

THE NEWS LETTER



September 2018

Jesus Wept!

*"Then **Jesus wept**. The people who were standing nearby said, 'See how much he loved him!'" -- John 11:35-36*

In John 11 we read about the amazing account of the death of Lazarus and Jesus raising him back to life. This text is rich with lessons about the identity of Jesus and His call to follow Him, but another lesson that is sometimes missed is the need and freedom to mourn and grieve. As a kid I would always joke about the shortest verse in the Bible, "Jesus Wept" because it was a really easy verse to memorize, little did I know just how powerful that verse actually is.

Imagine, Jesus weeping, not just crying, but weeping because His friend has died. What I find so amazing is that He is weeping full well knowing that He will be able to raise him back to life in a few short moments. So the big question is why would Jesus weep if in a few short minutes He was going to raise Lazarus back to life?

I believe that answer is that grief and mourning are an important part of who we are as human beings and it is only after admitting this that we can deal with it in a healthy manner.

Our church is experiencing incredible transition; not long ago Pastor Drew and Pastor Derek were moved by the Spirit to new ministries. More recently our Minister of Music of 28 years Mark Shepperd retired, Dan and Barb Ar-end who were on staff for over 20 years retired, Pastor Nadasdy retired as our District President and Pastor Deane Schuessler was called home to be with Jesus.

Let that soak in for a moment... and if you need to weep, that is ok! Change is hard, transition is challenging and there needs to be room for grief and mourning, but if we don't name that, our grief will come out sideways; in anger, in gossip and in other hurtful ways. During this time in the life of our church, we need to take time to grieve, we need to be patient with one another, and most of all we need to focus on Jesus the One who is the same yesterday, today and forever.

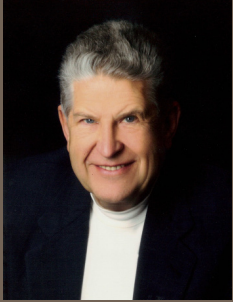
When we grieve properly, then something amazing happens, like when Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. He brings new life to us in the midst of our grief. In Psalm 30:5 we read these great words, ***"Weeping may last through the night, but joy comes with the morning."***

Friends, my prayer for each of you is that during this time of change WE can grieve well TOGETHER, knowing that God is always busy doing new things and that joy will be coming in the morning.

Peace,
Pastor Tom



**WOODBURY
LUTHERAN**



Final sermon of:

**Rev. Dr. Deane
Schuessler to the
Japanese Lutheran
Church, based
on Psalm 34**

Are You Proud of Your Lord God?

There are basically two parts to our relationship with God: PRAISE & PRAYER. PRAISE is centered in what God has done for us, as our Creator; in Jesus' death and resurrection to give us what we need most of all: the gift of forgiveness, life, and salvation, and the Holy Spirit who conveys God's Word, and the gift of faith. PRAISE centers in all God does for us. When we come to faith, we are responding to what God has done for us, with God bringing the Good News of Jesus to forgive us, and to grant us eternal life as a total gift. Of the two, PRAISE is by far the most important part in our relationship with God.

PRAYER, is second to PRAISE. BUT PRAYER is mostly asking God for help. Let's talk about God's initiative, which we acknowledge God by faith. First let's talk about PRAISE we know that God is center of our relationship with God. Then later, we'll talk about what God teaching us to PRAY.

I'm going to jog your memory. I'm going to ask two of you to help. First, I am asking all of you to think of a time when you had a fairly difficult problem. You knew you needed help, so you prayed to God to help you. He did, either in the way you imagined He would, OR in a way different from how you imagined He would. Now, would one of you be willing to tell us your story? Now, do you feel proud of God, and thankful for helping you?

All of you heard the story. Now, I'd like to ask one of you to tell us HOW listening to that person's story help us grow our faith and trust in God. I'd like to ask HOW hearing what you heard benefits your faith, hope, and joy in Christ.

In our Psalm 34, verses 2 and 3, this process is described in these words: "My soul will boast in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and rejoice." Let's thank both of these folks who helped us all by saying to them "THANK YOU!" When we are proud of God like these two folks, for being willing to speak out about what God has done for them showed courage, and stimulated us to trust God. When you told us you are proud of God, you stimulated us to be proud of God ourselves. When we are proud of someone, and we express it in words, that helps build all of our faith and our relationship with God. And it helps take away some of our fear. This process is described in Psalm 34, verses 1 to 3, as follows: "I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always be on my lips. My soul will boast in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. Glorify the Lord with me and let us exalt his name together. I sought the Lord and He answered me; He delivered me from all my fears."

This Psalm 34 has helped me more times than I can remember, especially verses 17

and 18: "The righteous (anyone who trusts God from his heart, God says that that person is a righteous person. Listen to these two verses 17 and 18, "The righteous cry out and the Lord hears them; God delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

Every time I hear these words, my embarrassment melts, and my fears shrink down to proper size. It's not that my good deeds turn me into a righteous person. It's just that God forgives my sins, and transforms me into a person who trusts God. And so God declares that He accepts such a person as righteous in His eyes, a true believer. And so God declares that person as true and acceptable in His (God's) eyes. Let me add verse 19: "A righteous man may have many troubles, but the Lord rescues him or her from them all; God protects all his bones, not one of them will be broken."

We never need to be embarrassed to pray to God. It's a natural thing when we share with others how God has helped us, and so we don't need to be afraid to express praise to God. We all need God's help every day. So God admits that He is happy to use such people as His representatives. And so God's word spreads to more and more people who are not afraid to admit that our God is the true and merciful God of the universe. Like with the two folks who helped us at the beginning of this message, who helped us to do that.

