

THE NEWSLETTER

Woodbury Lutheran Church Newsletter

July 2015

Transformation Through His Word

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. ²³ Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror ²⁴ and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. ²⁵ But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do. James 1:22-24

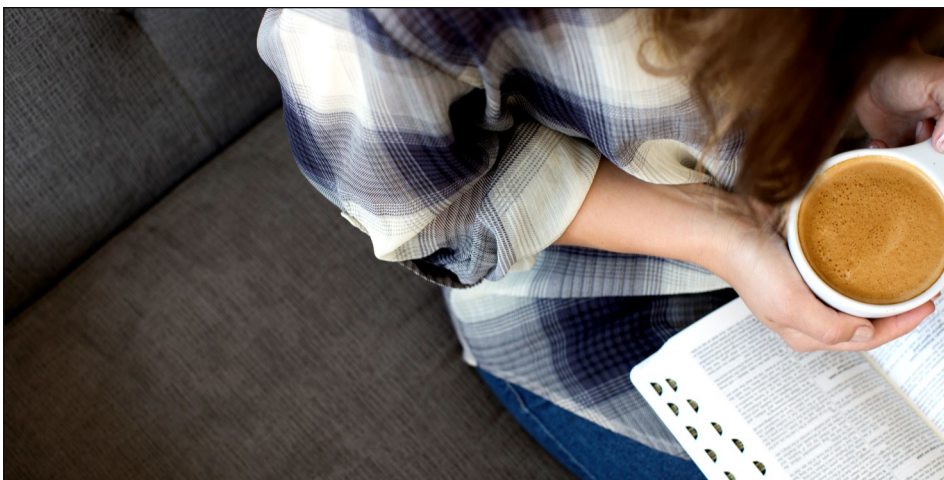
Could the New Testament writer, James, have had teenage boys? Maybe it was a first century discussion one morning before school that made him write, “If you just listen to the word and don’t do anything you’re like a teenage boy who upon seeing that his hair looks like a habitat for some kind of small woodland creature says, ‘Meh’ and doesn’t comb it for cryin’ out loud.” (Heavily paraphrasing here.) Better, James says, to look intently into God’s Word and act upon what you find there.

In his book, *Eat This Book*, Eugene Peterson says, “[The writers of the Scriptures] make up a school of writers employed by the Holy Spirit. . .to keep us in touch with and responsive to reality, whether visible or invisible: God-reality, God-presence. They are all distinguished by a deep trust in the power of words to bring us into the presence of God and to change our lives.”

This is the kind of intent looking at God’s Word that James is talking about. Looking deeply into and considering the words used and their meaning. Allowing the Word to roll around in the mind and the heart and the soul. Letting it do what it will. That’s where the freedom and blessing, the transformation, come in.

So every week we hand you a card on your way out of church (and we email it to you and we have it on the church app) as a way of saying, “Look intently at this passage during the week. Chew on it, digest it, let it work on your insides and see what God is teaching you or asking you to do.”

The studies tell us what James knew: reading and reflecting on scripture is one of the biggest and best ways God produces growth in faith. We’re 80 weeks (80 weeks!) into the scripture card initiative. If you’re using them, keep it up! If you’ve let the practice slip, rev it back up! If you haven’t started yet, get on it! Allow God to do the transforming work He desires through His powerful Word.



Reading God’s Word.

In This Issue

- Broken Sinners
- Ashley Arneson
- Disciples
- Robin’s Nest
- Creative Modeling



Messy Sinners

Broken, Sinners

“Your faith has saved you, go in peace.” ~ Luke 7:50

Recently I was out to lunch with a friend who asked me a question that I seem to get quite often, the question was, “What is the hardest part of your job?” Without missing a beat I responded, “People.” He gave me a puzzled look and said, “What do you mean?” With a smile I responded, “We have a whole church full of sinners, myself included and that makes things really messy at times. Sometimes it is easy to forget, that because of our sin, each and every one of us is broken and broken people often act in broken ways, even the “religious” ones.

One of my favorite New Testament stories that illustrates this point is found in Luke 7. A Pharisee by the name of Simon has invited Jesus into his home for a meal when a rather unexpected guest shows up, a woman who is a “sinner.” We know that her sin is most likely prostitution and everyone in that room filled with religious people knew it.

