

THE WINDOW

Windsor Heights Lutheran Church ~ 1240 66th St. Windsor Heights, IA 50324

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Lead Pastor

Rev. Robin Coughenower

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Director of Youth and Family
Ministry/Congregational
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I just saw a cartoon that made me laugh out loud. Four people are seated at a table in a restaurant looking at the server as she asks, “Does everyone remember how eating works?” I feel that way about so many things these days. After many months of not-normal, even kind-of-normal feels weird. How does it work eating in a restaurant again? How do you have a face-to-face conversation with someone?

We began last summer cancelling things left and right: parades, festivals, concerts, vacations, etc. We begin this summer with a solid note of optimism. It’s possible (let’s pray) that 70% of Americans will be fully vaccinated by July. Already

the miraculous vaccines shot into many of our arms have put a big dent in the pandemic. My family and I have made plans to spend a week in Colorado in July and, unlike last summer, won't have to worry about how to feed ourselves while away from home. We'll just walk into a restaurant and order food! Certainly not everything is normal, and many things feel awkward, but with our increasing freedoms comes an increasing optimism.

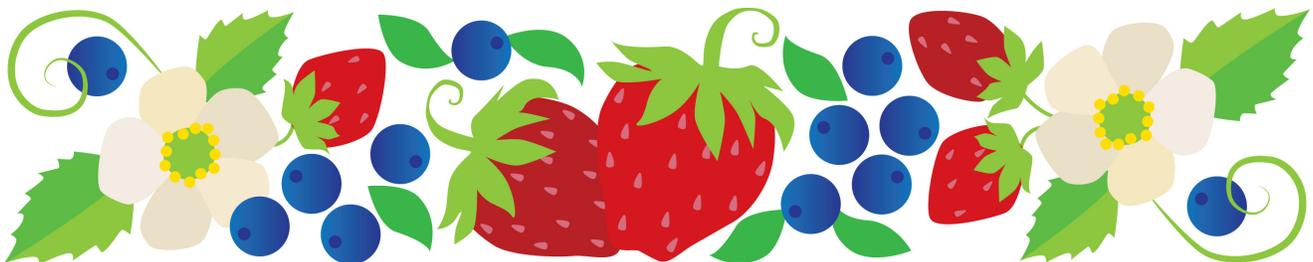
I am optimistic that in another month we will have to worry less about physical distancing indoors at church and might even have more flexibility about wearing masks. For now we continue to do those things for the sake of our neighbor, who may be unvaccinated or immunocompromised. (Why did it never occur to me until now that vaccines are less effective for those whose immune systems don't work properly?) For my part, church continues to feel a little awkward with these measures in place. Maybe I should begin worship by asking, "Does everyone remember how to do church?" But you know what? It's still church. And it's pretty great to be together again.

Our Health Advisory Task Force is awesome. They know a lot more about viruses than I do, and they study hard between meetings to make the best decisions possible for the sake of our community. They meet once a month on the third Tuesday, so you can anticipate changes to our gathering protocols to come about monthly.

It's June now. What will July bring? We'll have to stay tuned. In the meantime, let us continue to be patient and gracious with one another. Oh, and it doesn't hurt to have a sense of humor.

Faithfully,

Pastor Chris



Synod Assembly Thoughts

The Synod Assembly this year was a little different than the ones I've had the privilege of attending in previous years. All on line, for the second year! I missed seeing people from other congregations and, WOW, did I ever miss the singing.

The technical team was incredible and we got through many hours and many votes pretty smoothly. I am very impressed.

The best part of the Assembly, for me, was the very intentional inclusiveness and emphasis of diversity.

Carmelo Santos, Director for Theological Diversity & Ecumenical and Interreligious Engagement is a native of Puerto Rico. He shared with us some of his experiences in college, in seminary and simply living and working here. You can read some of his articles online if you missed them in Living Lutheran.

Joe Davis and Dave Scherer gave a taste of their intercultural bridge building workshops. Both of these young men are artists and educators. Joe Davis is currently Artist-in-Residence at Luther Seminary where he earned a Masters in Theology of the Arts.

This "taste" included a few QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION.

- *What voices does your community have a hard time hearing?
- *What can you do and your community do to hear those voices?
- *What might change if those voices are heard?

If you would like to see and hear a little of what we heard, you will find them on YouTube.

I'm grateful for this wonderful experience.

Thank you WHLC.

