

THE NEWS LETTER



APRIL 2017

1 Chronicles 29:1-13

Dear Family and Friends of Woodbury Lutheran,

Ashley, Judah, and I want to take a moment to pause with you, and together say, “Look at how great our God is!” As our family prepares to move to St. Louis, MO to follow Ashley’s call from Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM.org), we pause to consider all of the ways that our God has grown us, sustained us, and blessed us while here at WLC.

King David of the Old Testament would do this from time-to-time. He would pause and point to the One who had done it; the One who was Greatest! Let me provide a brief word-picture of such pausing and praising from King David’s life, found in 1 Chronicles 29. In this passage, King David has assembled all of the people of Israel in one place, the place where the temple of the LORD would soon be constructed. The king had all the people of Israel bring gifts that would be used in building the impending temple. As David and his son Solomon watch the fathers of households, the leaders of tribes, and the commanders of thousands and of hundreds lay gifts of gold, silver, bronze and iron at their feet, David did not pause and say, “Look at how great the people are!” He did not pause and say, “Look at how great the gifts that the people have given, are.” No, instead, King David looks up to heaven and prays to the LORD before the whole assembly, and says, “LOOK AT HOW GREAT OUR GOD IS!”

David pauses and prays:

“Blessed are You, O LORD, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. Yours O LORD, is the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and You are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come from You, and You rule over all. In Your hand are power and might, and in Your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. And now we thank You, our God, and praise Your glorious name.” -- **1 Chronicles 29:10-13**



It has been an honor to be your pastor these past four years. Our family has been richly blessed, as we have grown-up together in Christ with you all. We look to the heavens with you all and pause, declaring together, “LOOK AT HOW GREAT OUR GOD IS!”

Jesus’ Peace,
Pastor Drew, Ashley, and Judah Bayless



**WOODBURY
LUTHERAN**

*“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, when each of
you may return to
the land that
belonged to your
ancestors and
return to your
own clan.”
~ Leviticus 25:10*

Jubilee!

As some of you know, WLC is getting ready to celebrate a big birthday – this November we will be turning 50! Over the last few weeks I have really enjoyed looking back at the old church picture directories from our past, I have especially enjoyed reading the write ups at the front of each directory as they give a rich feel for where WLC was at that particular point in our history. One of the amazing blessings that I have discovered as I paged through those pages was seeing how our values were being expressed in ways that were appropriate and needed in that season. My dad always taught me to not major in the minor things and minor in the major things.

As we step into our next 50 years, I pray that we will be able to continue to live out that truth and be guided by our values expressing themselves in ways that are appropriate and needed for such a time as this. Looking back has truly reminded me that when we have a set of values that are rooted in the truth of Jesus then the more things change the more they stay the same. It has always been about Jesus, connecting people to Him and allowing the Holy Spirit to do His work and that will never change!

I am especially excited for Easter this year and the opportunity that we have to be generous to our community by giving away our entire Easter offering. For me this is a great way to say, “Thank you” to God for His faithfulness and to stretch our willingness to trust Him and in His provision for the rest of our budget year. Generosity with our money is always hard, but we know that when it comes to giving it is always about what God wants for us, not what He wants from us - I cannot think of a better way to lead the way in showing we actually believe this as a church than by giving away our Easter offering.

I want to challenge you to think about where you are on your Generosity Journey and if it is time to take your next step, why not start on Easter Weekend, when we are giving it all away anyway :).

This fall we will be focusing in on how the Discipleship Path has been at work at WLC for the last 50 years as we celebrate all that God has done in our church, and look forward to how He will Multiply us for the next 50.

