

THE NEWSLETTER

Woodbury Lutheran Church Newsletter

November 2016

Greater and FMSC

Every fall during our Greater journey, WLC has participated with Feed My Starving Children to provide meals for children around the world. And this fall was no exception. Over the years, we have packed nearly 1,000,000 meals! Your generosity during Greater and your volunteer hearts helped to make our dream a reality. Thank you! Each and every one of you made a difference in the lives of so many children. We would specifically like to thank Liz Thompson for her tireless work of managing each event here WLC.

Our most recent event had its meals shipped to Mexico. It left the warehouse of FMSC on September 29th to head towards Mexico through our partner Asociación Mexicano de Bancos de Alimentos (AMBA). Asociación Mexicano de Bancos de Alimentos is a network of 60 foodbanks that rescues unused food and channels it to Mexico's most vulnerable populations. AMBA distributes FMSC meals to single mothers, the disabled, the elderly and malnourished children.

Later this month, we have the opportunity to partner with our synod and host another Feed My Starving Children event at our Valley Creek Campus. If you'd like to pack some meals, please sign up here: <http://volunteer.fmsc.org/Register/mobilepack/event.aspx?event=1611->

226aEA#.WBJcB9UrJhE. Or if you'd like to donate to the event, please donate here: <http://www.fundraising.fmsc.org/faf/home/default.asp?ievent=1159546>.

If you have any questions regarding our next MobilePack event, please don't hesitate to chat with Liz Thompson. She can be reached at 651-262-9665.

For more pictures of our event, please see pages 8 & 9 of this newsletter.



FMSC MobilePack

In This Issue

- Cha..Cha..Changes
- Transforming Lives
- Interrupted Plans
- Embracing Problems
- Camp Omega
- C.H.A.T. with God



Cha Cha Cha Changes....

I am guessing you have noticed that things change very quickly in our world. At a recent gathering a speaker claimed that because of technology there will be more changes in our world over the next 25 years than there has been in the previous 2500 years, perhaps a bit of hyperbole, but you get the point.

One thing that never changes is Jesus who is the word of God. I love the words of Hebrews 13:8, *“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”* So simple, yet so reassuring, our God does not change. In I Peter 1:23-25, Peter quotes the wonderful words of Isaiah which speak to the enduring and unchanging Word of God, *“For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. For, ‘All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord endures forever.’ And this is the word that was preached to you.”*

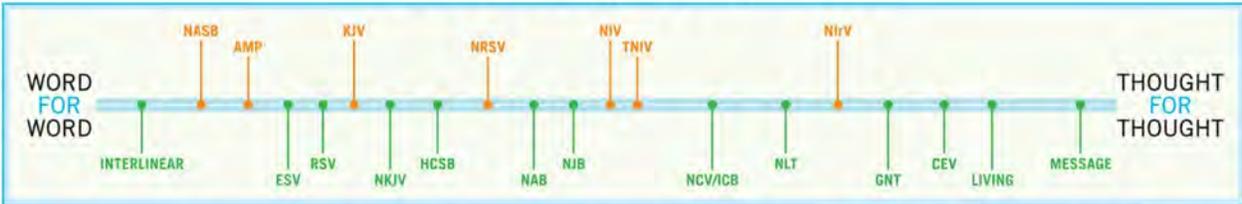
While things change, our foundation in the Word of God never does; what an amazing promise! As we look toward the New Year I wanted to update you on two changes that you might notice in January.

The first has to do with communion – currently we celebrate Communion on the 1st and 3rd weekends in our Contemporary services and the 2nd and 4th in our Blended services. In order to make worship planning more efficient across venues and campuses starting in January we will celebrate Communion at all of our services on the 2nd and 4th weekends of each month.

The second has to do with the translation of the Bible that we use in worship. Currently, we use the 1984 version of the NIV. The NIV did an update in 2011 which means that the 84 version is out of print and not available. After doing a thorough search of what other similar congregations to WLC are using and praying about what is best for WLC going forward, we have landed on using the NLT (New Living Translation) in our worship services. The NLT is a very accessible and readable version of the Bible, especially for those who are new or less familiar with the Bible, which sadly is a growing number in our culture. Like all translations the NLT is a strong translation, but I want you to know that your pastors will continue to look through multiple translations of the Bible as we prepare our sermons etc. as we already do now. Check out the chart to see where different versions of the bible land. And please remember whatever version is your favorite is simply an issue of preference, they are all good translations and the Word of the Lord will endure forever :)

Peace,
Pastor Tom

TRANSLATION CONTINUUM



This continuum shows how different Bible translations fit into the word-for-word and thought-for-thought translation philosophies.

