

THE WINDOW

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

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We begin this season of Lent in fervent prayer for peace in Ukraine. Most of us do not know that there are significant religious dimensions to this conflict, since it unfolds in a part of the world and a branch of the Christian family with which many in the West are unfamiliar. Those dynamics are laid out effectively in the article, “Make No Mistake, If There’s a War Between Russia and Ukraine, It Will Be a Religious War,” by historian Katherine Kalaidis. Aspects of this war highlight the grave danger of any form of Christian nationalism, which is always

idolatry. For reflections on that topic, I commend this piece by Reformed theologian Wes Granberg-Michaelson. Let us continue to pray that God will grant leaders of nations wisdom to pursue peace over war.

On the Wednesdays of Lent (beginning March 9) we will gather at 7:00 p.m. for Holden Evening Prayer. Our reflections will center on the theme, “Go Tell the World,” which is also the theme of this year’s synod assembly. You can sign up here to receive a short daily devotion that will be emailed to you by the synod. A book of daily devotions (not on the synod theme) are also available for pickup in the narthex. I pray that the rapidly declining Covid numbers will encourage many of you to come to worship in person, but the Holden services will also be live-streamed.

Each year we designate our special Lenten offering for a particular purpose. This year it will be helping Lutheran Services in Iowa resettle Afghan refugees in the community. You’ve had a chance to read about that in last month’s Window. Now I encourage you to give generously throughout Lent. We will be joined by LSI Refugee Services staff on Sunday, March 27 during the forum time in Crabtree Parish Hall (9:45-10:30 a.m.). Come and learn about this important work and the many ways we can support it.

The word “Lent” comes from an Anglo-Saxon word meaning “spring.” Lent is our spiritual springtime. The days are lengthening, the ground is warming, and new life is stirring under our feet. May we become alert to the new beginnings that stir in our souls, and in prayer, ask how we might bear God’s abundant life to a world in need.

In peace,

Pastor Chris





February Council Update



The Council met on February 28, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at Crabtree Parish Hall in the church.

Some highlights of business that was discussed at the meeting:

- The council discussed the recommendations of the health committee and the recent CDC recommendations regarding masking. The council approved a motion to make masks optional for all church events, allow church groups to determine their own masking policies for their own groups, and that church will continue to monitor CDC recommendations.
- We are still looking for a male congregant to represent WHLC at the Synod Assembly in Coralville, IA on May 20-21.
- The council discussed the appointment of liaisons to church standing committees.
- The council approved the Lenten offering donation to Lutheran Services of Iowa (LSI) Fund a Family Program and the LSI forum taking place in between services on March 27.

The next meeting will be on Monday, March 28 at 6:30 p.m. in the church.

-Tony Dahlman, WHLC Council President



Easter Breakfast



With the recent changes in our health protocols, discussion has commenced to bring back our Easter Breakfast this year! Woohoo! A few things to note about this decision: as of now, this is predicated on the trends regarding COVID and community safety continuing to head in their current direction. We'll have an official announcement, we hope, by the end of this month. In addition, with this being our big return (fingers crossed) to shared meals at WHLC this year, we're going to need a lot of help with this event!

In years past, the breakfast has served as the yearly youth fundraiser, with the students usually preparing the food for everyone. While we're working with the youth to prepare for this event, given the sudden nature of this planning, the time that has passed since we've last hosted it, and the scale we anticipate the meal will be, we could really use several extra hands to help make it all happen. If you can, and would like to help with planning / assisting the breakfast, contact Zach. Keep your eyes out in the next few weeks for official info on the breakfast!

WHLC News & Notes



In the near future, you may be the one receiving a call from another Sister of WHLC. A familiar name may come across your phone, possibly Barb Waymire, Sharman Blake, Cheryl Rigler, Elaine Hites or another.

The purpose of these calls:

- To offer general support and gain information regarding your interest and desire for the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America organization- WELCA.
- To inform you of the women of the Windsor Heights Lutheran Church interest in updating the organizational structure of WELCA to better serve all women of the WHLC.
- To hear from each of you: What would entice you to come be part of WELCA, join or start-up a Bible Study group, learn about missions, Lutheran World Relief projects such as putting together various kits, making a quilt, or a prayer shawl.
- What events or programs would you like to participate in or see take place?

Is this too much information? Please let us know your thoughts, ideas, how we can support and be there for one another!

Sister in Christ, Elaine A Hites



Luther Jazz Orchestra

Cole Barrett is a member of the Luther College Jazz Orchestra and they are going on tour. On Monday, March 21, at 7:00 p.m. they will be playing at St. James Lutheran Church, 5665 Merle Hay Rd., in Johnston. Everyone is welcome!

COFFEE CUPS



With Sunday fellowship back on, we needed some new supplies - mainly coffee cups. We had not purchased cups since 2019. The price more than doubled, and they are no longer available! Due to the big name coffee companies, it was cheaper to make all cups the same style without handles. Our new cups will now need to be used with a sleeve to avoid burns from hot coffee. It will be up to each individual to be sure to get a sleeve on their cup! At least your donuts still come with holes! -Linda Anderson

Youth & Family News

ZACH MEYER

Join Us For Junior High Night!

