

THE NEWSLETTER

Woodbury Lutheran Church Newsletter

February 2015

Passing on Your Faith to the Next Generation

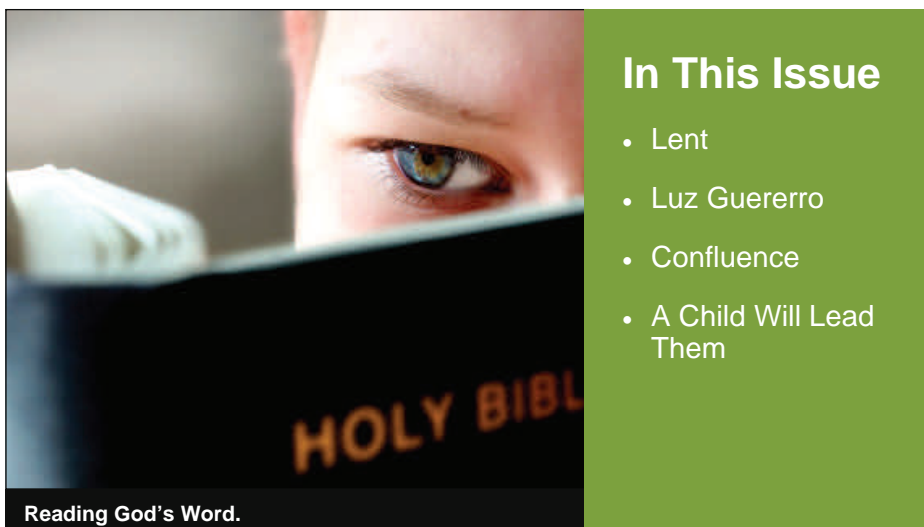
In our society much time and money is invested in helping our children become great students, athletes, and musicians. As parents we play catch, shoot baskets, go over times tables and spelling words all in an attempt to help our children be successful in school and ultimately in life. While all of these activities are important, there is something else that is more important because it will have eternal consequences.

In Deuteronomy 6:6-7, God tells us that passing our religious values to our children should be our all-day, every-day priority. Teach your children when you get up, when you go to bed, when you go about your daily tasks.

Sound difficult? Not really, it can become something quite natural and flow out of your daily family life.

1. **GIVE YOUR HOME A SPIRITUAL ATMOSPHERE.** Children reflect their environment. Make it obvious to your kids that your home is one of faith. Are there religious pictures, a Bible, or religious books visible? What toys or games do your children have to play with? Do you monitor TV and the Internet? What kind of conversations takes place? How do your children start and end their day?
2. **SHARE YOUR JOY IN THE LORD.** Children are drawn to joy and happiness. If faith in God makes you sour or unresponsive, children will go elsewhere for joy. So make Psalm 118:24 your family motto: 'This is the day the Lord has made we will rejoice and be glad in it.' Thank God daily for His blessings. Talk about them with your family. Talk about God's love and forgiveness. Talk about His grace. Share the joy! Fill your hearts with gratitude.