Pam Lundell



4th of July Food Drive



Plans are under way for the second annual July 4th Food Drive supporting the Urbandale Food Pantry! This will be our summer service project. Our Lenten project was over-the-top successful and this one will be too. WHLC is very generous in giving towards the needs of our neighbors.

Tentatively, items can be dropped off the first week of July and placed on tables in Crabtree Parish Hall or brought with you at any of the weekend services. Since we can't predict where we will be in our return to normalcy, please watch for more details in the E-Weekly and announcements leading up to July 4.

Below is a list of items that the Urbandale Food Pantry has given. They also mentioned macaroni and cheese and hamburger helper meals. This time they have included personal hygiene items, as well as food items. Please take this list with you as you go shopping in June. Cash donations will also be accepted. Thank you WHLC for participating in this summer service project! ~Linda Anderson

Food Drive

- Meals in a can
- Canned fruits
- Peanut butter
- Tuna and canned meat
- Cereal
- Canned vegetables
- Pasta and sauce

Personal Hygiene Drive

- Toilet Paper
- Shampoo
- Laundry detergent
- body wash/bar soap
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Diapers
- Wipes



Here's a twist that could be kind of fun. Consider having a neighborhood food drive in June, and then bring the food items you collect to church the first week of July. It will raise awareness of hunger in our community AND help your neighbors see that WHLC is a congregation that cares about fighting hunger.

Here are some helpful hints:

1. Pick a date and get the word out through the mail, email, yard signs, and social media
2. Let neighbors know about the needed items on the lists above.
3. Some people will want to donate monetarily. Checks may be made out to URBANDALE FOOD PANTRY.
4. Offer your contact info so that donors can get in touch with you to schedule an alternate drop-off time if they cannot make it on the date planned.
5. Set up a couple of tables for your donors so that they have a place to leave their donations.
6. Document your food drive with pictures and the number of food/personal care items that were donated so you can share this information with your donors!
7. Have fun!





News & Notes




At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we strive to build up and empower Iowa kids and families. For us, Father's Day is a time to celebrate all the fathers and male role models we see every day.

Through our Early Childhood Services, young men are learning to become dads. They're becoming confident and active in their child's life, and they are creating loving, bright futures for their families.

Many Iowa children entering foster care need a positive male role model in their lives. And through LSI Foster Care and Adoption, our licensed foster dads are there to help guide them.

This is only possible through your support of LSI! If you would like to make a gift, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

Thank you for responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service!

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

Calling all Artists! VBS Decorations Needed!



VBS is fast approaching us, and we are hard at work on transforming our building space to meet our guidelines for the year! While safety is our top priority, this year, we really want to "dive" into our deep sea theme. We are hoping to decorate the rooms this year with tons of ocean-themed crafts and apparel, to really give off that special themed vibe for the kids!

We have so many talented artists, designers and creators in our church community, and if any of you would like, we'd love to have your help and assistance in creating some fun decorations to fit the theme. If you are not the artistic type (I know I am definitely not) but would still like to contribute, we'd be happy to take some donations of oceanic decorations for the rooms (we only have so much room however, so please call Zach first to check and see if we have space left). We are working on our own DIY decorations here at the church, and we hope these combined efforts will allow us to create a wonderfully themed visual space for the kids to enjoy!



Youth & Family News



ZACH MEYER

VBS Registration is Up!

We're happy to say we finally have our registration up for VBS! If you go to our homepage, and scroll to the middle section, you'll see a bubble marked: [VBS Sign-Up](#). Click on it, and it will take you to a page containing all the information you need for VBS. At the top of the page are links to registration forms for kids, as well as volunteer sign up! Also included on the page are our complete COVID-Safety Protocols for VBS, as well as our schedule for each day of the week!



You may wonder, if the sign-up is official, why are we not putting it on Facebook? We want to offer VBS to as many kids as possible, but this VBS will have to be a bit smaller than years past. We're still working on a final number cap (should have it by Mid-June), **so we wanted to prioritize offering VBS first to our WHLC congregation, their extended families, and the Chin Baptist kids.** This will give us an initial headcount, and will give us time to finalize

our number cap. Once they've have the chance to sign-up, we'll know how much space we have left, and determine if/how we can advertise VBS to the general public.

We know this has all sounded a little confusing as we plan VBS. Please bare with us! We've had many discussions to try and make this VBS as open/normal as possible while adhering to the guidelines. Everything has really started coming together the past few weeks; we have the approval from the Health Team to continue on with VBS as we have planned it! Please let Zach know if you have any questions! VBS is less than two months away; we can't wait to host it this year for all of you and your families!

