

# THE NEWSLETTER

Woodbury Lutheran Church Newsletter

January 2016

## My Friend Jane

When my mom died last year I realized that her legacy wasn't how she had cared for her family or the knowledge she had gathered in her 93 years. The work she did outside her home and inside the home will likely fade with time. Her legacy was her prayer. But her prayer is timeless. It lives on.

My friend Jane is retiring this month. I've known her for over 20 years. She once facilitated Trinity, a three year overview of the Bible cover to cover for 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> graders. My 35 year old son still remembers some of those lessons. She has also taught classes for adults and youth and facilitated pre-martials and the list goes on. Her knowledge and experience is deep and rich.

Many of the children and youth she taught have grown and left. Some of them over the years found themselves in tough times struggling with life issues just like the rest of us. Many of them returned to seek out Jane. They remembered her and her love for them and God. They needed help and felt safe to meet with her. They came seeking to unburden and hoping that they would be received with the grace

and promises they learned many years ago. Jane was still there for them.

As time passes programs come and go. Things change, schedules change, families change. But one thing doesn't change. We need the hope God offers. We all need hope especially during the hard times.

Jane pointed to the cross of grace. Those young adults (and not so young) showed up needing that same message and hope and wisdom. The *programs* Jane did around here will likely fade but *the hearts she influenced* is her legacy.

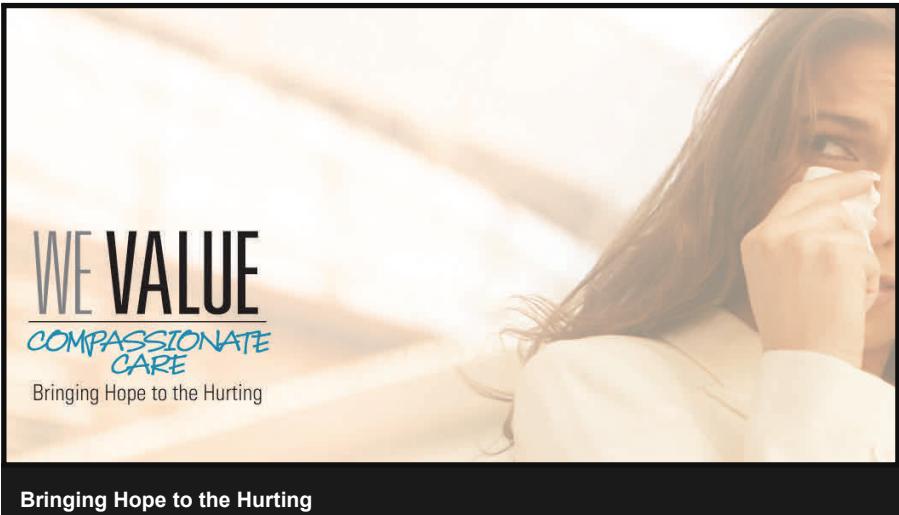
I'll miss you around here, dear friend.

*Mary Lehman – one of the many who turned to Jane for hope and care and wisdom.*



### In This Issue

- We Value Compassionate Care
- Respect the Beard
- Saying Goodbye
- Pre-Planning
- 2016 Bucket List



## We Value

### Living Out Our Values

Over the past several months I have been reflecting on the values that make Woodbury Lutheran unique. Of course as followers of Jesus we have certain beliefs and practices that connect us to the wider body of Christ, but we also need to recognize that there are certain things about our gathering that make us unique from the church down the block. In the same way that each of us as individuals are a unique part of the body of Christ, so each gathering of Jesus followers is also unique.

Over the past month I have seen how caring for people is such a huge part of the culture of who we are. Certainly we can always do better and there are times when we drop the ball, but I am amazed by the way we care for another.

A great example of this care is the Poinsettia delivery that takes place each year for those who have lost a loved one. The feedback from this simple act has been huge as more than 140 plants were delivered with the simple message of "we care."

A second example of how care works at Woodbury Lutheran is through Stephen Ministry. At a recent Elder's meeting the Stephen Ministry leaders shared that over the past 10 years more than 500 people have received care from a Stephen Minister – wow!