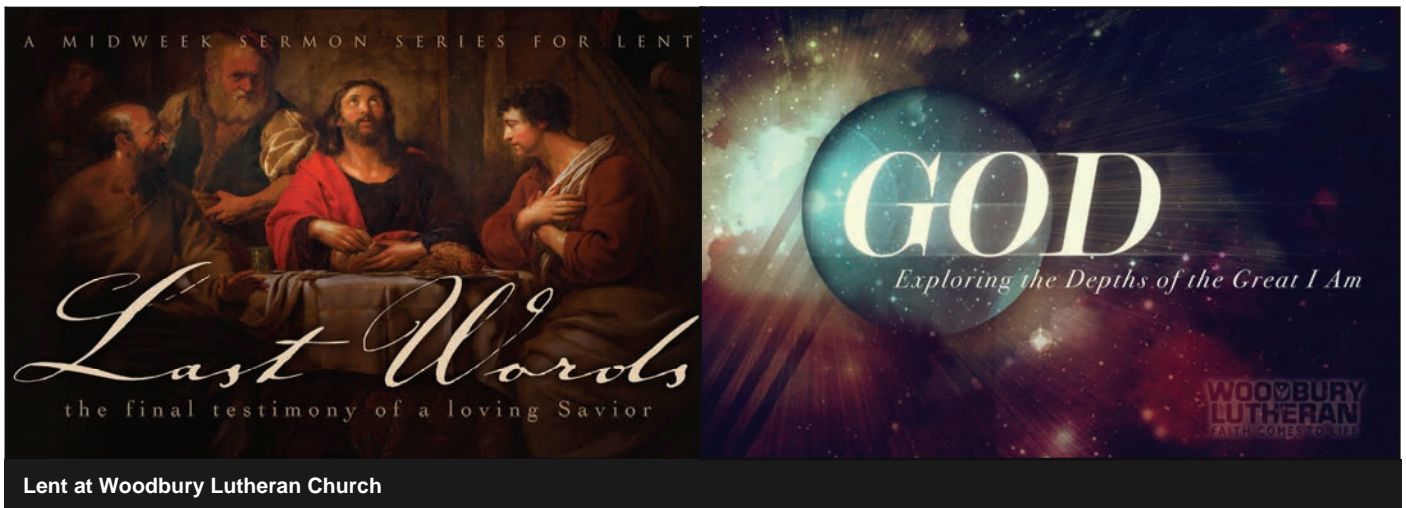
3. **SHARE YOUR PERSONAL FAITH EXPERIENCE WITH YOUR CHILDREN.** Don't let your faith in God be one of your family's best-kept secrets. Talk openly about God. Share your faith experience—including the ups and downs—with your children. They'll learn that faith is a real part of your life, and they'll want that faith too.
4. **PRAY FOR AND WITH YOUR CHILDREN EVERY DAY.** Christian parents have always prayed for their children. Pray many short prayers during the day to communicate your joy or sorrow or need to God. Your children will quickly pick up the idea and God will become their confidant and friend.
5. **READ GOD'S WORD EVERY DAY.** God's Word undergirds faith; it provides answers for life's dilemmas, assurance in difficulty, connection in times of stress, and promises for the future. Without a strong connection to God's Word, your children will not develop faith in God. Show your children how important your Bible is to you. Use the Kids Ministry Kids LINK resources to enhance your child's Sunday lessons during the week.



In This Issue

- Lent
- Luz Guererro
- Confluence
- A Child Will Lead Them

Reading God's Word.



Lent at Woodbury Lutheran Church

Lent

As many of you know the Church has a liturgical (*I know—big word*) calendar that helps move us through the ebbs and flows of the year. Perhaps the two best known “seasons” in the Church Year are the Season of Advent when we prepare for the birth of Jesus and the Season of Lent, when we enter into a posture of repentance and self-reflection as we ponder the weight of the burden that Jesus bore on our behalf as He died on the Cross of Calvary.

Lent has a special place in my heart and has always been a favorite time for me. I believe that one of the reasons why is our Mid-Week worship time. Ever since I was a kid I remember looking forward to eating great soup with friends and then hearing a special testimony from someone in the congregation. Our testimony tradition has meant that over the years hundreds of stories from disciples of Jesus have been shared in our midst. What a blessing; to see how God works in our lives!

I want to encourage each of you to make the time and join us for the 6 Wednesdays in Lent starting Ash Wednesday, February 18th. We will be walking with Jesus and hearing the final testimony of a loving Savior as we look at some of the Last Words that Jesus spoke before His death. I promise you will not regret coming and if the Lord has been nudging you to share your story talk with Pastor Derek or myself.

On Sunday’s starting February 22, we are going to explore the depths of who our God is as we look at a few of the characteristics that make God, well, God. So often we fall into the trap of defining God in our image, but as Isaiah so clearly says in chapter 55, Gods ways are not our ways. As we spend time together in worship, I pray the depth and mystery of our amazing God will make the fact that He loves us that much more overwhelming and meaningful to you.

