# THE **NEWS** LETTER



# Who's Ready for **An Amazing 2017?**

Woodbury Lutheran Youth is excited to be participating in a few really great events over the next few months and we want to make sure you have them on your calendars!!! You may wonder why we have youth events, retreats, and serving experiences. All of these are opportunities for our students and leaders to develop strong relationships, to step outside of their normal life rhythms and have some quality Jesus time.

We think of these experiences as the extra boost that helps our young people's faith mature and grow more rooted during such transitional times. If your young person is feeling disconnected or seems like they need a little extra boost, sign up! If they're nervous to go alone, come with them! If they're willing, have them bring a friend to help ease them into these awesome mountain top experiences! You can always find more information at wlcyouth.org and by following wlcyouth on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Arctic Blast for Middle school and High school students: January 20-22, 2017. Cost: \$115. Deadline: Jan 15th.

Super fun camp experience, we travel by bus up to Camp Lebanon in Upsula,MN. Broomball, snow tubing, snow football. So much fun!

**Middle School Lockout:** February 24th-25th, we play all night long! Ice skating, swimming, a movie, and bowling, \$40. Deadline to register: February 20th.

**Summer Mission Trips:** These are the best way to get to know other students and to really pour into your relationship with Jesus!

- The Middle School students are heading to Duluth the week of June 18-23rd. \$340.
- High school students are heading to Idaho the week of June 16-23rd, \$850-950 based on travel expenses.
- Students 16+ are invited to participate in the WLC mission trip to Quito, Ecuador, July 8-18th. \$1400.

We'd love to talk to you about these trips. They are awesome and definitely worth your time and resources. We start meeting to prepare for our summer experiences in February, so please register by February 1st.



# Jubilee!!!

2017 is going to be a year of Jubilee at Woodbury Lutheran Church! What is jubilee you ask; it is a year of celebration. If you were tracking with us over the summer as we walked through the book of Leviticus, then you no doubt remember the command of God given to Israel that every 50th year should be a year of Jubilee; a year when debts would be forgiven, aliens and foreigners would be welcomed and an overall sense of celebration would encompass the nation.

2017 marks the 50th birthday of Woodbury Lutheran Church as well as the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. Both events coincide in late October, but throughout the year we will be celebrating what God has done in the past with an eye on what He will do for the next 50 years at WLC! Here are some highlights:

- 1. In January we will be spending four weeks talking about Generosity and the freedom and joy that comes from having a clear financial picture in our lives that includes being generous.
- 2. As a thank you to our community and to reflect the generosity shown to us in Jesus we will be giving away our Easter offering this year to one or several non-profits – this will be over and above the 10 percent already set aside in our missions. This is a step of faith as we trust that the Lord will provide 52 weeks of offerings in 51 weeks in 2017 – I, for one, am excited about this opportunity to be generous!
- 3. In late September we will be putting together a good old Oktoberfest on our St. Croix Campus.
- 4. During the month of October we will be looking back on the many ways that God has been at work in our church over the last 50 years, as well as looking forward to what He will do over the next 50 years.
- 5. On the weekend of October 19-21 we will be hosting a Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack on our Valley Creek Campus.
- 6. The last weekend of October we will officially celebrate our 50th anniversary as a church and the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation.

Join me in truly making this a year of Jubilee!

Peace - Pastor Tom



"Set this year apart as holy, a time to proclaim freedom throughout the land for all who live there. It will be a jubilee year for you..." - Leviticus 25:10

### Weddings:

Jenna Blass & Travis Creel Jason Culbertson & Robin Farrell Megan Wutke & Austin Dyck

Baptisms: Dylan Jeffrey Anderson Amya Joyce Torres

### **Deaths:**

Family of Howard Boatmann, II Dean Danner ~ mother, Betty Danner Marlene Otterson ~ brother, Allen Paulson Ron & Bev Faust ~ sister-in-law, Helen Faust Marlene Ingvalson ~ sister, Martha Kruger Renee Schneider ~ sister, Marlene Prost Donna Carlson ~ mother, Doris Dobbs Wendy Baumgarn ~ grandmother, Doris Dobbs

## Service Times at WLC:

Saturdays at Valley Creek: Contemporary, 5pm

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

Sundays at Oak Hill: Blended 9:00am Contemporary10:30am

Sundays at Liberty Ridge *(beginning January 15th)*: 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



"...And as we trust Him and walk on *His* path, the way will shine brighter and brighter until the full light of day."



## In Anticipation of the Liberty Ridge Campus

January is finally here! I can't help but look forward to a fresh start and a feeling of anticipation for the future. And a big part of our future at Woodbury Lutheran Church is giving birth to a third campus, Liberty Ridge!