A third example of care is our Pastoral Care Assistants. Each and every week these folks are busy bringing communion and visiting people in need throughout our congregation. At a recent funeral

the daughter of the deceased shared how much her father was encouraged by the regular visits of his pastoral care assistants.

The amazing piece of each of these examples is that they are all being carried out by the body of Christ at Woodbury Lutheran. This is not just the pastors or staff, it is not just a small group of people, but literally hundreds of you make this happen!

**We Value Compassionate Care – Serving and Welcoming.** This value is about more than ministries, it is something that we pray will live in each of our hearts as we all grow in our desire to care for one another by modeling the care Jesus has shown us to others.

*"Come to me, all you who are weary and heavy burdened, and I will give you rest."* -- Matthew 11:28

Walking Together,

Pastor Tom

## Baptisms:

Gavin James Combs  
Kellen Emeka Ochiagha

## Deaths:

Family of Peter Riehle  
Family of Harry Larson  
Marlen VanOverbeke ~ brother, Ronald  
Family of Charles Herpolshiemer  
Marsha Kveton ~ grandson, Jakub  
Roger Strharsky ~ sister, Cyndy  
Michael Zenner ~ father, Donald  
Family of Dick Kveton  
Family of Virginia Mars

W e e k e n d s e r m o n s e r i e s



*Bringing the  
Wisdom of Solomon  
to Life...Today!*



Serving Him with Our Hands and Hearts

## Respect the Beard

*Bringing the Wisdom of Solomon to Life Today*

***What if money wasn't the enemy? What if we could apply the wisdom of the wealthiest man to ever live? What if we could live within our means? What if we could learn to give, save and live? What if we could live generous lives that reflect the generosity of our God? What if I told you we can?!***

Starting on the weekend of January 9/10 we will be launching this 5 week message series based on the Wisdom of Solomon found in the Proverbs. Why the name? In the Old Testament the beard represented wisdom because it connected the head with the heart; it was a representation of knowledge taking action. Throughout Proverbs Solomon addresses three types of people; the wise, the fool and the simple minded. The truth is we all fall into one of those categories in different areas in our lives and the hope is that through this series we will all become a bit wiser when it comes to dealing with our finances.

At the heart of our teaching will be the truth that it is not what God wants from you, but what God wants for you. In American culture today we are in a real financial crisis and not just at the government level. I just read a statistic that on average people under 40 spend 110% of their income. I may not be good at math, but that does not leave much left to give and save! In 2013 the average Japanese adult saved 25%, the average European Adult saved 15% and the average American Adult spent 1% more than they earned. The number one reason for divorce is the stress that comes from finances.

Amazingly this does not have to be how it is; money does not have to rule our lives and the wisest man to ever walk this world is going to help show us how to take knowledge and apply it as we learn to respect the beard...

Peace,

Pastor tom

## 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

**Fax:** (651) 739-3536

### Website:

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

# Saying Goodbye

*"Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now. And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns." ~ Philippians 1:3-6*

This January we will be saying goodbye to two of our staff members at WLC, one has been around literally from the beginning and the other has not been around quite as long, but both have had a meaningful and lasting impact on the body of Christ at Woodbury Lutheran.



Just about two years ago we welcomed Tyler Peterson on our staff as our Worship Arts Director. During his two years with us Tyler has done an amazing job of equipping people to serve in a variety of media ministry areas. He has also helped to bring our technology out of the dark ages and many have been blessed by the numerous testimonies and videos that he has helped produce. Tyler is an amazing young man, who is an extremely hard worker and an amazing team player – he will be missed, but we wish him well as he moves on to another opportunity (we also look forward to seeing him in worship as he will continue to worship with us at WLC).



The very first President of our congregation was Richard Fischer and Dick had a daughter, named Jane. The DNA of our congregation has lived in and through the ministry of Jane Dibbern as she has served with us for more than 25 years in a variety of positions. It is hard to put into words the depth and breadth of the lives that have been touched through Jane and her love of Jesus and love of people. We are so grateful for your ministry Jane and we will look forward to seeing you around!