Blessings to each of you as walk His way on the discipleship path growing to be more and more like Jesus each and every day!

Peace,
Pastor Tom

2015 WLC Leadership

Council

Paul Cronin, President; **Bryan Hughes**, Vice President; **Lisa Schaefer**, Treasurer (until a replacement can be found); **Cindy Boedecker**, Secretary; **Bob Petrich**, Lead Elder; **Renee Boehme**, At Large; **Tim Reberg**, At Large; **Jason Schuldt**, At Large; **Troy Wentk**, At Large; **Jon Kuehne**, 14-15 Vicar, Ex Officio; **Mark Stutelberg**, Administrator, Ex Officio; **Tom Pfoenhauer**, Senior Pastor, Ex Officio

Elders

Jerry Backlund, Emmanuel Choragudi, Dean Galvin, Kevin Graham, Steve Lindeman, Rico Lopez, Leo McFarland, Bob Petrich – Lead, Tim Pleggenkuhle, Chris Radecki, Scott Stevens, Don Thaemert

Baptisms:

Everett Lee Morri
Louie Benjamin Doane
Giana Juliano
Lily Juliano

Deaths:

Rob Krueger ~ grandfather, Joe
Jon Krueger ~ grandfather, Joe
Derek Hafner ~ father, Joel
Linda Amey ~ father, Dick
Barb Arend ~ sister, Elaine
Paul Stiebner ~ brother, Jim
Lory Cedarbloom ~ husband, Brian
Peter Rowcliffe ~ mother, Ann
Sharon Wolgram ~ father, Dick
Kurt Brammer ~ mother, Randi
Cindy Mertens ~ father, Maynard
Family of Dorthea O'Neill
Tom Bystryzcki ~ mother, Lu

Service Times at WLC:

Sundays at Valley Creek:

Sanctuary, Blended 8 & 11am
Sanctuary, Contemporary 9:30am
Genesis, Contemporary 11am

Saturdays at Valley Creek:

Journey, 5pm

Sundays at Oak Hill:

Blended 9:00am
Contemporary 10:30am

Office & Mailing Address:

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



Luz Guerrero Meeting with the Latino Community

Luz Guerrero: New Addition to Her Ministry

Deaconess Luz Guerrero has worked for the last eight years for MN South District, Woodbury Lutheran Church and more recently for the LCMS National Mission Office.

The LCMS National Mission Office encourages and supports the work of pastors, deaconesses, and laypeople around the country who are engaged in outreach to the Latino community; a community that is expected to grow to 29 percent of the U.S. population by 2050.

Over the years, LCMS Hispanic Ministry has found that ministering to meet community needs—such as English classes, tutoring, after school programs, etc.—along with developing relationships with people opens up opportunities to share a Gospel witness. To strengthen and encourage all who are involved in this work, LCMS Hispanic Ministry is building regional networks where ministry leaders can share best practices and support.

This addition to her ministry is allowing Luz to travel around the country to meet and connect with Hispanic deaconesses, listening to their needs, and sharing information about the training opportunities and financial help that the Mission Office can provide for their ministries and churches. The National Mission Office anticipates creating a Hispanic Deaconess Directory, enabling nation-wide communication to promote individual and collective growth.

Luz and volunteer members of Lutheran Churches continue to host ESL classes and/or Bible Study at Woodbury Lutheran, Mt. Calvary in Richfield and Trinity First Lutheran in Minneapolis. She is also teaching advanced Spanish at Concordia University-St. Paul.

For more information about LCMS National Mission Office, visit www.lcms.org/hispanicministry or email Luz at guerrero@csp.edu.



The WLC Discipleship Path

Confluence

Con-flu-ence (kon 'flōō əns), noun, a coming or flowing together, meeting, or gathering at one point.

Confluence is often used to describe the place where two streams or rivers come together. They meet, join and flow on together. Bigger, faster, more powerful water because of the joining.

We're experiencing a confluence around here these days. It has been going on for some time but it's just now that we're starting to recognize the joining and the strength of the movement resulting from it.

