

THE NEWSLETTER

Woodbury Lutheran Church Newsletter

October 2016

Liberty Ridge: Looking Back, Looking Ahead

Looking Back - Remember 2013?

The Vikings played their final home games at the Metrodome. Prince George was born. Taking "selfies" and posting them to social media was all the rage. The Geico camel helped us survive Wednesday's with the "Hump Day!" commercial. *Candy Crush* became the year's most popular game and "Duck Dynasty" aired (which may have spurred the sermon series "Respect the Beard").

WLC also embarked on the "Greater" journey believing God was asking us to do three key things: (1) Deepen our spiritual relationship with Christ, (2) Expand our hearts to reach more people for Christ, and (3) Embrace our willingness to sacrifice for His purpose. Greater is about using our time, talents, and treasures for Him and His kingdom. John 3:30 was our theme verse: "[Jesus] must become greater, I must become less."

Looking Ahead - Liberty Ridge

WLC will soon add a third campus, Liberty Ridge, in Feb 2017. God has prepared our family for a change, a new way to make "Greater" a reality. He'll take ordinary people and do extraordinary things. He's done it in the past. He'll do it again.

We're going to Liberty Ridge to serve, to make new, and because God asked. Liberty Ridge offers us new ways to serve. Opportunities to serve are abundant and raw. This is a new campus with unique needs. Liberty Ridge offers us a way to make new relationships and watch God make lives new in him. We have the opportunity to watch God in action, to see how He makes disciples, to watch the faith of new believers blossom, and to see that what we are doing makes a difference. We'll go because we're grateful to God for His love and because we want to share His story. This is an exciting chance to make a difference, to help begin a church and to have God use us as His servants. Hey, isn't that what we prayed for at the start of the Greater campaign 3 years ago?

For a while we'll be like the Israelites wandering in the desert, setting up the tabernacle

each time they moved. Like God's chosen people, we will be setting up our place of worship every Sunday. The difference is that they had the hope that a Savior would come, we have the knowledge of the Good News of Jesus Christ, a wonderful message that we can share with all who walk through Liberty Ridge's doors.

We also have several friends going and the strong backing and proven talent of the Valley Creek staff. We've heard from Oak Hill families and their experience moving from Valley Creek and how they "would do it again"...and some Oak Hill families are doing it again by joining Liberty Ridge. God has given us and shown us many other reasons to go. He's prepared us these three years. We hope He becomes greater and we become less.

If God is calling you, we would love to see you at Liberty Ridge!

Brad, Kris, Ben and Rachel Sweet

"The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged" (Deut 31:8).



Join the Sweet Family and others in 2017!

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Reaching further with Liberty Ridge

Reach...Further

This next year we are going to be celebrating the 50th anniversary of our church. I love to reflect on the early days of our church and I often chuckle to myself thinking that some of the first worship services took place in what would later become my bedroom as a teenager. God is absolutely amazing in how He works out His plans and purpose. Who would have ever thought that what would start in a house basement would blossom into the gathering of believers we are today.

As I reflect on our past I am always thankful for those who have gone before and the legacy of faith they have left for us. Amazingly the values that we have today were set into motion in the early years of our church and they continue to lead us now and will into the future.

As we think about the launch of our third worshiping campus, Liberty Ridge Campus I want to ask three things of you:

- 1) Be in **prayer** for the launch team, Pastor Jon and Cassie as they lead and the hundreds of people who surround Liberty Ridge who are not connected to Jesus.
- 2) Consider **going** and showing others what it looks like to take that Next Step of faith into something new.
- 3) Be **positive** about what God is doing in our church. Tell your friends,



shout it from the roof tops and enjoy being a part of a healthy body of believers.

As we launch Liberty Ridge, it is important for us to remember that we are one church that meets in three locations.

Whether you attend Oak Hill, Valley Creek or Liberty Ridge you are an important part of the body of Christ that gathers as Woodbury Lutheran – together we are truly better as we seek to make an impact for Jesus Christ.

Peace,
Pastor Tom

Weddings:

Amy Johnson & Daniel Lee
Kirsten Elton & Bradley Tongen
Lainie Steffen & Gregg Ballen

Baptisms:

Davin Lee Morri
Frederick Lowell Anderson

Deaths:

James Butzler ~ father, Arnold Butzler
Family & friends of Jim Thoele
Family & friends of Gwen Finke
Dan Peterson ~ aunt, Barb Peterson
Bob & Gail Kamrath ~ cousin, Austin Bush
Diana Wutke ~ brother, Mike Fleming

GROUP LAUNCH

friend

noun \ 'frendl\

Simple Definition of friend

: a person who you like and enjoy being with



There's around 60 small groups at WLC! There are more adults involved in Small Groups than any other ministry (outside of Sunday worship). Why is that?

