

# THE NEWSLETTER

Woodbury Lutheran Church Newsletter

September 2016

## FMSC MobilePack Is Back!

After a successful Woodbury city-wide Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) MobilePack last year, FMSC is returning to Woodbury Lutheran this September! Once again we will be serving alongside FMSC to attack childhood hunger by packing more 250,000 meals in just 16 hours.

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, you, along with 1,000 of your friends, neighbors and fellow church members, will have the opportunity to participate in a FMSC MobilePack event to be held at our Valley Creek campus. Adults and children will measure and scoop ingredients, seal bags and prepare boxes for shipping. For those who can not stand for two hours – you can serve by labeling the bags that are used. Children as young as five can also help as long as they are with their parents. If you are a leader of an organization that would like to participate (Scouts, etc.) then the minimum age is third grade. For more information on adult to student ratio for groups, please contact Liz Thompson (651-262-9665).

FMSC is a Christian nonprofit organization committed to feeding God's starving children hungry in body and spirit. The approach is simple: children and adults hand-pack meals, MannaPack™ Rice, formulated specifically for malnourished children. Organizations in nearly 70 countries around the world distribute these meals to children in greatest need. FMSC is able to spend more than 90% of total donations directly on feeding children because of its thousands of volunteers.

120 individuals are needed at each of the eight, 2-hour shifts, while 10 adults are needed to help set-up on September 22<sup>nd</sup> and clean-up on September 24<sup>th</sup>. You can register yourself, your family and friends and/or your organization via the link on WLC's home page. The available shifts are:

### Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>

- Set-up: 3-5 pm (note we are not packing at this time)
- Packing: 6-8 pm

### Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>

- Packing: 12-2 pm, 2:30-4:30 pm and 5:30-7:30 pm

### Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup>

- Packing: 9-11 am, 12-2 pm, 2:30-4:30 pm and 5:30-7:30 pm
- Clean-up: 7:30-9:30 pm

A couple of items to note once you have completed your registration:

- Please arrive 15-minutes prior to the start of your shift for registration and training;
- Please wear closed-toed shoes (no sandals or flip-flops)
- Please leave your jewelry at home

While we will be helping FMSC in their mission, we will also be fulfilling several of the goals of our church including broadening our church's understanding and practice of generosity and modeling Christ's love by meeting the basic needs of others. And we will be having fun! If you have questions, need more information or need help with registering, please contact Liz Thompson at 651-262-9665.



## In This Issue

- Falling Forward
- Firsts and Lasts
- Robin's Nest
- Liberty Ridge
- WLC Missionary Focus
- NYG Recap
- Prayer Ride

September 22-24, 2016—Valley Creek Campus



Fall Ministry at WLC

## “Fall”ing Forward

*“God, what do You want to do through me to accomplish Your plans for Woodbury Lutheran Church?”*

Three years ago we started to pray that prayer together as a congregation and as individuals. Over the last three years God has answered our prayers

in some pretty amazing ways! Throughout the fall we are going to be celebrating, reflecting and looking ahead by giving thanks for how God has used Greater to bring life to our vision of Multiplying Disciples // Transforming Lives.



The weekend following Labor Day we will be spending 5 weekends in a series called iBelieve. This series will take us deeper into the ancient confession of faith known as the Apostles Creed. A Creed is essentially a simple summary of beliefs and the Apostles Creed

captures our beliefs as disciples of Jesus in a very precise and helpful way. In an ever changing world, it is essential for us to know what we believe, because our of beliefs are meant to translate into action.

Unless you live under a rock then you know a Presidential election is upon us. This election season has the potential to distract us from the truth that our hope is found in Jesus Christ alone. So the question for

disciples of Jesus is how can we faithfully walk the road



where faith and politics intersect? How should we interact with the government, what role do we play in the kingdom of this world, how do we treat those with different opinions? We will be attempting to answer some of these questions in a two week series called, Thy Kingdom Come.

I hope to see you in worship this fall as we continue to walk the Discipleship Path together, learning, growing, challenging and encouraging one another along the way.