Weddings:

Kirsten Meyer & Joseph Benke
Arika Krinke & Jason Johnson
James Culbertson & Alicia Leeemkuil
Kathleen Johnson & Cory Ellis
Haley Dyer & Aaron Raebel

Baptisms:

Layson Allen Pearson
James Allen Conway
Evelyn Mae Boser
Joseph Robert Doane
Jocelyn Joleen Colton
Audrey Grace Bauer
Lucille Joy Dalbec

Deaths:

Linda Kirsch ~ father, Don Minor
Bev Jechort ~ brother-in-law, William O'Brien
Mark Jechort ~ step-uncle, William O'Brien
Linda Pierre ~ step-uncle, William O'Brien
Family of Evelyn Reed
Family of Mike Anderson
Colette Miller ~ brother, Glenn Myrvold
Sue & Les Lange ~ brother, Leo Werkmeister

Service Times at WLC:

Sundays at Valley Creek:

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

Saturdays at Valley Creek:

Genesis, Contemporary, 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



Volunteers Needed During Collection Week

Transforming Lives Through A Simple Shoebox Gift

WLC is thrilled to partner with Operation Christmas Child again this November by donating gift filled shoeboxes and serving as a drop off location for donors! The boxes donated in our area, along with a Gospel story booklet, will be dispersed to children in Tanzania, Zambia, Saint Lucia, Madagascar, Zimbabwe and Namibia.

Every shoebox gift delivered by Operation Christmas Child is a tangible expression of God's amazing love. But a shoebox is just the beginning. It also presents an opportunity in more than 100 countries for our church partners to invite children into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through The Greatest Journey Program. Millions of children have learned what it means to follow Jesus through a 12 lesson Bible study course. As a result of what they learn, boys and girls share this knowledge with friends and family, and often they too accept Christ and become active members in the local church. Families are reached, churches grow, new churches are started and communities are transformed!

National Collection Week for the shoeboxes is Nov. 14 – 21. What to put in a shoebox? Suggestions include toys, school supplies, non-liquid hygiene items, a personal note or photo along with \$7 for shipping and Prayer! Once your gift filled shoebox is packed full of love and prayer, bring to worship on Sunday Nov. 20 for a special blessing, or any day during collection week. Labels and Brochures will be available in the lobby with more information about how to pack a shoebox. During this week we also need volunteers to greet and receive shoebox gifts from the community, as well as some strong bodies to load them into trailers. Please consider helping with this powerful ministry by contacting Bev Manship at jamesmanship@comcast.net or Laurel Mills at mlekm@msn.com.



control and they completely trust in Him... alone.

I would like to say I operate in this same way. But I don't always. In fact, I *often* don't. Deep down I know the truth, but my human self almost always gets in the way.

I have much to learn. And God willing, I look forward to returning to a land where the people continue to be grace filled and patient and model what it is to depend on Him... alone.

Blessings,
Regina Kehl

Interrupted Plans

On October 2, our small team of three arrived in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia with plans to visit various businesses as well as spend time in Sendafa with the children and staff at Ekklesia School throughout the week. On Monday and Tuesday, we were able to visit Alert Hospital and Entoto Beth. What a joy to learn more about these organizations as they provide jobs to people who are living with leprosy or HIV! We also spent time with Women at Risk founder, Sherawit Teketel Friedmeyer, and learned how she started a program to help women in prostitution. Incredible organizations doing incredible things!

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday were our scheduled days at Ekklesia. We were excited to see the staff and children, spend time with School Director, Sister Almaz, meet the recently purchased sheep along with the four new babies that were born, and continue building relationships with the community of Sendafa. But most of our time would be spent learning - learning more about the people we are walking alongside, their lives, and their culture.

But this is where *our* plans were interrupted.

