

# THE NEWS LETTER



May 2018

## Make Music!

*"Praise the Lord with melodies on the lyre; make music for Him on the ten-stringed harp." -- Psalm 33:2*

When I was 12 or 13, I remember hearing some scuttle around our house that we were looking for a Minister of Music at the church. I had grown up watching my mom play the organ and help lead various musical groups, but the church was growing and changing and it was time to hire a full time musician. Being a teenager I didn't pay very much attention to what was going on and then seemingly out of nowhere a guy by the name of Mark Shepperd and his family showed up on the scene.

During those early years I remember being surprised by some of the changes that were happening to our music, but I also remember thinking that this guy does some really fun stuff with music. Over the years and under the leadership of Mark, the Music Ministry at WLC has become a hallmark of our church. It is interesting that I will always ask our new members what brought them to WLC and what is keeping them here, and more often than not, the answer has been music.

Our hearts were wired by God to be spoken to in music. Sure, we all have different preferences, but Mark has always done an incredible job of using music to lead us into a place of worship. Whether it is the Chorale or Celebration, a soloist or quartet, classic or contemporary; Mark has always used music as a vehicle to bring us closer to Jesus. What a gift that has been! Mark has used his gifts to serve our congregation for 28 years and we will surely miss him.

I am grateful that 28 years ago the Lord led us to Mark. I am grateful for his many years of service in this place. But most of all, I am grateful for his love for Jesus. Thank you Mark, and blessings as you step into the next part of your life. Thank you Mary for sharing your husband with us for all these years.

Peace,  
tom



WOODBURY  
LUTHERAN

# Snow in May????

*After our late winter in April, I'm taking a big leap to share this article with snow... I found this in a file tucked away and even though the tulips are showing themselves, I'm giving you a true childhood story about winter.*

When I was a little girl, around 1st grade, my big brother took me sled-ding. It just may have been the first time sledding ever for me. We walked to a short hill near our house with the sled in tow.

Not long after we got there another boy around my brother's age, and his little brother arrived. I knew the younger boy. I immediately looked up at my brother Fred and quietly said, "I want to go home." He asked me why and I explained that the boy is mean and he pushes me. That boy who showed up at the hill was a bit of a bully. He would push whoever was first in line at the bus stop to get on the bus first. Sometimes he would push someone in the middle of the line just because. The smaller kids including me were afraid of him. Fred said we were here first and that I was going to slide down first. So, I did. In all my mismatched over stuffed winter clothing-I headed down that hill. Then of course the mean boy, whose name I've forgotten, slid down after me. As I turned to walk up the hill, sure enough he pushed me down. I looked up at Fred and he called "push him back!"

Girded with the courage my big brother's presence gave me, I not only pushed the mean boy, but I sat on him and rubbed his face in the snow until Fred told me that was enough. At one point the other big brother was going to rescue his mean little brother, but my brother was bigger than him! I'm not sure what got into me that day. But I

know I wouldn't have been that brave without knowing my brother was on that hill watching over me.

At the bus stop next school day, that mean kid gave me a very dirty look... but he never pushed me again. Without Fred, I was still afraid of him. But I learned that snowy day when someone has my back, I can be brave.

Since first grade, many hard things have happened in my life, miscarriage, divorce, broken promises, broken hearts, and lost opportunities - things many of us face. During the difficult events in life, we need friends and community to help in getting back on our feet. When I became friends with God, I got a great, amazing, big friend. Granted He doesn't tell me to rub anyone's face in the snow, but He offers me hope when times get hard. He's given me a new life. God has more than my back today, He has my future.

He teaches us in John 15:12-13 "*My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.*"

God, gave His life for us. What more do we need?

By Mary Lehman



### Weddings:

Emily Menge & Larry Rossow  
Paula Grohs & Erik Dikken

### Baptisms:

Monroe James Lisson  
Barrett Ashford Rothchild  
Logan Tucker Schmidt  
Kasey Marie Reagan  
Keegan Gerald Lien  
Rosemary Kathryn Tongen  
Tony Henry Adams  
Delford Leland Bystrycki  
Harper Rae Lopez

### Deaths:

Larry Faffler ~ sister, Alice Faffler  
The Family of Barb Lundquist  
Lauren Eddinger-Danner ~ father, Richard Eddinger  
The Family of Coralyn Fischer  
Cindy Boedecker ~ sister, Christy Fabian  
Darroyl Hanson ~ brother, Roger Hanson  
Lisa Reberg ~ step-father, Howard Norberg

### Service Times at WLC:

Saturdays at Valley Creek:  
Contemporary, 5pm

Sundays at Valley Creek:  
Sanctuary, Blended 8 & 11am  
Sanctuary, Contemporary 9:30am  
Genesis, Contemporary 11am

Sundays at Oak Hill:  
Blended 9:00am  
Contemporary 10:30am

Sundays at Liberty Ridge  
Contemporary 10:00am

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)



“...tidbits from  
that first  
year...”

## The History of Our Church WLC Scrapbook

After the first sanctuary and education wing were completed in the fall of 1969, the new Woodbury church continued to grow and thrive. By 1979, there were approximately 800 baptized members supporting an annual budget of \$84,000.

- 1980 - An addition to the original building was dedicated on April 20. This expanded the structure to the west with the Fireside Room, some offices, a fellowship hall and a kitchen. The parking lot was on the east side of the building.
- :) The Fireside Room has a fireplace only because Pastor Paul said to Jack Lavers one night, “You have been chosen to build a fireplace in the fireside room. It must be stone just like the one you have built here in your home... And by the way, we have no funds to build it. You need to get the rocks for it and it needs to be completed within 90 days.” *[Story in July 2017 newsletter]*
- :) Pat and Roy Kyndberg moved across the street from the Pfothenhauers almost 50 years ago. It wasn't long before their home became known as the Parsonage of the North. Pat was the first PAID church secretary. Roy was active in church affairs.
- 1985 - Encouraged by Pastor Paul, a group of members led by Margie and Paul Jones created four stained glass windows for the original sanctuary. Margie was an art teacher who knew little about stained glass. She and Beth Petrowski incorporated a white piece of glass in each window design to represent Christ's purity and holiness. *[Story in August 2017 newsletter]*







## An Update On Multiply

*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” - Acts 1:8*

2018 is off to a strong start financially around the **Multiply** initiative. Over the next several months we will be watching the finances closely looking for new trends in giving and so forth. As we do, it is important to remember that **Multiply** is a two year 8.4 million dollar initiative that includes everything in our budget. Remember **Multiply** is one fund, meaning that everything we do ministry wise is included in **Multiply**. Here are a few updates from each bucket:

### **MULTISITE INVESTMENT - \$1.1 Million**

*We will be proactive in using the blessings God has given us to multiply new campuses for His glory.*

- We continue to pay the operating expenses of Liberty Ridge and Oak Hill.
- We are setting aside funds for future multisite ministry as well as for a future permanent location for Liberty Ridge.