We invite you to celebrate Jane Dibbern's retirement at the VC campus on January 9th at 7pm. Feel free to invite others who have been impacted by Jane's ministry. All are welcome to attend! Drop off cards for Jane on Sundays in December/January in the church office to thank her for her ministry at WLC. If you'd like to include a monetary gift, make checks out to WLC with "Jane Dibbern" in the memo.

Peace,  
tom

I thank  
my God  
EVERYTIME  
I remember  
you



Consider Pre-Planning Your Funeral in 2016!

## Pre-Planning Your Funeral

*<sup>3</sup> Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, ~ 1 Peter 1:3-4*

Christians believe that eternal life with God is a free gift to all who believe in Jesus Christ as Savior from sin. Although death is a very difficult time at best, for Christians it is also a time of celebration of faith and life. With faith in Jesus, we are able to face the time of death – even our own death. During 2015, WLC members lost loved ones and one thing that helped the office staff, was the use of pre-planned funerals.

Located in the office is a folder that is intended to serve as a guide to pre-plan your own funeral. It is not intended to become a rigid rule and may be changed or revised at any time. It is intended to provide direction and suggestion, at a time when grief may make such thinking and decision-making difficult for you and those who love you. It is also a great opportunity to share your faith with your family, talking about what Jesus means to you and how you want that expressed at the service celebrating your life. Because a funeral is for the living and for the dead, it is important to consider the wishes of your family as well.

After you have completed as much of the form as is comfortable for you, there are several things you can do with it. You will want to keep a copy at home for future reference and updating. If you wish the church to keep a copy, we can make a photocopy and keep it in your file here at church.

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to call one of your pastors. If you'd like a copy of the pre-plan, please stop in the office to pick up a copy. Or email Mary Law for an electronic copy at [lawm@woodburylutheran.org](mailto:lawm@woodburylutheran.org).

# JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1	Greg Jensen PJ Johnson Ellise Krypel Jane Ogren Lisa Schaefer Evangelyne Souza Eric Zager	8	Kristin Amundson Noah Heintz Jason Esala Lauren Holsing Amy Huebner Angie Lauderbaugh Doug Mackey	Shirley Mertens Britt Edlund Anabelle Robinson Spencer Cowley Harper Vossen Trey Bertram Anthony Conant	15	Ethan Bloom John Mitterholzer Joleen Colton Jill Colton David Claphan Alex Schuenke Maxwell Meyer	21	Kay Banitt Grace Bystrzycki Angie Crane Bryant Moquist Janet Erickson Tyler Anderson Ana Fritze Deborah Burandt Jennifer Lonergen Mady Parker Molly Slaughter Blake Schwartz Phillip Johnson	27	Andrew Rhoades Gary Haldeen Greg Lewis Rachel Mergens Scott Meyer Mackenzie Moquist Liam Powell Jamie Anderson Alexandra Finnegan Judith Goetsch Thomas Harrold Brooke Bunge Jonah Davison Maya IntVeld Lynn Johnson Horst Kraft Emily Trone Andrea Gazzik Michael Steffen Grayson Young Bryan Hughes Alexandra Leonard Elijah Cronin Brenda Haut Landon Huonder Judy Behnken Madeline Lorence Kevin Stifter Paul Johnson Matthew Hawkinson Nancy Hoffman Joel Mohlenhoff Al Krummel Christopher Porter Tammy Price Delana Searles Lori Costello Shirley Engen Kyle Engen Charles Jones Brian Herian Toni Lindahl Joel Mbaba-Ngu'e Sonya Mertens Jeffrey Schaefer Stephanie Ruzich Phyl Burger Barbara Dunn Judson McLaren Brad Miller Isaac Reyes Charlie Devine Marlene Andrews Beverly Hintz Leah Huebner Natalie Klasinski Adelaide Lissom
2	Kimberlee Seltz Amy Wutke William Young Julie Nelson		Tim Nelson Donna Retter Mike Rosin Aaron Sieling	Kris Krueger Amy Lund Liam Powell, Jr. Shirley Rubbert		Larry Ryle Barbara Rosemann				
3	Sang Albrecht Elizabeth Anderson Chad Curran Grace Hafner Isabella Kordosky Natalie Lewis Sheila Perera	9	Jennifer Alford-Beck Heather Hampton Timm Spindler Christine Stebbing Bev Faust	Cynthia Lopez Anna Behnken Alexander Cilek	16	Margaret Clougherty Reagan Ebsoldt Juliane Feldkamp	22	Robin Brown Tom Nelson Jaxson Hill Gavin Browning Jim Salava Mike Huber Liz Bieze	28	
4	Lynne Blass Brian Fong Samuel Howard Lily Juliano Chase Klusmann Joe Drole	10	Sara Kowalke Christopher Cornwell Emma Perlit Matthew Ambriz Adam Voth Angela Coffey	Michelle Krueger Kara Hayden Julie Wolfgram		Alyssa Meyer	23	Randy Barnett Lee Fischer Joyce Jenkins Ben Lower Aaron Stadt Brett Corrigan Cynthia Haukland	29	
5	Eric Perry Daniel Wright Lindsay Ahlquist Blake Boehme Emma Cloose Ross Dahlin Jacqueline Konop Joshua Peterson	11	Trenton Lutterman Hal Schmidt Ben Hebert Elaine Schلنner Scott Zuehlke Janet Jacobson	Nicholas Grizzell Lisa Frydenlund Connor Price	17	Avery Horacek Owen Kreutzfeldt	24	Anthony Boyd Raymond Merle Sue Meyer	30	
6	Evelyn Reed Arthur Lensegrav Joseph Seltz Lainie Steffen		Donna Peters Robert Zick Julie Duffy Lori Golden Krista Hobot Tessa Homuth Nathaniel Jones Aaron Kruse	Joseph Mahlke Gunnar Edlund Jessica Ellson Austin Kuhrmeyer Melissa Larsen Rhoda Pfotenauer	18	Kay Eastenson Gayla Pleggenkuhle	25	Parker Knutson Kelly Skadberg Angie Spates Geoff Boyd Rachel Brocker Elijah Nystel Don Arndt		
7	Ian Bardeauz Joe Bradshaw Jacob Davison Carolyn Howard Jenhua Juan Thomas Pashina Ann Lavers Amanda Ramin Karl Stensvad	13	Mavis McGorman Linda Wilford Sarah Yonkovich Melinda Follett Alexander Gardner	19	Lucia Drevlow John Eneke Susan Gerver	20	Kate Groth Robert LeMay Cristian Link Emmit Luther	31		
8	Dennis & Linda Lue Chris & Dawn Kroohn Brian & Megan Nelson Dennis & Janice Wenker	10	Adrian & Joann Kjelshus Craig & Cheryl Wasko	11	12	13	14	15	16	
9	Dave & Rebecca Martini Kyle & Sara McConaughey Derek & Julie Fritze Rajesh Kulandesu & Ruth Premiah Tom & Terasue Grimm Ben & Regina Kehl Dick & Jan Rowan	11	Roger & Shirley Rodgers	12	James & Evelyn Reed	13	Joel & Heather Hampton	14	Brandi & Heidi Crist	
10		12	Arthur & Marian Lensegrav	13	14	15	16	17	Steven & Ann St. Jacque	
11		13		14	15	16	17	18	Peter & Lynn Johnson	
12		14		15	16	17	18	19	Dan & Nancy Oehlke	
13		15		16	17	18	19	20	Brad & Kris Sweet	
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# AND ANNIVERSARIES

2	Dennis & Linda Lue Chris & Dawn Kroohn Brian & Megan Nelson Dennis & Janice Wenker	10	Adrian & Joann Kjelshus Craig & Cheryl Wasko	18	Ryan & Ashley Leadens
3	Dave & Rebecca Martini Kyle & Sara McConaughey Derek & Julie Fritze	11	Roger & Shirley Rodgers	19	Jim & Joy Nassios
4	Rajesh Kulandesu & Ruth Premiah	12	James & Evelyn Reed	20.	Brad and Sharon Fong
5	Tom & Terasue Grimm	13	Arthur & Marian Lensegrav	21.	Tad & Lindsey Schmidt
6	Ben & Regina Kehl	14	Joel & Heather Hampton	22.	Justin & Jill Taylor
7	Dick & Jan Rowan	15	Brandi & Heidi Crist	23.	Charles & Emily Aldean
8		16	Steven & Ann St. Jacque	24.	Chris & Angela Ginkel
9		17	Peter & Lynn Johnson	25.	Phillip & Wendy Baumgart
10		18	Dan & Nancy Oehlke	26.	Ponnalar Ramesh & Ramesh Krishnanmani
11		19	Brad & Kris Sweet	27.	Matt & Jodi Kelsey
12		20		28.	Mike & Vicki Hunst

