

THE WINDOW

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

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Happy New Year!

One of the happy events of every January is the annual meeting of the congregation. This year's meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 22 at 12:30 p.m. in Crabtree Parish Hall**. The meeting will be preceded by a potluck after the second service. You are invited to bring something to share and your own table service.

All confirmed members of the congregation are eligible to vote at the annual meeting. In addition to hearing reports from officers and staff, we will approve the 2023 ministry budget and elect new congregation council members. The printed annual report will be available for pickup no later than January 15, and there will be two budget overview sessions hosted by the Finance Committee, one in person and one online: **Sunday, January 15, between services for the in-person session and Monday, January 16, at 7 p.m. for the online session**. Look for a link for the online session in upcoming e-weeklies.

In addition to hearing some highlights from 2022, looking ahead to 2023, and conducting the congregation's essential business, the potluck and annual meeting is a fun time of fellowship. We hope to see you there!

Advent Service “Coming to the Manger”



The return of our annual Advent Service could not have been such a success without the unselfish help that was given by so many members of WHLC!



Table Hosts

- Linda Anderson, “They came bearing gifts”
- Peg Armstrong-Gustafson & Colleen Armstrong, “The Christmas Star”
- Sharman Blake & Heidi Hennig, “Were There Animals at the Manger?”
- Inez Boyken, “Rejoice! Jesus Our Savior is Born”
- Susan, Adelaide and Bridget Brennan, “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”
- Sue Crum, “Away in a Manger”
- Teresa Powers, “The First Noel”
- Kathy Safris, “The Holy Family & Angels”
- Jim & Jeri Spizale, “Holy Family”
- Maren & Kiersten Steensen, “I am so Glad Each Christmas Eve”
- Barb Waymire, “Once in Royal David’s Time”
- Donna Yeager, “Glory to the Newborn King”

Advent Program

Music prelude ~ Amanda Lauritsen

Welcome & Announcements

The Christmas Story ~ Donna Yeager

“Away in the Manger” ~ Amanda Lauritsen

A Message by the Manger ~ Sharman Blake & Heidi Hennig

Offering for Easter Seals

Advent Prayer & Blessing ~ Pastor Robin

Christmas Melody and Sing-A-Long

With Jan Carlson & Wendy Prigge

Dismiss to Crabtree Parish Hall for Fellowship & Dessert

“Go Tell it on the Mountain”



Thank you to our servers

Quent Boyken, Chair	John Leahy
John Ambrosion	Matt McNamara
Tony Dahlman	Kevin Nicolet
Mark Fasse	Chuck Safris
Dennis Graham	Scott Steensen
Gregg Gustafson	Joel Waymire
Henry Hyda	Chuck Young

Thank you to the wisemen and farmers

Gregg Gustafson	Quent Boyken
Pastor Chris	Matt McNamara
Michael McNamara	Zach Meyer

Desserts from our neighbors at The Bake Shoppe

Over \$500 was collected for the Easter Seals group that meet at WHLC.

300 plus gifts were given to Luther Park.





May your new year be filled with
JOY and BLESSINGS!
~Linda Anderson, Sharman Blake, Inez Boyken,
Heidi Hennig & Donna Yeager

WHLC NEWS & NOTES



A Note from Pastor Chris

I am grateful to Pastor Paul Axness for loaning us his collection of chasubles. This is the colorful garment you have seen me wearing in recent weeks when presiding at worship. What exactly is a chasuble? The *Altar Guild Handbook* offers this description:

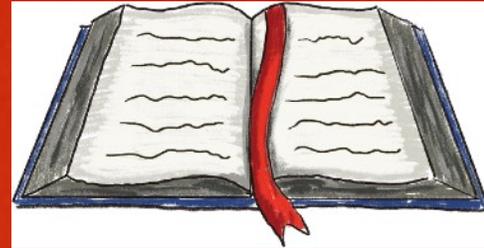
“The chasuble is the principal vestment for the presiding minister during the celebration of the Holy Communion. It is a very full vestment worn like a poncho over the alb and stole. The fullness of the chasuble symbolizes the fact that the eucharistic meal is intended to embrace all baptized people; thus, the chasuble is a sign that the abundance of God’s grace and the abundance of the eucharistic feast are intended for all God’s family.