This will be my second time witnessing the launch of a church in a school building. Μv memories of the first church launch are those of excitement, joy and feeling of complete a unity with the others who were called to "go." I remember the very first Sunday we launched, the atmosphere felt like it was crackling...I've witnessed such never an outpouring of praise and worship in a congregation as when the band started to play that morning. We were praising God for his power, His love and His faithfulness in that new opportunity. What an emotional day it was. I am happy to say that the church is still going strong and they built their own beautiful facility a few years ago.

Looking back. things weren't always easy, but God was always faithful. Was it convenient to set up complete stage, α and sound system hundreds of chairs every Sunday (and tear it all back down again)? No. but everyone chipped in, even the smallest of children and we laughed and had fun anyway. It was a bit like a toddler learningtowalk: therewere stumbles from time to time, but God was always there to pick us up, dust us off and send us on our way.

When God calls us, it doesn't always mean it's going to be easy or convenient. However, Proverbs 4:18 says, "The path of the righteous is like the first gleam of dawn, shining ever brighter till the full light of day." We may not know where Liberty Ridge will be in a year, 5 years or 10 years. But praise God, we don't have to worry about it because God is just calling us to take the first step of faith...He'll take care of the rest! And as we trust Him and walk

on *His* path, the way will shine brighter and brighter until the full light of day.

Maybe you feel God nudging you to go with Liberty Ridge? Talk to Him about it and ask Him to show you His shining path for your life. We'd love to have you as part of the launch community...it's going to be fun!

And for those who are already committed to Liberty Ridge I would say this: start preparing your hearts now. Let's show up every Sunday with anticipation and iov. ready to worship the Everlasting God! Let us never stop crying: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come." (Revelation 4:8)

Praying God's blessings over you today, ~Kandi Chavie



# **Working on Hearts**

"He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord." - Deuteronomy 8:3

When summer floods left 100,000 homes in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, devastated, the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod Disaster Response established Camp Restore Baton Rouge at Trinity First Lutheran in Baton Rouge to provide flood cleanup and rebuilding volunteers. The camp consists of dorms that hold 50 bunks, kitchen facilities, a dining room and a shower trailer to provide for the needs of the volunteers and is supported by volunteer and church donations.

Woodbury Lutheran sent a "dream team" (team leader Jeff Linert's description) of eight workers to Camp Restore Baton Rouge in October. For 4 days, team members Mike Brocker, Troy Dalldorf, Cheri and Dave Frost, Mike Hamann, Linert, Mike Rygh, and Mike Sabbann worked in several homes, removing wet sheetrock and flooring in two homes, and replacing sheetrock in another.

We were blessed by the work the team was called to do in Louisiana and the

lives that were changed. They did not work just on buildings, but on hearts. They met Kentra, a recent cancer survivor, who received not just help on her home, but ministered to her with scripture and prayers for healing. They worked during the day with Karen, another volunteer and her sons, and, after listening to the team talk, Karen asked to join their evening devotions. She shared that she was touched with a hunger for more of the Word in her own life. They witnessed to homeowner Tan and his mother, both Catholics from Vietnam, who expressed an interest in a closer relationship with Jesus and helping Camp Restore.

Camp Restore is bare bones and beautiful because the proprietors trust the Spirit for everything needed. The attitude is kind and friendly, but serious about the Lord's busi-

ness of helping in Jesus's name. The place is clean and organized, but really only God knows who you will be helping on any given day. Phone

calls are made at the beginning of everyday to confirm work needs to be done and there will be someone there to let the crew in. Then the work is matched



to the team so the job can be done safety and well. Donated tools are rounded up and you are off to meet folks struggling to get back to normal.

The team was floored by the extent of the damage. Whole neighborhoods looked normal unless you looked closely through the windows. The walls were stripped down to the studs. All the drywall, cabinets, and flooring were in a pile by the curb outside the house. The principle of the Trinity first school told me about 40% of their families were forced to leave their homes while the place gets cleaned up, ripped apart and put back together. Where are all the people going? Kentra is staying with mom. Bonnie in her boyfriend's fishing trailer. Tan stayed with friends. Tan's brother moved his family into his place of business (Tan's brother had a team going to his house the day we left). It is a credit to Baton Rouge

that these displaced people have a place to stay.