Friday, March 25



Due to Spring Break taking place in the middle of the month, we're pushing back our Junior High Night for March to the final Friday of the month, March 25. We encourage students to join us for a fun night of games around the church. Dinner and treats are provided, and to RSVP simply email Zach and let him know how many you'll be bringing along! All are welcome, and we encourage students to invite their friends. Hope to see you there!

Join us for Liftoff!

We're happy to announce a fun opportunity for young students and their families: Friday, April 1 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. marks the rebirth of Liftoff, a fun night of food and games for our younger students. Liftoff is essentially a JHN-styled event, designed specifically for our students in Pre-K through 3rd grade! Starting at 6 p.m., we'll offer dinner for the kids and anyone from their families who wants to join us! After dinner, we'll play some fun big church games for about a bit, before students head home between 7:15-7:30 p.m. Families are welcome to stay and hang out in parish hall during game time, or head out and return for pick-up when the evening wraps up!



At every Liftoff meeting, we will have at least one set of parents / volunteers to be on hand to assist and help with the activities for students and their families, and they'll be present for the entire duration of the evening. As stated above, this acts as a rebirth of sorts of a previous ministry, so we're excited to see what directions it heads in. If these events are well received, we'll explore making this a monthly ministry like we have for Junior High Night; additionally, we'll consider new locations and areas to host Liftoff (like outdoor picnics, bowling, trampoline parks and other ideas)! If you have any questions about Liftoff, or want to help with the event, contact Zach!



New Busy Bags Are Here!

A big thank you to Linda Anderson, Heidi Hennig and Zach Meyer for all their help in creating new busy bags for families to have during worship. Twelve new bags have been handmade by Linda, each filled with booklets, coloring pages, activities, and new toys for kids to engage in during worship. We know how important it is for families of all ages to get to experience worship together, so we hope these new bags will assist families in worshipping together in community!

2022 VBS Week Set! Mark Your Calendars!

We officially have a date for VBS this summer! Mark your calendars for the week of July 25th (the final week of the month) for an awesome experience for kids of all ages! What about our schedule & theme for this year's VBS? We're currently working on those details in conversations between Parish Ed, the health team, staff & our families here at WHLC. Expect a full announcement on schedule & theme sometime by the end of March/early April!



TREASURER'S REPORT

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

	January 2022		Year-to-Date		2021 YTD
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
General Offering	51,071	41,666	51,071	41,666	34,125
Other General Fund Income	799	407	799	407	190
General Fund Income	51,870	42,073	51,870	42,073	34,315
General Fund Expense	44,131	42,037	44,131	42,037	44,589
General Fund Net Income	7,739	36	6,639	36	(10,274)
Special Offering Income	141		141		115
Special Offering Expense	101		101		75
Special Offering Net Income	40		40		40
Total Net Income	7,779	36	7,779	36	(10,234)

Mortgage Balance	820,446.68
Capital Appeal Permanent Fund Balance	196,509.51

January General Offerings were \$9,405 over 1/12 of the annual budget. Based on prior giving patterns (which attempt to neutralize months with 5 Sundays and when holidays occur) expected General Fund Income should have been around \$46,500 versus actual January 2022 General Fund Income of \$51,870, or \$5,370 higher than budget. As you may recall, some members give their offerings in a lump sum early in the year and we expect the General Offerings to approach budget levels as the year continues. January General Offerings were \$16,946 higher than January 2021 General Offerings.

January 2022 General Fund Expenses were \$2,094 over budget. There are a number of expense categories that have timing differences between the actual payment and the monthly budget. The primary categories in January include property insurance, Non-ELCA benevolence disbursements paid quarterly, and snow removal. Additionally we had a higher-than-budgeted cleaning expense from the one-time initial deep cleaning done by the new cleaning company.

WHLC remains on solid financial footing with working capital sufficient to meet our obligations.

Please let me know if you have questions.
Barb Waymire

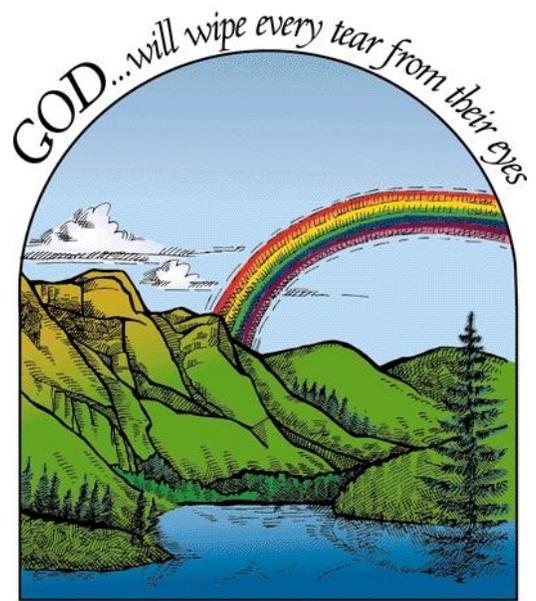


In Our Thoughts & Prayers



Our thoughts and prayers go out to Gloria Edman and family on the death of Carl Edman, who died February 2.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Jan Bice and family on the death of Dick Bice, who died February 13.

