

THE NEWSLETTER

Woodbury Lutheran Church Newsletter

February & March 2016

Starting Point

A Conversation About Faith

Everything has a beginning. Every person, every idea, every journey starts somewhere. What about Faith? Perhaps you have been on the journey for a long time, have stepped away for a while or just want to explore more about Jesus?

On Easter weekend we will be kicking off an 8 week message series called, *Starting Point*. I am very excited to see how the Holy Spirit will be at work in the life of our congregation during this series. What I am especially excited about is how this series is going to help equip each of us to better be able to talk to others about our faith in a way that is relevant in our culture today.

Along with the weekend teaching we will be offering a *Starting Point* class on our Valley Creek Campus starting Wednesday, April 6th. The class will dive deeper into the weekend topics and is geared for people who are **curious about God, have a new relationship with**

Jesus, or are returning to church after being away for a while. Maybe this is you or perhaps you know someone who fits in one of these categories? If so, *Starting Point* will be perfect for you or them, you can get more information and sign up by contacting Mary Lehman at: lehmanm@woodburylutheran.org The class will be limited to the first 25 so do not delay!

Walking Together,
Pastor Tom



In This Issue

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- My Faith Journey
- LINC Twin Cities
- Small Groups
- Good Friday Vigil
- A Beautiful Day



We VALUE Movement

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.

One of the great learning's that research has been showing us around the idea of helping people grow in their faith is the importance of having a simple pathway where people can clearly and easily see their next step. One of the biggest challenges in a large congregation is keeping the path from becoming cluttered with too many "good" things that will then distract people from taking their strategic next step as they seek to grow as a disciple of Jesus.

When we did our values work we believed very strongly that we needed to embed in our DNA a value around movement and over the last couple of years we have made great strides in helping to make movement a core value for us at WLC. We have laid out a clear path for disciple development through the Discipleship Path and the Connection center has literally helped hundreds of people get moving into their next step.

We Value Movement – Faith Doesn't Stand Still. In 1 Peter 2:2 we read, "Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may

grow up in your salvation..." A faith that is not growing is a faith that is dying.

My challenge to you, whether you have been with us at WLC for a day or a decade is to pray about what your next step is and then stop by the connection center after a service and talk to one of our connectors about where God might be moving you!

Moving Together,

Pastor Tom

PS – Take some time to work through the movement exercise on the right to see how God has been moving to grow your faith!

Holy Week at WLC

Maudy Thursday, March 24th

- Oak Hill & Valley Creek 7:30pm

Good Friday, March 25th

- Oak Hill 7:30pm; Valley Creek noon & 7:30pm

Easter Sunday, March 27th

- Oak Hill: 9am & 10:30am; Breakfast at 8am
- Valley Creek: Blended—6am, 8am, 9:30am & 11am; Contemporary—9:30am & 11am; Breakfast at 7am



LINC Twin Cities

LINC Twin Cities: Helping Christians “Harvest the Nations” Here in Minnesota

In 2015, LINC Twin Cities’ Executive Director Rev. Dr. Fungchatou Lo and his staff visited about fifty different churches across Minnesota. What they observed was that the majority of churches are very mono-ethnic when compared with their neighborhoods. Even when and where there are different ethnic ministries utilizing the same building, they are not worshipping together. For the church not only to survive but to thrive in future, congregations must come to reflect the diversity of their communities and have younger and more diverse disciples. In response, LINC Twin Cities is focusing more than ever on helping local congregations match the diversity of their surrounding communities. The goal is to see Revelations 7 happen on earth as it is in heaven – every nation, tribe, people and language worshipping together.

To assist Christians to become better disciplers in diverse communities, LINC inaugurated *The Harvest Incubator Mission* (HIM) to train missional leaders the way Jesus did, through active discipleship. The year-long process began in March with a diverse cohort of thirteen disciples including Somali, Latino, Caucasian, Hmong, African-American and Ethiopian members. The cohort meets every two weeks as a group for encouragement and prayer as well as teaching from Rev. David Seabaugh of Bethel Lutheran Church in St. Paul. Rev. Dr. Lo and DCO Kurtis Smith meet with members for individual coaching between cohort gatherings. The goal is for each member to be making their own disciples by the end of their year. Two more cohorts are planned in 2016 and by the power of the Holy Spirit the prayer is that it will multiply to four cohorts with forty-eight disciples in the third year. Through HIM, LINC Twin Cities is even beginning to expand into Ethiopian ministries around the nation. Anyone can join a HIM cohort as long as they want to follow Jesus more deeply. Contact Kurtis Smith for more information: kurtis@linctwincities.org .