Peace,

Pastor Tom

## Weddings:

Brenda Peterson & Jason Sirovy  
Lori Costello & Steve Johnson  
Megan Brant & Nathan Howard  
Tayha Jacobson & Nicholas  
Christianson  
Kallee Mills & Brian Pitt

## Baptisms:

Carson Cashlin Loeffler  
Kaylee Ann Bierdeman  
Arsen Akishev  
Lucy Marie Morrison  
Eleanor Grace Morrison  
Hartley Elizabeth Painter  
Hann Jo Arndt

## Deaths:

Lynette Mahlke ~ mother, Marjorie  
Mike & Lin Peterson ~ sister, Pat  
Lisa Ginn ~ father, Wilbert  
Lois Starks ~ mother, Delphine  
Jenny Andersen ~ daughter,  
Emersyn

## Service Times at WLC:

### Sundays at Valley Creek:

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

### Saturdays at Valley Creek:

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



## Firsts and Lasts

Can you believe summer is almost over? Excitement is in the air as Woodbury Lutheran Preschool staff gears up for the beginning of the new school year. Very soon our preschool hallway will be alive with the chatter and laughter of well over one hundred little voices. What fun it is to welcome children back after the summer months and see how much they have changed. This will be the very first school experience for many of the children who will soon march through our classroom doors. We are thrilled to welcome them and their parents into our WLP family. As we begin this new year of early learning, I pray the children enter their classrooms for the first time to find the love of Christ awaiting in the kindness, patience, comfort and joy of their teachers. And as always, I am eager to see how God will work in their hearts and lives in the preschool year ahead. It is a wondrous thing to watch them learn and grow!



Firsts are very important in the lives of these little ones and I've been privileged to be part of a great many of them. But for some of us, lasts hold significance, as well. This fall marks the beginning of my 23<sup>rd</sup> year as director of Woodbury Lutheran Preschool and it will be the last. The Word tells us, in Ecclesiastes 3:1, *"there is a time for everything and a season for every activity under heaven"*. At the end of this school year, it will be time for me to step down. I am daily thankful for the blessing of a career that has brought tremendous joy by allowing me to be part of the lives of those very dear to my heart – young children and families. God is faithful and good. Trusting He will continue to provide exactly what is needed for this wonderful ministry and looking forward in the future to finding new and different ways to serve Him.



With gratitude for His blessings,  
Dorothy Blaisdell



Nurses Wolfe & Gordon with boys

## Robin's Nest Children Home, Jamaica

In mid-August, a team of 10 individuals representing Woodbury Lutheran Church spent a week on site at Robin's Nest Children's Home in Jamaica. Robin's Nest, with its extraordinary views of God's creation from on top of Salter's Hill, is located inland from Montego Bay. It is a Christian-based and privately run facility with capacity for 35 children, and is supported by two on-site directors from the USA and 35 staff from the surrounding area.

At the direction of Robin's Nest leaders, our focus this year was helping prepare for the upcoming school year along with cleaning, organizing and painting an on-site visitor apartment located in the basement of Jake's House. Part of our school prep work included stuffing backpacks with all of the school supplies that were donated by the WLC congregation! We were also privileged to lead the Sunday worship service and spend time helping care for and playing with the children. Several members of our team were up extra early around 5:00 am to assist the pod moms with getting the many babies ready for their day!

It was an honor being the hands and feet of Jesus in Jamaica! Although struggles do absolutely exist, it is very clear that God is alive and moving among the children and staff at Robin's Nest. Each member of our team will forever be changed by the time spent at this special place in God's kingdom.

Thanks to everyone who supported our team through prayer and donations of supplies. If you would like more information on our trip, please see our team blog on [www.woodburylutheran.org](http://www.woodburylutheran.org). You can also find out more information about Robin's Nest at [www.robinsnestchildrenshome.org](http://www.robinsnestchildrenshome.org).

The Robin's Nest Short-Term Mission Team





**WOODBURY  
LUTHERAN**  
*Liberty Ridge Campus*

## Where is God Preparing to Send Me?

It's a question that we might not ask all the time. We get into a pattern with our jobs, our families, our worship and the concept of God sending us somewhere seems foreign or strange. Yet, it is a question that we should be asking ourselves as disciples of Jesus. We see examples of this throughout Scripture. In Isaiah 6:8, God is calling, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" In Matthew 28:18-19 the resurrected Jesus looks at his disciples and says, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples..." God wants to and is preparing to send you somewhere.