We believe that life is better together and the results prove it.

Small Groups are usually 6—12 people, or 4—6 couples that meet in someone's home for fellowship and Bible study.

Interested in joining a group or finding out more?

Come to Group Launch October 23-6:00

If you worship at Valley Creek Campus, we will kick off a brand new way of connecting into a Small Group. *Group Launch* is an evening at VC where we get together to meet others interested in a Small Group. It's a two-hour event where you will mingle, connect and learn about Small Groups. We will have dinner and get to know each other. Plan on finding either a married couple's group, women's group, men's group or young adult group.

Preregistration for Group Launch is important—

sign up at the Connection Center, or email lehmanm@woodburylutheran.org or call Mary Lehman at 651-739-5144 x201

*Sometimes members cannot host, so those that can, do.

If you worship at Oak Hill Campus, Naomi Golnitz is your Small Group Campus Counter Part. Connect with her at 651-779-4167 or naomi@golnitz.com.



October Birthdays

1	Marianne Eineke Mason Himes Victoria Riehle Brian Smith Rick Stinogel Janna Duban	Kimberly Sorgert Dave Wegner 7 Linda Atchison Veronica Pettit Audrey Forcica Julia Gibbs	Francis Menge Gradey Olafson Brian Stakston Dottie Tillery	Sam Froseth Amy Johnson David Hayden Jan McLean Max Schmidt Elise Schuenke Sophia Skadberg Amy Tessmer Eric Varin	Zach Howard Jan Jeske-Rowe Lisa Peterson Robbie McKusky Everett Morri Justin Thompson Kimberly Herr Hannah Dufresne	Elizabeth Hanson Tim Pleggenkuhle Jeremy House Andrew Eineke Roman Rogotzke Connie Sabbann Jeanette Schmidt KC Swanlund Lisa Thao
2	Rhonda Affield Kaylee Amundson Carly Anderson Dan Arend, Jr. Nathan Bloomquist Kurt Brammer Barrett Connolly Joshua Kirchoff Scott Stevens	Luanne Greengard Roger Haukland Shirley Hensel Dick Maguire Don Piper Brian Rieck April Reed Nick Weiler	11 Sharla Phemetton Kevin Graham Amy Meyer Eric Heintz Lorraine Wohlhuter Seryozha Mzenga Bruce Montgomery Daniel Krause Abram Neumann Marlen VanOverbeke Abby Schissel	17 Brooke Albrecht Paige Albrecht Bill Hellenberg Kristen Nesvig Mike Rist Cynthia Martin Lillian Stenzel Jacob Speckhard Matt Weiss	23 Hannah Bauman Lesla Clarkson Peter Bloomquist Julia Esboldt Elden Lamprecht Tom Kroohn Paul Rubbert Jennifer Wenck Annaliese Voss Madeline Haut Caitlin Johnson Brad Sweet Warren Weum Adam Wiering	28 Robert Nelson Maria Engen Nolan Aspen Quinn Haines Carley Kokaisel Kelsey Wegner LeRoy Wilke Parris Vitela Rachel McFarland Anastacia Speckhard Katie Schultze Wendy Schultze
3	Alex Barker BJ Brown Kris Bruesehoff Lyn Foley Jared Foster Cynthia Freeman Amber Ignaszewski Gabe Peterson Kavin Ramesh Nancy Ritter Carol Score Nick Skadsberg	8 Ellen Cochran John Foster Alanna Hill Aaron Bauman Katie Dahm Parker Huebsch Tyler Huebsch Brian Kirchoff Bob Kolb Etta Meyer Scott Reinhard Mark Smith Olivia Thao	12 Barbara Groth Christopher Neutz Ella Schwarzenbach Alexander Konop Cindy Schwartz Mike Steingraber Jamison Mackey Melanie Haberman Dawn Kroohn	18 Julia Glatzmaier Olivia Hassebroek Addison Rohm Will Bartley Mark Kreger Diane Kruger Ryan Lindstrom Jim Sobaski Ben Wilson	24 Melissa Butzler Arlene Halleen Zachary Cartier Arul Ramesh Justin Topp Payton Robillard Jennifer Granlund Pat Stevens	29 Amanda Brigl Cheryl Stensvad Bennett Lodermeier David Schelling Beejay Zager Linnea Rizzo
4	Paul Burandt Brook Burt Ross Davis Elias Aune Patrick Brewer Jerry Helander Marvel Mitterholzer Kendel McKinley	9 Jesse Spates Terri Albrecht Steve Dopson Alexandra Pashina Jeff Konop Grant Schouveler Matthew Meek Griffin Zeller	13 Cortney Heerwald Jennifer Anderson Thomas Albrecht Cathy Carlos Zachary Taylor Michael Zenner	19 Ruth Camilli Jacob Rygh Paul Claugherly Ari Meyer Molly Yee Christian Johnson	25 Charles Wilson Ryan Loss Julie Drevnick Nicholas Crist Valerie Reichel Maggie Law Nancy Brezina Yvonne Knoepfel	30 Bob Albrecht Simona Awiszus Rana Browning Thomas Campbell Matthew Dahlstrom Chad Helgason Jack Kohlbeck Candace Lilleboe Aspyn Offenhauser Thomas Ogren Keira Rosin
5	Sophia Carlson Elizabeth Huebsch Janet Harrison Alden Nelson Deb Reynolds Brenda Stoffel Brindley Schull Alejandro Trujillo- Corona Lori Voth	10 Hadley Combs Brigett Hanson Debra Heggemes Eugene Anderson Villaume Dominique Lachlan Gotschall Stella Hall Olivia Hillmeyer Kaye Christianson Logan Duis Ruth Premiah Delaney Palmer Danielle Nelson	14 Rick Blomquist Mackenzie Fossan Carolyn Hernandez David O'Connor Eva Powers Josephine Mack Stacey Wagley	20 Viola Alrick Aliya Baibatyrova Matt Prestegord Judy Pirkl Jennifer Singleton Benjamin Jacobus Heidi Hove Lois Setten	26 Don Ameson Olivia Bell James Belmonte Colin Davis Cristina Gurrola Alyssa Kreutzfeldt Rick Albrecht Eric Bjomson Lisa Huska Mel Medin Katherine Reinhard Vicki Huebsch Karin Stensvad David Wolterstorff	31 Renee Kenow Trevor Brammer Brian Kieser Janice Lindau Quinn McHarg Alyxia Morris Katherine Parker Megan Ross Michael Scheid Jean Steinbraber Bill Taylor
6	George Achterling Michele Eggers Fritz Feuerherm Matthew Hanson Glennae Meyer Gina Pearson Elora Riley Garrett Sailer		15 Justin Bloomer Jessami Bruesehoff Amy Fitzgerald Robert Cummings Cole Bruesehoff Marie Klinzing Gerald Morton Marie Schultz Catherine Jacobus Chelsea Lewis	21 Harriet Porter Cheri McKusky Eli Boon Vienna Carlson Andrea Hitzemann- Johnson Autumn Schuldt Gerald Steffel Matthew Edwards Helen Louie-Terzian Daniel Wesser	27 Michele Jacobus	