During 2015, LINC Twin Cities also launched All Nations Youth For Christ (ANY4Christ) to supplement church youth groups with cross-cultural activities and

relationships. The goal is to help youth groups better reflect the ethnic and cultural diversity that their generation experiences in the world outside of the church. A new LINC Twin Cities staff member, Deaconess Sylvia Witt, from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, has been added to help implement this ministry.

Other ministries of LINC Twin Cities include HIP (Harvest Intercessory Prayer) which trains local congregations and individuals to connect with their communities through prayer, and HER (Harvest Equipping Resources) which has the goal of equipping churches and individuals to be effective in their particular callings.

Finally, LINC Twin Cities is praying to launch a new multi-ethnic congregation in the Twin Cities and invites you to join in prayer for that vision every Sunday afternoon at 5:00. Call LINC Twin Cities for more information at (651) 321-2276. ~ Len Score

Weddings:

Amanda Wilde & Timothy Perlick
Miranda Slater & Aaron Everson

Baptisms:

Dominic Rhys Browning
Elena Linn Penaloza
Levi Joseph Burrows
Lucy Noelle Whitemarsh
Brooklyn Rachel Rothstein
Mackenzie Elaine Lange
Grayson Gardner Petrich
Lilly Alejandra Lopez

Deaths:

Tyler Peterson ~ grandmother, Opal
Valory Tessmer ~ mother, Dorothy
Family of Ray Young
Judy Adams ~ mother, Elva
Jessica Hammet ~ mother, Louann
Keith Heintz ~ mother, Janis
Dorothy Wolfgram ~ sister, Erna
Cindy Martin ~ mother, Janet
KC Swanlund ~ sister, Andrea
Sheree Mazzaresse ~ father, Sam
Kelly & Mady Parker ~ son, Gabriel
Geri Neujahr ~ sister, Lois
Family of Barb Spaeth
Family of Bob Scholz
Laura Cloose ~ great uncle, Gene
Family of Joleen Colton
Family of William O'Keefe
Family of Linda Schmeichel
Bob & Sharon Wuggazer ~ grand-
son, Isaiah
Keith Daniels ~ father, Harland
Lyn & Al Wilkie ~ son, Kirk

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



WLC Small Group

Small Groups Are Thriving and Walking the Discipleship Path

We are one small group away from having 550 people in Small Groups across our campuses. Thank you to Naomi and all of you leaders for being so great(er)!

We received some great feedback on the invitation to share a story of how God has been at work in your Small Group. Here is a glimpse of those responses:

After 2 years we are becoming very comfortable with walking together in life, so it has been awesome watching our transparency with one another grow.

Of not knowing some of the members when we started, we have all grown to care about each other. When we don't see someone in church, one of us will call to see if everything is alright.

Several members who had found Scripture unapproachable previously have found solutions for developing daily Bible-reading time that fits their needs and come back to the group excited to share what they have encountered.

Our trust levels have increased from some of the members and our prayer requests have gotten deeper and more transparent.

We went through a rough patch but stuck it out and there have been renewed relationships from this.

Our group has really grown in our ability to open up to each other, and to pray with and for each other.

Is it time for you to be in a Small Group? Contact for Valley Creek Campus: Mary Lehman: lehmanm@woodburylutheran.org or 651-739-5144. Contact for Oak Hill Campus: Naomi Golnitz Naomi@golnitz.com or (651) 779-4167.



Good Friday At WLC

Changes to Our Annual Good Friday Prayer Vigil

Our Annual Vigil is a time set aside for individuals, families and small groups to spend 30 minutes in prayer. Our vigil is a way of responding to Christ's invitation to "Stay here and keep watch with me." *Matthew 26:38*. This is a wonderful practice for families and a step (Worship) on our Discipleship Path.