We're not afraid to admit that God doesn't "wash us out" as His representatives because we experience difficulties from time to time. Actually it's better this way, because our goal is not for us to get people to be impressed by us, but to give full credit to God Himself instead of us. We are the Lord's imperfect, but very humble and thankful servants, who love to praise Him.

Now the second part, about PRAYING TO GOD. As I said before, we need to have a totally God-centered prayer life. In our Psalm 34, God gives us a caution about praying to Him. Beginning with verse 15, we read: "The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and His ears are attentive to their cry; the face of the Lord is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth. The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their problems."

So you see that we need to be God-centered, not self-centered as we think of ourselves and our needs. So, let us concentrate in putting God totally in the center of our faith and life, with ourselves in second place.

Weddings:

Mark Carlson & Darlene Strecker
Patrick Courteau & Haley Carlson
James Stoffel & Dana Merrill
Arthur Grant & Rachel Bartz

Baptisms:

Harper James Frechette
Jasmine Junia Jones
Fiona Marie Frost

Deaths:

Herb Goetsch ~ brother, Roger Goetsch
Chuck Nelson ~ mother, Arvilla Nelson
Brian Nelson ~ grandmother, Arvilla Nelson
Rhonda Affield ~ mother, Laurel Storbakken
Tom Vaaler ~ brother, Dick Vaaler
Larry Faffler ~ brother-in-law, Paul Mader
Bernise Giefer ~ brother, Thor Aune
Pastor Drew Bayless ~ mother, Shirley Bayless
The Family of Phyllis Dicke
Stacy Winter ~ godmother, Jean Lucke
The Family of Pastor Deane Schuessler
The Family of Lloyd Kastner

Service Times at WLC:

Saturdays at Valley Creek:
Contemporary, 5pm

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

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

Sundays at Liberty Ridge
Contemporary 10:00am

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“...tidbits from
that first
year...”

The History of Our Church WLC Scrapbook

The parcel of land in Afton that is now the St. Croix Campus was purchased in 2005 for \$1.3M. It consists of 44 acres at the corner of Bailey and Manning. Much of it continues to be planted with corn by the farm family that sold it. One day, God willing, it may be the site of a new church building.



Pastor Ben Griffin, along with dozens of WLC members, was sent to Cottage Grove to start The Alley church in September 2007. After three years of subsidies, The Alley became a recognized LCMS congregation and recently spun off another church plant.



Outdoor worship on the St. Croix “Campus” began in the summer of 2007. That same year, the lower level of the Valley Creek building was finished, along with The Bridge youth space next to the Genesis room. Plenty of new outdoor and indoor spaces!



Faced with declining attendance, Risen Christ Church of Stillwater approached WLC to propose a merger in 2012. Pastor Derek Broten, newly minted from a special seminary program, gathered dozens of Valley Creek members and proceeded to bring new life to the church that became the Oak Hill Campus.

Just last year, the Liberty Ridge Campus began worshipping under the leadership of Pastor Jon Kuehne. This neighborhood church meets in the Liberty Ridge Elementary School, in the middle of the Stone Mill Farms development. It takes a lot of volunteers to set up each Sunday, lead worship, and pack up before school starts on Monday.





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, but 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 a 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.
- God is continuing to open doors for conversations that could lead to new ministry sites for WLC.

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.

- We are excited to be partnering with the Makane Yesus Lutheran Church in Ethiopia in a Discipleship and Leadership development initiative over the next two years at a level of 20k.
- We are excited to be a part of sending the Moody Family through WMPL as missionaries to an unreached part of the world.
- We are now supporting 4 men in Ethiopia receive training that will culminate with them planting new churches in the Addis Ababa area.

TRANSFORMATIONAL MINISTRIES - \$4.5 Million

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

- Over the summer all three of our campuses hosted a variety of Kid's Camps designed to strengthen the faith of our Kids as well as Reach into our community.
- The Strategic Planning process is continuing to move forward and we are excited about the focus on Reach that God is placing on our hearts.

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.
- Both the Valley Creek and Oak Hill Sanctuaries have been updated.
- The last part of the roof at Valley Creek will be replaced this summer – yay!

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



“...providing mercy to those who have suffered loss...”

This Fall in Youth Ministry

Youth ministries start back on September 12th! We are getting ready, lining up small group leaders, setting up for the first week of Foundations & Roots.

If your 6th-12th grader isn't registered yet, please go to wlc youth.org!

On September 12th from 6-6:30pm we'll have GIANT games at both the Oak Hill and Valley Creek campuses. Come check it out! There will be snacks, giant games (4 square,

spoons, 9 square in the air, etc), and time to see your friends! Ministry programming starts at 6:30 with worship and we wrap up the night at 8:15pm.

Valley Creek families, please drop off and pick up from the East lot (upper lot) if possible. If you're planning to make a purchase at the Bridge Cafe, be sure to arrive by 6:15pm. The cafe closes at 6:25pm.



