

THE WINDOW

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

WHLC Staff:

Rev. Chris Olkiewicz

Lead Pastor

Rev. Robin Coughenower

Associate Pastor

Zach Meyer

Director of Youth and Family
Ministry/Congregational Life
Coordinator

Heidi Hennig

Office Manager

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October is going to be an exciting month here at WHLC! There's an array of fellowship events happening this month at WHLC, and you're invited to all of them! Most of these events will be outdoors, and offer safe gathering opportunities. Spread the word, and invite your friends and families! Let's come together to celebrate the blessing of the fall season, and the work God continues to do in this community!

Please see the next page for a list of events!



Homecoming Tailgate

Saturday, October 3

12 - 2 p.m.

WHLC Parking Lot



Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 10

4 - 5 p.m.

WHLC Front Lawn



Loading of the Kits & Quilts

Friday, October 15

3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Crabtree Parish Hall & WHLC Parking Lot



Confirmation

Sunday, October 24

10:45 a.m. Service in Sanctuary

“Cupcakes to go” in the narthex following the service



Trunk or Treat

Sunday, October 24

3:30 - 5 p.m.

WHLC Parking Lot





Sunday, October 3 from noon to 2:00 p.m. WHLC Parking Lot

As you may have heard, we're hosting a big outdoor church tailgate after the 2nd service on Sunday, October 3, and everyone's invited! WHLC will be cooking up hotdogs, but in true tailgate fashion, we're asking everyone to bring their own side dishes, beverages, appetizers, deserts, and other favorite game day food and drink! Be sure to wear your favorite team apparel, and to bring some lawn chairs to sit in! Did we mention there'll be tailgate games too, including four foot tall Jenga, Ladder Toss & Cornhole (or bags, as some of you call it)? This will be a great event for the whole family, so we hope you all can join us in the parking lot for this fun fellowship event!

Please note, in case of rain/bad weather, our backup date will be Sunday, October 10.





Sunday, October 10

4 p.m.

WHLC Front Lawn

The Blessing of the Animals service is in remembrance of St. Francis Assisi's love for all creatures. St. Francis was born into the family of a wealthy merchant and gave up his inheritance to serve poor people. He had a spirit of gratitude for all of God's creations, including animals and nature.

Everyone and all pets are welcome! Treats for both humans and pets will be provided following the service.

Please consider making a donation of the items below to benefit the Furry Friends Refuge. There is a paw print box in the narthex where you may place the donations.

- Cat food (Purina brand is preferred)
- Kitten food (Purina brand is preferred)
- Cat litter (clumping)
- Dog collars, beds and leashes
- Supplies such as bleach, paper towels, rolls of trash bags & laundry detergent
- Copy paper for printing
- Blankets for the animals

*Furry Friends tends to have more cats than dogs, so they have sufficient dog and puppy food.

*If you are making blankets, Furry Friends asks that any ties be small and suggest either 24" by 24" or 14" by 24" as sizes for cat blankets.

If you have any questions, please contact Heidi Hennig at hvblake@gmail.com or Sharman Blake at sharmancisco@gmail.com.

P.S. - Make sure to come to church services October 9 & 10 to hear a fun-filled children's message related to the Blessing of the Animals!



Friday, October 15, from 3:30-5:30 p.m., marks the date for the WELCA kits and quilts to be loaded into a truck in the WHLC parking lot. The kits and quilts will be taken to Cedar Rapids on Saturday, October 16. There will be other ELCA & Missouri Synod churches wanting to bring their kits and quilts to be loaded into the truck on October 15, as well.

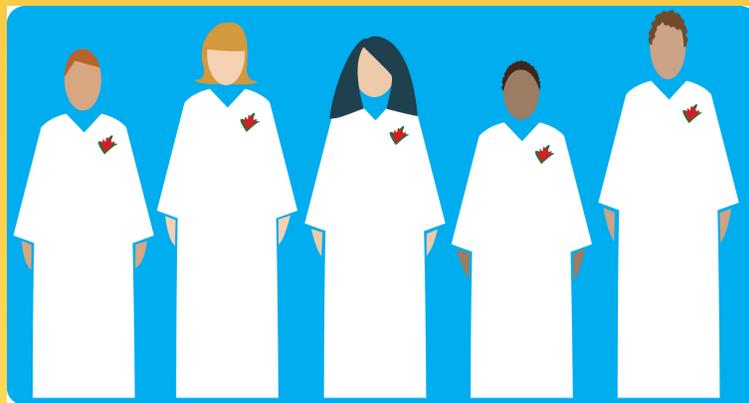
Volunteers are needed to help load the truck Friday afternoon, October 15. If you would be able to help, please contact Jan Grannes at 279-8017. Thank you!