As you may know, the unrest in Ethiopia caused the trip to be cancelled and those of us there had to return home. It can be difficult to make sense of things when plans get interrupted. Sometimes we cannot even begin to understand - for multiple reasons.

But here is what amazes me. Through the sadness of what is happening in their country, the people we work with in Ethiopia have such peace and joy and hope in who matters. They know God is in

2016 WLC Confirmands

Adela Ashby
Brandon Bambenek
Lauryn Bambenek
Joseph Baumgarn
Andrew Beck
Peyton Behnken
Kaleb Bloomquist
Jacob Brammer
Erin Brandvik
John Broten
Avery Burger
Hannah Carpenter
Kaitlyn Corey
Marcas Cronin
Rachel Eastenson
Brennan Featherstone
Cullen Featherstone
Sydney Fedorowski
Jayci Goetz
Ethan Johnson
Tanner Johnson
Anna Krueger
Jacob Lambrides
Maggie Law
Luke Lehmann
Ryan Lindstrom
Abbie Marshall
Hannah Marshall
Max Moris
Rachel Mueller
Halle Myers
Thomas Nelson
Matthew Nepsund
Gabriel Peterson
Kayley Pokrandt
Kavin Muhil Ramesh
Benjamin Reinhard
Spencer Sadowski
Adele Salava
Hatti Score
Parker Theis
Alex Tonolli
Justin Topp
Kayla Towne
Alex Trujillo
Mason Tuman
Emma Wiering
Max Xiong



Join the WLC Ding A Lings today!

Wanted: People to Ring A Bell!

For the 17th consecutive year Woodbury Lutheran Church (WLC) has accepted the challenge as an evangelical outreach ministry, to ring bells for the Salvation Army (SA) during the Christmas season of 2016.

Known as the "Woodbury Ding-A-Lings", we will be ringing the bells at three CUB stores this year -- CUB Woodbury (in Tamarack Village), CUB Stillwater, and new this year - CUB Oakdale. We will ring in **2 hour time slots** on Fridays and Saturdays beginning **Friday, November 25** and continuing through **Saturday, December 17**.

To give you some idea of the impact our WLC Ding-A-Lings have made, last year total donations were \$15,647. Our participation in this program is making a difference for people that need Salvation Army assistance!

Singles, families and groups are encouraged to ring. Youth under the age of 16 may ring with an adult but those who are at least 16 years of age may ring without an adult along.

You may sign up for a bell ringing shift by stopping by a Ding-A Ling kiosk. They will be located outside the sanctuary at VC, outside Genesis at VC, and outside the sanctuary at OH. Signups will be available each Sunday beginning Oct 30.

Adopt - A - Kettle

Another feature will be the Adopt-A-Kettle. If you desire to help the SA but are unable to ring bells, you can elect to match the money collected in any kettle bells, for either location, for any day, for any percent of a day's amount, or up to any dollar amount you choose.



Stop by a kiosk and become a Ding-A-Ling!

Have questions? Contact one of WLC's "Chief Ding-A-Lings"

Jerry and Paula Morton	H: 651-455-1682	C: 612-747-0664
Bob and Sharon Wuggazer	H: 651-493-6619	C: 651-318-9758
Mike and Sue Zabilla	M: 651-336-1408	S: 651-398-6391
Gladys Keopp	H: 651-739-3862	C: 651-283-9626



ble; it is designed to make us more like Christ.

Celebrate Recovery is built on the Biblical principles of real community, confidential small group interaction and the support of a caring community for it is in this setting that real change takes place thru the undisputed dynamic that – **CHANGED LIVES - CHANGE LIVES**

Embracing Problems As Gifts

The secret of knowing God's complete sufficiency is in coming to the end of everything in ourselves and our circumstances. Once we reach this point we will stop seeking sympathy for difficult situations or ill treatment, because we will recognize these things as the necessary conditions for blessings – a point where we turn from our circumstances to God, realizing they are the evidence of Him working in our lives.

When we can begin to find acceptance in the midst of our struggles, we then can begin living in God's Reality. We become open to new choices, pathways, lessons and opportunities that are available to us.

Instead of asking God to get rid of your problems, try to see them as the next steps of growth for you as you embrace them and persevere THRU them – not just merely tolerate them.