The appreciation of our efforts in Jesus's name is hard to forget. We all stood around Kentra who is a working single mom with a wreaked house and prayed. She prayed thanking God for the team all the way from Minnesota. We shared that

God sent us to her because He loves her. Praise God. She texted us a month later when she finally moved back in. Tan worked hard with his friends to clean out his house, but he didn't know how to drywall. Mike Rygh actually knew how. He taught us and we taught Tan. By the end, he knew how it do it. At the end of every day we prayed with Tan. He cried every time. He and his family is not going to forget the team that came from Minnesota to drywall his home and pray with him. We are grateful we were able to do it.

The work continues at Camp Restore. Woodbury Lutheran members, friends and family interested in participating on another team (we need a team leader and some potential dates to get started) may contact Vicki Strong, 651-730-5049 or vickistrong@ comcast.net.

Cost of the trip is shared gas (or airfare if you would wish to fly into New Orleans and lease a car), meals on the road and a suggested donation of \$40/day to Camp Restore to cover sleeping accommodations (bunk house with hot showers) and 3 meals/day.

# Len the LINC-er

At first glance, Len Score might not appear to be a missionary. You would normally find him hiking or on a bike trail outdoors - he grew up on a farm in North Dakota. Yet today, Len is working to share God's love and make disciples among Somali immigrants in the Twin Cities.

In 2008, Len and his wife Carol moved to Maplewood, Minnesota and became members at Woodbury Lutheran Church. This past year, with his pastor's encouragement, Len joined LINC's Harvest Incubator for Mission (HIM). HIM helps people find their place in mission and ministry. Since joining HIM, Len now uses some of his retirement time to volunteer as an English tutor with Arrive Ministry's Somali Adult Literacy Training (SALT).

I have the pleasure of meeting with Len in the context of his mission field - at a local Somali deli - for one-on-one coaching. We pray and strategize about Len's outreach efforts.

Recently, Len shared especially good news:

"A few of us English tutors from SALT were here [at the Somali deli] enjoying Sambusas and tea when a local Muslim Imam introduced himself. We were invited to visit his mosque and discuss our religions. It was an interesting time and exchange of faith perspectives. During the conversation, we also connected with a Somali leader who has a passion for promoting unity and peace in the neighborhood, particularly at a local elementary school. **He invited us to help start a citizenship class** in the community room of the school for parents and to assist in other after-school activities."

> "...Len is working to share God's love and make d i s c i p l e s among Somali immigrants in the Twin Cities."



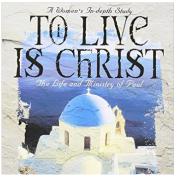
Len has now been helping the citizenship class for a couple of weeks, and is excited about the future, *"I thank the Lord for LINC and this opportunity to work within the Somali community. I look forward to serving alongside our Somali neighbors, building relationships with people of peace, and continuing the discipleship path."* 

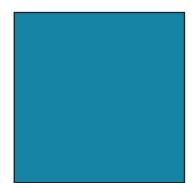
It's a joy to coach Len in God's mission. He is a humble man but I learn as much from his life experience as he learns from my coaching. Please join me in praying for Len, our Somali neighbors, and the whole of LINC Twin Cities. I am so thankful for your partnership and support. As you pray about our ministries I ask that you also consider a generous year-end gift, which will help develop leaders like Len. Please visit oursecure donation site or mail your gift to LINC Twin Cities, 670 Wheelock Pkwy W, Saint Paul, MN.

Grace and Peace, Kurtis Leon-Smith Director of Community Outreach, LINC Twin Cities

"I thank the Lord for LINC and this opportunity to work within the Somali community. I look forward to serving alongside our Somali neighbors, building relationships with people of peace, and continuing the discipleship path." ~ Len Score







MOZ& GOD



Pricilla Shirer - All day,

# Join the Winter/Spring Session of Women of the Word @ VC

For moms with young children: All Things New by Kelly Minter - The Letter of 2 Corinthians exploring the anchoring truths of bearing treasures in jars of clay, meeting Christ through a pressing thorn. opening wide your heart in the midst of hurtful relationships, and what it means to embrace the lost and lonely as ministers of the new covenant. Each of us has a message to proclaim and live by: Because of Jesus the old has gone, the new has come. Meets in the Lounge.

To Live is Christ, The Life and Ministry of Paul by Beth Moore–Bible study on the life and ministry of Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles. Paul served faithfully, loved heartily, and demonstrated what it means to die daily, crucified with Jesus Christ. Join Beth Moore in a journey to discover a greater appreciation for his unflagging faith and undying devotion to servant-hood. Meets in the Isaiah Room.