Campus Updates from Liberty Ridge & Oak Hill

LIBERTY RIDGE UPDATES

Here are some quick updates from our Liberty Ridge Campus:

- We had an awesome Summer Activities Camp in late July/early August with about 50 kids from the community. A small group of kids even sang some of the songs they learned in worship on August 5!
- We had nearly 60 kids attend our Carnival of Crafts on Wednesday, August 22. We are thankful for our partnership with Stonemill Farms Community Center and our ability to bless parents and young children with great craft activities through these events.
- After worship on Sunday, September 9, Liberty Ridge Campus will be hosting a free carnival for the community. There will be free food, games, and inflatables. Mark the day on your calendar to join in the fun and festivities, and stay tuned for ways you can serve your community! Sign up at: www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4eacaa2fa2fe3-wlcfall
- 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:

- We celebrated the baptism of Ava Julie Vislissel. Welcome to the family of God, Ava!
- On September 8th our campus will be part of the Grant Heritage Days Tractor Parade. This is a great opportunity to get out into the community and spread the love of Jesus. Please see the WLC website for more information. All are welcome!
- Coming up on September 16th we will hold a new member class. Please contact Cheri Frost if you would like more information on becoming a member.
- In the coming weeks, new tables and chairs will arrive for our downstairs classrooms. This will help accommodate our growing Kids Ministry.
- The upstairs youth room (next to the office) will become a "Multi-purpose" room. This room will be available for small groups and used by our middle schoolers on Wednesday evenings.
- High School students are moving to room 309 downstairs. As our numbers become larger, they needed more space.
- 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.





Join us for:

Worship Night
Sunday, September
30th
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Valley Creek
Campus

We will be gathering all three campuses together for a night of modern worship and prayer on Sunday, September 30th at 6:00 p.m. at the Valley Creek campus. Let's unite as one church to praise Jesus and connect with one another through songs, scripture and corporate prayer. All are welcome at this event, so bring the entire family and remember to invite your friends and neighbors!



Campus Update from Valley Creek

Here are some quick updates from our Valley Creek Campus:

- New lights are being installed in the sanctuary during the month of September.
- Fall is right around the corner and we are excited for kids and youth ministry to start up again following Labor Day weekend.
- Rehearsals for Chorale and Church Mouse Choir are beginning. Karl Grant will be directing the Chorale, and Cheryl Butz will be directing the Church Mice.
- Woodbury Lutheran Preschool begins its new year of classes on September 10.
- New signs for parking lot entrances and exits were installed earlier this summer.
- 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.



Fall Carnival!

What is more fun than a gathering of church members for food and fun? A gathering of church members for food and fun where the neighborhood will be our guests!

We are excited to sponsor a community carnival at our Liberty Ridge campus Sunday, September 9, from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm. We hope that you will join us and bring your friends and neighbors. We also need volunteer help with the event.

Fun for all ages includes food trucks, interactive inflatables for all ages, face painting and crazy hair, jumpie houses, kids carnival games, free food (hot dogs, popcorn and cotton candy), and a “celebrity” dunk tank (well, WLC celebrities that is!).

And it wouldn't be Woodbury Lutheran without an invitation to give to others! All donations for the dunk tank will go to World Vision to provide clean water to people who do not have safe water access, and donations for the free food will support Feed My Starving Children.

We hope you will be there -- For lunch, to enjoy the activities, or as a volunteer.

To see the volunteer opportunities and sign up at: www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4eacaa2fa2fe3-wlcfall or stop by the Connection Center on Sunday morning. Shifts begin with morning set up and will continue through clean up at 2:30.

Our Liberty Ridge Campus is located at Liberty Ridge Elementary School, 11395 Eagle View Blvd. just off Settlers Ridge in the Stonemill

Farms neighborhood. The building will be open for tours of our church set up and to provide restroom access during the event.





Be Disaster Ready!

LERT (Lutheran Early Response Team) Training
September 29, 8:30 am - 4 pm
Valley Creek Campus

We at Woodbury Lutheran have a heart for those who have lost everything to natural disaster and a long history in disaster response. Disaster response in our church is the delivery of help in times of trouble, but more importantly, bringing Christ's mercy to those in desperate need.

Natural disasters continue to plague our nation at a rapid and unprecedented pace. Much help is needed on many fronts, even a year or more after the incident has passed. We want our congregation to be prepared to step up when called and that means preparing individuals and teams for quick and effective response and to commit to disasters for the long haul.

So, we are sponsoring Lutheran Disaster Response training to help you prepare for disaster response far away or in our own community.

The 7-hour training will be facilitated by a certified disaster response trainer for the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod Disaster Response organization. Participants will become confident in the call to respond, and will receive a certificate of participation, a workbook, volun-

teer credentials and a safety vest.

Morning coffee, lunch and a short afternoon break will be provided to all registrants. We are sorry we cannot accommodate special dietary requirements and ask that you bring your own food if you have dietary needs such as gluten-free or vegetarian.

A seven-day mission trip to the Corpus Christi area is scheduled for October 14-21. There work continues to bring help to those ravaged by Hurricane Harvey last summer. Team members do not have to be members of Woodbury Lutheran or the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod to participate.

Priority will be given to people who complete this day-long training. This is a great opportunity to join an established team under experienced leaders, and to put your new found knowledge to work!

To register, go to the Woodbury Lutheran Website and follow the link, www.woodburylutheran.org/next-steps/next-steps/serve/ to Disaster Response Training or contact Regina Kehl, 651-739-5144.

Short Term Mission Experience

Quito, Ecuador

Our team of 12 traveled to Quito July 6th-17th. God continues to build relationships and do amazing things between WLC and the people who dwell in Ecuador. It was wonderful to see people we know again and build new friendships as well. About half of our team had been to Ecuador in the past. Once again, we partnered with Casa Gabriel, a training ministry for street boys, and Casa Adalia, a home for girls who have been sex trafficked or are at risk for being trafficked. Hannah (Miller) Zook, is the social worker at Casa Adalia.

To help us to get acclimated to being at 10,000 ft above sea level, we spent the first day walking around the city, visited a cathedral, and took a gondola ride up to hike around the mountain with some of the Casa G boys. This was a great way to build relationships with them and to learn more about Ecuadorian culture.