Junior High Night: Summer Bash II

At long last, JHN is back! Middle School Students (Including those entering 6th grade in the fall and those who finished ninth grade this year) can join Zach outside on the church lawn on Friday, June 11, from 6:00-7:30 p.m. for a fun night of outdoor games. Because we are going to be outside and doing some running around, be sure to bring some clothes that you wouldn't mind getting a bit messy or wet! And yes, we encourage you to invite your friends! There is no sign-up for the event, but in order to get a headcount for food, please RSVP by reaching out to Zach prior to the event!

We do ask that students bring a mask to the evening, just in case if needed. However, seeing as we will be outside the entire evening, students won't be required to wear them for the entire night (they are welcome to, however, if they would like)! Students will need to wear a mask if they need to enter inside to use the restroom. As the event is outside, we will be offering a pizza dinner to students, served individually along with pre-packaged treats and drinks. In case of rain/bad weather, we'll have June 18 set as our back-up date!





In 2020 due to COVID, at the national level, current 2020 officers of the board were to remain in their positions for 2021 until the next National Convention to be held in August 2021. The SEIA WELCA Board was following the same as the National WELCA board until all can meet for normal election process to take place. The WHLC WELCA Board followed the same, the 2020 WHLC WELCA Board officers remained in their positions into 2021.

President	Elaine Hites	515.681.1633	elaineahites@gmail.com
President-Elect	Open Position		
Past President	Barb Waymire	515.224.5997	bar7812@gmail.com
Treasurer	Donna Yeager	515.988.5141	donna.yeager@valuewealthmanagement.com
Secretary	Ann Rowland	515.249.9624	ronann74@gmail.com
Mission Chairpersons	Jan Grannes	515.279.8017	
	Marilyn Penberthy	515.255.5782	mспенberthy@yahoo.com
Funeral Luncheon Coordinators	Linda Anderson	515.491.9242	landy12450@aol.com
	Sharman Blake	515-664-0681	sharmancisco@gmail.com

Bible Study Group Leaders

Ruth Bible Study	Kathy McCracken	319-470-8895	fmmacs@yahoo.com
Martha Bible Study	Pam Barber	515.276.2208	barberph75@gmail.com
Mary Bible Study	Elaine Hites	515.222.9512	elaineahites@gmail.com
Naomi Bible Study	Colleen Armstrong	515.491.4041	armstrong.m.colleen@gmail.com

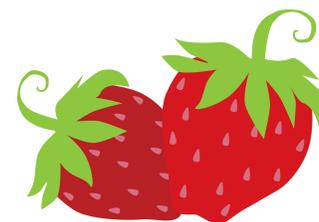
Nomination for the 2022 WHLC WELCA Board will take place in July 2021, and then to be presented in August of 2021. According to the WHLC WELCA Constitution and Bylaws, all elections shall be for a minimum of one year with one optional re-election. One exception to that is the President-Elect for one year, will be the President the following year. The year after that, the President will take the position of Past-President-this will be Elaine Hites. All of the 2020 WHLC WELCA Board members so graciously and willingly agreed to resume their 2020 positions into 2021.

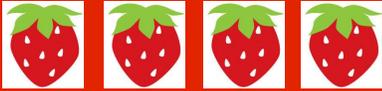
What does that mean you might ask? All of the WHLC WELCA Board positions need to be replaced for 2022. The purpose of the WHLC Women of the ELCA: As a community of women of all ages, created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ and Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action and promote healing and wholeness in the church, society, and the world.

I am asking that each and every woman of the church to find it their hearts to please consider filling a WHLC WELCA Board position. If you have any questions at all, please feel free to contact any WHLC WELCA Board member or myself, Elaine Hites.

My contact info: Elaine Hites-email: elaineahites@gmail.com, Cell: 515-681-1633

May the Holy Spirit guide your thoughts and actions!





WELCA



BERRY IMPORTANT NEWS!

**WELCA Summer
Schedule for
Joint Bible Studies**



June 16 at 9:30 a.m.
July 21 at 11:30 a.m.
August 12 at 6:15 p.m.

We will meet in Crabtree Parish Hall. Up to 40 allowed, social distancing, and masked.

There will not be food for the June and July joint studies.