Can you imagine how uncomfortable the situation must have been for all involved? Yet, something in this woman was drawn to Jesus and despite the looks she received and despite her past, she boldly made her way to Jesus and then blessed Him by washing His feet with expensive oil, weeping the entire time.

As this is happening Simon is thinking to himself that Jesus must not be all that important, because if He was He would know who was touching Him, a sinner. Knowing Simon’s heart Jesus goes on to tell a story about two men who had debts that they could not repay, one 500 denarii and one 50 denarii. Amazingly, both of their debts were forgiven, no questions asked. At this point Jesus asked the all-important question, “Simon, which one will love their master more?” He answered, “I suppose the one who had the bigger debt canceled.” “You have judged correctly,” Jesus answered.

Jesus goes on to illustrate how forgiveness had led this sinful woman to love Him extravagantly, while Simon the one who appeared to have it all together loved very little. Why do I share this story? Because each of us needs to recognize that

we have been forgiven much, so that we will be moved to love much. When we fail to recognize this we fall into Simon’s trap and instead putting our faith into action by loving others, we start to judge them.

One of our values at WLC is, **We Value All People: Come as You Are.** This is an easy value to put on paper, but a much more difficult value to actually live out. I pray that each one of us, broken in our sin, will make it really easy for “Sinners” to come and hear the Good News of how Jesus forgives our debt, no matter how big it is, so that one more person will hear Him say, “Your faith has saved you, go in peace.”

Blessings,

Pastor Tom

Colorado Peaches!

This annual fundraiser for our youth scholarship program started on June 28 with order forms available at both campuses and at woodburylutheran.org under Youth Fundraising. Price per crate is the same as last year! One crate for \$29, or half-crate for \$14.50 (one crate is 18 pounds, approximately 40 tree-ripened, juicy peaches). Delivery day will be early August. Watch the Sunday Weekly for updates. Please contact the Retter’s at 651-739-5326 with questions. Thanks for supporting our youth!



Weddings:

Timothy Huska & Krista Roering
Jeff Ginkel & Robin Samuels

Baptisms:

Erik Jamison Hendrickson
Carter Joseph Kush
Parker Elizabeth Hines
Lillian Rose Stenzel
Caleb Joseph Fett
Avery Elizabeth Carr

Deaths:

Jennifer Jankiewicz ~ grandmother,
Char
Roger & Betty Fockler ~ grandson,
Gavin
Lynn Johnson ~ mother, Janice
Ena Milligan ~ grandfather, Rolston
Ena Milligan ~ aunt, Lee
Mike Sabbann ~ father, Bob
Shelli Wilk ~ father, Arlan

Service Times at WLC:

Sundays at Valley Creek:

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

Saturdays at Valley Creek:

Journey, 5pm

Sundays at Oak Hill:

Blended 9:00am
Contemporary 10:30am

Office & Mailing Address:

7380 Afton Road
Woodbury, MN 55125

Office Hours:

Mon. – Thurs.: 9am–4pm
Friday: 9am–3pm

Phone: (651) 739-5144

Fax: (651) 739-3536

Website:
www.woodburylutheran.org



A heart for culture

Ashley Arneson—Embarking on New Journeys

Ashley Arneson, a “Woodburian,” whose roots run deep at Woodbury Lutheran Church. From preschool, to attending Sunday school, to mission trips, weekend retreats, and to teaching Sunday school, Ashley has always been able to call WLC her home.

We are called by the Great Commission to “go and make disciples of all nations (Matt 28:19).” All nations, not just other countries but also our own backyard-community, and that’s exactly what Ashley Arneson, a senior at the University of Northwestern-St. Paul is doing. Ashley has been avidly working with students to better understand their cultural identity and encourage cultural reconciliation on her campus. Her time at Northwestern has been directly a part of planning and hosting many events focusing on multiculturalism. However, her heart for culture has gone hand-in-hand with her passion for electronic media. In the past year, she has received national recognition at the NRB convention (National Religious Broadcasters convention) in Nashville for her work. It started as a misunderstanding of her own culture. She saw how the media would degrade and misattribute other cultures. As she has come to better understand the essence of her identity in Christ, she has realized the importance of embracing all cultures. With a world that is so easily swayed by the media, she has committed to putting her time into creating affective Christian based media in a new way.