# 2016 BUCKET LIST

A TRADITION IS A STATEMENT, BELIEF, OR CUSTOM HANDED DOWN FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION.

In the tradition of making New Year's resolutions, people make promises to improve themselves in some way. Most of the time the promise is centered on something that is inwardly driven—things like eating better, exercising more, watching less TV, etc. More often than not, our resolutions sound like a check-off list of bad habits we don't want to do anymore.

This year we would like to encourage your family to try something new when it comes to making a resolution for 2016. Together as a family, create a Bucket List of experiences you'd like to accomplish in the upcoming year. Using Micah 6:8 as your guide, discuss your family's responses to the following commitments.

**The [your family's last name] family will:**

**Act Justly** - Give an example of how your family will protect the innocent in 2016. How will you take action to right things that are wrong?

**Love Mercy** - Give an example of how your family will show loving kindness. Is there a consistent new way you can show loyal love?

**Walk Humbly** - Give an example of how your family will work to have the right heart attitude toward God. How will you show Him that He is the Lord of your life?

Print out the 2016 Bucket List printable at [dcc.is/bucketlist](http://dcc.is/bucketlist) and then simply fill in the blanks. Place your Bucket List in a visible place in your home as a guide and reminder. Find moments to check in with each other and see how your family is accomplishing the things "the Lord requires of you" in 2016.

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by Debbie Guinn

Debbie is the Editor in Chief of HomeFront. She has more than 25 years of experience working in children's and family ministries. She is passionate about equipping parents to become leaders of God's truth in their own households.

 Instagram @homefrontsp

 Twitter @homefrontsp

**Taken from the January HomeFront Monthly Magazine**

- 1** (O & V) Offices Closed  
All Day
- 4** (V) Women's Gathering Group  
Mondays, 12:00pm  
Contact: Tamara Karlstrand,  
651-734-3974
- 6** (V) Women of the Word  
Wednesdays, 9:15am  
Contact: Mary Lehman, 651-739-5144
- 6** (O) Wednesday Morning Study  
Wednesdays, 10:00am  
Contact: Pastor Derek, 651-739-5144
- 7** (O) Women of the Word  
Thursdays, 9:15am  
Contact: Jane Dibbern, 651-739-5144
- 7** (V) Celebrate Recovery  
Thursdays, 6:30pm  
Contact: Larry Smith, 651-308-9113
- 9** (V) Baptism Class  
Saturday, 9:30am  
Contact: Rachel Symmank,  
651-730-0847
- 9** (V) Jane Dibbern Retirement  
Celebration  
Saturday, 7:00pm  
Contact: Nancy Schubbe, 651-739-5144  
x203

- 14** (V) Open Doors Thursdays  
Thursday, 5:00pm  
Contact: Pastor Tim, 651-739-5144 x221
- 14** (V) Career Transition Connection  
Thursday, 7:00pm  
Contact: Tom Colosimo, 612-386-3715
- 24** (V) WLC Financial Report  
Sunday, 12:15pm  
Contact: Mark Stutelberg,  
651-739-5144 x202
- 31** (V) WLC Annual Meeting  
Sunday, 12:15pm  
Contact: Pastor Tom, 651-739-5144 x217

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Multiplying Disciples. Transforming Lives.

Woodbury Lutheran Church  
7380 Afton Road  
Woodbury, MN 55125

## January 2016 Calendar Highlights

Want more events?  
Visit [woodburylutheran.org](http://woodburylutheran.org)

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

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

**St. Croix Campus (S)**  
Afton, MN 55001  
(651) 739-5144

Visit us on the web at  
[www.woodburylutheran.org](http://www.woodburylutheran.org)