“Chasubles are made of a wide variety of rich fabrics. Their primary symbolism is in their fullness of color, rather than in any symbols attached to them. It is not necessary to put symbols on symbols! . . .

“It is ideal for the chasuble to match the stole, as well as the paraments . . . The color is that appointed for the day.”

I would call a chasuble “wearable art,” another way to employ art, craft, and design to the glory of God in worship. Surrounded as we are in our worship space by many works of art, the chasuble seems a very appropriate addition. Thanks, Paul!

Pastor’s Bible Study Wednesdays, 7:15 - 8:00 p.m.



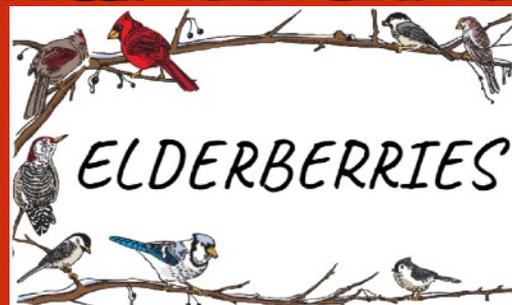
Starting January 4, you can join Pastor Chris every week for an informal Bible study, mostly looking at the scripture readings for the coming Sunday, in person in Room 127 or online. To join online, use this link:

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/fid-vgit-ayb>

Or dial: (US) +1 732-786-4526 PIN: 586 705 477#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/fid-vgit-ayb?pin=3992700496629>



Elderberries will not meet in January, but they will meet on February 7 at 11:30 a.m. for a Valentine’s Day party. All are welcome!



THANK YOU!

Thank you from Pastor Robin

The potluck and reception was the perfect way to conclude my ministry at WHLC. Thanks to all who attended, for the delicious food and the wonderful cards and gifts. Thanks to those who organized the day, especially Pastor Chris, Pam Lundell, Alice Barrett, and Tracey Hirst. Thanks to the excellent hospitality crew, headed up by Ellen Graham. All that hard work of hosting a big event does not go unnoticed. Thanks to Heidi Hennig and Zach Meyer, for all the behind-the-scenes things that they did to make the day such a wonderful gathering.

I know that God is with us, and God will be with all of you at Windsor Heights as you go forward in ministry together. May the peace

of the Lord be with you always.
~Pastor Robin



Thanks from the Heart!

Thank you to my WHLC family. Your prayers, kind words, meals, generosity, and cards have only reinforced

for me why it is such a great and wonderful place to worship with you. Of course, I need to point out my utmost gratitude and love for Sharman. She has been beyond phenomenal! Peace to you all! ~Mike Blake

Thank you to our Christmas Eve/Day and New Year's Day worship service



volunteers. We couldn't have done it without you! If you would like to volunteer Sundays, sign-up with the link below. We appreciate each and every one of you!

<https://volunteersignup.org/>

CTRAF

TREASURER'S REPORT

Attached please find the financial reports November 2022.

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

	November 2022		Year-to-Date		2021 YTD
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
General Offering	37,396	41,666	434,520	458,326	432,062
Other General Fund Income	305	407	9,364	4,477	6,431
General Fund Income	37,701	42,073	443,884	462,803	438,493
General Fund Expense	39,379	42,037	475,561	462,407	439,311
General Fund Net Income	(1,678)	36	(31,677)	396	(818)
Special Offering Income	240		3,070		6,236
Special Offering Expense	152		2,298		3,911
Special Offering Net Income	88		772		2,325
Total Net Income	(1,590)	36	(30,905)	396	1,507

Mortgage Balance	711,748.24
Capital Appeal Permanent Fund Balance	152,244.94

November General Offerings were down from October and were also below budget. For the year General Offerings are \$23,806 below budget. However, when based upon 2019-2021 giving patterns General Fund Income should have been around \$445,877 versus actual General Fund Income of \$443,884 resulting in a negative variance of \$2,006 or 99.6% of expected. We are encouraged that Year-to-date General Offerings remain above the level of General Offerings year-to-date in 2021 and we are optimistic for what December will bring.