Embarking on a new journey this August, Ashley will reach further than her own community. She has been to Ecuador for the last 4 years doing mission work, from mission trips to a summer internship leading short-term missionaries. With her passions of missions, culture, and electronic media, Ashley will be working along side other missionaries to reach the people of Ecuador through radio and video production. Reach Beyond, formerly called HCJB; “Heralding Christ Jesus’ Blessings” is a missions organization working to reach the “unreached” through radio, healthcare, and leadership training. There is always a risk when working for the kingdom of God, but Ashley calls this greater reach a trembling joy.



Cheers from Ethiopia!

them. We have played together, laughed together, and shed tears together. And together, we trust in the Holy One; the King of Kings!

Jesus' peace to you dear friend, as God continues to share His life-giving salvation to the world through you and through people from all sorts of tribes and tongues around our world.

Cheers from Ethiopia!

~Pastor Drew Bayless

Disciples of Jesus Are Declaring the Good News All Over the Globe!

Sub-Saharan Africa, in general, is a place where the Good News of Jesus Christ is exploding. This is especially true in Ethiopia! The church is growing very fast in this country! As disciples of Jesus from the States, our team got to hear some incredible stories this week from some brothers and sisters who are daily trusting and following Jesus Christ, here in Ethiopia. Many of them have a call on their lives to share the Gospel as missionaries. No longer is the mission of God the "West to the Rest" but instead, in today's world, it is "Everyone to Everywhere." What I mean is, that no longer is it only westerners who are being sent as missionaries to far off continents like Africa, but presently, missionaries from Africa are being sent to tell the Gospel News to those in the USA. Latino disciples are being sent to the Middle East to share the Good News there. Asian disciples are traveling to Latin America to share Jesus. And yes, western disciples from the States and Europe continue to be sent across the globe to herald the Good News!

We have been encouraged and blessed by the disciples here in Ethiopia, and likewise, they by us, I believe. We have learned from their teachings and they from ours. We have heard them sing. We have prayed together with





No Worship
Service on
Saturday,
July 4th!
Happy
Independence
Day!



Team Robin's Nest 2015

Robin's Nest, Jamaica

In June, a team of 15 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 30 minutes inland from Montego Bay. It is a Christian-based and privately run home with capacity for 35 children ages 0-12, and is supported by two directors and 30-35 staff.

Many teams and individuals from various churches travel to Robin's Nest each year to assist the staff with the children, maintaining the buildings and caring for the five acres of grounds that include vegetable gardens and ~600 chickens. There is always work to be done!

At the direction of Robin's Nest leaders, we completed many initiatives during our stay including organizing, cleaning, gardening, sewing, painting and construction projects. We were privileged to lead the Sunday worship service, help assess learning capabilities for several pre-school children and prepare sites for the well driller whose return visit overlapped with our stay. Of course, we helped the staff take care of the children! And by the way, we delivered over 500 pounds of supplies to Robin's Nest that we brought with us from Minnesota!

Water is such a precious resource at Robin's Nest. Most water used today comes from either rain runoff or a river a few miles away. Water can be shipped from Montego Bay as a last resort, but it costs \$150 US for a single load of water which only lasts a day. Thus, it is really important to find a sustainable water supply. This year is the first time that Robin's Nest has attempted drilling for water. You can learn more about these efforts by visiting robinsnestchildrenshome.org and clicking on the Facebook icon.

A surprise "moment" from our trip was the opportunity a number of us had to meet Michelle Robi-nette, a caring lady from Minnesota who originally founded Robin's Nest in the late 1990s. She was visiting on-site with some of her family members when we arrived.

Most importantly, 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 on an island in the Caribbean.

Finally, thanks to all who supported our team through prayer and donations for supplies. We also want to express our deep appreciation to Pastor Drew and the Mission Board for their leadership, financial subsidies and rides to and from the airport.