At Woodbury Lutheran, we often summarize that concept in the words, "What is your next step?" For some of you, the next step is serving regularly. For others of you, it might mean having a conversation with your neighbor and inviting him or her to church. And for some of you, *God is calling you to help launch the Liberty Ridge campus.*

I realize that many of you have called either the Valley Creek or Oak Hill campus home for many years. It's where you worship. It's where you have friendships. It's a key part of your life. Thus, it may be easier to say "I don't want to go to a new campus because I like where I am." But as disciples of Jesus, we're not challenged to say, "I like where I am." We're challenged to ask, "What next step is God calling me to?" During this next month, I want to challenge you to ask yourself, "Where is God preparing to send me?"--and before you answer that question, pray about it for a couple weeks. You may be surprised where God is calling you.

A number of months ago, after much prayer, we felt like God was leading us to launch the Liberty Ridge campus in February of 2017, and we firmly believed that God would provide 125 adults (plus children) to help launch the new campus. 30 adults have signed up so far, and that is fantastic! There's still 95 to go. *Is God preparing to send you to the Liberty Ridge campus?* For at least 95 more of you, he is. But the best part is that when God calls you to something, it opens you up a new reality and new experiences. Just think--God can use *you* to help reach unreached people with his amazing Gospel. And who wouldn't want to be a part of something like that?

Is God sending you to the Liberty Ridge campus? Think about it. Pray about it. And feel free to talk to me along the way. God is going to do awesome things through the Liberty Ridge campus, and I don't want you to miss out on the journey.

Peace,  
Pastor Jon



Trinity First, Minneapolis

## Phillips Neighborhood Mission Summary

True discipleship comes from experiencing the love of Christ and the desire to share it with others. On July 17, sixteen faithful followers of Jesus (Phillip's Mission Team 2016) met at 5 PM at WLC and were prayed over. The following highlights how God enabled us to do the great work of His kingdom: loving others as He loves us.

July 18-20 we welcomed 60 - 70 children each day for Summer Bridge to Success (SBS); this year's theme was "My Faith Awakens. The children arrived with excitement, gathering in the sanctuary for singing and to learn more and more about Jesus. On July 20, about 60 children were bused to the Target Center to watch the MN Lynx team play the Atlanta Dream team. The children were well behaved, but it was quite a challenge for our team to be in charge of so many children.

On July 19, we worked from 5 - 7 PM at "Open Arms" which is a state-of-the-art kitchen where nutritious meals are provided to people suffering from chronic illnesses. Our duty that night was to chop vegetables and meat, which would be prepared the next day by chefs and packaged individually for delivery. Volunteers cook and deliver the meals to roughly 1,000 clients each week in the Twin Cities.

July 20, Mark Koschmann (former WLC Vicar), joined us for enchiladas that evening and taught a course on racism and religion. In light of the current racial unrest, it was a powerful topic and reminded us to look at these issues through Jesus' eyes instead of judging.

July 21, we visited the World Mission Prayer League and enjoyed learning that there are 120 missionaries serving in 21 different countries. We were given a tour of the grounds and the buildings which were lovely. We gathered for prayer and prayed over those missionaries serving abroad. That evening,

our team walked the streets and invited strangers to a pot luck dinner at First Trinity where we shared our faith and what it means to be a follower of Jesus.

On July 22 we did volunteer work at Community Emergency Service which is a food shelf. We estimate there were 400 people who received food. That evening our group completed a paver patio, which was used for the first time the next day, Saturday, July 23, when we fed approximately 100 people.

In the evening of July 23, we shared a meal with the Ethiopian Congregation where we enjoyed a pot roast and ethnic Ethiopian food. Pastor Demalish led the worship with praising God in singing, prayer and reading of His word. Sunday morning, Pastor John led the worship service at Trinity and it was followed by a pancake breakfast. It was pure joy to see that many of the folks who attended our pot luck dinner on Saturday were there to worship with us.

We rejoice in the gifts God had given each of us. What an amazing talented group of servants we had on our team. They hung 56 "cubbies" complete with hooks for hanging jackets and a place for the children to store their backpacks.



## Women of the Word

*Starts September 21, Valley Creek Campus, Fireside Room, Wednesdays 9:15-11:15 am, Childcare is limited—registration is required for childcare*

Registration forms are available in the office and at the Welcome Center on Sunday Mornings. Class registration is not required.

Choose from the following classes:

- The Armor of God by Pricilla Shrier;
- Embracing God's Grace by Elizabeth George;
- Jesus the One and Only by Beth Moore,
- Joseph: Beyond the Coat of Many Colors and Missional Motherhood by Gloria Furman;
- Missional Motherhood is for moms of young children

Call Mary Lehman at 651-739-5144x201 if you have any questions.