November 2022 Expenses are below budget, which is the third month in a row, although year-to-date General Fund Expenses are \$36,250 higher than in 2021, and they are running \$13,154 higher than budget. The line items contributing to the increased expenses in 2021 include cleaning, supplies, repairs & maintenance, utilities, yard care & landscaping, and some Parish Ed expenses. The 2023 budget work has tried to address the primary areas where the increases have occurred and are expected to continue.

Thank you for your continued support of WHLC financially, prayerfully and with your time & talents.

Please contact me if you have any questions.
Barb Waymire





In Our Thoughts & *Prayers*

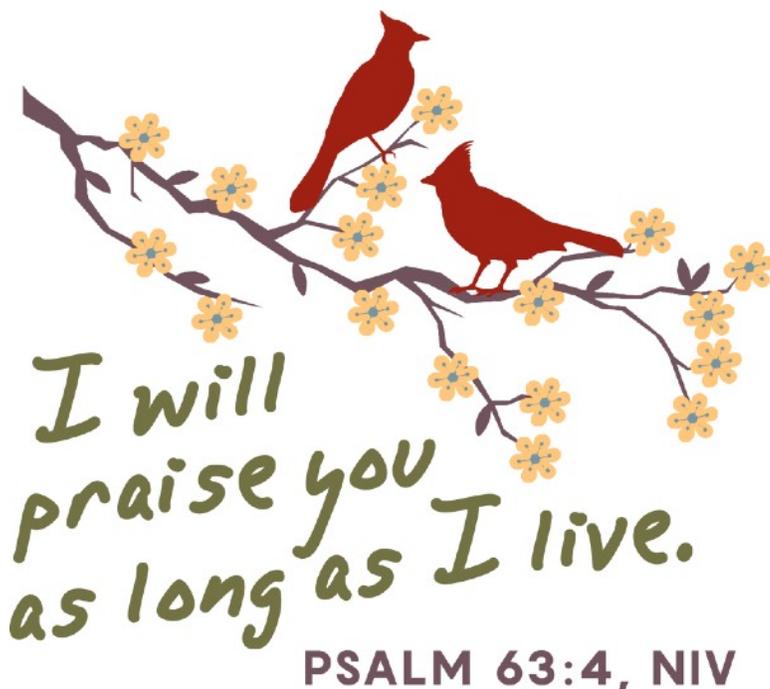
Sympathy to Elaine Hites as she mourns the death of her brother, William (Bill) D. Christ. Bill passed away January 2, 2023. This was the same date that Elaine's dad died 10 yrs ago. Please pray for Bill's wife, Beryl, and Bill's family.



The LORD
is my
strength
and my
song;
he has
become
my
salvation.
Exodus 15:2, NIV



- 1 Bonnie Hyda,
Richard Pedersen
- 2 Frederick Lubben
- 4 John Groh
- 6 Charlene Paulsen,
Patrice Paulsen
- 8 Marion Dietz
- 10 Daniel Goss
- 11 Isabell Wegner
- 13 Linda James,
John Leahy
- 15 Marc Anderson
- 17 Ryenn Seifert
- 19 Gladys Hertzberg
- 21 Shelly Thieman,
Paula Virtue
- 23 Jim Spizale
- 24 Linda Anderson
- 25 Michael McNamara,
Jonathan Morris
- 26 Wesley Fergus,
Janet Hanusa
- 28 Nicholas Cox
- 29 Matt McNamara
- 30 Ann Fasse, Cole Gilbert,
Noah Gilbert





Thank you all for an awesome 2022; we are excited for 2023!

As we begin this new year of ministry here at WHLC, we give thanks for all the wonderful experiences we had in 2022. Keep an eye out this month for more info regarding the next JHN, Liftoff, Wednesday night news, and more! For now, we simply wanted to give thanks for a great year, and look forward with eager anticipation to 2023; hope everyone has a great start to this new year!