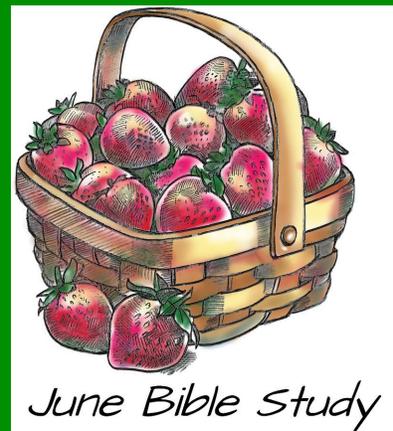
August potluck-yet to be determined.

Please pass the dates along to your Bible study groups!

Will look forward to seeing the women of WHLC at the joint Bible Studies.

Thank you very much!
Elaine Hites, WELCA President

Our WHLC WELCA group is BERRY special!



June Bible Study

Ruth Circle is hosting a joint Bible study at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 16, in Crabtree Parish Hall. All church women are invited to attend. Pastor Robin will lead our study and serve communion. Food and beverages will not be served, and masks are required.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Below is a brief summary of the results for the General Fund followed by Special Offerings:

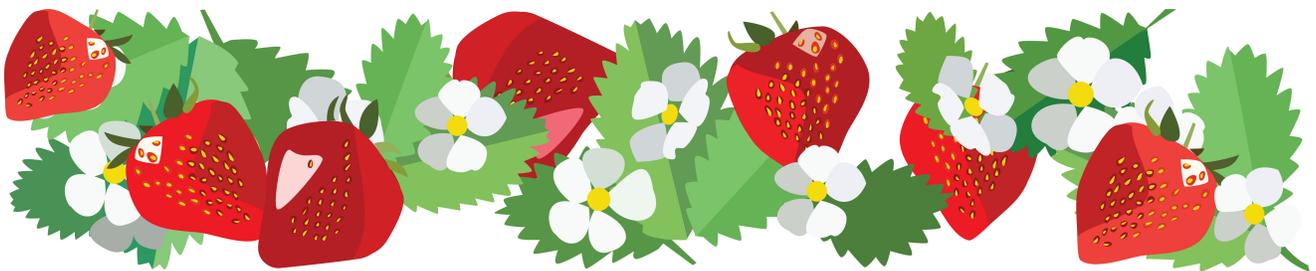
	April, 2021		Year-to-Date		2020 Y-T-D
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
General Offering	32,499	41,925	182,527	167,700	165,766
Other General Fund Income	1,085	532	2,492	2,128	4,260
General Fund Income	33,584	42,457	185,019	169,828	170,026
General Fund Expense	35,689	42,425	161,984	169,700	172,501
General Fund Net Income	(2,105)	32	23,035	128	(2,475)
Special Offering Income	1,073	-	3,586	-	7,050
Special Offering Expense	562	-	1,490	-	4,961
Special Offering Net Income	511	-	2,096	-	2,089
Total Net Income	(1,594)	32	25,131	128	(386)

General Offerings were \$9,426 under budget for April and are \$14,827 over budget for 2021 Year-to-Date. 2021 Year-to-date General Offering is \$16,761 greater than 2020 Year-to-date General Offering.

April 2021 General Fund Expenses were \$6,736 under budget and Year-to-Date General Fund Expenses are \$7,716 under budget. A portion of the expense variance is from timing differences for property insurance premium and NON-ELCA benevolence disbursements paid quarterly. Snow Removal expenses are \$7,925 over Year-to-Date budget and will likely be approximately \$4,500 over budget at year end. Accounts under budget, e.g., Cleaning Equipment & Supplies, Repairs & Maintenance, Utilities, Employee Benefits (Continuing Education and Meetings & Conferences), Parish Education (Wednesday Night Meals, Sunday School and Vacation Bible School) will likely see smaller or no variances in future months as activities which have been suspended return to normal activities. Overall expenses are managed within budget, the impact of the pandemic and balanced with General Offerings.

