayer requests from the two missionary families we support in South America.



Please take time to learn about these folks - each of the Missions Displays at our campuses

has information about them. They are delighted that our church cares enough to ask them for prayer items. They are encouraged by your prayers. They're even more encouraged when they receive an email with a note that you've prayed for them! Their email addresses are included in the tables below.

South America	outh America		
Missionaries	Location	Primary Ministry & Ministry Organization	
Josh & Hannah Zook	Quito, Ecuador	Casa Adalia women's home, Alliance Academy student ministry; One Collective	

<u>Pray for:</u> 1) wisdom for Josh as he explores developing a youth/community area at Alliance as a way to broaden outreach; 2) wisdom for Hannah as she works with a new social-work intern this semester, to develop the intern's skills and to be a benefit to the ministry

jhZook93@gmail.com

Dario & Juanita	Filadelfia,	Church planting, evangelizing;
Guerrero	Paraguay	Ethnos 360

<u>Pray for:</u> 1) their new strategic project to analyze and differentiate 4 indigenous languages in the El Chaco region; results will help Ethnos360 determine where they place missionaries and how to speed up Bible translation; 2) a good start to 2nd grade for Amara (and Mom, who is home-schooling!)

<u>Dario_Guerrero@ntm.org</u>

Be a learner. Be an encourager. Jot an email to the Guerreros or the Zooks (or both!) They're WLC's ambassadors to the world, taking the gospel to places you and I aren't able (or willing) to go. For more information contact Mike Sabbann (sabbannm@woodburylutheran.org).





Join Us For World Prayer Dive

What? We are invited to participate in the wonderful things that God is doing around the world as we join together in prayer?

It's true! Come and join with God's people as we lift up our missionaries in prayer.

15 minutes opening scripture - learning about prayer 30 minutes praying for our missionaries 45 minutes total

- Valley Creek Campus Oct. 20 11am Fireside Room
- Oak Hill Campus Oct. 27 9:30am Room TBA

Coming in November Telling Your Story-Telling His Story Workshop

Do you ever feel like you're not sure how to tell the story of your life and the difference that God has made? Have you ever felt like you've missed an opportunity to simply share how Jesus love came into your life? Maybe you're not sure if you even have a story?

We want to equip you with simple, practical tools to tell your story of God's grace and love in your life.

The workshop will be offered twice (identical content)

- Saturday November 9: 9am-Noon
- Sunday November 10: 2-5pm
- Valley Creek Campus Fireside Room

 $Contact Brad Miller for more information to: \underline{miller b@woodburylutheran.} \\ \underline{org}$







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, October 26** or Saturday, November 2. We want to end up with an even layer of leaves across the entire garden, so please spread out your leaves to fill in the lower areas and take your bags back home with you. **PLEASE** - Leaves only - no garden waste, house plants, shrubs, branches, etc.

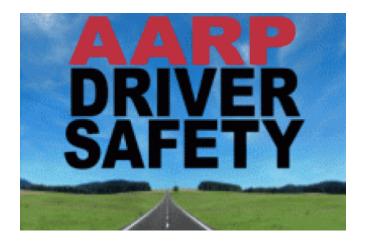
Our WLC garden has had a great year, harvesting over 5,000 pounds of fresh, nutritious food for the Christian Cupboard. You can help us to prepare for next year! Any questions **or can't come one of those times**, please call Ted Bolles 651-308-5775.

Coming in October AARP Safe Driver Course

Want to save 10% on your auto insurance? Take the AARP Smart Driver Course and brush up on your driving skills.

Classes for the 8-hour session will be on Tuesday and Thursday, October 15 and 17 from 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM at the Oakhill campus. Cost is \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-members.

For reservations, call LaRee Opdahl at 651/738-6072. If you have already taken the 8-hour class, there will be a 4-hour Refresher Course at the Valley Creek Campus on Tuesday, October 1 from 9 AM - 1 PM in the Isaiah Room.