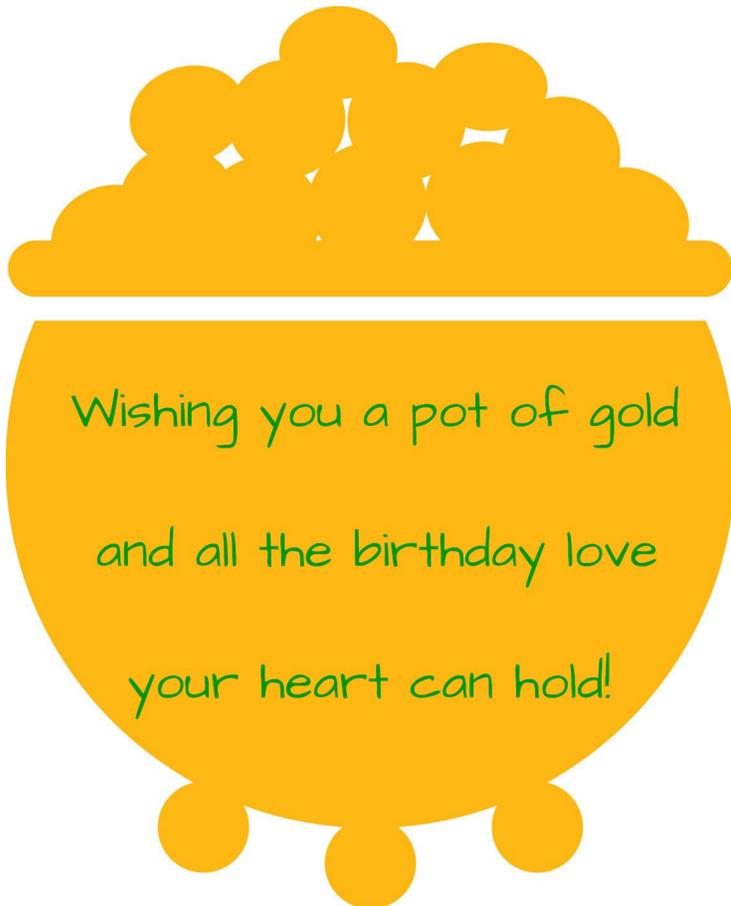


There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain.

Revelation 21:4



Happy BIRTHDAY to You!



- 1 Bonnie Hunefeld, Emily Roose, Elaine Hites
- 2 Naomi Rowland
- 4 Travis Reinders
- 8 William Lewis, Dave Logan, Lily Nelson
- 10 Linda Rye
- 11 Amy Morris
- 12 Erik Carlson
- 13 Sally Benson, Tony Dahlman
- 15 Tim Schneckloth
- 16 William McGowan, Mary Wegner
- 17 Cash Hennig
- 18 Tricia Richards
- 20 Cindy Petersen, Paul Rye
- 21 Alexis Eakins
- 22 Karen George
- 24 Shirley Foster
- 25 Jordan Eakins
- 26 Lori Nicolet, Chris Olkiewicz
- 30 Melissa Krumm
- 31 Ron Stoen





WHLC SHOUT-OUTS!



Shout-out to the Ruth Circle for staying an an extra 20 minutes after their Bible study to help tie two quilt tops for the WHLC Quilters.



Shout-out to Marc and Mary Anderson for picking up the altar flowers every week and bringing them to the sanctuary. We appreciate you, Marc and Mary!



The next time you're at church you will see a beautiful new table in the sanctuary!

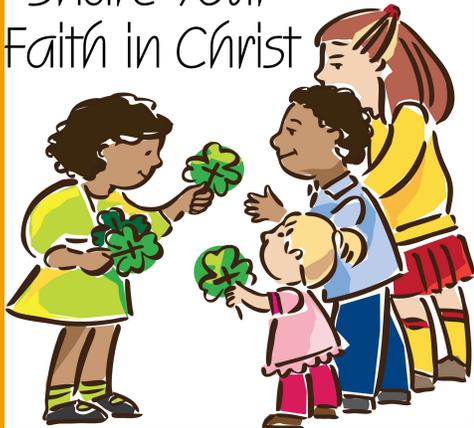
It was custom made by Bryce Kolund, son-in-law of Henry & Bonnie Hyda and brother-in-law of Jill Hyda.

Shout-out to Bryce for his craftsmanship and time!



Is there someone at WHLC that deserves a shout-out? If so, email Heidi at office@whlc.org so they can be recognized in the Window next month!

Share Your
Faith in Christ



 MARCH 2022



Spring begins Sunday, March 20!



Don't forget to change
your clocks! Daylight
Savings Time begins
Sunday, March 13.