Our first work project came the next day when we traveled 2 1/2 hours outside of Quito with some of the Casa G boys to a poor indigenous mountain community called Gualsaqui. While there, we partnered with a local pastor and 3 of his congregational members to lay a cement floor in what will be a kitchen for the church to serve the community. We shoveled gravel, collected rocks, laid them as the foundation, and made the cement mixture the Ecuadorian way. It was incredible to help them do this in the way they know how, not how we would necessarily go about it. This is a great part of learning about different cultures! While some of us continued to work on the flooring, another part of our team and some of the Casa G boys spent time with local kids in a field play-

ing all kinds of fun games. It was a wonderful day filled with great memories.

We spent 3 days working on different projects at Casa A ranging from repairing walls and floors, painting, cleaning, hanging new curtains, and yard work. Culturally in Ecuador, building relationships is more important than projects. We also played with the kids of Casa A so that their moms could attend classes or appointments. We were blessed by listening to testimonies of 2 of the women of Casa A and 2 of the boys of Casa G, along with 2 members of our team. 3 members of our team conducted training sessions for staff and some of the residents of Casa A and G on Spiritual Gifts Inventory, Childhood Trauma, and Moms In Prayer Ministry.

Other ways we built relationships was we attended worship together, watched the World Cup Soccer final game together, played soccer, ate meals, prayed, and danced together. What a joy it was to be with them again, and we look forward to continuing our partnership with Casa Gabriel and Casa Adalia.

The 2018 Quito Short Term Mission Team





Making Mittens for Jamaican Children!

Once again, the Mitten Makers at Woodbury Lutheran Church will gather on Wednesdays at 11:30am (beginning September 20 for lunch and then to make mittens for the Robin's Nest Childrens Home.

For those few of you who may not know about our mittens, no, we are not making mittens for the kids to wear. That would be just silly. Instead we construct fleece-lined mittens from repurposed sweaters and buttons and sell them at winter craft fairs and church boutiques for \$20/pair. 100% of our sales go to the Nest.

What joy in knowing we are changing lives in Jamaica. We are over \$150,000 in sales over the last 10 years and have provided the Nest with appliances, vehicles, a water-holding system, school tuition and other items. Thank you for your support.

It's not just doing good, it's having fun as we find time for fellowship and food as well! We need more help and welcome anyone who

wants to join us. Can you machine or hand sew? Sort buttons? Cut up old sweaters? Cut pieces from patterns? Match fabrics?

Join us - There is something for everyone!

We also accept donations of sweaters and larger buttons. Please, good condition only (no pilling and holes) and wool or wool blends preferred. We have a bin for donations in the cabinet behind the Welcome Center at the Valley Creek Campus.

Questions? Call Vicki Strong, 651-730-5049.

Life is Better Together!

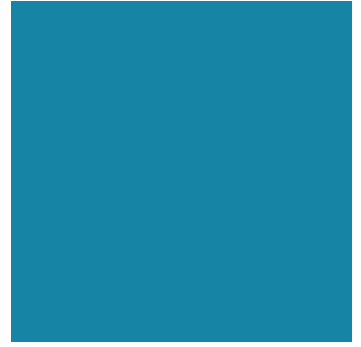
You were created to experience life with other people. At Woodbury Lutheran we encourage you to get into a Small Group.

Small Group Details

- A Small Group is a group of 3 or more people who meet in a home or workplace.
 - They are flexible. They usually meet every other week; some meet every week. They meet in each other's homes*. The group members are usually in a similar season of life and age. They grow friendships and faith by doing Bible studies together and praying and serving together. They do life together.
 - Campus Small Group leaders are: Mary Lehman at Valley Creek, Pastor Jon Kuehn at Liberty Ridge, Diane Hall and Wendy Baumgarn at Oak Hill.
 - Check in at the Welcome Desk or Connection Center to join a group. However you can grab a couple of friends and start a group as small as 3.
- There's help for your group. Mary, Wendy, Diane and Pastor Jon will provide advice and resources for new and existing groups.
 - Questions? Call the church office 651-739-5144 ext. 201

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





Five Million Meals! 25,000 Volunteers! Are You Registered?

Woodbury Lutheran Church has joined with the City of Woodbury, local churches, schools and businesses to pack 5 million meals for starving children around the world. From October 4-7, you, along with 25,000 of your friends and neighbors will have the opportunity to participate in the largest FMSC mobile packing event to be held at HealthEast Sports Center. Adults and children will measure and scoop ingredients, seal bags and prepare boxes for shipping. Children as young as five can also help as long as they are with a parent/adult. If you are a leader of an organization that would like to participate (Scouts, etc.) then the minimum age is third grade.

An exciting aspect of this year's MobilPack is that 10% of the funds raised will go directly to the Christian Cupboard Emergency Food Shelf (CCEFS). So in addition to packing for hungry children around the world we will be helping to feed the hungry right here in Woodbury. Registration is now open via the volunteer link found at FiveMillionMeals.org or at FMSC.org. Each packing session is 2 hours and the packing times are the same on all four days: 9-11 am, 12-2 pm, 3-5 pm and 6-8:30 pm. And you can pack as often as you would like – just remember to register for each session.

The local praise band "Seventh Hour" will be kicking off the event with a concert Wednesday evening, October 3rd, at the HealthEast Sports Center. There will also be a variety of food trucks available for your enjoyment.

If you have questions, need more information or need help with registering, please contact Liz Thompson at 651-262-9665.