Ask God about your own control issues, about idealized expectations of Him and life, about brokenness, selfishness and the like. You will often find things to change, heal, repent and grow from that can provide new life for you.

Celebrate Recovery is forward-looking – meaning that we focus on the future and change – rather than dwelling on what has happened in our past. The solution is to begin making wise choices today and learn to depend on Christ's power to help us make those changes.

We cannot control all that happens to us, but we CAN control how we respond to what happens around us. The choices we make in life, to a large degree, determine the circumstances that we find ourselves living in, and the decisions we make to cope with our choices determine our destiny. Let's not forget that God's plan is not designed to make us comforta-



Treehouse Camp

New Facilities Needed for Camp Omega

Earlier this summer you learned a little about Camp Omega's ministry and the "Power of Camp." Did you know that Woodbury Lutheran, along with all the churches of the Minnesota South District own Camp Omega? They are an extension of our ministry that serves people from all over central and southern Minnesota. You also learned that the 175 bunk beds / shared bathroom facilities do not accommodate many adult groups or families with young children.

The new Adult / Family Retreat Center will host 25 modern guest rooms with private bathrooms, along with meeting areas that will serve an additional 100 people. It will be built adjacent to the current dining hall to allow easy movement for seniors. Congregations can offer spiritual renewal retreats, marriage retreats, leadership retreats, scrapbooking retreats, women and men's retreats in a very accommodating, friendly, new facility. And it is only an hour and a half from the cities.

The *Rooted * Celebrating * Growing Campaign* is in the second year of a three-year effort. God willing, construction will begin in summer of 2017. But help is needed. By making you aware of Camp Omega's important ministry and effort to build-on, enhance, and grow ministry to adults and families with young children, the hope is that you will consider how God might be leading you to use your resources in support of this effort. This project is in God's hands. It will be accomplished according to his purpose and plan. Please prayerfully consider how he can use you in support of this important ministry. Thank you in advance as this valuable ministry will be enhanced with new facilities – all for the sake of the mission of Jesus Christ.



*Greater FMSC
MobilePacking
event in September
2016 at the Valley
Creek Campus
of WLC*



WOODBURY LUTHERAN CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL CONCERT

Inspirational music, carols old and new, & classic songs

Friday & Saturday; December 9 & 10 at 7:30pm
and Sunday, December 11 at 4:00pm

Featuring the Woodbury Lutheran Chorale, Celebration, Praise Band,
JuBELLee Ringers, Children's choir, and 30 piece orchestra

Ticket Envelopes (freewill offering) will be available at the Welcome Center (both campuses) beginning November 13