### **FOCUSED MISSIONS - \$1.1 Million**

*We will support the work of God's Kingdom by multiplying new church plants and leaders, partnering with developing communities and feeding the hungry.*

- Mike Sabbann and Regina Kehl just returned from Ethiopia where they were exploring opportunities for us to partner with the Makane Yesus Lutheran Church body, specifically in the areas of church planting and leader development.
- Dean Dunavan will be starting into the SMP (Specific Ministry Pastor) process in the fall.
- We were able to write a check to Feed My Starving Children for 50K.
- We are busy prepping for summer short term mission experiences.

### **TRANSFORMATIONAL MINISTRIES - \$4.5 Million**

*We will be faithful to the ongoing ministry of WLC so disciples will continue to be multiplied and transformed.*

- We are in a major Ministry Planning process right now. Thank you for taking the time to fill out the Reveal survey. We continue to be excited about where God has us as a congregation and where He is taking us next!

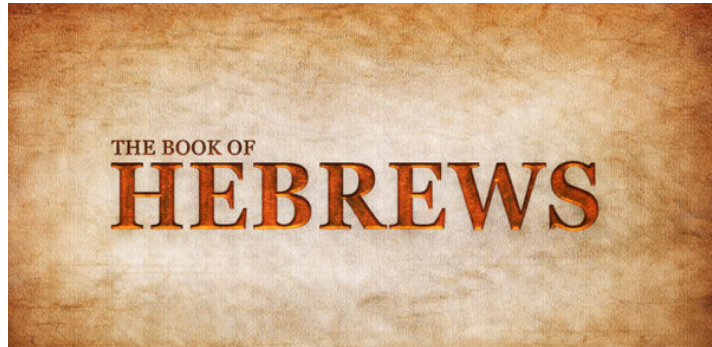
### **FOUNDATIONAL EXPENSES - \$1.7 Million**

*We will accelerate the payment of debt and make needed investments in our facilities so that we can effectively say “yes” to what God has in store for our future.*

- Our debt is now under 1.7 million dollars.
- The Valley Creek and Oak Hill Sanctuaries will be re-carpeted this Spring & Summr.
- New monument signs have been installed on both the Oak Hill and Valley Creek Campuses.

*“Jesus, unleash Your power in me, in my relationships,  
in our communities and in Your world! Amen.”*





“...Please join us  
in giving thanks  
to God for His  
people...”

## A Summer Daytime Bible Study Hebrews

*Led by Pastor Paul Pfotenhauer*

*15 minutes before class, there is an optional hymn sing led by Rhoda Pfotenhauer.*

*Thursday mornings 10:00–11:30am*

*Valley Creek Campus, Fireside Room*

*Starting June 7th –through the summer (no class 7/5) bring your Bible*

### **HEBREWS**

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in

these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom also He made the universe.

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by His powerful word. After He had provided purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. So He became as much superior to the angels as the name He has inherited is superior to theirs.



# Campus Updates from Liberty Ridge & Oak Hill

## LIBERTY RIDGE UPDATES

***Here are some quick updates from our Liberty Ridge Campus:***

- We were excited to see many guests and family members on Easter at Liberty Ridge!
- We were happy to serve the Liberty Ridge Elementary School community by helping with their carnival on April 21.
- We are excited to serve the Stonemill Farms community by assisting with their 5k for charity on May 19.
- Please pray for the individuals from Liberty Ridge who are training to run the Twin Cities Marathon with Team World Vision. Two people have signed up and another eight people are still considering joining the team.
- We are excited that our registration for the Liberty Ridge Summer Activities Camp is already full with a waiting list! This camp will take place from July 30 - August 2 at Stonemill Park South.
- We continue to celebrate what God is doing at the Liberty Ridge Campus and we pray that He will bless us to be a blessing to the many people that live near the campus.

## OAK HILL UPDATES

***Here are some quick updates from our Oak Hill Campus:***

- Easter Sunday was a joyful celebration as we worshipped with over 390 people on our campus.
- We welcomed a new baby to our church family. Ava Julie was born to Jesse, Jenna, Javen and Livia Vislissel. Welcome Ava!
- Our campus hosted the Hilary and Kate concert on a beautiful spring evening. This was a wonderful time of fellowship and music. Thank you to so many of you for joining us!
- The sanctuary refresh will begin the last week of May and the first few weeks of June. We continue to look ahead and praise God for His abundant blessings.
- We continue to celebrate what God is doing at the Oak Hill Campus and we pray that He would bless us to be a blessing to the many people that live near the campus.



Thank you for being Christ's hands and feet to us during the time of Gene Bunkowske's struggle with cancer.

We experienced the Body of Christ through you in ways that gave our hearts strength during a difficult journey. Thank you to each one who helped make Gene's Re-positioning Service on April 7 such a memorable time of worship and celebrating Gene's life. We are so grateful to God for his care shown with such love by his people of Woodbury Lutheran. We've been blessed as a church family. May we, as a church family, take seriously the call to be a blessing to the nations, here in Minnesota and throughout the world, as Gene did.