CONFIRMATION

SUNDAY

We look forward to celebrating the confirmation of **Adelaide Brennan, Naomi Rowland, Ben Schramm, Kiersten Steensen and Wesley Fergus** during the 10:45 service on October 24. It's been quite a year (and a half), and we are more than ready to surround these young persons with our love and prayers as they affirm the gift of baptism and make a commitment to living out their faith. Because of the ongoing pandemic, there will not be the traditional reception between services, but there will be something sweet to mark the day for everyone to take home. Congratulations to our confirmands!



Kudos to Our Confirmands



TRUNK OR TREAT



Every October we host a family friendly Halloween event. While this has normally taken the form of Boo Bash, we were really amazed at the impact Trunk or Treat had last October, even in the midst of COVID. Based on the response to last year's event and the still somewhat limited nature of indoor activities, we've decided to host Trunk or Treat once again this fall!

Everyone is invited to join us on **Sunday, October 24, from 3:30-5:00 p.m.** in the church parking lot for games, cookies, pumpkins, candy and really cool themed-trunks! We encourage everyone to wear a fun (or scary, if that's your thing) costume, and all ages are welcome to partake in the festivities. Families will have their decorated trunks set up across the parking lot, while student volunteers will be leading fun games/activities scattered around the space as well!

There are several ways you can help! We're having a candy drive throughout October, with a collection bin in the narthex for people to deposit candy. Feel free to drop off a bag or two, so we can hand them out to kids on the 24th. If you'd like to decorate your trunk and hand out candy, or want to volunteer to run a game/activity, please [sign up here](#). You can also sign up on the church website and in the narthex! We had a bigger crowd than expected last year, so we could really use all the help we could get!

Finally, a note is that outdoor safety protocols have changed since last year's event. With the event being outside, masks are not required (but welcome for those who want to wear them), and we'll return to handing out candy/prizes in bowls. No RSVP is required, and we won't have a set path for the event like we did last year. If you have any questions about the event, contact Zach! Hope you can join us on the 24th for a spooky-fun time!

Zach Meyer, Director of Youth and Family Ministry/
Congregational Life Coordinator





School Kits



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF MISSION

Another successful mission project has been completed! The quilting gals assembled 78 school bags. These were made possible by the generosity of you the members of WHLC. Once again you helped fill the bags by signing up for supplies and/or making a donation.

Money from the Audrey Johnson memorial fund was used to purchase the bags and to fill 25 additional bags. Audrey was a former elementary teacher and an active member of the quilting group. She would be pleased to know that these school kits are going to children who otherwise would go without.

Once again, thank you WHLC for being a part of the fall LWR mission project!
Linda Anderson



Delores Koch, Jan Grannes and Kathy Safris assemble 78 school bags for LWR.

Bags are boxed and ready for their shipping journey mid-October.

Vivien Wells made over 150 bundles of pens and pencils for the school bags.



Treasurer's Report



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

	August, 2021		Year-to-Date		2020 Y-T-D
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
General Offering	36,625	41,925	333,090	335,400	326,675
Other General Fund Income	938	532	4,946	4,256	12,821
General Fund Income	37,563	42,457	338,036	339,656	339,496
General Fund Expense	39,756	42,425	316,210	339,400	336,009
General Fund Net Income	(2,193)	32	21,826	256	3,487
Special Offering Income	450	-	4,791	-	6,340
Special Offering Expense	175	-	2,170	-	6,189
Special Offering Net Income	275	-	2,621	-	151
Total Net Income	(1,918)	32	24,447	256	3,638
Mortgage Balance			946,319.67		
Capital Appeal Permanent Fund Balance			272,574.59		

General Offerings were \$5,300 under budget for August and are \$2,310 under budget for 2021 Year-to-date. 2021 Year-to-date General Offering is \$6,415 greater than 2020 Year-to-date General Offering. We are 18+ months into a pandemic and our faithful congregation continues to weather the storm. It is incredible that our income has managed to track so well with our expenses. WHLC is blessed to have such a diligent congregation that allows us to remain on solid financial footing.