## WLC Finances

2016 has been a mixed year so far in terms of our financial position. General Fund contributions are ahead of last year by \$154,279. We have been

blessed with more gifts than last year and that increase is in gifts of all sizes. 2016 contributions are \$1,707,435 and 2015 contributions were \$1,553,156.

GREATER gifts are down in 2016 compared to last year by \$47,000. Total to date in 2016 are \$142,485 and in 2015 they were \$189,350.

We THANK YOU for your continued generosity!



## Reformation Tour 2017

Pastor Dean and Susie Nadasdy will host a 500th Anniversary Reformation Tour of Germany September 22-

October 3, 2017. Nadasdy serves as President of the Minnesota South District of the LCMS. The trip will include visits to the historic Reformation sites as well as the German and Austrian Alps. President Nadasdy, a former parish pastor and seminary professor, will provide brief Bible studies and lectures on Reformation themes. For more information, brochure, and registration form, contact the Nadasdy's at [dean.nadasdy@mnsdistrict.org](mailto:dean.nadasdy@mnsdistrict.org).



**Thank YOU for being an integral part of the Operation Grace MN team.**

Because of YOU the clinic at Woodbury Lutheran-Valley Creek Campus was a success. Over \$3500 worth of oral health care was provided for 9 patients!

*Total care included:  
10 appointments  
3 cleanings  
9 exams  
11 restorations  
6 patients received radiographs  
almost 20 hours of time donated by dental professionals*

We will return on September 9th.





## NYG Recap

If you've been to a LCMS National Youth Gathering before, you know it's one of those experiences that you can't fully put into words. However it's also one of those experiences that you can't stop talking about! So I'll do my best to give a brief recap of our trip this summer, knowing it will fall well short of capturing it all.

The gathering was held in New Orleans this July, and was attended by 25,000 other LCMS high school youth and adult leaders. We added 37 youth and 9 adult leaders to that number and were so encouraged to be surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses!

The theme for the week was "In Christ Alone" based out of a study on Philippians, and we experienced that theme in many ways. We participated in daily Bible study with a group of 3,500 other people. We listened to top notch presenters speak truth into challenging, teen-specific topics. We served in a variety of powerful and meaningful ways. And we belted out praises to God in the Superdome, 25,000 believers strong. With that many believers gathered in one place it was truly a little glimpse of heaven, and it was a powerful reminder that "Christ Alone" holds our true identity, redemption, and purpose.

We also had an enormous amount of fun along the way, and made memories that will last for a lifetime. We met new friends from all over the US, ate amazing food, danced to Zydeco music at Mulate's restaurant, and even got to hold live alligators! It truly was an amazing experience and as I reflect on it now I'm reminded of just how little of the experience I'm capable of conveying...

I think the best way to get the real pulse of what the NYG is all about is to find a youth who went and ask them to tell you about their experience. They likely won't be able to convey the experience any clearer than I have here, but pay attention to the look in their eyes, and the way they perk up when you ask them. They'll probably fumble for the words as I have here, but their body language will be the dead giveaway that God did something special during that week. Something that they (and 25,000 others) will remember until the day we sing praises with an even greater cloud of witnesses, in an even greater Superdome!! Thanks for supporting our youth and for making this trip possible! ~ Patrick Brewer