Sermon Series for September

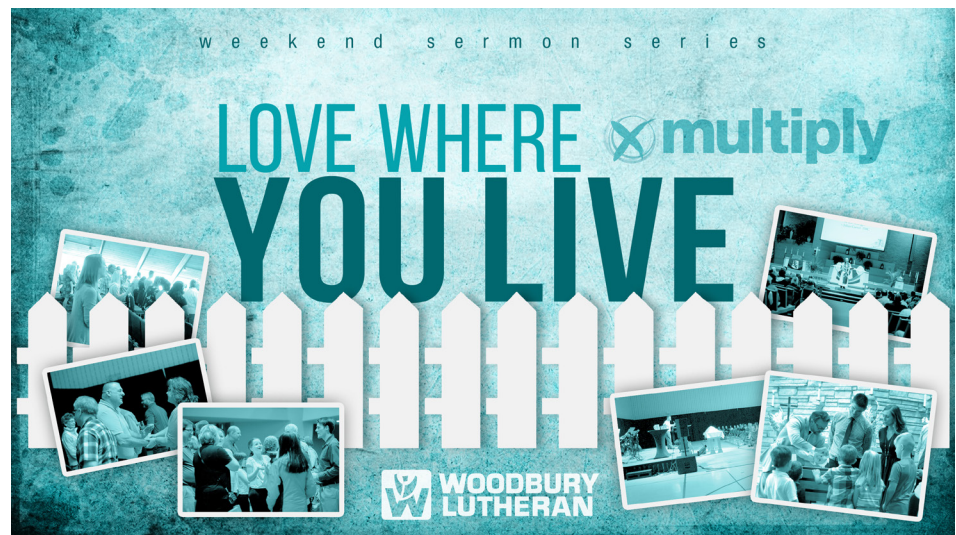
Love Where You Live

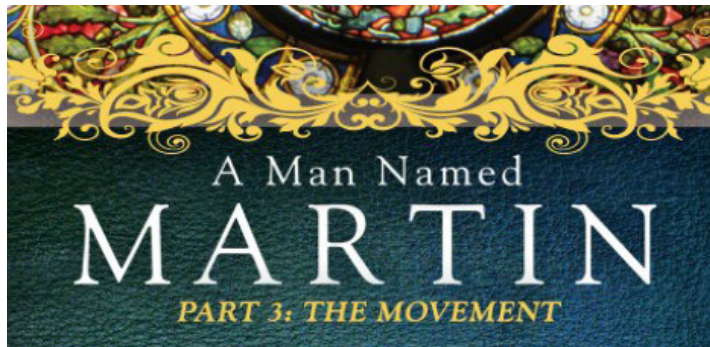
What if, when Jesus said: Love your neighbor as yourself, he really meant it. That He really meant your neighbors--the people next door to you? And what if, the Apostle Paul was right when he said: "From one man [God] created all the nations throughout the earth...and he determined their boundaries"?

What if it isn't an accident that you live on the street you live? What if God has a reason for putting you in that house or apartment you find yourself in--so that you can love those people right next door and right across the street: your neighbors?

Jesus said: All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments: Love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength and love your neighbor as yourself.

What if, this fall, we got better at doing what Jesus says matters most? What if we followed Jesus in loving where we live? Join us for *Love Where You Live*, starting September 23.





A Man Named Martin

Over the last two years, we have gone through two parts of a series called A Man Named Martin. This September, we will have an opportunity to dig in to the third and final installment in the series. From Luther's 95 Theses in 1517 to the Peace of Westphalia in 1648, God was at work in the Reformation. Fierce debates over Scripture, church doctrine, and late medieval church practice led to theological positions articulating salvation as God's grace in action, with man being left to add nothing to his own salvation. In ***A Man Named Martin - Part 3: The Movement***, viewers will see how the Reformation transformed European society and, eventually, left a profound impression around the globe.

A Man Named Martin - Part 3: The Movement will show how the Reformation accelerated the transformation of a world already in flux. While armed conflicts, theological disputes, and heated controversies marked segments of society throughout medieval Europe, the march of the Reformation left its imprint on the face of culture and citizen alike. Everything from education, politics, science, theology, marriage, and the family-and even extending to one's view of vocation and his relationship to God-came under the shaping and seminal in-

fluence of the Reformation.

European politics changed in that state-to-state relationships were increasingly governed by political concepts of state and not by notions of Christendom. Ultimately, the Reformation contributed a number of ideas that traveled across the Atlantic which, in turn, influenced our Republic via ideas of individual rights and representative democracy. According to Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz, program host and Speaker for The Lutheran Hour, "The greatest thing about the Reformation are the solas: grace alone, faith alone, Christ alone, Scripture alone because, in reality, what it does is it establishes the worth of a human being before God in a way that can't be done by people; it's done by God in Jesus Christ." We hope you can join us! This class on A Man Named Martin begins on Sunday, September 9.

Not-So-Random Acts of Kindness

Random acts of kindness! You've heard that phrase, I'm sure. It was first introduced in our culture a few years ago. Or was it? It seems to me the concept of serving actually dates back to the beginning of time, and if you dig into Scripture, I think you'll agree.

As Christians we are to serve one another by using our gifts, and we're to do so with our whole heart according to verses like Galatians 5:13, Ephesians 6:7, and 1 Peter 4:10.

One of my favorite biblical examples of self-sacrificing service involves a little boy and his lunch. I'm sure he packed only enough for himself that day, but he saw a need and willingly gave his lunch so Jesus could feed the throng of hungry people. Can you imagine that little boy's joy as he watched what happened that day?

Unfortunately, in today's self-absorbed world, a more selfish mentality is the norm. Whether we're five or fifty-five, we are often blinded to the needs of others by our inability to see beyond ourselves. It's all about me! What do I want to do? What's in it for me? Where do I want to go?