Following Jesus -
Pastor Tom



Weddings:

Greta Peterson & David Whittenberg

Baptisms:

James Scott Stebbing
Lainey Louise Kathryn Anderson
Lucy Mae Violet Anderson
Benjamin Thomas Clappier

Deaths:

Sharon Neubrand ~ mother,
Doloris Wing
Marlene Otterson ~ sister-in-law,
Millie Paulson
Tom & Juanita Vaaler ~ brother-in-law,
Roger Murnane
Laura Cloose ~ grandmother,
Charlotte Sullivan
Family of Ed Dicke
Phyllis Dicke ~ sister, Bea Voelker
Matt Jorgensen ~ aunt, Sara Jorgensen Hansen
Tom Westling ~ father, Charles Westling
Family of Marv Rosen
Family of Phyllis Hanggi
Scott & Pat Stevens ~ brother-in-law, John Locke

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
Contemporary 10:30am

Sundays at Liberty Ridge
Contemporary 10:00am

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7380 Afton Road
Woodbury, MN 55125

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

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“...Things will become more comfortable as time moves on.”

Where Did My Toaster Go?

I learned from mom that kitchens are to be kept neat and clean. Her red counter top had areas worn out from her frequent wiping. Another kitchen memory is that she hung her soiled wash rag under the sink on the pipe to dry. The other day I was cleaning my kitchen counter. Mom would be proud. On it sits her mixing bowls in the corner and a Bakelite potato masher and serving fork sitting inside them. They were used almost daily. They remind me of her. It comforts me.

I have a red toaster in my kitchen. It looks cute, but honestly, I'm waiting for it to go south as it doesn't toast evenly. And I'm over the red. A couple of morning's ago I walked into my kitchen and stopped dead in my tracks. The toaster was missing! Being a reader of too many mysteries, I wondered who in the world was in

my house and why did they take my toaster? In that brief moment all sorts of emotions came to the surface. I was a bit frightened, what should I do? Who would do this? I was confused. What else is missing? And then I remembered I had moved it the day before. I wanted my counter top to be clear of stuff. So I set it next to the refrigerator. Fortunately, I hadn't called the authorities.

I'm the kind of person that will sometimes think on a thing for a while. I will ponder, try to analyze and I ask myself questions. I asked what I can learn from this. In my quiet, something came to mind. I wondered if this is what it feels like for some of the older members who are challenged by the changes around here. Are they a little confused, like I was? Are they asking what else is going to change, like

I asked what's next? Are they asking, who moved the toaster?

If you are struggling with the changes at WLC, I understand your feelings. I've said many times, I like change, but only if I'm the one deciding what will change :). Things will become more comfortable as time moves on. My toaster is still next to the refrigerator. It's a better place for it. It didn't take long for it to become normal. God bless!

~ Mary Lehman

Campus Updates from Liberty Ridge & Oak Hill

LIBERTY RIDGE UPDATES

Here are some quick updates from our Liberty Ridge Campus:

- The Liberty Ridge Campus has been publicly meeting for over two months now! After launching with 75 adults, worship attendance is averaging right over 100 people a Sunday.
- We have been meeting people in the neighborhoods surrounding Liberty Ridge Elementary through door-knocking, conversation and invitation.
- We were able to bless Liberty Ridge Elementary School by serving at their public carnival on April 1. About 20 servants from Liberty Ridge Campus helped with the festivities.
- We have sent out cards to thousands of people living in a close radius of Liberty Ridge Elementary School, inviting them to celebrate Easter with us.
- We continue to pray that God would bless us so we can be a blessing to the many families that live near the campus.
- We continue to celebrate the great things the Holy Spirit is doing at Liberty Ridge!



OAK HILL UPDATES

Here are some quick updates from our Oak Hill Campus:

- In February we started two financial classes. We have 32 people going through Financial Peace University and another 15 going through a class called Smart Money/Smart Kids. This class is teaching parents how to intentionally raise kids with wisdom around finances.
- We had a family tubing day at Green Acres with 32 family members enjoying.
- We have two of our small groups walking with a refugees family with Sadiyo and her 6 kids that came in December. This past month we hosted a welcome dinner which 46 people came to.
- We have been blessed by Jyl Dunavan making the switch to leading music at this campus and has been a great transition.
- One of our small groups has been praying for the past two years for a family and last month we baptized two of their children.
- This next month we are going to do something a little different and host a Maundy Thursday worship and dinner weaving both of them together. On Good Friday we are going to host a kids focused Good Friday experience at 4pm.
- We continue to celebrate the great things the Holy Spirit is doing on this campus.