If you would like more information on our trip, please see our team blog on www.woodburylutheran.org. ~ The Robin's Nest Short-Term Mission Team

July Birthdays

1	Diane Kuhrmeyer Casey Cox Gretchen Crist Matthew Gage Vincent Mueller George Malloy Donna Lorenz Hannah Mertens Shaylee Kamp Jynessa Hughes Vincent Polaski Lowell Zeller Robert Everson Aubrey Spales Evan Rones	Brandon Conway Bradley Conner Eric Ceagske Emma Williams Jessica Salo Holly Zelinsky Maris Hall Lisa Karcher Heather Meek Marian Snow Alexis Craven Lucas Cronin Callie Sirovy John McLean Laurie Helgason	Megan Petrich Kevin Beseman Tammy Ablan Garett Horn Harold Voth William Young Kristal Treadway Erin McGrath Lois Plath Renae Smailek Eric Huska Lindsey Doman Paul Niezgocki Grant Conner Scott Arneson	Zoe Dittmann Maeve Zilka Andrew Parks Wesley Eggers Katie Dinsmore Ashley Boyd Addie Michlitsch Yuito Arndt Na Lehtonen Nancy Oehlke Sarah Rodgers Iban Drevlow Piper Hodne Hailey Rhoades Mackenzie Cadwallader Mia Hodne Sean Gergen Carter Cadwallader Gary Charlson Patti Nelson Ryan Duffy Mike Wolterstorff Sheryl Breiholz Rylan Lange Brenda Mammenga Michael Wegner Cheryl Frost Kent Hadrits Evan Myers Annamarie Hill-Kleinhaus Mary Jeske Janice Loula Mitchell Monson Benjamin Koch Steven Awiszus Francie Cummings Madeline Perera Tyler Cowles Chase Davis Lincoln Gehring Cole Schuessler Jack Lavers Luke Swenson Gregory Cloose Tanner Thomson	Jeff Yonkovich Anna Colosimo Anna Terzian Denise Tradup Cheri McKusky Molly Smith Karin Anderson Ethan Blakeman Ella Wenck Marty Coughlin John Clappier Fiona Mingus Sophia Vitela Allison Baranick Mary Koonce Ahsha Payne Sarah Tveit Anders Dahlin Raymond Young Roxane Becken Timmy Bystrzycki Mitchell Hobot Brad Johnson Caden MacLeod Jackie Sprenger Valory Tessmer John Uebler Bev Esala Kelly Chad Stephanie Claugherly Benjamin Drasher Thomas Deverell Zachary Cronen John Lee Lisa Vitela Mary Powers Brady Burns Lauren Mortenson Elle Peterson Barbara Fleming Alissa Vik Lori Raebel Lee Bunge Scott Homuth Roger Olstad Wyatt Shugg	25	Jack Creighton Ray Braun Dean Huska Kourtlyn Meeks-Engen John Colton Aaron Raebel Gal Janacek Jake Droel Pamela Hall Clark Dailey Jean Wendlandt Chris Edwards Kaitlyn Ginkel James Harlinger Tanner Theis Kelsey Deverell Adelita Lopez Blake McNeill Eileen Reinhardt Jana Beck Keith Buchanan Hope Esala Evelyn Lillesve Emmanuel Johnson Steph Maruyama Vida Miles Jennifer Stevensen-Waldo Michael Dolan Billy Mzenga Linda Bystrzycki Joshua Schrachta Baylee Scholz Kathleen Elton Douglas Pasche Collin Flanagan Jayden Carr Alex Dailey Marlene Ingvalson Teresa Kanne Ervin Oertel Scott Schank Alexandra Arneson Gabiella Nassios Whitney Berkman	29	Larry Behnken Josh Hayden Dale Bjorkman Marvin Hammer Alan Dittman Jenny Bouthilet Susan Boon Kristina Greengard Daniel Meyer Heidi Sorgert Scott Stebbing Todd Johnson Gregory Opheim Rob Krueger Thomas Stork Mary Timmers Isabelle Olek Justin Hall Lindasue Lambrecht Diana Wende Colleen Dokmo Amy Graham Hunter Kirby Emma Klinzing Mary Kolb Deborah Anderson Howard Boatman Scott Lange Ryan Mulso Janie Rist Ron Unneberg Danielle Retica Lucas Dailey Ethan Johnson Meghan Konop Julie Kordosky Jonathan Schulse Addison Baty Jared Brandyk Tanner Zuehlke Jimmy Salava Jessica Norring															
2	Mike Smith Todd Shaver Brayden Holmgren Robert Olson Jonathan Krueger Elizabeth Kothe Gail Field	Daniel Barker-Sieling Pat Kynndberg Shane Fossan Lori Nixon Lilyan Host Daniel Hamnerstrom David Brandmire	Rachel Breiholz Lawrence Edwards Sally Meyer Stella Schmidt Shirley Yates Dorothy Olson Lynne Arneson Michael Dowdall, Jr. Sandra Southward John Sakizadeh Marci Speckhard Brandon Dowall Karina Lopez Ashley Jensen Evan Myers Preston Widen Parker Field Luke Featherstone Ann Anderson Ginny Anderson Elsie Corrigan Grace Dunavan Robert Durfee Karen Grovender Mike Kiedrowski Scott Loula Graham Sanneh Hide Sudoh	17	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
3	Rachel Sweet Kay Noennig Julianne Gage Emily Law Cynthia Mertens Steven Stensvad Joshua Boyd J.J. Brusewitz Jacob Anderson Todd Muellner Andrea Baranick Jeanette Butcher Bob Benson	Ann Carlson Steven Conley Christian Wollner Gary Isakson David Smith Grant Anderson Dillon Peterson Steven Brandner Andrea Sobaski Alvin Salo Delta Howard Robbie Rizzardi James Reed Edward Hall Benjamin Reinhard Wendy Baumgam Lauren Froseth Jason Brusewitz Paul Runge Sara Norton Casey Charlson Alice Schultze Chris Tveit Ron Roesler	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
4	Carolyn Carlson Kirsten Meyer Zachary Roth Rachel Krueger John Schoenewald	Benjamin Reinhard Wendy Baumgam Lauren Froseth Jason Brusewitz Paul Runge Sara Norton Casey Charlson Alice Schultze Chris Tveit Ron Roesler	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
5	Jules Butcher Maxwell Morris Luke LeMay Kathie Widen Daniel Schouvieller James Morris	Casey Charlson Alice Schultze Chris Tveit Ron Roesler	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	