American writer Dale Carnegie once said this: "The world is so full of people who are grabbing and self-seeking, so the rare individual who unselfishly tries to serve others has an enormous advantage. He has little competition!" Sadly, that is so true today.

As grandparents, we can (and should) do all we can to counteract that selfish mentality and instill in our grandchildren a desire to serve—to perform random acts of kindness. The great thing is kids are often eager to serve, as was the case of the little boy with the lunch. Especially with a little encouragement and creativity from a grandparent!

Let's challenge ourselves and our grandchildren to serve others this month. Let's ask the Lord to help us become sensitive to the needs of people around us, to get rid of blinders, and to see people through His eyes.

Whether your grandchildren live next door or 200 miles away, brainstorm with them about whom you can help and how. Make a list and add to it throughout the month. Every day, in every situation, ask yourself what needs to be done—then just do it.

My grandkids and I have already thought of a few easy ideas:

- Mow grass, rake leaves, or pull weeds for a neighbor
- Visit someone in the hospital or nursing home
- Bake cookies for your firefighters and police officers
- Hold the door open for someone and greet her with a smile
- Send a card or write a letter
- Fill a shoebox for Operation Christmas Child
- Pick some flowers for someone

Record every act of kindness you do and have your grandchildren do the same (if they're doing this challenge long distance). At the end of the month, discuss the experience.

- What did you learn?
- How many acts of service did you provide?
- Are you more aware of the needs of others than you were before?
- How did people react to being served?
- Was it fun? Were there any surprises?
- Would you do it again?

We're all in! How about you? May your "September of Serving" be a blessing as you encourage your grands to see beyond themselves and generously give themselves in service to others!

by Elaine McAllister

Elaine served on staff at a Christian college and an evangelical church before retirement and now blogs and writes a column on grandparenting. She is also the author of two soon-to-be-published books! Elaine and her husband share the home of their cat, Mufasa, and the love of five pretty awesome grandchildren and their equally awesome parents in the middle of Kansas. Elaine has been involved in women's ministry for years and continues to lead a Bible study. When she's not writing, Elaine enjoys decorating, landscaping, and traveling.



elainemcallister.com



[@ElaineMcAllisterWordCrafter](https://www.facebook.com/ElaineMcAllisterWordCrafter)

Taken from the September 2018 HomeFront Monthly Newsletter.

September

1	Craig Baumann Perry Firkus Addison Fluegel Jaime Hegna Sandy Johnson Lois Langholz Maleah McKinley Angie Moris David Pearson Lily Pieper Stephanie Smith Ava Young	B i r t h d a y s	6	Karen Brown Eldon Engen Emma Goetz Jim Gullickson Madison Himes Julie Mittelholtz Niko Morris Mike Rygh	Lori Kane Bryan Jackson Daniel Mertens Aaron Waldo	Marna Uebler James Biederman Lance Huebner Matteo Izzi Greg Johnson Mike Looney Zoe Marth Sarah Rasmussen Ruth Stakston Stacy Winter	21	Blake Fluegel Noah Gow Alisa Hartwig Arlene Holst Adele Salava Mark Sikorski Daniel Stoddard Dylan Walker	Gianna Juliano Allyson Medin Greta Norman Dena Petrich Gregory Rohm Katherine Stebbing			
2	Joan Bugnon Pamela Riley Laura Schumacher Laura Skadsberg		7	Parker Allen Donna Bargsten Taylor Casselberry Wyatt Crow Morgan Ingram Leann Radel Ellen Schubbe Kyle Topp	12	David Butina Noah Danner Wayne Harelstad Lars Heggernes Tyler LaMott Craig Laue Carly Mears Ella Oehlke Spencer Sadowski Vicky Smith Sarah Stinogel Amanda Voth	16	Michael Brandmire Jileen Cowley Steve Grovender Willy Mzenga Steph Odeggaard Nevalynn Peasley Shari Opheim Nicole Rosin Jason Sakizadeh Maggie Svoboda Patrick Svoboda Aaron Wesser Jo Youngquist Lisa Ziemer	27	Joseph Baumgarn Ken Olson		
3	Alexa Diedrich Artie Lehtonen Caleb McDonald Abi Naffziger Alexa Oehlke Carrie Steffel Lyndis Vander Louw Al Wilkie		8	Jillian Rubbert Jack Bailen Evan LaMott Sharon Larson Hudson Lueders Kemal Munn Steve Rohlf Samuel Scholz Kathy Siegling Larry Young	13	Franklin Anderson Taylour Blakeman Wesley Bloemendal Michaela Bradshaw Elizabeth Edwards Judy Lindemeier Jim Nassios Becky Nelson Chuck Nelson Teresa Raymer Ashley St. Clair Andy Stone Eleanor Young Ronn Hannula Dan Hove Kelsie Knippenberg Alex Laney Paige Lee Sara Murray Ed Nelson Ray Nibbe Meghan Rheinberger Scott Schuenke Ethan Topp	17	Lucy Anderson Caitlyn Conway Cody Gerver Brian Ingram Dylan Longworth Brooke Salzman Ava Sonn Ryan Thompson Joseph Wolsky Yvonne White Owen Zeller William Anderson Brianna Andrasfi Sara Carson Dan Colvin Brennen Featherstone Cullen Featherstone Skip Peltier Kris Peterson Everly Phillipson Mary Nesvig Emma Stakston Linda Wilk	22	Don Amey Dan Field Corbin Johnson Janice Jones Karen Klinzing Jeanne Luebker Gary McDowell Cheryl Olstad Clark Peterson Tyler Rubbert		
4	Ann Baumann Liam Butler Frank Janssen Sara McConaughy Carolyn Ortiz Annette Reagan Dottie Rensenbrink Max Schissel Martin Strohhus Kristina Swanson Lily Thomson Isabella Trujillo Krista Uchal Coleen Vossen		9	Jennifer Aspen Kim Beseman Joyce Biagini Keith Heintz Jennifer Mahlke Todd Rizzardi Abby Schouvieller	14	Lindsey Babin Adam Brandmire Lauren Bunge Brent Clifford Wyatt Crist Dominic Hansen Rocky Johnson Sherri Monson Brynn O'Neil Justin Sather	18	Susan Brusewitz Sara Cerza Doug Jones Blaine Raymer Kari Schiltgen Daniel Wegner Larry Wilford Bob Youngquist Spencer Dunham Wendy Ellwein Paul Gerver John Horner Kyle McKinley Peggy Novak Aksel Rasmusson Mary Scott Kirk Steineck	23	Angela Cowles Tim Fett Elizabeth Gustafson LaJuan Jackson Bill Jacobus Stephen Jeske Molly Kieser Marilee Schoenewald Dorothy Wolfgram Patrick Clagherty Allison Marshall Connor McHarg Vince Setten	28	Amanda Durow Timothy Moody Stacy Parks Aaron Pederson Kalvan Reyes Stone Sterling
5	Ava Aune Camryn Connolly Dave de Zeeuw Brenda Engen Donavin Hansen Erik Hendrickson Christina Himes Denise Jenkins Mike Kinmounth Vivienne Rothchild Matthew Varin Beth Welsh		10	Michael Albrecht Melissa Bjornson Madelyn Bjostad Robert Brings Sharon Fong Leeanne Grether Nancy McDonagh Leo McFarland Mikayla McKinley Sarah Nelson Dan Oehlke Sophia Van Jaarsveld	15	Ken & Julie Drevnick Paul & Amy Pflieger Paul & Stephanie Clagherty Bob & Jennifer Drayton Gary & Sarah Nelson Steven & Cheryl Stensvad Joseph & Erica Zilka Jerry & Marge Helander Scott & Joy Ostrom Gary & Char Les Stohlmann John & Susan Wildman Jerry & Marge Helander Scott & Joy Ostrom Joe & Rachel Browning Harry & Cristina Gurrola Carl & Barbara Jackson Steve & Cynthia Matejka Bruce & Kaye Montgomery Lou & Luanne Greengard Jesse & Angie Spates Ryan & Tara Huppert Michael & Monica Knox Bill & Mary Young	19	Nathan Anderson Thomas Becken James Butzler Carl Clark Katie Featherstone Mary Galvin Avery Krause Nicholas Larson Erin Mills Dan Powers Marlys Sobaski	24	Mary Betts Kiera Daniels Sydney Fedorowski Sherri Graham	29	Neil Schwartz