November

Birthdays	1	Lindsey Carlson Kylee Collyard Joy Hopke Easton Johnson Matt Krotzer Jon Kush Candice Lee Addison Lower Allison Lower Diane Panning Dana Southward Steven Stone Victor Thiesse Karen Wachal	5	Brady Roloff Naveena Spitz Brian Tobin Jessica Dowdall Max Gentry Donna Herian Karen Blank Gavin Combs Jeffery Crane Robert Heck Rachel Homuth Sarah Jahn Ethan Johnson Brody Loeffler Natascha Mishacoff Matthew Nelson Logan Longworth Erin Fitzgerald Tara Dalbec Micah Gamble, Jr. Griffin Graham Cindy Grove Steve Matejka Kristen Meyer Taylor Moquist Audy Patraw Sarah Riechling Melissa Traynor Natasha Culbertson Calley Edlund	10	Kelly Schmidt Angela Zenner Norm Alrick Thomas Butina Samuel Beucler Michelle Bunge Greg Carlson Keith Esala Lawrence Faffler Christopher Hauge Tyler Schutz Kelli Wick David McNally Kayla Wesser Sarah Rowcliffe Eiley Kieser Ryan Hansen Len Score Helen Spindler Matthew Boyd Daniel Ferguson Michael Dicks Ivan Niezgocki Misty Nickle Kylee Nickle Bob Ogren Chad Peterson Thomas Zarnke Rene Kraft Aaron Duffy Deborah Ferguson Gary Grohoski Evan Hillmeyer Charles Jones Michael McNally Laurel Mills Gerald Palesh Lindsay Sandrock Shanessa Schlattman	16	Zachary Singleton Mark Sorgert Brian Whitemarsh, II Megan Becken Emily Betts Lynn Clark Tyler Johnson Alayna Oehlke Harold Pearl Phillip Stebbing Janice Wenker Callen Brittain Gloria Dale Elynn Figlmiller Molly Greenshields Ruth Harrison Julianne Kurh Emma Lee Brittany Morrison Elena Penalosa Faith Schreiber Cozy Hannula Jackson Jones Cory Jung Vince Lelei Dawn Mroszak Kristi Starzynski Lavonna Burgin Dean Dunavan Brennan Grimm Steve Schultze Jeanie Strohfus Brandon Thompson Kristi Weichert Seth Bridenbecker Gary Carlson Gaylee Clifford Adam Krause Caitlin Linert Henrik Johnson Kristina Johnson Donna Gauwitz Colette Miller Colette Nelson Monica Ross Cathy Bloom Craig Bloom John Baranick Gabrielle Baty James Brewer Michael Chandler	22	Keith Gustafson Roz Johnson Peyton Lange Gene Letendre Joyce Piper Miranda Slater Eliza deZeeuw Jasmyn Carlson Marsha Kveton Kyla Sonn Tim Mertens Stacey Schuessler Jeff Sieling Madelynn Stevenson Peter Wood Thelma Altman Isaiah Anderson Allen Bergh Kendra Berkman Grace Beseman Angela Fossan Mike Bocker Emma Feldkamp Delaney Goerlitz Tyson Morris Richard Schmidt Blake Standly Sydney Ulrich Kaleb Bloomquist Barbara Daak Joan Engen Kyle Hagen Eric Host Kevin Lange Luke Lombard Marilyn Quamme Michael Rauscher Ethan Reynolds Cael Spates Emily Yee Wade Amundson Madeline Baumann Cindy Boedecker Ted Bolles Kent Emerson Linda Kontz Nichole Mohlenhoff Jennifer Schwarzenbach Julia Voss Pat Bouthilet	27	Abigail Ceaglske Maxine Carter-Arku James Culbertson Kris Daugherty Pat Duffy Madeline Fong Perry Rogotzke Claire Becken Stephanie Aplin Cassandra Baty Glen Boedecker Alex Gierke Marge Helander Mark Landgrebe Eleanor Meyer Mark Relica Everleigh Vossen Jeffrey Wilford Robert Wilkie Anya Steffel Madison Buchholz Jarrod Bury Cindy Kucharski Michael Mergens Gary Prestegord Gabriella Vitela Grace Wenck Arslan Akishev Eric Chad Scott Conant Brandon Brown Gayle Huska Mark Hogeboom Colton Longworth Sean Ngu'e Linda Pierre Casey Schultz Holly Sorgert Eryn Stoerzinger Daniel Bock Bethany Bocker Nathan Hartwig Teeghan Herian Maggie Kolb Caleb Ruud Dale Werth
	2	Luke Burger Lauren Eddinger-Danner Makayla Gillard William Klinzing Betty Krueger Jill Leonard Karen Mielke Pat Morsching Angie Niezgocki Jason Pleggenkuhle Amber Gehring Isabella Sanneh Kelly Vo Dianna Weum	6	Erin Fitzgerald Tara Dalbec Micah Gamble, Jr. Griffin Graham Cindy Grove Steve Matejka Kristen Meyer Taylor Moquist Audy Patraw Sarah Riechling Melissa Traynor Natasha Culbertson Calley Edlund Connie Jones Matthew Kleinhans Marian Lensegrav Karen Longworth Liam Pleggenkuhle Vicki Strong Avery Vo Gabriel Waldo Les Winters Mark Erickson Bruce Johnson Virginia Obermire Ronald Shriver Steve Skytte John Voyda Richard Carlson Leo Johnson Jim Montgomery Ben Muenstermann Paul Neubrand Dan Parvey	11	Sarah Rowcliffe Eiley Kieser Ryan Hansen Len Score Helen Spindler Matthew Boyd Daniel Ferguson Michael Dicks Ivan Niezgocki Misty Nickle Kylee Nickle Bob Ogren Chad Peterson Thomas Zarnke Rene Kraft Aaron Duffy Deborah Ferguson Gary Grohoski Evan Hillmeyer Charles Jones Michael McNally Laurel Mills Gerald Palesh Lindsay Sandrock Shanessa Schlattman Kennedy Bertram Jeannie Backlund Nancy Branton