Gratefully, Bernice Bunkowske and Family



## Campus Update from Valley Creek

### ***Here are some quick updates from our Valley Creek Campus:***

- We are very excited about the sanctuary refresh that will be happening this spring. New carpet will be installed and the wood flooring will all be redone, we will also be installing energy efficient LED lighting throughout the Sanctuary.
- During the summer starting on Memorial Day weekend, we will have one 11:00 service on the Valley Creek Campus in the Sanctuary. We feel like this is the right move as our resources are a bit thin with the Mark Shepperd retirement and pastoral vacancy. This move will help simplify things on a variety of fronts.
- We continue to see large numbers of Baptism's. It is such a joy to welcome both young and old into our family!
- ***We will be celebrating the ministry of Mark Shepperd on Sunday, May 20th after the 8:00 am and 11:00 am services.***
- We continue to celebrate what God is doing at the Valley Creek Campus and we pray that He would bless us to be a blessing to the many people that live near the campus.





# Woodbury Lutheran's Staffing Update

## VALLEY CREEK ASSOCIATE PASTOR:

After Pastors Derek and Drew moved on from WLC, we were essentially down two pastors in addition to launching our Liberty Ridge Campus. The Search Team is so excited that Dean Dunavan will be coming on board to lead our Oak Hill Campus as he starts the Specific Ministry Pastor process this Fall through St. Louis Seminary. Even with Dean coming on, we are still thin.

Following the Ministry Planning Process (roughly June), we will again start the search for a Valley Creek Associate pastor. We are waiting so that we have a better idea of exactly the gifts we need to carry out our mission most effectively. Please continue to lift up this process in your prayers.

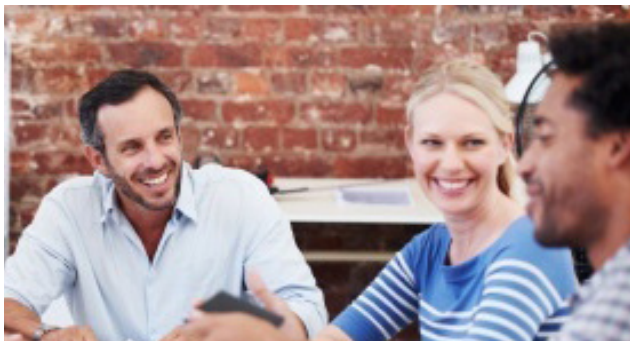
## WLC DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP:

This May Mark Shepperd, our Minister of Music for 28 years, will be retiring. The Church Council has recently approved a job description for a Director of Worship. The Director of Worship will not be a clone of the role that Mark filled; rather they will take a more global look at designing and staffing all WLC worship services across our campuses.

The description was developed from feedback through a survey given to our current musicians, conversations with other worship leaders throughout the country and from current best practices. **Let me re-assure you that the organ and classical music will continue to be an important part of the ministry at WLC.**

Also know that worship at WLC will also be different as this new person will no doubt bring unique gifts just like Mark did 28 years ago. We will be interviewing candidates this spring with the hopes of having a new person in place by the summer.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Pastor Tom.





“...spring will eventually come, and His...”

## A Garden of Memories

In April, we usually think of showers bringing May flowers, and if we are lucky maybe a few earlier. Not this year, only more snow. So, where's the flowers? They are on the south side of the church, by the drive through. How did they get there? That's an interesting story.

April 5, marked 10 years since my dad, Ray, entered heaven. My dad, a retired civil engineer, grew up on a small farm and loved to garden. He and my mom, Arline, i.e. “Spike”, had a hobby farm in Welch where my dad decided to try raising grapes. He became a successful grower of Minnesota grapes and a charter member of Northern Vineyard Winery in Stillwater.

My dad loved ushering at church and when he passed, my mom asked Pastor Dean, “where could the church use his memorial funds”? Pastor Dean had a couple of ideas, but the one that seemed to fit well was a flower garden. At the time, the south side of the church was just grass and a couple trees. Not much to view. So together with funds from the church, a landscape architect was hired to develop and implement a plan. The plan would incorporate some of my dad's favorite plants...including a Minnesota grape arbor. These plants included a blue spruce, flowering crabs, amur maples, Russian sage, mugho pines, tiger lilies, mums, daisies, burning bush, spirea, barberry and Seval grapes. An existing maple, was also incorporated in the plan. Unfortunately, the daisies haven't survived the local rabbits! In the early days of the garden, my 82-year-old mother kept a close eye on it's progress, including pulling weeds and pruning when needed. Today, our custodial staff has it well under control.

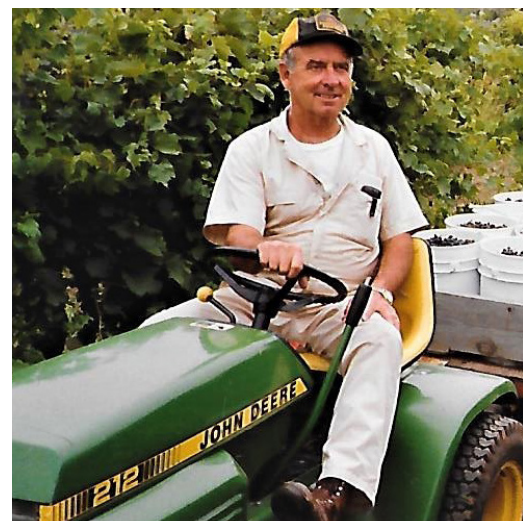
I feel the garden has significantly improved the staff view as well as the neigh-

bors and visitors to the church. The arbor is also a perfect spot for that first wedding shot - but not in April.

As for weddings, in April, Renee and I celebrated 39 years of marriage and membership at Woodbury Lutheran. We have seen many changes over that time. We also have been blessed to raise three girls here, whose hearts for missions were inspired by this church's youth leaders and pastors, as well as their college pastor. Danielle and Cortney are or have served as college missionaries at UMD.

The garden is now another piece of church history and will always be a reminder, not only of my dad, but that spring will eventually come, and His creations will always bloom.

By Charles Kenow





# Actively Bringing the Gospel

Thank you for helping bring the Gospel to people in our own backyard and across the world!