Christian, It's Not What You Think by Andv **Stanley**-What does is mean to be Christian? Curiously, the term is never used in Scripture. Instead, Christian was a label used by outsiders to define Jesus' followers. Jesus referenced 'disciple' as the key word he used to describe his supporters along with the fact that they would be known for their love - a novel concept for their time and ours today. Through eight engaging and enlightening small group bible study sessions, Andy Stanley unpacks aualities these Jesus prescribes for his followers that made them Meets in the unique. Timothy Room.

every day, an invisible war rages around you - unseen, unheard, yet throughout every felt aspect of your life. An enemy seeks to wreak havoc on everything that matters to you: your heart, mind, marriage, children, relationships, resilience, dreams, your destiny. But his battle plan depends on catching vou unaware and unarmed. If you're tired of being pushed around and caught with your guard down, The Armor of God study is for you. The Enemy always fails miserably when he meets a woman dressed for the occasion. The Armor of God, more than merely a biblical description of the believer's inventory, is an action plan for putting it on and developing a personalized strategy to secure victory. Meets in the Fireside Room.

## Weekly Women's Studies

Made to Crave by Lysa Terkeurst

Starts January 10 –Tuesday Evenings–8 Weeks 6:30–8:00 Meets in the Isaiah Room Main Floor Facilitated by Sara Beekie

## Uninvited by Lysa Terkeurst

Starts January 10–Tuesday Evenings–6 Weeks 6:30–8:00 Meets in the Family Center Lower Level Facilitated by Mary Lehman

Register for either by calling Mary Lehman 651-739-5144 x201 or lehmanm@woodburylutheran.org

The Armor of God by



## Serving Opportunities:

**CELEBRATION**, our adult vocal ensemble, has openings for a tenor and a bass. Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 5:50 pm. Celebration sings approximately once a month in our 8:00 or 11:00am Sanctuary services (VC). Please contact Mark Shepperd for more information at 651-739-5144 or shepperdm@woodburylutheran.org

### SINGERS! The Woodbury

Lutheran Chorale extends an invitation to high school age students and adults who love to sing to join them in rehearsal on Wednesdays from 7:00 to 8:30pm in the church sanctuary (VC). In addition to preparing music for Sunday mornings the Chorale will soon be working on music for Lent and Easter. There are no auditions or qualifications other than a willing heart to serve. Join us in ministry through music! (If you desire additional information, you may contact Mark Shepperd at 651-739-5144).

# Thank You for Volunteering with Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Congratulations & thank you to our wonderful team of WLC Salvation Army Bell Ringers.

In our 17th season of participating in this ministry, we rang at Cub Foods in Woodbury, Stillwater, and Oakdale. We had over **170 ringers** from both campuses covering 100 shifts and raising **\$15,823.52** for the Salvation Army.

This ministry does make a difference in the lives of those served by the Salvation Army!



## Thank You for Volunteering with Operation Grace

Thank you for being an integral part of the Operation Grace MN team. Because of YOU our dental clinic at Woodbury Lutheran Church was a success. Over \$2800 worth of oral health care was provided for 6 patients!

Total care included:

- 22 hours of time donated by 3 dental
- professionals
- 7 appointments
- 6 patients served
- 6 exams
- 4 patients received radiographs
- 3 restorations
- 3 cleanings
- dispensed toothbrushes, toothpaste, and floss

## **WLC Weekly Information**

## SERVE:

MITTEN MAKERS: Come create mittens from sweaters with us! If you can cut, hand sew, or sort, join us at the VC campus on Wednesdays at 12:30pm in room L-900 (VC Paul). All proceeds benefit Robin's Nest Orphanage.

CARING CAPS: Would you be willing to knit or crochet some soft, Chemo/Neuro Surgery caps and baby caps/afghans? For information, call Tamara 651-734-3974 or email tskarl@comcast.net.

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: Would you be willing to knit or crochet a shawl which would be given to someone who is experiencing a life trauma, an illness, or loss? Call Tamara (651)734-3974 or tskarl@comcast.net.

CHRISTIAN CLOTHES CLOSET: Every Friday the Christian Closet, located at VC, provides clothing for the community during the Christian Cupboard food shelf distribution hours. This is an absolutely amazing outreach where people are encouraged by the generous hearts of those who serve. To get connected with this outreach or to find out clothing items accepted, contact Gloria Johnson at 651-714-0245.

KIDS CARE is looking for caring individuals or families who would like to serve in our Sunday Morning nursery at VC campus, any service. Contact Rachel at conantr@woodburylutheran.org to volunteer or if you have questions.

EAGER HANDS QUILTING MINISTRY: Celebrate with us! We have made 5000 quilts for the Salvation Army to give to the homeless! We are now starting on the next 1000 quilts. Do you want to join us? We meet on Tuesdays, 9am at Delores Fitz-gerald's home to create and have fun. Contact Delores at 651-738-1812 for more information or directions.