Susan Finell Kimberly Jorgenson Thomas Karrow Abriella Lema Bryce Mohlenhoff Rochelle Michel Kristi Rohlf Tom Schlattman Marjorie Seeger	17	Callen Brittain Gloria Dale Elynn Figlmiller Molly Greenshields Ruth Harrison Julianne Kurh Emma Lee Brittany Morrison Elena Penalosa Faith Schreiber Cozy Hannula Jackson Jones Cory Jung Vince Lelei Dawn Mroszak Kristi Starzynski Lavonna Burgin Dean Dunavan Brennan Grimm Steve Schultze Jeanie Strohfus Brandon Thompson Kristi Weichert Seth Bridenbecker Gary Carlson Gaylee Clifford Adam Krause Caitlin Linert Henrik Johnson Kristina Johnson Donna Gauwitz Colette Miller Colette Nelson Monica Ross Cathy Bloom Craig Bloom John Baranick Gabrielle Baty James Brewer Michael Chandler	23	Thelma Altman Isaiah Anderson Allen Bergh Kendra Berkman Grace Beseman Angela Fossan Mike Bocker Emma Feldkamp Delaney Goerlitz Tyson Morris Richard Schmidt Blake Standly Sydney Ulrich Kaleb Bloomquist Barbara Daak Joan Engen Kyle Hagen Eric Host Kevin Lange Luke Lombard Marilyn Quamme Michael Rauscher Ethan Reynolds Cael Spates Emily Yee Wade Amundson Madeline Baumann Cindy Boedecker Ted Bolles Kent Emerson Linda Kontz Nichole Mohlenhoff Jennifer Schwarzenbach Julia Voss Pat Bouthilet	28	Madison Buchholz Jarrod Bury Cindy Kucharski Michael Mergens Gary Prestegord Gabriella Vitela Grace Wenck Arslan Akishev Eric Chad Scott Conant Brandon Brown Gayle Huska Mark Hogeboom Colton Longworth Sean Ngu'e Linda Pierre Casey Schultz Holly Sorgert Eryn Stoerzinger Daniel Bock Bethany Bocker Nathan Hartwig Teeghan Herian Maggie Kolb Caleb Ruud Dale Werth
	3	Patty Blomquist Dean Galvin Helen Gland Neil Horn Gerald Miller Kassandra Olson Donna Peting Gabrielle Ratcliff	7	Natasha Culbertson Calley Edlund Connie Jones Matthew Kleinhans Marian Lensegrav Karen Longworth Liam Pleggenkuhle Vicki Strong Avery Vo Gabriel Waldo Les Winters Mark Erickson Bruce Johnson Virginia Obermire Ronald Shriver Steve Skytte John Voyda Richard Carlson Leo Johnson Jim Montgomery Ben Muenstermann Paul Neubrand Dan Parvey	14	Aaron Duffy Deborah Ferguson Gary Grohoski Evan Hillmeyer Charles Jones Michael McNally Laurel Mills Gerald Palesh Lindsay Sandrock Shanessa Schlattman Kennedy Bertram Jeannie Backlund Nancy Branton Susan Finell Kimberly Jorgenson Thomas Karrow Abriella Lema Bryce Mohlenhoff Rochelle Michel Kristi Rohlf Tom Schlattman Marjorie Seeger	18	Cozy Hannula Jackson Jones Cory Jung Vince Lelei Dawn Mroszak Kristi Starzynski Lavonna Burgin Dean Dunavan Brennan Grimm Steve Schultze Jeanie Strohfus Brandon Thompson Kristi Weichert Seth Bridenbecker Gary Carlson Gaylee Clifford Adam Krause Caitlin Linert Henrik Johnson Kristina Johnson Donna Gauwitz Colette Miller Colette Nelson Monica Ross Cathy Bloom Craig Bloom John Baranick Gabrielle Baty James Brewer Michael Chandler	24	Kaleb Bloomquist Barbara Daak Joan Engen Kyle Hagen Eric Host Kevin Lange Luke Lombard Marilyn Quamme Michael Rauscher Ethan Reynolds Cael Spates Emily Yee Wade Amundson Madeline Baumann Cindy Boedecker Ted Bolles Kent Emerson Linda Kontz Nichole Mohlenhoff Jennifer Schwarzenbach Julia Voss Pat Bouthilet	29	Arslan Akishev Eric Chad Scott Conant Brandon Brown Gayle Huska Mark Hogeboom Colton Longworth Sean Ngu'e Linda Pierre Casey Schultz Holly Sorgert Eryn Stoerzinger Daniel Bock Bethany Bocker Nathan Hartwig Teeghan Herian Maggie Kolb Caleb Ruud Dale Werth
	4	Adeline Beucler John Carlson Avery Corrigan Sarah Dorff Austin Dunham Afton Kirby Madison Lien Lilly Lopez Erin Ecker Coriena Hanson Michael Heggemes Tim Huska Addison Lange	8	Mark Erickson Bruce Johnson Virginia Obermire Ronald Shriver Steve Skytte John Voyda Richard Carlson Leo Johnson Jim Montgomery Ben Muenstermann Paul Neubrand Dan Parvey	15	Kennedy Bertram Jeannie Backlund Nancy Branton Susan Finell Kimberly Jorgenson Thomas Karrow Abriella Lema Bryce Mohlenhoff Rochelle Michel Kristi Rohlf Tom Schlattman Marjorie Seeger	20	Seth Bridenbecker Gary Carlson Gaylee Clifford Adam Krause Caitlin Linert Henrik Johnson Kristina Johnson Donna Gauwitz Colette Miller Colette Nelson Monica Ross Cathy Bloom Craig Bloom John Baranick Gabrielle Baty James Brewer Michael Chandler	25	Wade Amundson Madeline Baumann Cindy Boedecker Ted Bolles Kent Emerson Linda Kontz Nichole Mohlenhoff Jennifer Schwarzenbach Julia Voss Pat Bouthilet	30	Daniel Bock Bethany Bocker Nathan Hartwig Teeghan Herian Maggie Kolb Caleb Ruud Dale Werth