If you were to visit Pastor Demelash Yoseph's Oromo speaking church in St. Paul a few years ago, you would have noticed around 20-30 people there in worship. If you were to make a similar visit to their church on any given Sunday night now you might take notice that the worship attendance has not changed much. What you may not realize is that this powerhouse of mission has also started 22 other churches in the last 5 years by raising up leaders from within and sending them out!

This year alone, in partnership with LINC Twin Cities, Pastor Demelash and their ministry called OELMS (Oromo Ethiopian Lutheran Mission Society) are starting multiple churches in Minnesota and around the world!

Some of us had the privilege of seeing their global impact on a recent trip to Ethiopia. Alongside of Regina Kehl, Mike Sabbann and Connie Sabbann; Pastor Demelash introduced us to a church in their network that is actively multiplying and bringing the Gospel to a predominantly Muslim community.

We were also blessed to see first hand the wonderful work that is happening at the school in Sendafa that so many at Woodbury Lutheran have poured into. We saw the vibrant Gospel centered work happening there and the tangible impact that is being made! One particular heart melting moment was witnessing Regina connect with the children she sponsors. Such love.

Years ago, Pastor Demelash was forced to leave Ethiopia because of death threats received in response to his popular radio program. Now, not only does he lead a local church and mentor new church starting pastors, but he also records a Gospel television program that is broadcast on the MOA network throughout Eastern Africa and the Middle East. The estimated reach of this channel is over 50 million people. While visiting the studio we heard reports of people responding to his program for prayer including someone from within Saudi Arabia.

God has been moving among our Ethiopian brothers and sisters. Right here in the Twin Cities there are over 40,000 Oromo Ethiopians and roughly 85% of them are Muslim. Praise God for Pastor Demelash Yoseph and others who are actively bringing the Gospel to our own backyard and around the world!

Pastor Ben Griffin  
Executive Director of LINC Twin Cities







“...boldly venturing  
into what God has  
for them next.”

## Celebrate With WLC's Missionaries The Millers

Brad and Sandi Miller are writing a new chapter together: they left their 18-year mission with International Teams, and are boldly venturing into what God has for them next.

WLC has been privileged to partner with them. Please join the Millers for lunch May 6 at WLC to celebrate this partnership and to bless them as they move forward. They will reflect with us about their ministry, and there will be time for us to share favorite stories or memories with them. Please come celebrate and bless these extraordinary friends and members of our church.

- What: Celebration lunch for Brad and Sandi
- When: Noon – 1:00 pm, Sunday, May 6
- Where: Isaiah Room, Valley Creek Campus

Brad was WLC's youth minister when he and Sandi were called to missions. WLC has been their sending church ever since! Following missionary training and language school the Millers moved to Quito with their two daughters in January 2001.

After 12 years of ministry in Ecuador they moved to Elgin, Illinois to provide discipleship training and missionary care to International Teams' network of global missionaries. Now they are exploring what their next steps will be, and seeking God's direction.

# Five Million Meals

*Mark your calendar for the Feed My Starving Children MobilePack  
October 4-7 – registration opens August 4th.*

Once again, Woodbury Lutheran is joining volunteers from around the Woodbury community to pack meals for the hungry at the largest-ever FMSC event under one roof at the HealthEast Sports Center. Two years ago, the Woodbury community packed 4 million meals for hungry children in 7 countries and donated 10 percent of the funds raised to the local Christian Cupboard Emergency Food Shelf. We need your help to reach our goal this year of 5 million meals and once again contributing 10 percent of the funds to the CCEFS.

We are putting the call out for individuals interested in becoming a Certified Volunteer (CV). CVs will be responsible for assisting FMSC staff with creating a seamless packing experience for each of the estimated 20,000 volunteers that will be coming through the doors. CVs will join with FMSC staff in ensuring that the meals are packed efficiently, while upholding FMSC's policies and procedures. There will be a training for those interested in becoming a CV on October 3rd at 6 pm at the HealthEast Sports Center.

CVs will be responsible for helping with event setup and cleanup (if possible) and general cleaning throughout the event; answering general questions; and being additional hands and feet for the FMSC staff. CVs are being asked to work at least two 5-hour shifts (2 packing sessions per shift). We are not asking for a definite commitment at this time, we are only asking interested parties to put their name on a list for contact later this summer. Please contact Liz Thompson ([eathompson1953@gmail.com](mailto:eathompson1953@gmail.com)) if you have any questions or to add your name to the CV list. Remember, you are not making a definite commitment to serve today – only indicating you are interested in becoming a CV. Thank you!

## FEEDING HUNGRY CHILDREN AT HOME & ABROAD





“Want to know  
more about  
CTC?”

## Botswana Meet the Translators

On Tuesday, March 13 my wife Connie and I were sitting in a small steel-roofed office in the village of Shakawe, in northwest Botswana. The fan in the room kept the air moving, but it was still hot and very humid. We were listening to two villagers talk excitedly about their jobs – translating the Bible into the language of their people, the Khwe (pronounced quay). These two men, named Splash (age 40) and Moronga (24), work closely with Pastor Tim Beckendorf, a missionary that WLC supports financially.

In 2005, the Botswana Bible Society invited Tim (through Lutheran Bible Translators) to the country for the specific purpose of developing an alphabet and written language for the Khwe people. This people group has always only had an oral language.

Recall Jesus’ words to His disciples “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them ... and teaching them to obey everything I taught you” (Matthew 28:19-20). Pastor Tim and his family are among the few who actually “go”.

Imagine your own spiritual life, your growth as a disciple if you didn’t have your Bible. What about the faith of others in your family if there wasn’t the written Word? I think we can be glad that our church is working to bring the good news about Jesus to the Khwe people, helping to fulfill the Great Commission. Your generosity allows WLC to Multiply Disciples and Transform lives, not just here in the Twin Cities, but even as far away as Botswana! Thank you.

By Mike Sabbaan

*Splash, Moronga & Tim  
Beckendorf with their  
translated materials*





# Are You Willing to Be The Hands and Feet of Jesus?

If you answered yes, then keep reading! It's easy, it's flexible, and it's a blessing!