Back in 2013 we launched into Greater, a journeying together as a congregation, focusing on God's greatness and asking ourselves an important question, "How can God use me to accomplish His will for Woodbury Lutheran Church?" Greater asked each of us to commit to five things: Greater Growth, memorizing and reflecting on scripture weekly; Greater Connection, joining and investing in a small group; Greater Service, increasing involvement by volunteering; Greater Reach, inviting one person or family to WLC each year; and Greater Sacrifice, an above-and-beyond financial pledge to the ministry of WLC.

All kinds of wonderful things have begun happening since Greater launched. Scripture cards for reflection and prayer found their ways into homes and offices, small group participation increased dramatically, new servants joined in using their gifts in ministry, new people came through our doors and experienced God's grace here, and generosity, already remarkable, increased.

Lately you've been hearing a lot about something we're calling the Discipleship Path. The Discipleship Path is the way we describe the process we believe God is using at Woodbury Lutheran to make disciples. The Path has four pieces: Worship, Grow, Serve and Reach. Scripture and research into spiritual growth both point to these four as critical pieces in a disciple's maturity. And whether a person is a brand new or a lifelong follower of Jesus, each piece, and the Path as a whole, is fundamental.

Do you see the merging, the flowing together, the confluence? Greater is a three-year initiative designed to spur us on into an increasing participation in God's mission. The Path is a lifelong process of maturing, of becoming more like Jesus. The five Greater initiatives got us all thinking about God's mission and our growth. The Discipleship Path carries those

initiatives forward in an ongoing process helping us ask and answer the important question, "What's next?"

It's exciting to be here, in the midst of this confluence. And we're confident that our God, who moves with amazing timing, and orders things to accomplish His purposes, will continue the work He's doing in us and through us.

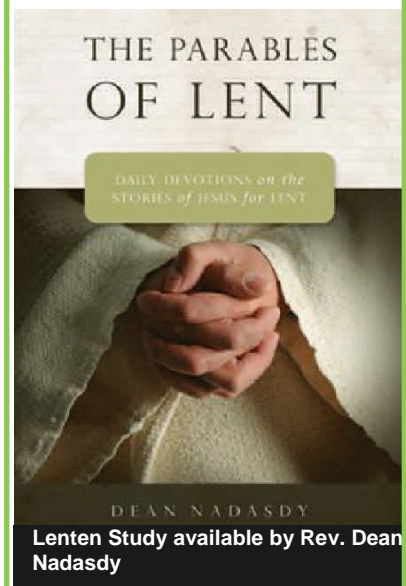
The Parables of Lent

This Lenten study will be available beginning Sunday, February 1 at the Valley Creek and Oak Hill Campuses.

These Lenten daily devotions on the stories of Jesus will take us line by line through some of the most well-known parables of Jesus that teach repentance, forgiveness, sacrifice and everlasting love.

The devotion books are free and are available at the Welcome Centers on each campus. Numbers are limited, so pick yours up soon.

Dean Nadasdy is the former Senior Pastor of Woodbury Lutheran Church and the current President of the Minnesota South District for the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.



Lenten Study available by Rev. Dean Nadasdy



Mid-Week: Last Words

February 18: Ash Wednesday
I Am the Way – John 14:6

February 25
Remain in Me – John 15:5a

March 4
Love Each Other – John 15:17

March 11
Wash One Another's Feet - John
13:14

March 18
You Do Not Belong – John
15:20b

March 25
That They May be One – John
17:23b

April 2: Maundy Thursday
Drink it Anew – Mark 14:25

April 3: Good Friday
It Is Finished – John 19:30

Sundays: God

February 22
Mystery, Romans 11:33

March 1
Holiness, Isaiah 6:3

March 8
Incomparability, Ephesians
1:18-19

March 15
Mercy, Hebrews 4:16

March 22
Jealousy, 2 Peter 3:9

March 29
Sovereignty, Matthew 10:29



Lenten Soup Dinners Are Back!