A Certificate of Deposit matured on April 16, 2021 and was renewed for 10 months at a rate of 0.55%

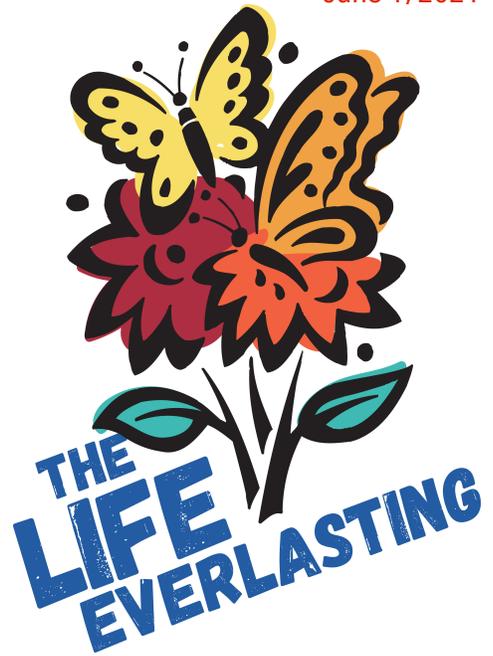
Thank you for your offerings.
Duane Danielson, Treasurer



June 1, 2021



*Sending
Our Love*



AUDREY JOHNSON



Please pray for the family of Audrey Johnson, as Audrey died on June 1. A private family memorial service will be held in the future. Cards and memorials (designated to the WHLC quilters) may be sent to Audrey's daughter:

Beth Schrader
210 Wild Rose Dr,
Fairfax, IA 52228

IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers





HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



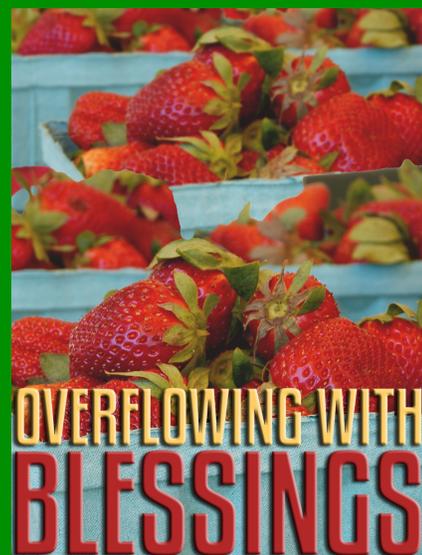
- 2 Wanda Baraldi
- 3 Inez Boyken
- 4 Brett Toresdahl
- 5 Marilyn Harvey, Brent Kowalsky
- 6 Marian Perman, Mary Wilke-Adair
- 7 Daniel Krumm
- 10 Sandra Morse
- 11 Colleen Armstrong, Terry Hudson
- 12 Marilyn Deavers, Sandy Hansen, David Krumm
- 13 Harriet Lewis, Cheryl Rigler
- 15 Jeri Spizale
- 16 Gayla Russell
- 17 Lois Johnson
- 18 Ralph Johnson Sr.
- 20 George Belken, Rebekah Reynolds
- 22 Doug Johnson, Rose Logan
- 25 Norm Carlson
- 26 Edna Eakins, Mark Fasse, Dorothy Meier, Donna Yeager
- 27 Sharman Blake, Jan Carlson
- 28 Linda Fasse, Ron Rowland
- 29 Arlene Wilson
- 30 Mike Blake, Bruce Dodgen



A big thank you to Marilyn Harvey for directing the Windsor Bells as she retires for a second time! We are grateful for your musical leadership and direction!



Georgann and I would like to thank all of our church family and friends for all of your thoughtful calls and cards I received prior to and after my heart bypass surgery. We are so blessed to have such a caring and supportive church family. Thank you, Mike Johnson



Happy Father's Day!



Godliness with contentment
is great gain.

1 Timothy 6:6, ESV



Father's Day Fun Facts



1. The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that there are over 72 million fathers across the nation and 29 million grandfathers.
2. Father's Day was first celebrated in 1910 by Sonora Dodd who wanted a special day to honor her father, a Civil War veteran who raised his six kids by himself. In 1972, President Richard Nixon signed the law that made Father's Day an official holiday.
3. The tie is traditionally the most popular Father's Day gift.
4. Indian man Ramjit Raghav became world's oldest Dad in 2012 when he fathered his second child at 96.
5. Most countries around the world celebrate Father's Day on the third Sunday of June. In Australia, it's the first Sunday of September. Finnish people celebrate the festival on the second Sunday of November. And in Germany they celebrate on Ascension Day, the 40th day of Easter.

<https://www.punchbowl.com/p/fun-facts-about-fathers-day>

<https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/sis/resources/fathers-day-ff.pdf>

<https://www.mykidstime.com/for-parents/10-fun-fathers-day-facts-may-not-know/>

I  Dad



Father's Day is Sunday, June 20.

DADS ARE
A GIFT!