# September

1	Craig Baumann Perry Firkus Addison Fluegel Jaime Hegna Sandy Johnson Nathan Krampe Lois Langholz Maleah McKinley Angie Moris Kathryn Hallas Lily Pieper Chris Schwartz Stephanie Smith	6	Matthew Varin Beth Welsh Dave de Zeeuw Mike Rygh Niko Morris Eldon Engen Karen Brown Madison Himes Julie Mittelholz Emma Goetz Morgan Ingram Parker Allen Donna Bargsten Leann Radel Kyle Topp Jillian Rubbert Mark Franklin Ellen Schubbe Pepper Skytte	12	David Butina Noah Danner Carrie Jenkins Vicky Smith Matthew Struck Carly Mears Tyler LaMott Lars Heggernes Spencer Sadowski Wayne Harelstad Craig Laue Ella Oehlke Amanda Voth	16	Thomas Westling Lindsey Babin Brent Clifford Lauren Bunge Wyatt Crist Dominic Hansen Rocky Johnson Marna Uebler Brynn O'Neil Adam Brandmire Justin Sather Ruth Stakston James Biederman Gwen Behnken Kory Evans Lance Huebner Greg Johnson Matteo Izzi Mike Looney Zoe Marth Andrew Nelson Sarah Rasmussen Hadley Wasrud Stacy Winter Johanna Broten	20	Chase Cadwallader Paul Gerver Spencer Dunham Kyle McKinley Peggy Novak Kirk Steineck John Horner Jacob Janacek Blake Fluegel Noah Gow Alisa Hartwig Xander Hill Adele Salava Mark Sikorski Daniel Stoddard Dylan Walker Arlene Holst	26	Daniel Powers Aaron Mertens Thomas Becken Andrew Geiser, Jr. Martys Sobaski Mary Betts Elijah Broten Kiera Daniels Clint Foster Sherri Graham Kelly Goertzen Gianna Juliano Dena Petrich Gregory Rohm Katherine Stebbing
2	Joan Bugnon Trevor Foster Pamela Riley Laura Skadsberg Laura Schumacher Jim Tradup	7	Samuel Scholz Sharon Larson Clemeunt Douglass Evan LaMott Hudson Lueders Kemal Munn Kathy Siegling Steve Rohlf	13	Ashley St. Clair Franklin Anderson Chuck Nelson Michaela Bradshaw Andy Stone Taylour Blakeman Jim Nassios Brandi Knippenberg Elizabeth Edwards Teresa Raymer Becky Nelson Judith Lindemeier	17	Caitlyn Conway Brian Ingram Dylan Longworth Brooke Salzman Ava Sonn Owen Zeller Yvonne White Ryan Thompson Sara Carson William Anderson Brennen Featherstone Cullen Featherstone Roma Devine Skip Peltier Everly Phillipson Dan Colvin Arlene Nadeau Mary Nesvig	21	Ashley Grizzell Jileen Cowley Willy Mzenga Sharon Opheim Nicole Rosin Michael Brandmire Jo Youngquist Gregory Dahlstrom Jason Sakizadeh Steve Grovender Aaron Wesser Lisa Ziemer	27	Joseph Baumgard Anika Bramer Maxwell Bramer Ken Olson Tyler Rubbert Don Arney Charlotte Esala Daniel Field Sarah Host Corbin Johnson Janice Jones Karen Klinzing Jack Kristiansen Jeanne Luebker Gary McDowell Clark Peterson Cheryl Olstad
3	Caleb McDonald Alexa Diedrich Artie Lehtonen Abi Naffziger Alexander Oehlke Carrie Steffel Lyndis VanderLouw Alan Wilkie	8	Jennifer Mahlike Jennifer Aspen Kimberly Beseman Keith Heintz Wilmer Holz Brandi Knippenberg Joyce Biagini Abby Schouvieller Todd Rizzardi Diane Hawkinson Scott Ferguson Sharon Fong Robert Brings Madelyn Bjostad Leeanne Grether Nancy McDonagh Leo McFarland Sarah Nelson Daniel Oehlke Melissa Bjornson Mikayla McKinley Sophia Van Jaarsveld	14	Ronn Hannula Dan Hove Ryan Karrow Jenna Karrow Kelsie Knippenberg Alexander Laney Paige Lee Edward Nelson Ray Nibbe Meghan Rheinberger Ethan Topp Sara Murray Scott Schuenke	18	Bob Youngquist Larry Wilford Blaine Raymer Susan Brusewitz Doug Jones Maria Rist Kari Schiltgen Daniel Wegner	23	Marilee Schoenewald Angela Cowles Tim Felt Lajuan Jackson Bill Jacobus Molly Kieser Logan Camilli Stephen Jeske Dorothy Wolfgram Vincent Setten	28	Don Amey Charlotte Esala Daniel Field Sarah Host Corbin Johnson Janice Jones Karen Klinzing Jack Kristiansen Jeanne Luebker Gary McDowell Clark Peterson Cheryl Olstad Stone Sterling Samantha Drasher Amanda Durow Jonathan Johnson Stacy Parks Aaron Pederson Kalvan Reyes
4	Ann Baumann Frank Janssen Kelly Jardine Steven Lutes Sara McConaughy Carolyn Ortiz Dottie Rensenbrink Max Schissel Martin Strohfus Kristina Swanson Lily Thomson Isabella Trujillo Coleen Vossen	9	Madelyn Bjostad Leeanne Grether Nancy McDonagh Leo McFarland Sarah Nelson Daniel Oehlke Melissa Bjornson Mikayla McKinley Sophia Van Jaarsveld Aaron Brady Samantha Ehler	15	Sherri Monson	19	Bob Youngquist Larry Wilford Blaine Raymer Susan Brusewitz Doug Jones Maria Rist Kari Schiltgen Daniel Wegner	24	Connor McHarg Patrick Clougherty Allison Marshall Liam Hitzemann Kathleen Featherstone James Butzler Erin Mills Carl Clark Mary Galvin Avery Krause Nicholas Larson Mason Lowe	29	Drew Anderson Sonya Anderson Mason Aspen Lory Cedarbloom Steven Joines Cayla Klusmann Lisa Kush Matt Matejka Toni McLaren Emily Menge Matt Matejka Fred Peting Neil Schwartz
5	Mark Anderson Ava Aune Camryn Connolly Brenda Engen Donavin Hansen Erik Hendrickson Christina Himes Denise Jenkins Mike Kimmounth Afsaneh Rothchild Debbie Spangler	10	Aaron Brady Samantha Ehler	11	Blake & Brenda Score Jason & Colleen Schuldt Herb & Kaye Larson Bill & Kathleen Taylor Steve & Lindsey Conley Richard & Brynn O'Neil Jerry & Diane Panning	15	Sherri Monson	25	Kathleen Featherstone James Butzler Erin Mills Carl Clark Mary Galvin Avery Krause Nicholas Larson Mason Lowe	30	Drew Anderson Sonya Anderson Mason Aspen Lory Cedarbloom Steven Joines Cayla Klusmann Lisa Kush Matt Matejka Toni McLaren Emily Menge Matt Matejka Fred Peting Neil Schwartz