Lenten Soup Dinners

Valley Creek Campus:

- 5:15 – 6:15 in the Genesis Room
- Lent Worship follows at 6:30 in the Sanctuary; Suggested donation for the meal \$5.00; Family Max \$20 – Kids under 5 are free
- February 18 - Chili with fixings or Vegetable soup; salad; dessert
- February 25 - Chicken wild rice or Minestrone soup, salad; dessert
- March 4 – Navy bean or Chicken and noodle soup; salad; dessert
- March 11 - Baked potato or Beef barley soup; salad; dessert
- March 18 - Cream of broccoli or Chicken and dumpling soup; salad; dessert
- March 25 - Chicken wild rice or Beef barley soup; salad; dessert
- Our caterers... TST Creative Catering

Oak Hill Campus:

- 5:15 – 6:15 in the Fellowship Room

Wednesday evenings at the Oak Hill campus enjoy a soup dinner starting at 5:00.

The soup dinners are served by members. Worship begins at 6:30. Gather the family in the Fellowship Hall and have a meal with old and new friends.

FEBRUARY

1	Gene Bruesehoff Jennifer Conway Heather Dahle Samuel Figilmiller Suzanne Horning Michele Kamholz- Swanson	Bob Benson, Jr. Margaret Dalbec Emmalyn Gage Niko Hasapopoulos Lloyd Kastner Matthew Mortenson Valerie Morris Elizabeth Radecki	Mitchell Iloff Cindy Johnson Matthew Smith Elisabeth Speckhard Samuel Speckhard Shannon Weinandt Caitlin Weixel	Jennifer Hoffbeck Daniel Johnson Kenny Nelson Codi Feuerherm Lynn Rizzardi Daniel Meyer Andrea O'Keefe	Adalyn McKinley Mirabelle Morri Heather Kiedrowski Justin Hanson Hadley Burger Elijah Neumann Tina Pokrandt
	Timothy Lopez Jan Miller Sarah Petrich Alexander Schreiner Michael Slaughter Kris Sweet Lauren Wess	7 Krista Erickson Lindsey Featherstone Sara Gurrola Julie Horn Aaron Jenkins Brenda Kavanaugh Katy Meyer Ken Nelson Jennifer Reinhard Margaret Slater	13 Craig Beltman Gerald Dittmann Clair McReynolds Michael Theis Kimberly Scibak Linda Amey Andy Smialek Thomas Speckhard Marc Turner Alexander Michel Nikki Carlson	18 Tony Reberg Konnie Harstad Debbie Hukee Addison Johnson Jaidn Mohlenhoff Steven Widen Nathan Williams Erin Schaefer Diane Baran Donna Greenlee Cindy Hoffbeck	25 Dima Aunan Naomi Golnitz Kim Hughes Jim Jensen II Peter Karlstrand Emma McNally Mavis Shriver Michelle Hartinger Roger Strharsky Cathy Yee
2	Justin Brigl Adam Dittmer Luke Gutzmann Donald Hartinger Toni Loeffler William Nisbit Roger Swanson Sharon Wuggazer Diana Wutke	8 Mary Dittman Jacob Bloom Amanda Didion Cameron Dressler Paige Harris Loren Opdahl Peter Rowcliffe Brett Wilkie	14 Lindsey Conley Campbell Robillard Ashley Gazdik Muriel Gimble Sherri King Elsie Thomas Dena Schull Larry Lombard Amelia Casas Robert Kamholz Candi McCausland	19 Diane Baran Donna Greenlee Cindy Hoffbeck Carter LaMott Faith Neumann Margarite Thoele Adalyn Mueller Rachel Mueller Colleen Schuldt Grace Kelly Marsha Devine Terri Swanson Mildred Roznick Janice Masanz Monique O'Donnell Art Plath Gladys Westin	26 Audrina Conley Tracy Gardner Charles Herpolsheimer Erin Powell Thomas Camilli Mike Pokrandt Michael Peter Elaine Southward Andrea Wachal Dean Wohlhuter