THE GIFT OF WORSHIP

Think of someone you know. How do you know that person? What do you know about him or her? Knowing someone means you've taken time to learn who she is and have heard her story. You've learned what her preferences are, what she likes to do, and how she reacts to certain things. This all comes about by intentionally pursuing and spending time with this person, which is how deep, meaningful relationships form.

When I think of the people I know, I often think about the time it took to really get to know them. We've engaged in countless conversations, shared meals, played games, hiked, cried, and laughed together. The more I've gotten to know these special people, the deeper and richer our friendships have become. Over the time it takes to cultivate relationships, we trust the other people with more and more of ourselves. The trust grows stronger the more we get to know each other.

As parents, our children know us because we are with them daily. We take care of them, we protect them, we teach them, and we love them. This is like the relationship God has with us. When we spend time developing a relationship with Him, we discover His true character and learn to trust Him more and more. As we share ourselves with Him, He speaks truth into our inmost beings and reveals certain gifts within us. This intimacy fills us with joy, and our response is to worship!

"When we spend time developing a relationship with Him [God], we discover His true character and learn to trust him more and more."

There are many ways we can worship God when we know His character and His delight in us. Fortunately, for me, they go beyond singing on Sunday mornings (I'm a terrible singer). God made us to be creative people. We reflect God when we create. My own form of expression is through the arts, specifically dance. I often use this form of creativity as a way to uniquely share the gospel. When I come before Him with an open heart and posture as I turn, jump, and wave my arms fluidly, my dance creates a beautiful story using movement.

"God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another."

1 Peter 4:10 (NLT)

Whatever gifts God has given you can be used to worship God and know Him more. God created this beautiful world in His image. What we create can be used to worship Him. This month, as a family, discuss some ways to worship God together. Consider using the creative gifts He has given you. Remind your family that worship is a way to spend time with God, get to know Him better, and respond to His love for you. Put on some worship music and use your gifts to honor God. Sing, dance, draw, or paint in response to the words you hear. Pray together and thank God that He has created each of us with gifts that we can use to worship Him and know Him more.

by *Brittany Charnley*

Brittany is a communications and public relations professional with a passion for helping brands creatively tell their stories. She and her husband, Kent, currently reside in Orange County, CA, with their daughter, Blake. Brittany has a BA in public relations from Pepperdine University. She loves Disney, products with a purpose, trying new foods, and discovering new music. She is a self-proclaimed "cool, hip mom" and blogs about it on her personal blog www.TheCoolHipMom.com.

Taken from the April 2017 HomeFront Monthly Newsletter.



Worship

OAK HILL MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

Please join your Oak Hill family at dinner and worship starting at 6:30 pm at church.

GOOD FRIDAY FAMILY STATIONS AT OH

On Good Friday, April 14th, join us for the Family Prayer Stations at the Oak Hill Campus at 4pm. Families will visit different stations focusing on the events of Holy Week. Each station will engage kids and families through activities, crafts and time in prayer. This is a family friendly event for all ages to experience Good Friday, and the hope we have in Christ's Resurrection.

SIMPLIFY BOOK

Our next sermon series will be based on the book, *Simplify: Ten Practices to Unclutter Your Soul* by Bill Hybels. We highly encourage you to purchase your book! Copies can be purchased on Amazon at: <http://amzn.to/2nUla47>. If you do not have access to the internet, please see the main church office.