Join WLC's newest care ministry, Mercy Ministries. In the past, we have utilized our Care Needs Network to accomplish some of the tasks Mercy Ministries is going to address. With the discontinuation of the Care Needs Network, certain needs are going unfilled due to a lack of volunteers.

Mercy Ministries will change the way we connect our members to care for others in our community of faith.

We will accomplish this through a service called Lotsa Helping Hands, an online-based service for families in our congregation who need temporary help due to a life-changing event -- the birth of a baby, an illness, a death.

Needs that might be addressed in this ministry include providing meals, rides to doctor's appointments, assisting with odd jobs for those who are temporarily homebound, and more.

Because this is an online service, those who desire to participate in helping others in their times of need, **MUST** provide an email address for communication purposes. When needs arise, the need will be shared with potential volunteers via an email. Those who feel equipped to help with those particular needs can follow the link to the Lotsa Helping Hands community to sign up to help. If the request is out of your area of service, you are in no way obligated to sign up.

To volunteer for this Mercy Ministries opportunity, please reach out to Pastor Tim, or Vicki Strong, Administrator of Online Connection, at 651-730-5049, or at [vickistrong@comcast.net](mailto:vickistrong@comcast.net). You may also leave your email address at any of the Connection Centers.



# SPIRITUAL *MOTHER'S DAY* CARDS

Did you know the roots of Mother's Day date back to the 19th century? In the years before the Civil War, Ann Reeves Jarvis of West Virginia helped start "Mother's Day Work Clubs" to teach local women how to properly care for their children.

The official Mother's Day holiday arose in the 1900s as a result of the efforts of Anna Jarvis, daughter of Ann Reeves Jarvis. Following her mother's 1905 death, Anna Jarvis envisioned Mother's Day as a way of honoring the sacrifices mothers make for their children.

After gaining financial backing from a Philadelphia department store owner named John Wanamaker, in May 1908 she organized the first official Mother's Day celebration at a Methodist church in Grafton, West Virginia. That same day, thousands of people attended a Mother's Day event at one of Wanamaker's retail stores in Philadelphia.

Following the success of her first Mother's Day, Jarvis—who remained unmarried and childless her whole life—resolved to see her holiday added to the national calendar. Arguing that American holidays were biased toward male achievements, she started a massive letter-writing campaign to newspapers and prominent politicians urging the adoption of a special day honoring motherhood.

By 1912 many states, towns, and churches had adopted Mother's Day as an annual holiday, and Jarvis had established the Mother's Day International Association to help promote her cause. Her persistence paid off in 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson signed a measure officially establishing the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.<sup>1</sup>


## MOTHER'S DAY AROUND THE WORLD

While versions of Mother's Day are celebrated worldwide, traditions vary depending on the country. In Thailand, for example, Mother's Day is always celebrated in August on the birthday of the current queen, Sirikit.

Another observance of Mother's Day can be found in Ethiopia, where families gather each fall to sing songs and eat a large feast as part of Antrosht, a multi-day celebration honoring motherhood.

In the United States, Mother's Day continues to be a day to present mothers and other women with gifts and flowers, and it has become one of the biggest holidays for

consumer spending. Families also celebrate by giving mothers a day off from activities such as cooking or other household chores.

This Mother's Day, consider celebrating those mothers and grandmothers in your faith community who have invested in your life. Encourage your children to join you in thinking of women whose testimonies have displayed God's faithfulness, grace, and wisdom. Then, create beautiful cards and write a note to each woman acknowledging the ways she has impacted your life. 

---

by Debbie Guinn

***Taken from the May 2018 HomeFront Monthly Newsletter.***

# Save the Date!

We will celebrate the  
retirement of  
*Mark Shepperd*  
on Sunday, May 20th.  
Mark your calendars  
today!

## ***Garage Sale Treasures Needed!***

Is it Spring Cleaning Time at your house yet? Please hang on to your things a little while longer! The youth will be collecting those slightly used “treasures” for the upcoming Lions Garage Sale held on May 10-12. Collection dates will be May 8, 5:30-8:30 pm and May 9, 4:30-8:30 pm. Please drop donations at the East entrance of the Valley Creek campus. We ask that you have all clothing sorted, bagged and labeled in the following categories - men, boys, women, girls and infants. It helps tremendously - thanks! Sale proceeds support youth attending mission trips. If you have any questions call Shanna Salzman at 612-859-1365.