Valley Creek vigil begins after the Maundy Thursday worship service and continues through midnight on Good Friday (we will break during the Good Friday evening worship service.) This is a round the clock vigil now held off site. Those who choose to pray will pray at their home.* We encourage you to pray with your family or invite your small group members to join you.

A sign up will be posted close to Holy Week. When you sign up there will be more information for you. *Note, more than one person or family and choose the same time.* Contact Mary Lehman 651-739-5144 x201 or lehmanm@woodburylutheran.org if you have questions.

*If you want to pray at Valley Creek campus, you can do so while the church building is open – 8:00 AM – 10 PM. Please use the Prayer Chapel near the office for your prayer time. **NOTE:** There maybe times that the church will be unoccupied

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 12-14. Collection dates will be May 10, 5:30-8:30pm and May 11, 4:30-8:30pm. 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 and NYG. If you have any questions call Shanna Salzman at [612-859-1365](tel:612-859-1365).



Clean out your closets and storage!

5 WORDS THAT CAN CHANGE THE WORLD

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE?

What if we walked into every situation and asked this question? How different would our world be?

GET YOUR CHILDREN TALKING

This month, during a mealtime, present different scenarios to your children and ask, "What needs to be done?" Encourage them to think outside the box and give more than one answer for each situation you present. Here are some ideas to get you started.

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE ...

 in our home?	 at our neighbors'?
 in my school?	 in our city?
 at our church?	 around our country?
 at my grandparents' home?	 around the world?

The next step is to take action. After coming up with some answers, brainstorm how your family can start becoming world changers by choosing one or two of your best ideas to put into action this month!

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.

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Taken from the March HomeFront Monthly Magazine

February

1	Gene Bruesehoff Jennifer Conway Heather Dahle Samuel Figlmiller Suzanne Homing Michele Kamholz- Swanson	7	Susan Krinke Niko Hasapopoulos Lloyd Kastner Matthew Mortenson Valerie Morris Elizabeth Radecki Krista Erickson Lindsey Featherstone Sara Gurrola Julie Horn Aaron Jenkins Brenda Kavanaugh Katy Meyer Ken Nelson Alyson Nelson Jennifer Reinhard Mary Dittman Jacob Bloom Amanda Didion Cameron Dressler Paige Harris Loren Opdahl Peter Rowcliffe Brett Wilkie Dorothy Blaisdell Freyja Brothen Ricardo Lopez Joel Symmank Kevin Krueger Jean Rock Kaylee Dahl Savannah Pelto David Beseman Shannon Brady Lincoln Daniels Kristina Hansel Kathleen McNeely Laura Cloose Ava Hanson Monte Michel Arthur Grant Anna Wagner Nathaniel Autz Vanessa McClure Tanner Ignaszewski Susan Montgomery Logan McAlpin Margo Garven Debra Benschopf Lon Berven Nick Rheinberger Zach Droel Casey White Sonja Sowders Addison Strohfus Lisa Hall	13	Mitchell Iloff Cindy Johnson Matthew Smith Elisabeth Speckhard Samuel Speckhard Shannon Weinandt Caitlin Weixel Craig Bettman Gerald Dittmann Clair McReynolds Michael Theis Kimberly Scibak Linda Amey Kathleen Searles Andy Smialek Thomas Speckhard Marc Turner Alexander Michel Nikki Carlson Lindsey Conley Campbell Robillard Ashley Gazdik Muriel Gimble Sherri King Elsie Thomas Dena Schull Larry Lombard Amelia Casas Robert Kamholz Candi McCausland 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 Caylee Charlson William Gauwitz Ed Erickson Denise LaFontaine Lexie Gutzmann Charles Kenow Todd Klusmann Ashley Knippenberg William Traynor Sandra Petrich Alyssa MacLeod Barbara Vik Janice Zeller	17	Deb Hebert Leah Hall Jennifer Doehrmann Daniel Johnson Kenny Nelson Codi Feuerherm Lynn Rizzardi Daniel Meyer Andrea O'Keefe Tony Reberg Konnie Harstad Debbie Hukee Addison Johnson Jaidn Mohlenhoff Steven Widen Nathan Williams Erin Schaefer 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 Tori Cox Amanda Kohlbeck Isabelle Kurth Julie Huber Gail Mullaney Mark Reed Karen Boatman Kaye Bradshaw Dominic Ortiz 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	25	Merriell Pieper Adalyn McKinley Mirabelle Morri Heather Kiedrowski Justin Hanson Hadley Burger Elijah Neumann Tina Pokrandt Dima Aunan Naomi Golnitz Kim Hughes Jim Jensen II Peter Karlstrand Emma McNally Mavis Shriver Michelle Hartinger Roger Strharsky Cathy Yee Audrina Conley Tracy Gardner Erin Powell Thomas Camilli Stella Oxtan Mike Pokrandt Michael Peter Elaine Southward Andrea Wachal Dean Wohlhuter Brian Brady Emily Layer Dylan Granholm Monica East Julie Fog Justin Jurek Mya Lomnes Quinn Stoerzinger Daniel Runge Bethany Breiholz Madison Nystel Kari Ulrich Mary Weiss Andrew Olson Tara Schlattman Alex Thao Ellyn Barker Elaine Feider Ellein Lutz Nicholas Muenstermann Samuel Muenstermann Anthony Vik Charlotte Vossen Adeline Burger Paul Cronin Tyler Hebert Robert Menge
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BIRTHDAYS