WLC CHURCH APP

Woodbury Lutheran has an app! Check out recent sermons, worship with us "live" at 9:30 & 11:00am, find information on service times, the weekly Scripture card, access myWLC, give your offering online and more! Get connected by simply visiting <http://get.theapp.co/4bbf>.

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 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.

TRAVEL TO GERMANY

Two spots remain to travel to Germany with Paul & Rhoda Pfothauer this fall. For more information, contact them at paulrhoda@comcast.net.



Grow

THE STORY, PART V

Join us in discovering the Bible as a single, grand narrative. This class is great for those who are intimidated, confused or overwhelmed with reading the Bible. Classes meet Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:30am, The Bridge (VC) and 9:15-10:15am, Youth Room (OH).

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Beginning on April 19th, our study will resume. This is a low pressure DVD bible study where all ages, gender and relationships are welcome. The topics focus on God's continuous presence and promises in our lives. Contact: Michael Zenner, 651-592-9435.

INTRODUCTORY TO STEPHEN MINISTRY

On April 22, 2017 the national Stephen Ministries will present an Introductory Workshop at WLC, Valley Creek Campus, from 9 am to 1 pm. Stephen Ministers are laypeople caring in a distinctively Christian way for people who are grieving a loss or hurting. For more information on this ministry please visit our Stephen Ministry page. Everyone is welcome to attend this workshop. We would especially like to invite people from community congregations, so please share this information with your friends! This work-

shop will enhance participants' care-giving skills and help congregations expand their care ministry. Cost: \$15 per person or \$50 per congregation (4 or more) This workshop is free for Woodbury Lutheran Church members. Register: Complete the online registration form or call 314-428-2600.

SUMMER STRETCH (SS) REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

For current 6-8th graders! SS meets six Thursdays, starting on June 29 from 8:15am-5pm, with time in God's Word, service and fun. Go to wlcyoung.org to find additional dates, info/FAQ and the sign up/payment link. SPECIAL RATE available from April 1 to May 1, \$80 for all 6 dates! Beginning May 2 the cost is \$90, then June 2 cost is \$100 till full (or you can pay \$20 per date- Valleyfair is \$30). Scholarships are available and friends are welcome. Senior High leaders will be needed!

CAREER TRANSITION CONNECTION

Welcomes Nathan Perez as he presents, "The 20 Minute Networking Meeting-Networking for Job Search" on April 13, 7pm, room 1-250 (VC). For more information about this event and CTC check out the website at www.careertransitionconnection.org.

CAREER TRANSITION CONNECTION

Welcomes Richard Dodson and Nancy Burke as they present, "The Art of Tactful Self-Promotion: A Critical Skill for Job Seekers" on April 27, 7pm, room 1-250 (VC). For more information about this event and CTC check out the website at www.careertransitionconnection.org.

NEW MEMBER CLASS AT OAK HILL

The next class will be on Sunday, April 23rd from 11:45 -2:30pm. Enjoy a yummy lunch followed by an interactive presentation about WLC mission, vision and values. We look forward to welcoming you into our amazing church family! Contact Cheri Frost if you are interested in attending: cherifrost6@gmail.com

Getting Connected



Reach

AARP SMART DRIVER COURSE

A four hour refresher course will be offered on Tuesday, April 10, 9am-1pm in room 1-300 (VC Isaiah). Contact Tom Nelson at 651-735-4492 or tomasofwd-by@aol.com to sign up.

INVITE A FRIEND TO LIBERTY RIDGE

Do you know someone who's looking for a church to get connected with and lives by Liberty Ridge Elementary? Why not invite them to our new campus, Liberty Ridge! Worship at LR is at 10:00am each Sunday. Kids Ministry and Adult Classes are also available beginning at 9:00am on Sunday mornings. Need more info? Contact Pastor Jon at 651-739-5144 or kuehnej@woodburylutheran.org.