& Anniversaries

1	Gary & Diane Baran Tim & Brittany Bystrzycki Nick & Julie Kordosky	Burt & Reighe Nagel 6 Paul & Sally Cronin Jeff & Aimee Wilford	12 Glen & Cindy Boedecker Brett & Lisa Corrigan Brian & Donna Herian Tom & Patti Nelson	Josh & Melanie Anderson Tom & Kristine Stork	24 Grant & Pixie Anderson 25 Kelly & Tiffany Fitzgerald 26 Brian & Addie Michlitsch Chad & Alison Kurth
2	Gary & Byrmina Iskason Kevin & Darlene Meissner Bill & Andrea O'Keefe	7 A. J. & Sarah Dorff John & Joy Taraldsen	13 Brad & Sandi Miller	Charles & Janice Jones Fred & Alyssa Kreutzfeldt	27 Keith & Cynthia Gustafson Michael & Brenda Haut
3	Dave & Sue McNally Karl & Cheryl Hohenstein Mark & Kim Sorgert Rich & Shelly Ahlquist	8 Andrew & Stephanie Aplin Nathan & Jennifer Weixel	15 Justin & Amanda Brigl Doug & Beth Mackey Nathan & Amy Randt Bill & Donna Gauwitz	20 Gerald & Robin Dittmann Chike & Sarah Ociagha Dick & Nancy Ritter	28 Mark & Tami Jelinek 30 Tim & Roxane Becken Justin & Lisa Bloomer
4	Mark & Cameo Kosanke Gene & Phyllis Letendre Jeff & Katie Mueller	9 Aaron & Jamila Drevlow 10 Ross & Nicole Davis Kevin & Kathleen Featherstone John & Theresa Leis Andy & Renae Smialek	16 Bob & Amy Schlichenmaier Mike & Julie Rist	22 Jeff & Joan Figmiller Mark & Tonya Smith Bob & Fran Cummings	31 Dwight & Patti Schultz
5	John & Dorothy Blaisdell Jorge & Acela Lopez		17 Larry & Carol Edwards 18 Greg & Sharon Opheim John & Jessica Norring Bill & Karen Klinzing	23 John & Diane Kuhmeyer Ed & Cathy Yee Kevin & Deb Tachery Peter & Barb Cavanaugh	

CONSIDER IT JOY?