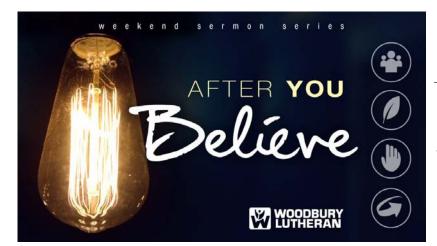




Want to make a difference from the comfort of your own home? Invite a Japanese college student studying at Bethel University this winter (February 15th - March 10th) to be a part of your family!

Share your love and faith with your student, and you'll plant a seed. Your student takes classes during the day and spends the evenings with you. Transportation help to/from Bethel is provided as well as a stipend.

For information contact Lisa Bekemeyer, <u>LBekemeyer@me.com</u> or 651-253-9498 and check out thier site at: <u>https://tinyurl.com/SPII-Bethel.</u>



After You Believe

Date Range :: 10.06.19 - 11.03.19

What's life about after you believe in Jesus? Do we just wait for Jesus to come back? Do we follow the rules in preparation for a test? Do we live in self-defined freedom? Or did Jesus mean for us to have more right now? Join us as we discover what the rhythm of life looks like after you believe.

Week #I | Oct. 6/7 - After You Believe

Readings:

- Primary Reading: Matthew 6:19-21, 31-33 :: Secondary Reading: John 8:12
- We Value Movement // Faith Doesn't Stand Still

What are we aiming for in life? What are the things that matter? Paul gives a list of three with one being the most important. In fact, making this one thing a habit has the ability to completely change the aim of your life after you believe.

Week #2 | Oct. 12/13 - The Upside Down

Readings:

- Primary Reading: Matthew 16:21-25 :: Secondary Reading: I Corinthians 1:18-25, 30-31
- We Value Truth // Rooted in God's Word

When Jesus shows up all standards are changed. With Jesus it's not just about following rules. It's also not about achieving happiness through self-improvement. Jesus points us toward an eventual goal of blessing beyond bounds. But it's only possible through a horrible, shameful death. It flips our world upside down and inside out. After you believe Jesus invites you: "Come and die."

Week #3 | Oct. 19/20 - Checking In

Readings:

- Primary Reading: Hebrews 3:12-14 :: Secondary Reading: Matthew 15:10-20
- We Value Relationships // Life is Better Together

Relationships don't remain stagnant. They either grow or become distant. It's the same with our relationship with Jesus after we believe. Yet, if you want to grow in your relationship with Jesus, you must be connected to other disciples. That's really what the church is all about.

Week #4 | Oct. 26/27 -- Love

Readings:

- Primary Reading: I Corinthians 13:4-9,13 :: Secondary Reading: I Samuel 12:14-15, 20-24
- We Value Our Community // Serving and Welcoming

What are we aiming for in life? What are the things that matter? Paul gives a list of three with one being the most important. In fact, making this one thing a habit has the ability to completely change the aim of your life after you believe.

Week #5 | Nov. 2/3 - Leave a Trace

Readings:

- Primary Reading: Colossians 3:12-17 :: Secondary Reading: John 7:37-38
- We Value Movement // Faith Doesn't Stand Still

If you've ever been to the Boundary Waters before you've seen the sign: "Leave No Trace". Life after you believe is the opposite call. Through our words and actions we're invited to leave a trace of Jesus. We might think it's complicated, but really it comes down to two simple things.



was spiritually stuck. As a Christian since childhood, a 29-year children's pastor, a pastor's wife, and a Bible college graduate, I knew a lot αbout God and the Bible. And, of course, I wanted everyone's identity to be rooted in Christ and His love!