WORSHIP/CONNECT: STEPHEN MINISTRY - This "caring" ministry provides confidential, one to one, Christian care to those who are experiencing difficult life challenges. Need someone to talk with? At Oak Hill, contact: Cheryl O. (women) 651-777-5315, or Paul L. (men) 651 -653-3467. At Valley Creek, contact Larry W. (men) 651-458-0147, or Linda W. (women) 651-458-0147. For other information: Shirley M. 651-276-7224.

WLC has a Pastoral Care Assistant (PCA) team who help Pastors with visits. The PCA team would like to know if you, or someone you know, have a specific prayer request, wish to have a visit, or would like a phone call. You may contact Pastor Tim at 651-739-5144 ext. 221 or marshallt@woodburylutheran.org.

myWLC: Join WLC's online community: myWLC! Update your contact information, email other church goers, register/pay for events, view your contributions and print giving statements, look for serving opportunities and lots more! Most important-ly: Get Connected! Log on at: myWLC.org. For more information or help logging in contact: Alycen at brothena@woodburylutheran.org.

WLC CHURCH APP: Woodbury Lutheran has an app! Check out recent sermons, service times, the weekly Greater Scripture card, access myWLC, give your offering online and more! Get connected by simply visiting, http:// aet.theapp.co/4bbf.

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

INTRO TO WOODBURY LUTHERAN CLASS meets January 15 at 9:30 am in the Lounge (VC). This class is especially for secand and third time guests, or anyone interested in finding out more about Woodbury Lutheran. Join us to find out who we are as a congregation, what we believe and value, where we see God leading us and what we hope for you as a growing follower of Jesus. Intro to WLC meets on the third Sunday of each month.

## REACH:

INTERESTED IN GOING ON A MISSION EXPERIENCE WITH WLC? There are Four 2017 Short Term Mission (STM) teams for adults from Woodbury Lutheran that are actively in the recruitment process. The deadline to submit an application and \$100 deposit (together) is January 31, 2017. The four STM's are : Jamaica - Robin's Nest (June 22-30) Leaders: Steve and Diane Hall (contact: <u>cragoe12@gmail.com</u>); Minneapolis - Phillips Neighborhood (June 22-29) Leaders: Lori Golden and Reging Kehl (Contact: <u>cragoe12@gmail.com</u>); Minneapolis - Algebra (July 6, 18) Leaders: Mile and Contact:

applied (Sented): and Connie Sabbann (Contact: <u>msabbann@usgo.net</u>); **Kake, Alaska** (July 6-16) Leaders: Mike and Connie Sabbann (Contact: <u>msabbann@usgo.net</u>); and **Quito, Ecuador** (July 8-18) Leaders: Rick and Ann Gibbs (Contact: <u>annmarie.gibbs@gmail.com</u>) -This trip is also open to High School students from WLC. \* **All applications and deposits should be submitted to respective** team leaders.

STAY HOME, STAY WARM AND SERVE, volunteer as a Second Touch Porch Light team member by writing a postcard note to four new Woodbury residents each month. No more than half an hour a month is all the time that is needed! The postcards, postage and addresses are provided. You provide the warm greeting. Safe. Simple. To get connected with this outreach, contact Scott Perala at 651-578-0442. To signup, send an email to wlcporchlightministry@gmail.com or sign up online at woodburylutheran.org/ministries/serve click on Porchlight.

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

**GROWTH/STUDY:** PEOPLE OF FAITH Bible Study group for adults with different disabilities and meets at the VC campus. The group develops relationships, trust, and fulfillment in scripture and God's will for us. This is a Bible-based study. We do require aides to stay with the participants. A typical evening opens with prayer, a question, verse, song, or word that brings conversation and attachment to a biblical teaching. For dates and times please contact Maureen at 612-719-0661.

## FINANCE:

DO YOU WANT YOUR OFFERING TO GO TO A SPECIFIC FUND/MINISTRY? When submitting offering checks, please enter the fund name on the memo line of the check if the offering is for a fund other than the General Fund. If the memo line is left blank, then General Fund (money used where needed) is assumed. Also, an offering check can be split into more than one fund. Just enter the fund names and amounts for each fund on the memo line. If you have questions, contact Mike Hunst at 651-353-3472 or at mhunst@comcast.net.

(DONATIONS CHANGE): WLC ENDOWMENT FUND: The purpose of the Endowment Fund is to further the mission of WLC over and above our regular operating budget. Our most current fund recipients are Pastor's Emergency Fund and Ethiopia Mission! Thank you for joining in bringing our vision of multiplying disciples to life through the WLC endowment fund! If you would like to donate to the fund, consider one of the following gifts: Memorial gifts that honor a loved one; Honorarium gifts that praise God for life milestones; Life insurance designations to the fund or an Estate gift. Questions? Contact Mark Stutelberg at stutelbergm@woodburylutheran.org.