# May

1 Deborah Cain Ben Kehl Kole McKinley Erik Pieper Diane Theissen Claudia Wolfgram Karen Wright	Aksel Drevlow Peggy Krause Katie Mueller Layson Pearson Stephanie Sadowski Jacob van Jaarsveld Logan Wahl	Christina Hammerstrom Susan Joines Nate Nelson Jane Pashina Pat Smith Ben Sweet John Taraldsen Jenni Xiong Shari Zuehlke	Keri Stifter Cindy Thompson 14 Alycen Brothen Nathan Fong Melisaa Goerlitz Paul Krypel Zach Nelson Kay Peltier Diana Peter Tana Voge	Elizabeth Campbell Larissa Colvin Evan Larson Zane Spreigl 18 Wyatt Corrigan Tracy Evanoff Ashley Faeth Jim Golden Robin Knutson Brayden Mishacoff Nicholas Norton Rachel Parks	Janet Rohlfing Brenda Score Joe Traynor Annalisa Wessel 23 Jerry Backlund Kelsey Engen Dorothy Erban Jeffrey Fett Audrey Fischer Miranda Kreger Megan Nelson Keith Nixon Mary Scholz Scott Shriver Dorothy Young	Matt Fowler Grady Jensen Avery Jilek Sarah Johnson Caryn Meyer Bella Mishacoff Olivia Mischacoff Elliott Sieling 28 Sheri Anderson Kathryn Barnes Christopher Ohrwell Lindsay Schneider Wyatt St. Clair 29 Kimberly Bauman Phil Baumgar Belle Brewer Bob Hensel Ryan Welsh
2 Ryan Helgason Theresa Ingram Michael Moore Steve Neils Lydia Runge Lois Starks Dale Thompson Brian Whitmarsh Jacob Wolfgram	6 Elizabeth Anderson Greg Bailen Rachel Conant Camryn Ergang Margaret Fett Daniel Lanz Patrick Riley Andy Stakston Isaac Tepe Dave Wende Tim Wess	10 Kate Figlmiller Joshua Jepperson Jacqueline Johnson Stephen Krampe Mavis Rubsam Makayla Shugg Benjamin Zuehlke Jordan Vilas-Tucker 11 Danny Amundson Patricia Arneson Myron Baumann Jerry Ehlers Jocelyn McDonald Diane Miller Yudyli Salcedo Aiden Smith	15 Gracyn Becker Timothy Butina Brian Carlson Kim Carlson Kim Dolan Lauren Faeth Kevin Featherstone Jewel Jeske Evan Pflieger 16 Lauren Butler Emma Christopherson Abby Jenkins Kathryn LaMott Mike Law Sara Lower Tami Lower Sarah Ochiagha Carter Price Darlene Rengstorf Jan Rygh Sophia Sandstrom Jill Taylor Allison Weiss Bob Wuggazer Tahua Yu	19 Ellen Harelstad Gabe Howard Caitlyn Nelson Steffi Odegaard Jon Raymer 20 Doreen Atchison Deb Berg Kenneth Boyd Matthew Jenkins Keegan Richardson Robb Swanlund 21 Tim Becken Ella Biederman Renee Boehme Julia Charron Rachel Kolling Theresa Leis Earl Moquist Aaron Morningstar Nora Oxtan Larry Tschackofsky 22 Megan Blomquist Chloe Boon Allie Conant Natalie Fox Steve Johnson	24 Kevin Cavanaugh Cheryl Jensen Marian Nelson Nicole Taraldsen 25 Dan Donovan Linda Kirsch Jaime Jorgensen Christopher Madden Ashley Salzman Jack Schrachta 26 Todd Breiholz Rae Bury Ernie Ginn Nate Howard Rhonda Jones Sandi Miller Evelyn Ratzloff Cameron Rhoades Marsha Voss Jim White Hanna Wiebold 27 Joel Arend Kellie Clappier Catelyn Corredor	30 Eddie Carlson Lucy Clappier Jenna Cordes Tyson Klusmann Tricia Powers Kim Sandrock 31 Eli Browning Lucas Ingram Kate Holmquist Esther Kumpula Jean LaShomb Casey Linert Jennifer Lymburner Strange Kenzie MacLeod Denise Pieper Ella Ratzloff Char Les Stohlmann Suzanne Sofie Brad Zinke

## Anniversaries

1 Matt & Tianna Bocker	15 Gregory & Laura Cloose	23 Jim & LaVonne Liljedahl	Kemal & Jessica Munn
2 Larry & Nancy Tschackofsky	Jaime & Kathy Hegna	Les & Catherine Winters	Nathan & Ashley Price
3 Chauncey & Carly Charlson	Morgan & Denise Jenkins	24 Nathan & Amanda Aalderks	Mike & Jill Radabaugh
Larry & Dorothy Wolfgram	John & Marvel Mitterholzer	Christopher & Shelli Burns	Jerome & Kari Schiltgen
4 Kevin & Kay Moquist	Doug & Suzanne Mortenson	Scott & Rachel Homuth	Charles & Ruth Stakston
Thomas & Jane Pashina	16 Adam & Natalie Krause	Tim & Toni Loeffler	31 Geoff & Allie Boyd
5 Konnie & Mark Harstad	Dean & Lorraine Wohlhuter	Rob & Rachel Krueger	Jim & Sandy Hayden
Rod & Eileen Lund	17 Tim & Andrea Sobaski	John & Marilee Schoenewald	Daniel & Mary Matasovsky
Dan & Sally Meyer	18 Bob & Mary Albrecht	Eli & Naveena Spitz	Marilyn & Michael Myers
Eric & LeAnn Perry	Steven & Simona Awiszus	25 Josh & Amanda Bocker	Rick & Dena Petrich
Steve & Jan Skadsberg	James Langan & Lauren Becker-Langan	Ronald & Bev Faust	Mike & Stacy Winter
Glenn & Lois Rogers	Daniel & Eleanor Meyer	Tim & Mary Wess	
6 Myron & Patrice Baumann	19 James & Susan Finell	26 Ross & Melissa Dahlin	
7 Harry & Dotti Rensenbrink	Brandon & Amanda Nelson	Matt & Emily Fowler	
Jeffrey & Sandy Southward	Pete & Cheryl Olofson	27 Dan & Sheri Anderson	
8 Ron & Donna Bargsten	Mike & Jennifer Spreigl	Brian & Jennifer Aspen	
10 Ed & Vicki Huebsch	Scott & Pat Stevens	Steve & Cheryl Butz	
Doug & Norma Mackey	20 Richard & Carolyn Carlson	Greg & Donna Jensen	
Mike & Connie Sabbann	David & Cheri Frost	Jeff & Jacqueline Konop	
11 Jules & Jeannette Butcher	John & Mary Maroney	Alex & Lisa Thao	
12 Jay & Renae Holthaus	Jeff & Karen Miner	28 Jack & Doreen Atchison	
13 Brad & Colleen Johnson	21 Jeff & Melody Haines	Brian & Tanya Daniels	
Leroy & Karen Longworth	Steve & Kenya Skytte	Steve & Amy Meyer	
Scott & Tracie Tuman	22 Bob & Mayonne Benson	29 Rick & Ann Gibbs	
Scott & Shari Zuehlke	Bob & Shirley Hensel	Bob & Sally Kolb	
14 David & MaryJo Pearson	Patrick & Pamela Riley	Joseph & Melissa Traynor	
Zachary & Gina Vogelsberg	Rob Strange & Jennifer Lymburner-Strange	30 Robert & Jileen Cowley	



## Worship

### HEALING SERVICE

Our Healing Service is held at the Valley Creek Campus every third Sunday. For prayers of healing, attend our service on May 20 at 12:15pm, in room 1-250 (VC Fireside). Questions, call Pastor Tim at 651-739-5144.