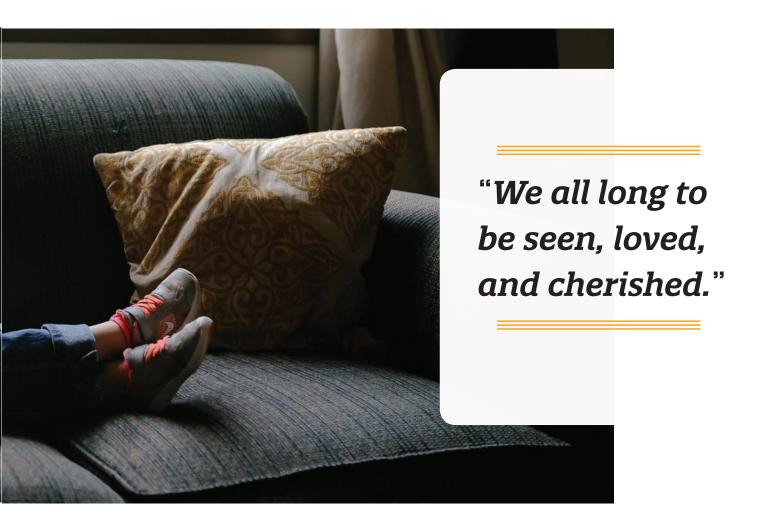
What rocked my world was discovering, in a two-year spiritual formation group, that I didn't really know God the way our Abba Father longs for us to know Him. Childhood wounding blocked the love Jesus wanted to lavish upon me. When I heard that I was beloved, valued, and worthy, my super-powered protective barrier went up and all of those truths ricocheted off, never penetrating my soul.

Buried childhood wounds began to surface. How could I experience God's amazing love when I had been unseen, unprotected, and wounded? Diving deeper, I realized had shoved down memories to protect myself, but I was often still responding as that hurt little girl.

With Jesus' help I began to demolish the barrier. In order to experience God's love, I had to not only love myself but take care of the wounded child within. By dwelling on the truths of God's love for me while recalling painful childhood events, I began to heal. He loved this wounded little girl; I needed to love her too. The child within was asking in a soft, childlike voice: "Jesus, do You REALLY love ME? ... Me?"

I encourage you to read the "story" below to the child within you—"little (your name)." Before reading, recall times as a child when you were weak and vulnerable. Listen as that child, and ask yourself, "What am I feeling?" Reflect upon: "Is this how 'little me' sees herself/himself?" Could these words, which you may easily embrace as an adult, not be reaching all of you? Often the child within needs to hear them most.

Did you know that long before you were born, our big God knew you? Yes, our big God knew everything



about YOU! What color eyes and hair you would have, whether you would be interested in dance, sports, science, art, or reading—and it brings Him great joy! Our big God knew you would be outgoing, quiet, or somewhere in-between.

He delights in your uniqueness and loves everything about you–His precious creation.

Our big God looks at YOU, His child, as a perfect loving parent would—with total love! When He looks at you our big God shouts: "YOU are precious! YOU are unique! YOU are loved!" His love for you is HUGE!

Our big God hears you. He's longing for you to share your daily experiences with Him, both happy and sad. Just like your best friend, He wants to hear what's on your heart. He wants to talk to you, too.

Our big God has a journey just for you. Once you embrace how deep and wide His love is for you, He is ready to take your hand and guide you in this amazing adventure He has for YOU. We all long to be seen, loved, and cherished. As we experience God's amazing love for us, it destroys those protective barriers we often build as children, and He floods the places once filled with pain. You begin to see yourself as your **Abba Father sees you—BELOVED! VALUED! WORTHY!**

Jesus lived in this sense of belovedness that gave Him security and peace. At His baptism His Abba expressed, "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased" (Mark 1:11). Take your Abba Father's hand in yours and step into an amazing adventure to discover your belovedness.

by Cathi Phillips

Cathi and her husband have served as pastors in the same church in Irvine, CA, their entire marriage. She has 35 years experience as a children's pastor, is a graduate of Hope International University, and still finds joy being with her two adult children. Her journey with Jesus is leading her into new frontiers as a mentor and consultant while pursuing her endless quest to find the ultimate chips and salsa pairing.