## Birthdays

## & Anniversaries

1	Mark & Mary Shepperd Andy & Andrea Stakston Scott & Tina Stebbing	13	Carl & Lynn Clark	20	Michael & Monica Knox Bill & Mary Young	26	Matt Nelson & Alyson Bennett Craig & Karen Bettmann
2	Ken & Marian Nelson Gregory & Heather Rohm Mark & Deborah Stutelberg	14	Tim & Jeannine Buchholz Ken & Julie Drevnick Paul & Amy Pflieger	21	Clark & Sandra Petersen	27	Todd & Jennifer Schwarzenbach Matthew & Michelle Cattell
3	Harold & Joan Converse Herb & Pat Morsching Harold & Nona Pearl Dean & Gayle Huska	15	Steven & Cheryl Stensvad Paul & Stephanie Clougherty Joseph & Erica Zilka Gary & Sarah Nelson	22	Greg & Sheri Lewis Jake & Tara Dalbec Andrew & Holly Sonn Bruce & Vicki Strong Nic & Danielle Yee	28	Scott & Rachel Conant
4	Roger & Joy Hopke Cal & Nancy Branton	16	Gary & Char Les Stohlmann John & Susan Wildman Jerry & Marge Helander Scott & Joy Ostrom	23	Peter & Barbara Fleming Henry & Muriel Gimble John & Kellie Clappier A.J. & Erin Ecker	29	Todd & Anna Albrecht Matthew & Michelle Cattell Ronn & Laurel Hannula Nick & Allison Ortiz Tom & Tara Schlattman John & Jenna Voyda
5	Jack & Grace Lavers Francisco & Steph Penalzoza	17	Carl & Barbara Jackson Bruce & Kaye Montgomery Joe & Rachel Browning Charlie & Michelle Devine Harry & Cristina Gurnola Steve & Cynthia Matejka	24	Steve & Wendy Schultze Francis & Nancy Menge Scott & Kate Groth Christina & Ronald Himes	30	Craig & Leanne Bloom Lee & Michelle Bunge Ben & Esther Kumpula Chris & Cheryl Tveit
6	Mike & Kelly Vo	18	Lou & Luanne Greengard Jesse & Angie Spates		Jim & Laura Salava Don & Nancy Thaumert Mark & Lisa Lodermeier Jim & Mary Lou Krengel		
7	Wayne & Twyla Franzen Jim & Yvonne White James & Lee Fischer Justin & Jenny Jurek	19	Ray & Jan Braun Andy & Angela Hassebrook				
8	David & Dawn Butina Leo & Denise McFarland Nathan & Amanda Fong						

# PRAYER ride

**The transition between summer and fall is a tough one for my family.** We're all reluctant to trade in our lazy days and sandy feet for weekly schedules and sneakers. You can't fight the inevitable. But you can make goals, chart a course, and expect change!