### READY TO TAKE YOUR NEXT STEP?

The WLC Connection Center is available to help you determine what your next step might be on the Discipleship PATH. Whether you want to explore options or you already know what your next step will be, our Connectors would love to help! The Connection Center staff is available each Saturday before and after 5pm worship and each Sunday from 9-9:30, 10:30-11 and 12-12:15 in the lobby, or from 10:45-11 and 12 outside of the Genesis room.

### IS STEPHEN MINISTRY FOR YOU?

This "caring" ministry provides confidential, one-to-one, Christian care to those who are experiencing difficult life challenges. Need someone to talk with? At Valley Creek, contact Larry W. (men) 651-337-2965, or Linda W. (women) 651-337-2965. For other information: Shirley M. 651-276-7224.



## Grow

### WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Join us for this low pressure DVD bible study where all ages, genders and relationships are welcome. The topics focus on God's continuous presence and promises in our lives. Contact: Michael Zenner, 651-592-9435.

### OAK HILL GAME NIGHT (6-12TH)

Game night the first Thursday of every month, 7-8:30pm. Join us on May 3. Meet at Caribou Coffee, 1830 Market Dr. Stillwater, MN 55082. Come hang out

with Sarah and play games!

### LIBERTY RIDGE SUNDAY DONUT AND DEVO (6TH-12TH)

On the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month we will gather to enjoy donuts together, play a game, do a devotional Bible study, and share highs and lows from our week. We will then meet in the kids/youth area to have fun, get to know each other more, spend time in God's word together, and connect as a Liberty Ridge community. Our final meeting will be on May 13. Contact Laura at [stennesl@woodburylutheran.org](mailto:stennesl@woodburylutheran.org) with any questions.

### GARAGE SALE FUNDRAISER

Sign up for this fundraiser will open on Monday, April 9, 4pm at [wlc youth.org](http://wlc youth.org). Here is your chance (current 6th through 12th graders and parents/family) to raise money for mission trips, Summer Stretch or any youth events held through WLC. We have quite a few sign up guidelines for the May 8-12 fundraiser. All this information can be found on the sign up page at [wlc youth.org](http://wlc youth.org). PLEASE read the directions carefully. Also, we will be accepting donations at the VC campus starting May 8. Questions, contact Shanna at [ssalzman1@comcast.net](mailto:ssalzman1@comcast.net) or 612-859-1365.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL MANIA

May 18, 6:30-8:30pm. 6th, 7th, & 8th graders its game night!! Grab your friends and come ready to play! This is an all campus event held at the Valley Creek Campus. Contact: Lindsey Schmidt.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAMMING (6TH-12TH)

Wednesday night ministries final weeks for 2017-2018 school year are this month. MAY 9 is the **END OF YEAR PARTY**, being held at the Oak Hill Campus. 6-8:15pm.

### CONFIRMATION JOURNEY

We are having a Confirmation Launch meeting on May 10, 5:30-6:30pm at the VC campus, RSVP at [wlc youth.org](http://wlc youth.org). What is Confirmation Journey? A year long, devotion led, family-based experience for students (7th-12th grades) designed to prepare to publicly confirm their faith

in Jesus as their Lord and Savior. This process is for mature students who want to explore their personal relationship with Jesus and grow in their understanding of what it looks like to be a disciple of Jesus for a lifetime. The process involves Worshiping, Growing, Serving, and Reaching (sharing their faith with others) and is a great opportunity for students who want to personalize their faith and grow as a disciple. If you're interested, set up a Confirmation Launch meeting with Lindsey Schmidt.

### SUMMER YOUTH MINISTRY - WHO CAN COME TO WHAT?

Welcome new 6th graders and new freshman! The Summer is a great time to move up into the new ministry areas and get to know other students! When an event says Middle school (MS), it's for all new 6th graders through old 8th graders. When an event says High school (HS), it's for all new 9th graders and old 12th graders. New 9th graders, y'all get to do everything!!! (Summer stretch is the only middle school ministry that isn't available to new 6th graders).

### YOUTH SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

This summer 6th - 12th we will be exploring the first 5 books of the Bible (Torah). Summer Bible study is a great way to continue growing in your faith, seeing your friends, and eating weird foods! 6:30-8:30pm. Bring your Bible! June 13-August 15. Watch for more details in our summer newsletter.

### PIZZA AND BOWLING AT PINZ - LIBERTY RIDGE END OF THE YEAR YOUTH EVENT

Liberty Ridge high school and middle school youth are invited to celebrate the end of the school year with bowling and pizza at PINZ in Oakdale on Sunday May 6th. Pizza and bowling is on us! Rides will be provided from Liberty Ridge Campus to the event, and back to Liberty Ridge afterwards. We will depart from Liberty Ridge at 11:30 and return to Liberty Ridge at 1:30. If you need to meet us there/leave directly from the event please let Laura know. This is a great event to invite a friend! Please RSVP to Laura Stennes at [stennesl@woodburylutheran.org](mailto:stennesl@woodburylutheran.org) by May 4.

# Getting Connected

## CAREER TRANSITION CONNECTION

We welcome Vikas Narula as he presents, "Listening to the Whispers of Your Heart" on May 10 at 7pm, room 1-250 (VC). For more information about this event and CTC check out the website at [www.careertransitionconnection.org](http://www.careertransitionconnection.org).

## CAREER TRANSITION CONNECTION

We welcome David Mary as he presents, "Job Search for the Mature Job Seeker" on May 24 at 7pm, room 1-250 (VC). For more information about this event and CTC check out the website at [www.careertransitionconnection.org](http://www.careertransitionconnection.org).