& Anniversaries

1	Robert & Sara Cerza Mark & Mary Shepperd Andy & Andrea Stakston Scott & Tina Stebbing	Keith & Beth Heintz Leo & Denise McFarland Greg & Holly Rome	Ken & Julie Drevnick Paul & Amy Pflieger	20	Jake & Tara Dalbec Clark & Sandra Petersen Greg & Sheri Lewis Andrew & Holly Sonn Bruce & Vicki Strong Nic & Danielle Yee	Steve & Lilly Haehn Matt & Alyson Nelson	
2	Ken & Marian Nelson Gregory & Heather Rohm Mark & Deborah Stutelberg	9	John & Marianne Eineke Steve & Diann Lindeman Jerry & Muriel Lindeman Paul & Joyce Stiebner Dan & Shelagh Stoerzinger	15	Bob & Jennifer Drayton Gary & Sarah Nelson Steven & Cheryl Stensvad Joseph & Erica Zilka	27	Todd & Jennifer Schwarzenbach Mike & Jean Steingraber Chad & Colleen Vossen Nick & Lindsey Weiler
3	Harold & Joan Converse Dean & Gayle Huska Herb & Pat Morsching Harold & Nona Pearl	10	William & Bernise Giefer Jon & Lisa Kush Tim & Sonya Mertens Paul & Sharon Neubrand Myron & Linda Tank	16	Jerry & Marge Helander Scott & Joy Ostrom Gary & Char Les Stohlmann John & Susan Wildman Jerry & Marge Helander Scott & Joy Ostrom	28	Scott & Rachel Conant Dan & Susan Jamison
4	Cal & Nancy Branton Roger & Joy Hopke	11	Herb & Kaye Larson Blake & Brenda Score Jason & Colleen Schuld Bill & Kathleen Taylor	17	Joe & Rachel Browning Harry & Cristina Gurrola Carl & Barbara Jackson Steve & Cynthia Matejka Bruce & Kaye Montgomery	29	Todd & Anna Albrecht Csaba & Brianna Andrasfi Matthew & Michelle Cattell Ronn & Laurel Hannula Nick & Allison Ortiz
5	Jack & Grace Lavers Fransico & Steph Penaloza	12	Nathan & Emily Anderson Steve & Lindsey Conley Richard & Brynn O'Neil Jerry & Diane Panning	18	Lou & Luanne Greengard Jesse & Angie Spates	30	Tom & Tara Schlattman John & Jenna Voyda Craig & Leanne Bloom Lee & Michelle Bunge Ben & Esther Kumpula Chris & Cheryl Tveit
6	Mike & Kelly Vo	13	Carl & Lynn Clark	19	Ryan & Tara Huppert Michael & Monica Knox Bill & Mary Young		
7	James & Lee Fischer Wayne & Twyla Franzen Justin & Jenny Jurek Dick & Julie Peterson Jim & Yvonne White	14	Tim & Jeannine Buchholz				
8	David & Dawn Butina Nathan & Amanda Fonq						



Worship

HEALING SERVICE

Our Healing Service is held at the Valley Creek Campus every third Sunday. For prayers of healing, attend our service on September 16 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.