FALL RALLY

Saturday, October 19, 2019

"How We All Fit in God's Mission"

Presenter: Rev. Dr. William Utech Assistant to the President for Missions Minnesota South District-LCMS

Christ Lutheran Church, 1930 Diffley Rd., Eagan

Registration begins at 8:30 am with Rally beginning at 9:00 am and ending with Lunch.

Cost: \$10.00

Gifts from the Heart: Monetary Gifts for the District New Church Incubator Program to help plant new churches in our District. Checks should be made out to the MNSO District and in memo line put "New Church Incubator"



October Birthdays

- 1 Janna Duban Marianne Eineke Mason Himes Victoria Riehle Brian Smith Rick Stinogel
- 2 Rhonda Affield Kaylee Amundson Nathan Bloomquist Kurt Brammer Josh Brocker Barrett Connolly Scott Stevens
- 3 Alex Barker
 BJ Brown
 Lyn Foley
 Cynthia Freeman
 Amber Ignaszewski
 Bethany Mathot
 Gabe Peterson
 Kavin Ramesh
 Nancy Ritter
 Carol Score
- 4 Elias Aune
 Patrick Brewer
 Paul Burandt
 Jerry Helander
 Kendel McKinley
 Marvel Mitterholzer
 Jason Sirovy
- 5 Sophia Carlson
 Aubrey Chavie
 Camryn Goerlitz
 Janet Harrison
 Elizabeth Huebsch
 Rod Lund
 Deb Reynolds
 Brenda Stoffel
 Alejandro TrujilloCorona
 Lori Voth
 John Wilford
 Michele Wolf
- 6 George Achterling Michele Eggers Fritz Feuerherm Glennae Meyer

- Gina Pearson Michelle Sabatke Garrett Sailer Kimberly Sorgert Dave Wegner
- Dave Wegner

 7 Linda Atchison
 Julia Gibbs
 Luanne Greengard
 Roger Haukland
 Shirley Hensel
 Audrey Nisbit
 Lisa Noblett
 Veronica Pettit
 Don Piper
 April Reed
 Nick Weiler
- 8 Aaron Bauman
 Ellen Cochran
 Katie Dahm
 John Foster
 Parker Huebsch
 Tyler Huebsch
 Bob Kolb
 Etta Meyer
 Scott Reinhard
 Mark Smith
 Olivia Thao
 Cheryl Tveit
- 9 Terri Albrecht Steve Dopson Jeff Konop Matt Meek Grant Schouveller Jesse Spates Rick Theissen Bennett Zeller Griffin Zeller
- 10 Gene Anderson Georgina Cavanaugh Kaye Christianson Logan Duis Stella Hall Debbie Heggernes Olivia Hillmeyer Fran Menge Danielle Nelson Delaney Palmer

- Ruth Premiah Gradey Olafson Brian Stakston Dottie Tillery Dominique Villaume
- 11 Kevin Graham
 Eric Heintz
 Jill Hodne
 Dan Krause
 Eileen Lund
 Amy Meyer
 Bruce Montgomery
 Seryozha Mzenga
 Sharla Phernetton
 Kayla Towne
 Irene Sczublewski
- Lorraine Wohlhuter
 12 Barb Groth
 Melanie Haberman
 Alexander Konop
 Dawn Kroohn
 Jamison Mackey
 Christopher Neutz
 Celina Reyes
 Cindy Schwartz
 Ella Schwarzenbach
 Mike Steingraber
- 13 Tommy Albrecht Jennifer Anderson Cortney Heerwald Hannah Rodemeyer Brittni Weber Michael Zenner
- 14 Rick Blomquist
 Mackenzie Fossan
 Carolyn Hernandez
 Alicia Leemkuil
 Josephine Mack
 Charlie McElveen
 Eva Powers
 Stacey Wagley
- Stacey Wagley
 15 Dominic Browning
 Jessami Bruesehoff
 Robert Cummings
 Amy Fitzgerald
 Marie Klinzing
 Chelsea Lewis