3	Cary Arneson Kathy Girgen Michael Haut Richard Kveton Kaye Larson Pam Stafford Parker Taylor Matt Turcotte Richard Wachal	9 Dorothy Blaisdell Ricardo Lopez Joel Symmank Kevin Krueger Jean Rock Kaylee Dahl Savannah Pelto	15 Gerald Anderson Molly McNeely Beverly Diederich Halley Boesen Roy Klasinski Hal Shaver Jecoah Cedarbloom Brenda Franklin Jeremy Craven James Schuster Lyn Wilkie Michael Bjornson Joe Allenspach William Gauwitz Ed Erickson Denise LaFontaine Lexie Gutzmann Charles Kenow Todd Klusmann Ashley Knippenberg William Traynor Sandra Petrich Alyssa MacLeod Barbara Vik Janice Zeller Deb Hebert	20 Marsha Devine Terri Swanson Mildred Roznick Janice Masanz Monique O'Donnell Art Plath Gladys Westin Tori Cox Amanda Kohlbeck Julie Huber Gail Mullaney Mark Reed Karen Boatman Kaye Bradshaw Shane Madsen Dominic Ortiz Melissa Wall Ruby Salewski Deane Schuessler Jeanie Yee Mark Jones Raquel Beucler Tamara Karlstrand Dean Danner Aubrey Strohfus Marisa Rist Paula Powell Nic Yee Nicole Nelson Roger Jensen Merriell Pieper	27 Brian Brady Emily Layer Dylan Granholm Monica East Julie Fog Justin Jurek Quinn Stoerzinger Daniel Runge Bethany Breiholz Madison Nystel Kari Ulrich Mary Weiss Andrew Olson Tara Schlattman Alex Thao Ellyn Barker Elaine Feider Ellein McDaniel Nicholas Muenstermann Samuel Muenstermann Anthony Vik Charlotte Vossen Adeline Burger Paul Cronin Tyler Hebert Robert Menge
4	T.J. Cartier Shane Lombard Brian Michlitsch Arlene Schindeldecker Steve Schreiner Reed Siegling Jodee Watanabe Nicholas Zilge	10 David Beseman Shannon Brady Lincoln Daniels Kristina Hansel Kathleen McNeely Laura Cloose Ava Hanson Monte Michel Arthur Grant	16 Michael Bjornson Joe Allenspach William Gauwitz Ed Erickson Denise LaFontaine Lexie Gutzmann Charles Kenow Todd Klusmann Ashley Knippenberg William Traynor Sandra Petrich Alyssa MacLeod Barbara Vik Janice Zeller Deb Hebert	21 Tori Cox Amanda Kohlbeck Julie Huber Gail Mullaney Mark Reed Karen Boatman Kaye Bradshaw Shane Madsen Dominic Ortiz Melissa Wall Ruby Salewski Deane Schuessler Jeanie Yee Mark Jones Raquel Beucler Tamara Karlstrand Dean Danner Aubrey Strohfus Marisa Rist Paula Powell Nic Yee Nicole Nelson Roger Jensen Merriell Pieper	
5	Gary Anderson Don Brocker Pam Clark Gerald Groth Megan Holthaus Richard Horacek Riley Hugdahl Kylee Jacobson Millie Lodahl Duncan MacLeod Tom Pfothenauer Carrie Pieper Chrissy Pieper Daniel Quiros Karen Wolterstorff	11 Nathaniel Autz Vanessa McClure Tanner Ignaszewski Susan Montgomery Logan McAlpin Margo Garven Debra Benschhof Lon Berven Nick Rheinberger Zach Droel Casey White Sonja Sowders Addison Strohfus Lisa Hall	17 Leah Hall		
6	Melanie Anderson				