ONLINE GIVING: myWLC offers safe and secure electronic giving. This is a convenient, safe and simple way for individuals to make one-time or repeating automatic contributions through electronic funds transfer (EFT) directly from a checking or savings account. Log on to www.myWLC.org and click on the Give tab. For more information contact: Mark Stutelberg at 651-739-5144 or stutelbergm@woodburylutheran.org.

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 locat-ed 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.

### TEXT TO GIVE: Text your gift amount to 651-504-0500. You'll receive a text with a link. Enter your info with the credit/debit card you'd like to use. Only fill out this form once! Next time just text your gift amount to 651-504-0500.

**MEMORIAL OR HONORARIUM GIVING** just got easier for family or friends of WLC members who want to honor a loved one. Gifts to the WLC Endowment Fund may now be made on line. Go to woodburylutheran.org, follow the Giving link to Giving Online. Be sure to select Endowment Fund. Debit cards, credit cards, or bank account routing accepted. Endowment gifts are invested to support ministries and missions for this and future generations.

OTHER: WOMEN'S GATHERING GROUP: Join us Mondays, 12:30-4pm in room 1-250 (VC Fireside). Come as often as you can, stay as long as you want. Visit while we create jewelry, caring caps, prayer & comfort shawls, etc. Bring your own project or work on one of ours. Contact Ellen about jewelry at 651-731 29129 or poozelle@usfamily.net and Tamara for general information at 651-734-3974 or tskarl@comcast.net.

2nd & 4th Thursdays-CAREER TRANSITION CONNECTION Please go to careertransition connection.org to register or for more information about this event and CTC.

CELEBRATE RECOVERYS goal is to serve and reach out to hurting people. The beauty of CR is that it is a ministry focused on recovering from the brokenness that ANY sin brings into our lives; it is NOT exclusively for Drug and Alcohol recovery, but ministers to a variety of life issues. We meet every Thurs., optional dinner at 5:30pm, meeting starts at 6:30pm, downstairs in room L-900 (VC Paul). For more information visit woodburylutheran.org/resources-media/support and click on Celebrate Recovery or call Vicky at 651-308-9112 or Larry at 651-308-9113.

THE CHRISTIAN CLOTHES CLOSET is a clothing ministry of Woodbury Lutheran Church. The closet is open every Friday 9am-1:30pm, at the VC Campus. All clothing is free to those in need in our community. We accept donations of clean sea-sonal clothing (all ages), shoes, bed linens, towels and blankets (please no more hangers and if possible smaller bags to minimize lifting weight for volunteers). Donation tax receipts are available.

ARE YOU A CANCER SURVIVOR, caregiver past or present, or current cancer patient? Join others impacted by cancer for Scriptural encouragement and prayer. Cancer Companions meets first Tuesday of the month, 7-9pm in room L-600 (VC) Topics include faith, suffering, healing, stress reduction and healthy living. For more information, contact Vicki Strong, 651-730-5049.



15

Anabelle Robinson

Harper Vossen

Trey Bertram

Kristin Esboldt

Jim Havden

Kris Krueger

Larry Ryle

Liam Powell, Jr.

Shirlev Rubbert

Cynthia Lopez

1 Greg Jensen PJ Johnson Ellise Krypel Jane Oaren Lisa Schaefer Evangelyne Souza Eric Zager 2 Kimberlee Seltz Amy Wutke William Young Julie Nelson Matt Noblett 3 Sang Albrecht Aaron Everson Grace Hafner Izzy Kordosky Natalie Lewis 4 Lynne Blass Brian Fong Samuel Howard Lily Juliano Chase Klusmann

Joe Droel

Eric Perry

Daniel Wright

Blake Boehme

Emma Cloose

Melia Mackey

Susan Rose

Tom Tradup

Joseph Seltz

Lainie Steffen

Amanda Ramin

Parker Moquist

8

Kris Amundson

Noah Heintz

Jack Carlos

Jason Esala

Lauren Holsing

Angie Lauderbaugh

Amy Huebner

Doug Mackey

Donna Retter

Tim Nelson

5

Ross Dahlin

Donna Peters Bob Zick Julie Duffy Lori Golden Krista Hobot Nate Jones Aaron Kruse