- Jerry Morton Shannon Schach
- 16 Kirstin Doman Jennifer Foss-Wille Sam Froseth Jan McLean Max Schmidt Elise Schuenke Amy Tessmer Eric Varin
- 17 Brooke Albrecht Paige Albrecht Cynthia Martin Kristen Nesvig Lillian Stenzel Matt Weiss
- 18 Will Bartley Erin Brandvik Julia Glatzmaier Ryan Lindstrom Addison Rohm Jim Sobaski
- 19 Ruth Camilli
 Paul Claugherty
 Ari Meyer
 Craig Roberts
 Jacob Rygh
- 20 Heidi Hove Benjamin Jacobus Judy Pirkl Lois Setten
- 21 Eli Boon
 Vienna Carlson
 Matthew Edwards
 Andrea HitzemannJohnson
 Helen Louie-Terzian
 Autumn Schuldt
 Gerald Steffel
 Daniel Wesser
- 22 Diane Cragoe Hall
 Hannah Dufresne
 Graham Anderson
 Kimberly Herr
 Zach Howard
 Jan Jeske-Rowe
 Everett Morri

23 Hannah Bauman
Peter Bloomquist
Lesa Clarkson
Julia Esboldt
Melania Fitzgerald
Madeline Haut
Tom Kroohn
Elden Lamprecht
Brad Sweet

Annaliese Voss

Warren Weum

Jen Wenck

Lisa Peterson

Adam Wiering
Adam Wiering
Nora Bauer
Melissa Butzler
Zachary Cartier
Jenny Granlund
Arlene Halleen
Presley Olafson
Arul Ramesh
Pat Stevens

Justin Topp

- 25 Ashish Abraham
 Kaitlin Albrecht
 Nancy Brezina
 Julie Drevnick
 Maggie Law
 Ryan Loss
 Abraham Matthews
 Desiree Morningstar
 Valerie Reichel
 John Rodemeyer
- 26 Rick Albrecht
 Don Arneson
 James Belmonte
 Kaylee Bierdeman
 Eric Bjornson
 Cristina Gurrola
 Vicki Huebsch
 Lisa Huska
 Alyssa Kreutzfeldt
 Craig McHenry
 Katherine Reinhard
 Karin Stensvad
 David Wolterstorff

27 Andrew Eineke

- Michele Jacobus Harper Lopez Tim Pleggenkuhle Roman Rogotzke Connie Sabbann Jeanette Schmidt KC Swanlund Lisa Thao
- 28 Nolan Aspen
 Maria Engen
 Quinn Haines
 Carley Kokaisel
 Bob Nelson
 Rachel McFarland
 Katie Schultze
 Wendy Schultze
 Anastacia Speckhard
 Parris Vitela
 LeRoy Wilke
- 29 Amanda Brigl Bennett Lodermeier David Schelling Cheryl Stensvad Beejay Zager
- 30 Bob Albrecht
 Simona Awiszus
 Rylea Casselberry
 Chad Helgason
 Candace Lilleboe
 Aspyn Offenhauser
 Thomas Ogren
 Kassie Raasch
 Keira Rosin
 Macey Salzmann
- 31 Trevor Brammer
 LaVonne Hamilton
 Renee Kenow
 Brian Kieser
 Latha Kirubakaran
 Emelynn Klotthor
 Janice Lindau
 Quinn McHarg
 Alyxia Morris
 Katherine Parker
 Michael Scheid
 Jean Steinbraber