CONSIDER IT PURE JOY, MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS, WHENEVER YOU FACE TRIALS OF MANY KINDS, BECAUSE YOU KNOW THAT THE TESTING OF YOUR FAITH PRODUCES PERSEVERANCE. LET PERSEVERANCE FINISH ITS WORK SO THAT YOU MAY BE MATURE AND COMPLETE, NOT LACKING ANYTHING. IF ANY OF YOU LACKS WISDOM, YOU SHOULD ASK GOD, WHO GIVES GENEROUSLY TO ALL WITHOUT FINDING FAULT, AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU. (JAMES 1:2-5)

I think most of us would agree that we do not relate “pure joy” to “trials of many kinds” (James 1:2). That being said, I do believe that there may be nothing we desire more for ourselves and our children than to become “mature and complete, not lacking anything” (v. 4). As grandparents, we have the gift of hindsight and the ability to look back and see how God was present during our most difficult times—and how those trying times did, in fact, cause growth and dependence.

Sharing these faith-producing stories with the next generation now becomes our responsibility as our children and grandchildren enter into difficult seasons. And make no mistake: They *will* encounter difficult seasons.

It’s so rewarding to hear my adult children share these trust-building stories with their children—stories of how God came through for our family during times that pushed us out of our comfort zone. The other day I received a phone call from my daughter asking me to relate a story again to her. She wanted to be sure she was getting the facts straight. “Yes,” I told her. “You’re remembering correctly!” I was a single mom raising three children, and I’d reached the end of our money that month. I didn’t have money for groceries, and in addition to that, I had two bills left to pay, with the bills totalling \$200. I gathered my children around the table and asked them to join me as we prayed to the God we trusted—the God who had come through for us time and time again. Later that day, as I dropped my daughter off at sports practice, a lady walked up to me. She said, “You may not remember me, but you were my daughter’s high school teacher. You reached out to her during a difficult time and made a difference in her life.” She continued, “This may sound strange, but I believe that God told me to give this to you.” She handed me two \$100 bills and a \$200 gift card to a grocery store. The exact amount we needed until I was paid again!

I would never have chosen that difficult scenario had the option been left up to me. But God, in His perfect wisdom, knew that one day that miraculous story would be shared with the next generation and would begin to mature their faith. In *Crazy Love*, Francis Chan says, “God doesn’t call us to be comfortable. He calls us to trust Him so completely that we are unafraid to put ourselves in situations where we will be in trouble if He doesn’t come through.”

So, grandparents, share your stories—even the most difficult ones. Remind your children and grandchildren that we live in a broken world filled with things such as cancer, bankruptcy, and divorce. But don’t stop there. Share with them how God loves us and how we can trust Him to make *all* things—even those that test our faith—work together to make us “mature and complete, not lacking anything”!

by Debbie Guinn

Taken from the October HomeFront Monthly Magazine

- 1** (V) **Baptism Class**
Saturday, 9:30am
Contact: Rachel Symmank, 651-730-0847
- 3** (V) **Women's Gathering Group**
Mondays, 12:00pm
Contact: Tamara Karlstrand, 651-734-3974
- 3** (V) **Gambler's Anonymous**
Mondays, 7:00pm
Contact: Pastor Tim, 651-739-5144
- 4** (V) **Cancer Companions**
Tuesday, 7:00pm
Contact: Vicki Strong, 651-730-5049
- 5** (O) **Wednesday Morning Study**
Wednesdays, 10:00am
Contact: Pastor Derek, 651-739-5144
- 6** (V) **Celebrate Recovery**
Thursdays, 6:30pm
Contact: Larry Smith, 651-308-9113
- 8** (V) **Grace Women's Retreat**
Saturday, 9:30am
Contact: Mary Lehman, 651-739-5144
- 13** (V) **Open Doors Thursdays**
Thursday, 5:00pm
Contact: Pastor Tim, 651-739-5144
- 13** (V) **Career Transition Connection**
Thursday, 7:00pm
Contact: Tom Colosimo, 612-386-3715

- 16** (V) **Healing Service**
Sunday, 12:00pm
Contact: Pastor Tim, 651-739-5144
- 23** (V) **More Than Money Matters**
Sundays, 6:30pm
Contact: Pastor Jon, 651-739-5144
- 30** (O) **Confirmation Sunday**
Sunday, 10:30am
Contact: Molly Schulze, 651-739-5144
- 30** (V) **Confirmation Sunday**
Sunday, 1:30pm
Contact: Joel Symmank, 651-739-5144

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30	31					

October 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

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