& Anniversaries

1	Ron & Tammy Price Larry & Yvonne Knoepfel	9	John & Patrice Homer	15	Michael & Linda Peterson	24	Jim & Tracey Jensen
2	Nathan & Alisa Hartwig	10	Paul & Janice Grizzell Ben & Marissa Jagger	16	Brian & T.J. Cartier Lon & Kim Berven	25	John & Sue Raliff Kevin & Keri Stiffer
3	Robert & Kristal Treadway Andrew & Kathrine Beebe Carl & Marlene Andrews	11	Brian & Molly Kieser		Shane & Angela Fossan	27	Joshua & Jennifer Granlund
6	Dale & Elizabeth Thompson David & Diana Wende Israel & Cindy Carmona	12	Edward & Francina Lelei Steven & Bernie Spaudie	17	Matt & Ashley Boyd Thomas & Cynthia Mertens	29	Frank & Kathleen Janssen John & Debbie Hukee
8	Timm & Helen Spindler	13	Mark & Dena Schull		Curt & Deborah Anderson	30	Douglas & Rhonda Jones
		14	Frederick & Heidi Conrad Mark & Gail Kregger Gwen & Dan Froseth	19	John & Lynnette Mahlke		
				21	Daniel & Jana Beck		
				22	Jerry & Lucy Beane		

C.H.A.T. with God

For almost 10 years now, our family has sung a song as our pre-meal prayer. When you have four kids, it seems there is always a preschooler with a new “Thank you, God” song he is clamoring to sing each night, usually sung to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb.” A month ago, as we took a deep breath and started the first note of, “Thank You, Jesus, for Our Food,” I thought about how deep those three boys’ voices had gotten and how disingenuous this nightly ritual had become.

We have a responsibility to God in our relationship with Him, and part of that responsibility is to be in conversation with Him through prayer. Since this nightly prayer prior to diving into a meal is one of the main times we pray together as a family, we needed to move beyond singing words as some kind of lackluster performance and recognize it as a conversation with the Creator of the Universe who is capable of more than we ask or imagine.