& Anniversaries

- 1 Gary & Diane Baran Joey & Kirsten Benke Tim & Brittany Bystrzycki Nick & Julie Kordosky
- 2 Gary & Byrnina Iskason Kevin & Darlene Meissner
- 3 Rich & Shelly Ahlquist Karl & Cheryl Hohenstein Thomas & Ingrid Kinmounth Dave & Sue McNally Mark & Kim Sorgert
- 4 Mark & Cindy Johnson Mark & Cameo Kosanke Gene & Phyllis Letendre Jeff & Katie Mueller
- 5 John & Dorothy Blaisdell Jorge & Acela Lopez Burt & Reighe Nagel
- 6 Paul & Sally Cronin Jeff & Aimee Wilford
- 7 Jim & Kris Kiltie John & Joy Taraldsen
- 9 Aaron & Jamila Drevlow
- 10 Brian & Katie Whitemarsh11 Jim & Alicia CulbertsonKevin & Kristin EsboldtDavid & Cheryl White
- 12 Glen & Cindy Boedecker Brett & Lisa Corrigan Brian & Donna Herian

- Tom & Patti Nelson Matthew & Rachel Solosky 13 Brad & Sandi Miller Chris & Tiffany Perlt
- 14 Russell & Linda McCuskey
 Dave & Cheryl Schindler
- 15 Justin & Amanda Brigl Doug & Beth Mackey
- 16 Doug & Yvonne Pilot Bob & Amy Schlichenmaier
- 17 Larry & Carol Edwards 18 Josh & Melanie Anderson Billl & Karen Klinzing John & Jessica Norring

Greg & Sharon Opheim

- Tom & Kristine Stork y 19 Ken & Lindsey Babin Chuck & Janice Jones Fred & Alyssa Kreutzfeldt
 - 20 Gerald & Robin Dittmann Chike & Sarah Ociagha Dick & Nancy Ritter
 - 22 Jeff & Joan Figlmiller Aaron & Haley Raebel Mark & Tonya Smith Bob & Fran Cummings
 - 23 Peter & Barb Cavanaugh John & Diane Kuhrmeyer Kevin & Deb Tacheny Ed & Cathy Yee

- 24 Grant & Pixie Anderson Tom & Alex Finnegan
- 25 Kelly & Tiffany Fitzgerald
- 26 Chad & Alison Kurth Brian & Addie Michlitsch
- 27 Keith & Cynthia Gustafson Michael & Brenda Haut
- 28 Mark & Tami Jelinek
- 30 Tim & Roxane Becken
- 31 Dwight & Patti Schultz





HEALING SERVICE

Our Healing Service is held at the Valley Creek Campus every third Sunday. For prayers of healing, attend our service on October 20 at 12:15pm, in room 1-250 (VC Fireside). Questions, call Pastor Tim at 651-739-5144.

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 is available each worship service at all of our campuses. 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.



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

Sign up for more information/that you're interested at the Connection Center.

CAREER TRANSITION CONNECTION

We welcome Chuck Standfuss as he presents, "Salary Negotiation--Yes You Can!" on October 10, at 7pm, room 1-250 (VC). For more information about this event and CTC check out the website at www.careertransitionconnection.org.

CAREER TRANSITION CONNECTION

We welcome George Dow as he presents "Career Crossroads after 50... Nine Choices, Strategies and Stories For Your Next Career Move" on October 24, 7pm, room 1-250 (VC). For more information about this event and CTC check out the website at www.careertransitionconnection.org.

SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH PROGRAMMING

Here are the programs that are offered at our three campuses for youth on Sunday mornings:

- Liberty Ridge Sunday Donut and Devotions (6th-12th): On the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month we will gather to enjoy donuts together, play a game, do a devotional Bible study, and share the highs and lows from our week. We will then meet in the kids/youth area to have fun, get to know each other more, spend time in God's word together, and connect as a Liberty Ridge community. We meet 9-9:45am. Contact Laura at stennesL@woodburylutheran.org with any questions.
- Valley Creek Sunday Small Group (6-12th): A new Sunday AM small group is available at 11am for students who aren't available on Wednesday nights. If you're interested, connect with Lindsey Schmidt.
- Oak Hill Sunday Youth Bible Study (6-12th): Sunday mornings youth Bible study will gather at 9:15 am in the youth room (1-106). Questions? Contact Sarah Dibbernn

FALL 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: wlcyouth.org.