& Anniversaries

1	Robert & Coralynn Fischer Tom & Mary Karrow Duane & Angela Johnson Bob & Arlene Schindeldecker Patrick & Jenny Brewer	12	Jon & Sara Carson Larry & Vicky Smith Rico & Elizabeth Bohren	21	Jonathan & Molly Schulze Marcus & Amanda Didion Kyle & Maria Engen	27	Ellis & Geraldine Swanson Dean & Jyl Dunavan John & Nora Foster
3	Duane & Valory Tessmer Patrick & Jenny Brewer	13	Devin & Amanda Gervais Bill & Michele Jacobus	22	Mike & Laura Anderson Nathan & Jenni Xiong	28	Dave & Heidi Hove Reed & Kathy Siegling Stanley & Michelle Schoenecker
4	Roy & Joy Klasinski Art & Lois Plath	14	Cory & Kimberly Bauman Brett & Annabelle Christianson	23	Gerald & Colette Miller Todd & Antoinette Muellner Michael & Bonnie Slaughter	29	Brian & Kristi Delaney Marlen & Judy VanOverbeke
6	David & Mary Brandmire Josh & Alyssa Hayden	15	Roger & Marie Haukland Alejandro Trujillo & Nancy Brezina	24	James & Lorayne Tobin Kevin & Mary Landgrebe Tom & Peggy Novak	30	Jim & Brenda Schuster Zachary & Jennifer Singleton
8	Bruce & Lori Nixon Blaine & Teresa Raymer	16	David & Naomi Golnitz Mark & Jane Jechort	25	Herb & Judy Goetsch Jim & Lynne Blass Paul & Deborah Burandt	31	Mike & Jill McGrath Tim & Erin Lamkin BJ & Robin Brown
10	Jason & Kathryn LaMott Tom & Stephanie Pfothenauer Dean & Mary Galvin Bryan & Kim Hughes Andrew & Julie Rhoades John & Afsaneh Rothchild	17	Brian & Kelly Schmidt Ervin & Debra Oertel Eli & Angela Coffey	26	Phillip & Sandy Johnson		
11	Mike & Julie Huber Robert & Sue Chad Robert & Gabrielle Baty	18	Joel & Stacey Schuessler Jeff Sieling & Katie Barker-Sieling Jim & Susan Montgomery	24	Todd & Connie Johnson		
		19	Scott & Jean Shriver Pat & Jenny Bouthilet	25	Cary & Patricia Arneson Robert & Sharon Heck		
		20	Jeff & Denise LaFontaine	26	Phillip & Sandy Johnson		