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7

Ian Bardeauz Joe Bradshaw Cheryl Butz Carolyn Howard Jenhua Juan Thomas Pashina

- Mike Rosin Aaron Sieling Nancy Schubbe Sharon Wolfgram 9 Jennifer Alford-Beck Timm Spindler Tina Stebbing Bev Faust Sara Kowalke Emma Perlt Adam Voth 10 Angela Coffey Jessica McMahon Connor Klos Timothy Olson Trenton Lutterman Hal Schmidt Ben Hebert Elaine Schlenner Jacqueline Konop Scott Zuehlke Joshua Peterson 11 Janet Jacobson Laurvn Schutz Gunnar Edlund Melissa Larsen Rhoda Pfotenhauer Renee Schneider 12 Debbie Eddy Alayna Scibak Leroy Longworth Grace Lavers Jacob Rome Jyl Dunavan Arthur Lensegrav Jack Anderson Mavis McGorman Linda Wilford Sarah Yonkovich 13 Mindy Follett Marlvs Parker Jenna Severson Spenser Arneson 14 Diane Ablan Shirley Mertens
  - 16 17 18 19 20

- 2 Dennis & Linda Laue Chris & Dawn Kroohn Brian & Megan Nelson Dennis & Janice Wenker
- 4 Dave & Rebecca Martini Kyle & Sara McConaughey
- 6 Rajesh Kulandesu & Ruth Premiah
- Tom & Terasue Grimm 7 Ben & Regina Kehl
- 9 Dick & Jan Rowan

- Alexander Cilek Margaret Claugherty Reagan Esboldt Juliane Feldkamp Julie Wolfgram Alyssa Meyer Connor Price Avery Horacek Owen Kreutzfeldt Joseph Mahlke Gayla Pleggenkuhle Kaye Montgomery **Bob Petrich** Parker Goerlitz Joann Willhite **Rick Petrich** Milan Hruby **Emily Schommer** Lucia Drevlow John Eineke Susan Gerver Kate Groth Cristian Link Emmit Luther David Frost Abby Krueger Mary Jo Young
- **Richard Rowan** Gwen Froseth Ethan Bloom John Mitterholzer Jill Colton Alex Schuenke Max Mever Kay Banitt Grace Bystrzycki

Spencer Cowley Anthony Conant Cheryl Hohenstien Tanner Johnson Barbara Rosemann

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Tyler Anderson Deborah Burandt Mady Parker Molly Slaughter Blake Schwartz Phil Johnson Robin Brown Tom Nelson Dustin Nystel Jaxson Hill Gavin Browning Jim Salava Mike Huber Lindsey Weiler Lee Fischer Joyce Jenkins Ben Lower Aaron Stadt Brett Corrigan Tony Boyd Ray Merle Sue Meyer Eric Helander Aiden Johnson Teri Trachy Parker Knutson Eleanor Morrison Marlene Otterson Kelly Skadberg Angle Spates Geoff Boyd Rachel Brocker Elijah Nystel Don Arndt Fanny Daniels Erik Dinsmore Harry Gurrola Melody Haines Gavin Bertram Mary Matasovsky Bill Rengstorf Mark Willie Jane Dibbern Andrew Rhoades Garv Halleen Greg Lewis

Bryant Moguist

Janet Erickson

Liam Powell Jamie Anderson Alexandra Finnegan Judy Goetsch Tom Harrold Brooke Bunge Maya IntVeld Horst Kraft Jenni Panek Emily Trone Andrea Gazdik Michael Steffen Grayson Young Bryan Hughes Alexandra Leonard Elijah Cronin Brenda Haut Judy Behnken Madeline Lorence Kevin Stifter Amya Torres Paul Johnson Nancy Hoffman Joel Mohlenhoff Al Krummel **Christopher Porter** Tammy Price Delana Searles Emily Thommes Lori Costello Shirley Engen Kvle Engen Chuck Jones Brian Herian Toni Lindahl Joel Mba-Ngu'e Sonva Mertens Jeffrey Schaefer Stephanie Ruzich Phyl Burger Barb Dunn Judson McLaren Brad Miller Isaac Reves Charlie Devine Marlene Andrews Bev Hintz Leah Huebner Natalie Klasinski Adelaide Lisson

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- Adrian & Joann Kielshus Craig & Cheryl Wasko
- 10 Roger & Shirley Rodgers
- 11 Arthur & Marian Lensegrav 12
- 14 Brandon & Heidi Crist
- Steven & Ann St. Jacque
- 15 Dan & Nancy Oehlke Brad & Kris Sweet