& Anniversaries

1	Dan & Aleesha Berkman	15	Mike & Carrie Steffel	21	Paul & Kim Dolan	
2	Mike & Debra Heggernes	8	Timothy & Kathleen McNeely	16	Norm & Vi Alrick	
	John & Beth Welsh	11	Bob & Karen Johnson		22	Perry & Michele Eggers
3	Eric & Kim Sandrock	12	Richard & Diane Kruger		24	Steven & Kris Carlson
	Perry & Kelly Rogotzke	14	John & Faye Coffey	17	Troy & Krista Hobot	
	Mike & Holly Rollefson		Jeff & Sarah Yonkovich	18	Steve & Elaina Haine	
5	Ed & Phyllis Dicke		Joel & Lorreen Mohlenhoff	19	Daniel & Margaret Krause	
	Scott & Janice Loula		John & Jean Rock	20	Cal & Kathy Janacek	
7	Joseph & Sarah Miner		Dan & Jamie Anderson	20	Adam & Kimberly Jorgenson	
				24	Gary & Teresa Kanne	

- 2** (V) **Women of the Word**
Wednesdays, 9:15am
Contact: Mary Lehman, 651-739-5144
- 2** (O) **Wednesday Morning Study**
Wednesdays, 10:00am
Contact: Pastor Derek, 651-739-5144
- 3** (O) **Women of the Word**
Thursdays, 9:15am
Contact: Jane Dibbern, 651-739-5144
- 3** (V) **Celebrate Recovery**
Thursdays, 6:30pm
Contact: Larry Smith, 651-308-9113
- 5** (V) **Baptism Class**
Saturday, 9:30am
Contact: Rachel Symmank,
651-730-0847
- 7** (V) **Women's Gathering Group**
Mondays, 12:00pm
Contact: Tamara Karlstrand,
651-734-3974
- 10** (V) **Open Doors Thursdays**
Thursday, 5:00pm
Contact: Pastor Tim, 651-739-5144
x221
- 10** (V) **Career Transition Connection**
Thursday, 7:00pm
Contact: Tom Colosimo, 612-386-3715

- 24** (O & V) **Maundy Thursday Worship**
Thursday, 7:30pm
- 25** (V) **Good Friday Worship**
Friday, Noon
- 25** (O) **Good Friday Family Prayer Stations**
Friday, 4:00pm
- 25** (O & V) **Good Friday Worship**
Friday, 7:30pm
- 27** (O & V) **EASTER!**
- 28** (O & V) **Offices Closed**
Monday, All Day

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	29	30	31		

March 2016 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

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