THIS MONTH WE HAVE A FEW FUN AND CREATIVE WAYS TO HELP YOUR CHILDREN PRACTICE PUTTING THEIR FAITH INTO ACTION AS THEY FOLLOW YOUR EXAMPLE AND WHAT YOU MODEL FOR THEM.

OPTION #1: THE MESSY ONE

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: _____

- BUTCHER PAPER (8'-10')
- MASKING OR PAINTER'S TAPE
- WASHABLE PAINT (VARIOUS COLORS; 1 COLOR PER PERSON)
- PAINTBRUSHES
- PAPER PLATES
- PAPER TOWELS OR HAND WIPES

HOW TO: _____

1. Tape the butcher paper to the floor.
2. Pour each color of paint onto a separate paper plate and have each family member pick a color.
3. Gently brush the paint on the bottoms of each family member's feet.
4. Have the parents walk across the paper first, leaving painted footprints for the children to follow. Then have the kids walk across the paper, also leaving their footprints.
5. Observe the footprints displayed on the paper. Talk about how they serve as examples of what it looks like to follow the model set before us by our parents and Christ.

DISCUSSION: Note that the prints go in the same direction and that the children knew the way to walk because of the example modeled for them. Remind your children that Jesus modeled the way to walk through life. Where can you hang your creation to remind you of this?

OPTION #2: THE LESS-MESSY ONE

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: _____

- BUTCHER PAPER
- TAPE
- DIFFERENT-COLORED MARKER FOR EACH PERSON PARTICIPATING

HOW TO: _____

Follow the Option 1 instructions, but instead of painting the bottoms of your feet, use markers to trace around the feet. Feel free to write in the footprints the qualities Jesus modeled for us (grace, service, love, peace, prayer, trusting God, etc.).

OTHER OPTIONS: Simply wet the bottoms of your feet with water and walk along dry places of sidewalk to reveal wet footprints on the ground. Or trace each family member's foot on different-colored construction paper and display them on the wall from biggest to smallest.

CREATE IS A TIME TO ENGAGE YOUR FAMILY IN A COLLABORATIVE RESPONSE TO HEARING GOD'S WORD.

Taken from the July HomeFront Monthly Magazine

- 2** (V) **Celebrate Recovery**
Thursdays, 6:30pm
Contact: Larry Smith, 651-735-7725
- 3** (O & V) **Offices Closed—4th of July**
Friday, All Day
- 6** (V) **Women's Gathering Group**
Mondays, 12:00pm
Contact: Tamara Karlstrand,
651-734-3974
- 6** (V) **Cancer Companions**
Mondays, 6:30pm
Contact: Pastor Tim,
651-739-5144 x221
- 6** (V) **Middle School Bible Study**
Mondays, 6:30pm
Contact: Lindsey Schmidt,
651-739-5144 x219
- 9** (V) **Open Doors Thursdays**
Thursday, 5:00pm
Contact: Pastor Tim,
651-739-5144 x221
- 9** (V) **Career Transition Connection**
Thursday, 7:00pm
Contact: Tom Colosimo, 612-386-3715
- 11** (V) **Baptism Class**
Saturday, 9:30am
Contact: Jane Dibbern, 651-739-5144

- 12** (V) **Middle School Mission Trip Sharing**
Sunday, 12:00pm
Contact: Lindsey Schmidt,
651-739-5144 x219
- 19** (V) **Healing service**
Sunday, 12:00pm
Contact: Pastor Tim, 651-739-5144 x221
- 21** (V) **AARP Smart Driving Course**
Tuesday, 9:00am
Contact: Tom Nelson, 651-735-4492

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	

July 2015 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

Woodbury Lutheran Church
7380 Afton Road
Woodbury, MN 55125