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.

BASIC BIBLICAL FINANCES CLASS

Six Saturdays in October and November (beginning on 10/13) from 9-11:30am. Contact Tom Tibbets for more information at 651-247-0501 or tdtibbetts@comcast.net.

CONFIRMATION JOURNEY

Our next confirmation weekend is November 3/4, 2018. Sign up by September 28! 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 Sav-

ior. 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.

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

On the 1st and 3rd 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. First meeting is September 16, 9-9:45am. Contact Laura at stennesL@woodburylutheran.org with any questions.

FALL YOUTH PROGRAMMING

Wednesday night ministries for 6th-12th starts back up at the VC and OH campuses (LR youth attend at VC or OH) on Sept. 12, 6-8:15pm. We meet on Wednesdays for games, Bible teaching, and small group community. Register online: wlcyyouth.org.

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING (NYG) INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Every 3 years our church body, the LCMS, holds an incredible youth conference with roughly 25,000 high school youth from around the world, and next July it will be held in Minneapolis! If your child is a current 8th-12th grader who wants to participate, or want's more info, you should attend this informational meeting at the VC campus on September 16, 6:30pm in the Bridge. Registration happens in October so don't miss this meeting! Contact: Patrick Brewer.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MANIA

September 21, 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 Val-

ley Creek Campus. Contact: Lindsey Schmidt.

'SOUPER' SENIOR EVENT

Senior year and the launch to life beyond is a tricky time for both parents and their children. Current 12th graders and their parents are invited to attend this special soup lunch on Sunday, September 30, 12:30-2pm at the VC Campus, to think and pray about how to make the most of these remaining months before everyone's life changes in a huge way! It will also include a special "Senior Blessing" time and each senior will be given a new study Bible. No Cost. Register online.

CAREER TRANSITION CONNECTION

We welcome Julie Desmond as she presents, "Do you have a charger? My Resume's Almost Dead" on September 13 at 7pm, room 1-250 (VC). For more information about this event and CTC check out the website at www.careertransitionconnection.org.

CAREER TRANSITION CONNECTION

We welcome Chuck Standfuss, J.D. as he presents, "Salary Negotiation: Yes You Can!" on September 27 at 7pm, room 1-250 (VC). For more information about this event and CTC check out the website at www.careertransitionconnection.org.



Reach

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE - NEW ITINERARY (OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 5, 2019)

Special information meeting will be on Monday, October 15th in the Fireside Room beginning at 7:00pm. Led by Pastor Paul & Rhoda Pfotenbauer. Contact Pastor Paul at 651-261-3416 or paulrho-da@comcast.net

Getting Connected



Serve

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 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.

WEDDING COORDINATOR COMMITTEE

We are looking for additional women willing to help with weddings at Woodbury Lutheran. If you are interested in joining us, call Marilyn Harrold at 651-739-7912.

CARNIVAL FUN AND SERVING OPPORTUNITIES:

Youth serve: There are many ways youth from all campuses can help/serve at the Liberty Ridge Carnival on Sept. 9. Contact Laura at stennesL@woodburylutheran.org to find out how to sign up. Or just come and have fun and invite your friends! Or sign up at: www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4eacaa2fa2fe3-wlc-fall

GUSU SOCIAL 2018

Kirk Ingram (son of Brian & Theresa) invites you to the 2nd Annual Get Up Stand Up fundraiser! Join him on Friday, September 14th, Minneapolis Athletic Club, 5-8pm. Questions? Contact Kirk at info@gusu2cure.org

September 2018 Calendar

1 (O) Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study

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

1 (V) Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study

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

3 (L, O & V) Offices Closed for Labor Day Holiday

Monday

4 (V) Cancer Companions

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

5 (V) Chorale Rehearsal

Wednesdays, 7:00pm
Contact: Karl Grant,
651-739-5144 x241

6 (V) Celebrate Recovery

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

8 (V) Baptism Class

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

9 (L) Fall Carnival!

Sunday, 11:30am
Contact: Mary Law
651-739-5144 x222

10 (V) MOPS Open House

Mondays, 9:15 am & 7:00pm
Contact: Nancy Schubbe,
651-739-5144 x203

10 (V) Monday Morning

Men's Bible Study
Mondays, 10:00am
Contact: Pastor Tim Marshall,
651-739-5144

10 (V) Monday Afternoon

Women's Ministry
Mondays, 12:00pm
Contact: Tamara Karlstrand,
651-734-3974

12 (O & V) Fall Youth Programming Begins

Wednesdays, 6:00pm
Contact: Lindsey or Sarah
651-739-5144

13 (V) Career Transition Connection

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

16 (V) Healing Service

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

19 (V) Women of the Word

Wednesdays, 9:00am
Contact: Mary Lehman
651-739-5144 x201

19 (V) Mitten Ladies

Wednesdays, 12:00pm
Contact: Vicki Strong
651-208-4353

20 (O) Women of the Word

Thursdays, 9:00am
Contact: Mary Lehman
651-739-5144 x201

27 (V) Career Transition Connection

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

THE NEWS LETTER

Want more events?

Visit 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

Multiplying Disciples // Transforming Lives

Woodbury Lutheran Church
7380 Afton Road
Woodbury, MN 55125