21

- 16 Ryan & Ashley Leadens
- 18 Jim & Joy Nassios

- 19 Brad and Sharon Fong
- 20. Tad & Lindsey Schmidt Justin & Jill Taylor

Rachel Mergens

Mackenzie Moguist

Scott Mever

- 21 Chris & Angela Ginkel
- Phillip & Wendy Baumgarn 22
- 26 Ponmalar Ramesh & Ramesh Krishnanman
- 27 Matt & Jodi Kelsey
- 28 Mike & Vicki Hunst
  - Todd & Bonnie Rizzardi

worship from the

# INSIDE OUT

## Worship is a direct reflection of our hearts. It comes from the inside out.

Worship can look like singing a hand-clapping worship song, or a hymn steeped in theology. It can look like tithing, even when you aren't sure you'll have enough money for next month's rent, or it can look like carving out precious time to serve at a soup kitchen. God is constantly stirring our hearts to act according to His will and this turns into the most beautiful worship.

## MY HUSBAND AND I CHOSE MICAH 6:8 AS A LIFE VERSE FOR OUR FIRST CHILD ...

But what does it mean to worship in the environment of responsibility?

My husband and I chose Micah 6:8 as a life verse for our first child, a son whom we named Eli. We have been praying this verse over him for nine years. Some of my favorite

home videos are of Eli reciting his life verse from memory at two years old with his toddler accent.

Now that Eli is well out of that toddler stage, we are getting to see how God has used this verse to shape his personality, especially when it comes to the responsibility he feels toward people in need.

Not long ago, we were driving as a family and we saw a homeless man at an intersection. In an effort to prompt our kids toward action, I said, "Look, I see a homeless person! I wish we could do something to help (hint hint)." Our three younger children were quick to respond with ideas about giving the man money or the gift cards we keep in our glove box specifically for that purpose. We gave him some kind words and a gift card, then the light turned green, and we were on our way.

Eli had been silent during the whole exchange; finally he piped up and said he hoped the homeless person would spend his money wisely. We all agreed, then talked about God's command to give to the poor regardless of how they might spend the money. But I could tell there was there was still something on Eli's mind. And his next statement blew me away!

He said, "I hope that everyone who comes in contact with that man is kind to him. If he was someone we loved, maybe a part of our family, I would like to know that people were treating him nicely. Even if he doesn't spend that money wisely, I hope he felt loved by us."

Do you ever look at your spouse to verify if you heard the same thing? This was one of those moments! Honestly though, I'm not sure why we were so surprised. We have been praying for Eli to be shown the goodness of God, then take responsibility with what God has entrusted to him, by acting justly, loving mercy, and staying humble for nine years!

Was Eli's heart toward an unknown but needy man along the roadside an act of worship?

I think it might have been some of the purest worship I have ever witnessed.

## This month, as an act of worship, pray this over your children and wait expectantly for what God has planned for their lives!

He has shown you, (child's name), what is good.

And what does the Lord require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy

and to walk humbly with your God.

(From Micah 6:8)

## by Kara Noel Lawson

Kara is the Social Media Manager for HomeFront. She is a homeschooling mom to four and a freelance writer for the Orange County Register and Family magazine. Kara speaks at mom groups about how the small things in our lives can make a big impact.

Blog smallthingsarebigthings.com

Instagram @KaraNoelLawson



# January 2017 Calendar

2 (L, O & V) Offices Closed All Day

4 (V) Women of the Word Wednesdays, 9:15am Contact: Mary Lehman, 651-739-5144

4 (O) Wednesday AM Study Wednesdays, 10:00am Contact: Pastor Derek, 651-739-5144

5 (O) Women of the Word Thursdays, 9:15am Contact: Mary Lehman, 651-739-5144

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

7 (V) Baptism Class Saturday, 9:30am Contact: Rachel Symmank, 651-730-0847

9 (V) Women's Gathering Group Mondays, 12:00pm

Mondays, 12:00pm Contact: Tamara Karlstrand, 651-734-3974 **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

**15 (L) Liberty Ridge Launch** Sundays, 10:00am Contact: Pastor Jon, 651-739-5144

16 (L, O & V) Offices Closed All Day

20 (V) MS & HS Artic Blast Retreat Friday-Sunday Contact: Lindsey Schmidt, 651-739-5144 x202

**22 (V) WLC Financial Report** Sunday, 12:15pm Contact: Mark Stutelberg, 651-739-5144 x202 **27 (V) LINK 4/5 Game Night** Friday, 6:30pm Contact: Nancy Schubbe, 651-739-5144 x202

## 29 (V) WLC Annual Meeting

Sunday, 12:15pm Contact: Pastor Tom, 651-739-5144 x217

# THE NEVS 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 Ridge Woodbury, MN 55129

St. Croix Campus (S) Afton, MN 55001

(651) 739-5144 Visit us on the web at www.woodburylutheran.org

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