In the book, *Prayer Coach*, by James Nicodem, the author outlines an easy acronym to help us learn and remember elements to include in our prayers. He uses the letters C.H.A.T. to remind us to chat with God.

C is for Confess. God wants us to confess our sins to Him and He is faithful and just and forgives those sins. Since *confess* is kind of a big word for children, we can use the words, “I’m Sorry.” Sometimes it is hard for our kids to come up with things they have done that they need to confess, so you may need to model this as parents. Confession as a family brings what is hidden into the light and emphasizes our responsibility for the people around us.

H is for Honor. God desires our praise and adoration, and honoring God is simply naming His attributes back to Him. For children, we can use the words, “I Love You, God.” Use this time to teach your kids more about the attributes of God that will shape their faith in Him and help them to identify how God is with them each day.

A is for Ask. Scripture urges us to pray for people and intercede on their behalf, as well as asking God for help with our own needs. While your children definitely know how to ask for things, we might express this for the younger set by saying, “Please.” Rather than a laundry list asking for things, encourage your family to consider how they can intercede for a friend or

neighbor, and how their faith and belief might impact the faith of others whom God has entrusted to them.

T is for Thank. It is our responsibility to give thanks in all circumstances, and I believe it is our responsibility as a family to teach our children to be thankful people. For this step, we can simply use the words, “Thank You.” Gratitude generally comes naturally to young children, but can become less specific with older kids, so challenge them to think of things that go beyond the standard, “Thanks for this day and for the food.”

The C.H.A.T. acronym has turned into a blueprint for our prayers before dinner each night, as well as for bedtime prayers with our kids. With my six-year-old, we say, “God, I’m sorry for _____. I love You because You are _____. Please help _____. Thank you for _____. Amen.” For our older boys, we just remind them of what C.H.A.T. stands for as they lead the evening prayer before a meal, and we hear sincerity and thought put forth in their relationship with God as they pray on behalf of our family. We still sing sometimes, as there is an innocence in those preschool prayers, but I notice more feeling behind them as my kids have taken time to consider this communication with God.

Help your children learn to embrace their responsibility for their relationship with God by creating some sacred space for them to consider how they might pray and respond to God in prayer. You could use four small chalkboards or white boards and write each of the words used in the C.H.A.T. acronym on them. Put them up in a space in your home where your family gathers to pray and encourage your children to write confessions, attributes, requests, and thanksgiving on them as God leads them throughout their day. **Each evening as you pray before a meal, or at another time you gather to pray, use this simple C.H.A.T. formula to prompt your prayers.**

by Courtney Wilson

Courtney is the Elementary Director at Christ Community Church in the suburbs of Chicago. You can usually find her chasing her four amazing kids around with coffee in one hand and a camera in the other.

Taken from the November HomeFront Monthly Magazine

- 2** (V) **Women of the Word**
Wednesdays, 9:15am
Contact: Mary Lehman, 651-739-5144
- 3** (O) **Women of the Word**
Thursdays, 10am
Contact: Jane Dibbern, 651-739-5144
- 3** (V) **Celebrate Recovery**
Thursdays, 6:30pm
Contact: Larry Smith, 651-735-7725
- 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) **Career Transition Connection**
Thursday, 7:00pm
Contact: Tom Colosimo, 612-386-3715
- 10** (V) **Open Door Thursday**
Thursday, 5:00pm
Contact: Pastor Tim, 651-739-5144
- 10** (V) **MN South FMSC MobilePack**
Thursday-Saturday
Contact: Liz Thompson, 651-262-9665
- 11** (V) **Middle School Lock In**
Friday, 8:30pm
Contact: Lindsey, 65-739-5144

- 14** (V & O) **Operation Christmas Child Collection Begins**
Monday 11/14-Monday 11/21
- 19** (V) **Time Away Respite Care**
Saturday, 4:30pm
Contact: Cheri Frost, 651-739-7052
- 25** **Thanksgiving Eve Worship**
Wednesday, 7:30pm
Guardian Angels Catholic Church
- 26** (V) **Thanksgiving Day Worship**
Thursday, 9:00am

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			

November 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

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