Serve

SHERIDAN BACKPACK MINISTRY

Volunteers are needed for Fridays each week. For more information, contact Margie Gilles at 651-734-9916.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Valley Creek Holy Communion Class Seder meal on Thursday, April 13 is in need of volunteers. The final session of the Holy Communion Class is the Family Seder Dinner. This Seder Dinner celebrates the last supper of our Lord Jesus Christ. Volunteers are needed to help make this special event a success. What we need: Serving 5-7pm (8 spots—wear dark pants and white shirts please) and Clean-up 7-8pm (9 spots). Sign up at wlc-youth.org. Great service hours for Confirmation students! Questions: Contact Lindsey Schmidt at schmidtL@woodburylutheran.org or 651-739-5144.

EASTER BREAKFAST

The Easter Breakfast youth fundraiser sign up is open online to all families from

April 2-14 for multiple shifts until full. Go to wlc-youth.org to sign up.

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.

WLC'S 50 YEAR JUBILEE EVENT

Our planning committee is looking for potential entertainment sources for our Jubilee kick-off event on October 7th, 2017. We would be interested in music groups, comedians, any variety of stage shows, etc... If this is YOU, or if you know anyone who might be interested in helping us in this area- we need to hear from you! We would especially love to use the talent right from our own church body! Please contact: Lori Golden 651-459-9533 or goldenL60@yahoo.com.

Garage Sale Treasures Needed!

Is it Spring Cleaning Time at your house yet? Please hang on to your things a little while longer! The youth will be collecting those slightly used "treasures" for the upcoming Lions Garage Sale held on May 11-13. Collection dates will be May 9, 5:30-8:30 pm and May 10, 4:30-8:30 pm. Please drop donations at the East entrance of the Valley Creek campus. We ask that you have all clothing sorted, bagged and labeled in the following categories - men, boys, women, girls and infants. It helps tremendously - thanks! Sale proceeds support youth attending mission trips. If you have any questions call Shanna Salzman at 612-859-1365.



April 2017 Calendar

5 (V) Women of the Word

Wednesdays, 9:15am
Contact: Mary Lehman,
651-739-5144

5 (O) Wednesday AM Study

Wednesdays, 10:00am
Contact: Pastor Derek,
651-739-5144

5 (V & O) Lenten Supper

Wednesday, 5:15pm

5 (V & O) Lenten Worship

Wednesday, Noon (V); 6:30pm
(V & O)

6 (O) Women of the Word

Thursdays, 9:15am
Contact: Mary Lehman,
651-739-5144

6 (V) Celebrate Recovery

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

10 (V) Monday Afternoon

Women's Ministry
Mondays, 12:00pm
Contact: Tamara Karlstrand,
651-734-3974

**13 (V) First Communion
Seder Supper**

Thursday, 5:00pm
Contact: Lindsey Schmidt,
651-739-5144

**13 (O & V) Maundy Thursday
Worship**

Thursday, 6:30pm (O - meal);
7:30pm (V)

**13 (V) Career Transition
Connection**

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

14 (O) Family Prayer Stations

Friday, Noon

**14 (O & V) Good Friday
Worship**

Friday, Noon (V); 7:30pm
(O & V)

15 (V) Easter Vigil

Saturday, 5:00pm

16 (L, O & V) Easter Worship

Sunday, 6:00am (V); 8:00am
(V); 9:00am (O); 9:30am
(V); 10:00am (L); 10:30 (O);
11:00am (V)

16 (O & V) Easter Breakfast

Sunday, 7:00-11:00am (V);
8:00-10:30am (O)

17 (O & V) Offices Closed

Monday

**22 (V) Stephen Ministry
Workshop**

Saturday, 9:00am
Contact: Pastor Tim,
651-739-5144

EASTER BREAKFAST!

Mark your calendars
for April 16th and
come eat breakfast
before or after you
worship on Easter
morning at the Val-
ley Creek and Oak
Hill campuses. All
proceeds support
Youth missions!!!

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