## ISRAEL TRIP WITH THE PFOTENHAUERS (OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 5, 2019)

A Biblical tour of Israel! Contact Pastor Paul at 651-261-3416 or [paulrohoda@comcast.net](mailto:paulrohoda@comcast.net)

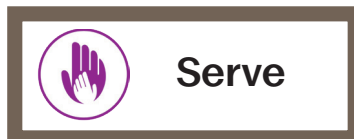
## THE BIBLICAL STORY OF ESTHER

You are Invited! Trinity First is proud to present their version of the Biblical story of Esther: Teen Queen God Used to Redeem. This original musical with story adaptation by Terri Bentz and music by Rev. Tom Gundermann tells the story of God's saving grace through the actions of one brave girl. With plot twists such as a beauty pageant, courtiers, and a menacing Haman, audience members young and old will laugh, cheer, and most importantly hear the Gospel presented in song. Performances are May 23rd at 6:30pm, and May 24th at 10:30am and 6:30pm at the E.M. Pearson Theater at Concordia University in St. Paul. The musical is appropriate for all ages and FREE (free-will offering will be taken during the show). If you have questions please call the school office (612) 871-2353.

## MISSION OPPORTUNITIES SHORT TERM (MOST MINISTRIES)

A Recognized Service Organization of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) that connects, trains, and sends short-term mission teams throughout

the world, is seeking a full-time Executive Director. The Executive Director is responsible for managing the overall business of MOST Ministries and overseeing the operation of its programs and services, managing all strategic relationships with missionaries and national church leaders in the field, and serving as primary ministry representative to congregations, church organizations, funding sources and other organizations that assist MOST Ministries in carrying out its mission. A candidate must be a member of an LCMS congregation and have international mission experience. The full job description can be found at [www.mostministries.org/job\\_opportunity](http://www.mostministries.org/job_opportunity). Resumes may be submitted to MOST Search Committee, 643 Ironwood Way, Saline, MI 48176 or [Jobs@mostministries.org](mailto:Jobs@mostministries.org).



## SUMMER STRETCH (6TH-8TH)

Registration is open for participants and Teen Leaders. Students who've completed 6th grade as of the summer of 2018 are welcome to join us on Thursdays during the summer for service and fun. SPECIAL RATE available from April 1 to May 15, \$70 for all 5 dates! Beginning May 16 the cost is \$90 (or you can pay \$20 per date—Valleyfair is \$30). Go to [wlc youth.org](http://wlc youth.org) for more information and to sign up. Scholarships are available and friends are welcome. Youth who are 9th & up are welcome to apply to be teen leaders. Questions: Contact Lindsey Schmidt.

## YOUTH SUMMER MISSION TRIP MEETINGS

The Quad Cities Mission Trip will hold their next meeting on May 20 at the VC Campus from 1-2:30pm in the Isaiah room. Contact Lindsey at [schmidtL@woodburylutheran.org](mailto:schmidtL@woodburylutheran.org) to see if there are any openings for the Quad Cities trip.

## MISSION TRIP COMMISSIONING

All youth mission trips will have a congregational send off to serve on Sunday,

June 3 at all services, all campuses.

## MONDAY AFTERNOON WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Would you be willing to knit or crochet shawls, soft chemo/Neuro surgery caps or baby caps/afghans which would be given to someone who is experiencing a life trauma, an illness, or loss? We would love to have you join us on Monday afternoons at the Valley Creek Campus, or bring your completed items to us at the Valley Creek Campus. Call Tamara (651) 734-3974 or [tskarl@comcast.net](mailto:tskarl@comcast.net) for more info on how to be connected with this ministry.

## EAGER HANDS QUILTERS

We are seeking volunteers who enjoy sewing to sew and assemble quilts for the Salvation Army on Tuesday mornings at the Valley Creek Campus. If interested, please contact Delores Fitzgerald at 651-738-1812.

## DRAWSTRING BACKPACKS

Our small group is assembling school kits containing basic school supplies which Lutheran World Relief ships to children in Africa. We are seeking donations of gently used lightweight drawstring backpacks. Contact Lauren Danner at 651-739-2328 for more information.



# May 2018 Calendar

## **1 (V) Cancer Companions**

Tuesday, 7:00pm  
Contact: Vicki Strong,  
651-208-4353

## **2 (O & V) Women of the Word Brunch, Valley Creek Campus**

Wednesday, 9:15am  
Contact: Mary Lehman,  
651-739-5144

## **3 (V) Celebrate Recovery**

Thursdays, 6:30pm  
Contact: Larry Smith,  
651-308-9113

## **5 (V) Baptism Class**

Saturday, 9:30am  
Contact: Rachel Symmank,  
651-472-1975

## **5 (O) Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study**

Saturdays, 8:00am  
Contact: Molly Schulze,  
651-739-5144

## **5 (V) Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study**

Saturdays, 6:30am  
Contact: Jeff Linert,  
651-387-9428

## **7 (V) Monday Morning Men's Bible Study**

Mondays, 10:00am  
Contact: Pastor Tim Marshall,  
651-739-5144

## **7 (V) Monday Afternoon Women's Ministry**

Mondays, 12:00pm  
Contact: Tamara Karlstrand,  
651-734-3974

## **8 & 9 (V) Youth Garage Sale Collection Days**

Tuesday & Wednesday,  
5:30pm  
Contact: Shanna Salzman,  
612-859-1365

## **10-12 (V) Youth Garage Sale**

Thursday-Saturday, 5:30pm  
Contact: Shanna Salzman,  
612-859-1365

## **10 (O) MomsConnect**

Thursday, 6:30pm  
Contact: Molly Schulze,  
651-739-5144

## **10 (V) Career Transition Connection**

Thursday, 7:00pm  
Contact: Tom Colosimo,  
612-386-3715

## **18 (V) All Campus Middle School Mania**

Friday, 6:30pm  
Contact: Lindsey Schmidt,  
651-739-5144

## **19 (V) Respite Care**

Saturday, 5:00pm  
Contact: Cheri Frost,  
651-730-7052

## **20 (V) Mark Shepperd Celebration & Music Sunday**

Sunday, 8:00am & 11:00am

## **20 (V) Healing Service**

Sunday, 12:15pm  
Contact: Pastor Tim Marshall,  
651-739-5144

## **28 (O & V) Memorial Day - Offices Closed**

Monday, All Day

# THE NEWS LETTER

Want more events?

Visit [woodburylutheran.ccbchurch.com](http://woodburylutheran.ccbchurch.com)

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