Based upon 2018-2020 giving patterns General Fund Income should have been around \$334,362 versus actual General Fund Income of \$338,036 resulting in a variance of \$3,674 or 101.1% of expected.

August 2021 General Fund Expenses were \$2,669 under budget and Year-to-Date General Fund Expenses are \$23,190 under budget. A portion of the expense variance is from timing differences for property insurance premiums and NON-ELCA benevolence disbursements paid quarterly. Snow Removal expenses are \$6,081 over Year-to-Date budget and will be approximately \$4,200 over budget at year end. Accounts under budget, e.g., Cleaning Equipment & Supplies, Repairs & Maintenance, Utilities, Employee Benefits (Continuing Education, Mileage Reimbursements and Meetings & Conferences), Parish Education (Wednesday Night Meals and Sunday School and Books & Resources) and many other smaller variances from activities which have been suspended due to the pandemic. Overall expenses are managed within budget, the impact of the pandemic and balanced with General Offerings.

Operating cashflow remains solid.

A Certificate of Deposit matured on August 16, 2021, and was renewed for 10 months at a rate of 0.40%

Detailed financial statements are available in the church office.

Thank you for your generous offerings.

Duane Danielson, Treasurer





As many of you know, the WHLC WELCA met on September 13, at 6:30 p.m. for an open discussion regarding the WHLC WELCA Board situation. By situation, I mean to say that currently, no one has stepped forward to volunteer their time to be a member of the WHLC WELCA board to replace the current board members. At the meeting there was an agreement for the women of the church to go back to their respective Bible Study Circles to further discuss options such as forming committees to lead the women of the church, who will lead the committees, what events of the women of the church are preferences, etc.

It was great to see those that attended the WHLC Women of the Church meeting on September 13. Thank you so much for taking the time to attend and share your thoughts, concerns, and suggestions! It was greatly appreciated!

The Bible Study Leaders are to present the results of their discussions by November 1, to the current WELCA Board Members. There will be another WHLC WELCA board meeting on November 8, at 6:30 p.m. - room TBA - to review the responses from the Bible Study groups and proceed from there.

If there are no women currently participating in a Bible Study group, please feel free to express your opinion. I will be happy to be the recipient of your opinions.

My contact information:

Email: elaineahites@gmail.com

Cell phone: 515-681-1633

Thank-you!

A sister to all of the women of the WHLC,
Elaine A Hites, President of the WHLC WELCA



Mary Circle Bible Study

The Mary Bible Study group is planning to meet on Saturday, October 9, at 3 p.m. in Room 127 to have Bible study and put together baby kits.



Please contact Elaine Hites with any questions!





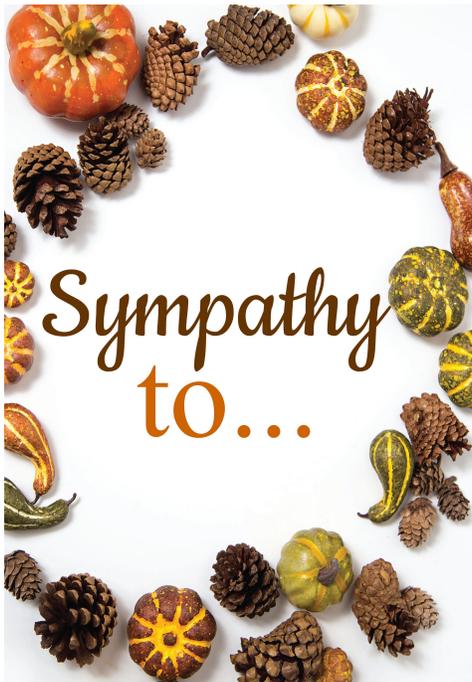
A Special Birthday



Please help Matt Hennig celebrate the big 4-0 by driving by 710 36th St, WDM 50265 on Sunday, October 3, between 3-5 p.m. You are invited to bring him a card with your favorite joke. Let's help him celebrate being over the hill!