BIRTHDAYS

& Anniversaries

1	Dan & Aleesha Berkman	Ivan & Angie Niezgocki	Robert & Elsie Thomas	25	Gerald & Barbara Groth
2	Mike & Debra Heggemes John & Beth Welsh	8 Timothy & Kathleen McNeely	17 Mark & Linda Erickson		Steve & Elaina Haine
3	Eric & Kim Sandrock Joseph & Judith Adams Perry & Kelly Rogotzke Mike & Holly Rollefson	11 Bob & Karen Johnson	18 Adam & Glennae Meyer	26	Daniel & Margaret Krause
5	Ed & Phyllis Dicke Scott & Janice Loula	12 Richard & Diane Kruger	19 Jim & Deborah Maves	28	Cal & Kathy Janacek
7	Joseph & Sarah Miner	14 John & Faye Coffey Jeff & Sarah Yonkovich Joel & Lorreen Mohlenhoff John & Jean Rock	20 Steve & Harriett Porter 21 Paul & Kim Dolan 22 Perry & Michele Eggers 24 Steven & Kris Carlson Troy & Krista Hobot		Adam & Kimberly Jorgenson
		15 Mike & Carrie Steffel			Gary & Teresa Kanne
		16 Norm & Vi Alrick			

A CHILD WILL LEAD THEM

Recently my family was about to go into a grocery store when an ambulance drove by—sirens blaring.

My five-year-old asked if he could pray for the sick person before we got out of the van. "Of course," we said. He prayed for this person and other sick people for nearly 10 minutes while we sat in silence in the van. My wife or I could have easily stopped his prayer short, but we knew we would be getting in the way of my son worshipping God and modeling his faith to us and his brothers.

Josiah was a 12-year-old boy in my ministry. One year he came up with an idea to take all of the money his parents would normally spend on Christmas for his family of four and use it to buy clothes for the homeless in Indianapolis where they would be visiting family on Christmas. Josiah also wanted to take a trip to downtown Indianapolis on Christmas morning to hand out these clothes. His parents could have said, "No—that's a good idea for you, but what about your brother and sisters?" Or they could have said, "Why should we leave our family on Christmas morning

to hand out clothes to people we don't even know?" However, after talking together as a family, the family decided to give up Christmas gifts that year and bless the lives of people they didn't know in a city where they didn't even live.

In its purest form, worship is how we respond to God out of our love for Him. As parents, we often think we're the ones who should be modeling worship to our children. However, many times our kids have a desire to model Christ's love through worship and acts of love, and we get in their way by saying no or "not right now."

This month, ask your child to think of a way she can worship Christ by loving others. Don't dismiss any of her ideas; instead, take every action you can to help your child follow the Spirit's leading. Not only will your child have a great example of modeling her faith to others, but she'll also see you modeling your faith by responding to God together with her.

by Matt Richards

Taken from the February HomeFront Monthly Magazine

1 (V) **Young Folk Super Bowl Party**
Sunday, 5:00pm
Contact: Vicar Jon, 651-739-5144 x223

2 (V) **Women's Gathering Group**
Mondays, 12:00pm
Contact: Tamara Karlstrand,
651-734-3974

2 (V) **Grief Support**
Mondays, 6:30pm
Contact: Pastor Tim,
651-739-5144 x221

2 (V) **Cancer Companions**
Mondays, 6:30pm
Contact: Pastor Tim,
651-739-5144 x221

5 (V) **Celebrate Recovery**
Thursdays, 6:30pm
Contact: Larry Smith, 651-735-7725

7 (V) **Baptism Class**
Saturday, 9:30am
Contact: Jane Dibbern, 651-739-5144

7 (V) **Leadership Summit**
Saturday, 8:30am
Contact: Mary Law, 651-739-5144

12 (V) **Open Doors Thursdays**
Thursday, 5:00pm
Contact: Pastor Tim, 651-739-5144 x221

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

14 (V) **Leadership Summit**
Saturday, 8:30am
Contact: Mary Law, 651-739-5144

18 (V) **Ash Wednesday**
Wednesday, 5:15pm Soup Dinner,
6:30pm Worship

18 (O) **Ash Wednesday**
Wednesday, 5:00pm Soup Dinner,
6:30pm Worship

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

February 2015 Calendar Highlights

Want more events?
Visit myWLC.org and click on
Calendar

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

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

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