LIBERTY RIDGE BONFIRE & GAME NIGHT

Liberty Ridge Youth (6th - 12th grades) and their families are invited to Laura Stennes's house for a bonfire/game night on Oct. 6, 5:30-8:30 pm. Bring a friend! Please RSVP to Laura Stennes at stennes!@woodburylutheran.org.

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR LUNCH

Sunday, October 13, 12:15-2:00. Senior year and the launch to life beyond is a tricky time for both parents and their children! This special lunch for current 12th graders and their parents will prepare you to navigate these last months well and prepare you to launch into what's next. A special "Senior Blessing" and the gifting of a new study Bible is also included. This event for 2020 grads is being held at VC and OH campus (LR attend at VC location). No cost. Please register at wlcyouth.org.

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.

NOVEMBER CONFIRMANDS - OCTOBER DEADLINES

Students who are planning to confirm their faith on November 2/3 be sure to complete the THREE sign up forms at wlcyouth.org by the dates requested. Contact Lindsey Schmidt at schmidtL@woodburylutheran.org if you have any questions or to register for your confirmation celebration interview. Save the date: Saturday, November 2, 9:30-11:30am, Confirmation brunch for students, parents & loved ones. We will take pictures, rehearse, and

Getting Connected

have a blessing and prayer service. Confirmation is on November 2/3 at all services.



PILGRIMAGE TO ALPINE EUROPE - OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY

Join Past President Dr. Robert Holst September 21-October 1, 2020 as he and Pastor Paul & Rhoda Pfotenhauer as they pilgrimage through alpine Europe. Contact Paul or Rhoda by September 1 at 651-261-3416 or paulrhoda@comcast.net.

ISRAEL TRIP WITH THE NADASADY'S

Pastor Dean and Susie Nadasdy invite you to an Israel Tour Information Meeting on Sunday, October 20, 6:30-8:00P, in the Fireside Room. If you've already signed up for our September 4-15, 2020 tour or if you're interested in the trip, join us for information, a review of our itinerary, and dessert.



YOUTH SUMMER MISSION EXPERIENCE REVEAL

Youth Mission Experiences for next summer will be shared on Wednesday, November 6 at both campuses, 7:45-8:15pm. Parents are welcome to join us to hear about the opportunities for the summer of 2020. Registration opens on November 7.

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.

October 2019 Calendar

1 (V) Cancer Companions Tuesday, 7:00pm Contact: Vicki Strong, 651-208-4353

2 (V) Women of the Word Wednesdays, 9:15am Contact: Brad Miller, 651-739-5144 x209

2 (0) Pastor's Bible Study Wednesdays, 10:00am Contact: Vicar Quincy, 651-739-5144 x223

2 (V) Mitten Ladies Wednesdays, 12:15pm Contact: Lyndis Vander Louw, (651) 459-3313

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

5 (0) Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study Saturdays, 8:00am Contact: Vicar Dean, 651-739-5144 x331 5 (V) Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study Saturdays, 7:00am Contact: Jeff Linert, 651-387-9428

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

7 **(0)** Women of the Word Mondays, 9:30am Contact: Jane Dibbern, 612-239-0258

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

7 (V) Monday Men's

7 (V) Monday Afternoon Women's Ministry Mondays, 12:00pm Contact: Tamara Karlstrand, 651-734-3974

7 **(V) Grief Class** Mondays, 6:30pm Contact: Pastor Tim, 651-739-5144 x221 8 (V) Pastor's Bible Study Tuesdays, 1:30pm Contact: Karl Grant, 651-739-5144 x241

10 (V) Career Transition Connection

Thursday, 7:00pm Contact: Tom Colosimo, 612-386-3715

20 (V) World Prayer Dive Sunday, 11:00am Contact: Brad Miller, 651-739-5144 x209

24 (V) Career Transition Connection Thursday, 7:00pm Contact: Tom Colosimo, 612-386-3715

27 (O) World Prayer Dive Sunday, 9:00am Contact: Brad Miller, 651-739-5144 x209

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