As we move forward into the school year, I have to help my kids adapt to new routines. And by adapt, I mean drag them kicking and screaming. Changes, especially ones we are hesitant to make, can lead to great opportunities for course correction.

Course correction can be a controversial topic, even within families. Whatever your viewpoint, if you don't have a plan or end goal, things can get messy. This prayer bike ride will help you show your children what it means to have a plan, chart a course, and get to your destination while trying to stay on the path! And you'll get to take advantage of the evening sunshine before the time changes and homework obligations set in.

Pack a dinner (or snack) to go, and plan on eating at a park, or make your destination a local restaurant and eat there. Gather your family together to look at a map and plan the route to your destination. (If you are using your phone, don't let the app do the route for you!) Show your kids your location and destination and let them give input about which directions to take.

**Before you leave, read Proverbs 3:5-6 aloud together and pray the verses over your family:**

Trust in the LORD with all your heart  
and lean not on your own understanding;  
in all your ways submit to him,  
and he will make your paths straight.

As you begin to ride your bikes, encourage your kids to look for things to pray for along the route. You might even stop and pray for someone you meet. You can let older children lead the way. If they have questions about the route, don't give them the answers. Instead, have everyone stop and look at the map. Let the kids figure out where you are and where they need to go next. If you've taken a wrong turn, they can correct your course by looking at the map.

**When you get to the park or restaurant, talk about what you saw on your ride.** Were there people you could pray for in your neighborhood? Discuss the upcoming school year. Are your children excited, worried, or scared about anything? Pray about those situations. Chart a course together for the school year!

God has gifted us with the best plans in His Word. The book of Proverbs has 31 chapters—perfect to use as a daily devotional for an entire month. Consider reading one chapter a day together as you navigate the course for your own family!

---

by Kara Noel Lawson

*Kara Noel is a chicken-loving, tea-drinking, fiction-reading, seeker of grace who is savoring small moments everyday. Kara homeschools her four children and writes from the heart on her blog, Small Things Are Big Things. You can find her speaking at moms groups about how the small things in our lives can make a big impact.*

 [Blog smallthingsarebigthings.com](http://smallthingsarebigthings.com)

 Instagram @KaraNoelLawson

 Twitter @KaraNoelLawson

**Taken from the September HomeFront Monthly Magazine**



- 5** (V & O) Offices Closed  
Monday, All Day  
Labor Day Holiday
- 6** (V) Cancer Companions  
Tuesday, 7:00pm  
Contact: Vicki Strong, 651-730-5049
- 7** (V) Church Mouse Choir  
Wednesdays, 5:30pm  
Contact: Barb Koch, 651-459-5169
- 8** (V) Open Doors Thursdays  
Thursday, 5:00pm  
Contact: Pastor Tim, 651-739-5144
- 8** (V) Career Transition Connection  
Thursday, 7:00pm  
Contact: Tom Colosimo, 612-386-3715
- 8** (V) Celebrate Recovery  
Thursdays, 6:30pm  
Contact: Larry Smith, 651-308-9113
- 9** (V) Middle School Nerf Wars  
Friday, 6:30pm  
Contact: Lindsey Schmidt, 651-739-5144
- 10** (V) Baptism Class  
Saturday, 9:30am  
Contact: Rachel Symmank,  
651-730-0847
- 12** (V) Women's Gathering Group  
Mondays, 12:00pm  
Contact: Tamara Karlstrand,  
651-734-3974

- 12** (V) Gambler's Anonymous  
Mondays, 7:00pm  
Contact: Pastor Tim, 651-739-5144
- 14** (O) Wednesday Morning Study  
Wednesdays, 10:00am  
Contact: Pastor Derek, 651-739-5144
- 18** (V) Healing Service  
Sunday, 12:00pm  
Contact: Pastor Tim, 651-739-5144
- 22** (V) Feed My Starving Children  
MobilePack  
Thursday-Saturday  
Contact: Liz Thompson, 651-262-9665

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	

## September 2016 Calendar Highlights

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

**Multiplying Disciples :: Transforming Lives**

**Woodbury Lutheran Church**  
7380 Afton Road  
Woodbury, MN 55125