- 1 Victor Glawe, Heidi Hennig, Matt Klein
- 3 Matt Hennig, Jaime Nicolet
- 5 Alice Barrett, Dick Bice
- 9 Paul Cartwright
- 12 Callie Barnard, Sally Watson, Charles Young
- 13 Hadley Rogness
- 18 Judy Risvold
- 19 Steve Coughenower, Philip Crum, Kurt Paulsen
- 21 Clark Colby
- 22 Deborah Hudik
- 23 Kaia Brnilovich, Kianna Collier
- 24 Len Anderson
- 29 Paul Axness
- 30 Olivia Franklin, Makenna McNamara, Jack Nelson, Dean Paulsen, Jerome Richards
- 31 Robert Johnson, Wanda Loehr





Sympathy to the loved ones of Dolores Mandt, who died August 31.

Sympathy to Sandy Morse on the death of Charlie, who died September 10.

Sympathy to the loved ones of Pauline Hughes, who died September 20.

Sympathy to Elly Ratliff on the death of Dale, who died September 29.

Sympathy to Maren Steensen for the unexpected death of her cousin, Jason Wood. He was also the grand nephew of Dick & Joani Wilberg.

Festival of All Saints November 6 & 7 Service of Remembrance

The Festival of All Saints is a time to commemorate all those in our congregation who have died in 2020 and this year as well. It has been the tradition at Windsor Heights to host a separate service for this occasion, the Service of Remembrance. This year we are including the elements of that service into our weekend worship services.

Invitations will be sent out in early October to all those who have experienced the death of a loved one either in 2020 or 2021. You and your family are invited to attend one of the services on the weekend of November 6 and 7. You do not need to let us know which service you will be attending as all the names will be read at each service.

Worship service times:

Saturday, November 6, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 7, 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.



THANK YOU'S & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Jim and I so appreciate all of your love, support, meals and prayers. We are still struggling and setbacks keep coming, but the love we feel from our church family helps us keep going. From

the bottom of our hearts, we appreciate you all.

Love, Kathy Cacciatore



We're excited to bring back Wednesday evening activities on the fall! As a reminder, our schedule is:

Book Club - 4 - 5 p.m. in the Koinonia Room

Faith Formation - 6 - 6:30 p.m. in the 3rd floor classrooms

Confirmation - 6 - 7 p.m. in Room 127

Windsor Bells - 6 - 7 p.m. in the Bell Room

Joyful Noise - 6:30 - 7 p.m. in the Choir Room (little kids)

After Hours - 6:30 - 8 p.m. in the Youth Room

Grace Notes - 7 - 7:30 p.m. in the Choir Room (big kids)

Cherub Chimes - 7 p.m. in the Pre-K Room

Alleluia Choir - 7 - 8 p.m. in the Sanctuary



Jan and I thank you so much for all of your prayers and support this past year and a half. I consider myself a long-hauler, as I still am having some trouble breathing and with my memory, too. Overall, I am well and so thankful for my WHLC family.

George Belken

Dana Leahy's Beautiful Mosaics

If you notice that the Project 66 mosaics are missing from the church walls, it's because they've taken a vacation to Augustana University (Pastor Chris & Beth's alma mater) in Sioux Falls, South Dakota for an exhibit at the Eide/Dalrymple Gallery on the AU campus. They will be on display at the gallery from September 9 - October 3 and will return to their home on WHLC's walls immediately thereafter.



Worship

Volunteer Sign-Up

Please consider helping at worship by signing up on the church website or right here: [Online worship](#) [volunteer sign-up](#).

Hello Pumpkin!



Fun Pumpkin Facts

1. The largest pumpkin ever grown was over 2,300 pounds in Switzerland in 2014.
2. Did you know pumpkins are 90% water?
3. Native Americans celebrated pumpkins and pumpkin seeds for their dietary and medicinal benefits.
4. European immigrants are thought to have brought pumpkin carving to America. Pumpkin carving is a Celtic tradition.
5. More than 50 varieties of pumpkins are in existence!



<https://www.frankieflowers.com/10-cool-facts-about-pumpkins>

