

THE WINDOW

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

WHLC Staff:

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Lead Pastor

Rev. Karen Cluts

Visitation Pastor

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Director of Youth and Family
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One of our favorite weeks of the year is upon us! VBS returns this summer for a fun-filled week of faith, friends, community, service and so much more. Over 50 kids (as of early June) are signed up to join us for the week, and we are so excited to see where this week takes us! A reminder that VBS runs from July 17 -20, 9 a.m. until noon for pre-k kids, and till around 3:30 p.m. for K-6th grade. Registration remains open until July 14, and all are welcome to join us.

Hero Hotline is the theme for 2023, exploring how students can be superheroes in their own communities, serving God and their communities, while utilizing all their special gifts and talents. To match our theme, we're turning the church into the Hero Hotline Cave; like last year, this means decorating throughout the whole church. Believe it or not, the 3rd floor is already done!

We still have a pretty big need for volunteer help at this year's VBS, particularly in the afternoons. With so many kids at VBS, we need all the help we can get! We know summer is a busy time, and we understand everyone has their own schedules! Each year, we tell our volunteers we'll take however much time you can give us, and we can be very flexible and work with different schedules. Whether you can help for just an hour for a day or two, or for a full day one day and only a half for another, we'd be so grateful for your assistance!

No prior experience or certain skills are needed to help with VBS; just come ready to have a fun week alongside the students! Most of our volunteers end up assisting with one of the various age groupings as they do their rotations, though there are various areas volunteers can assist with! Anyone in 7th grade and up is eligible to volunteer, and VBS volunteering works great for things like silver cord, community service or training for those who want to work with students. You can find the volunteer form alongside the student registration on our website!

If you can't be there in person to help out with VBS but still want to contribute, we continue to take donations for the week! Things like brown kraft/butcher/masking paper, cardboard boxes, and disposable tablecloths continue to be our main needs. In early July we will also release a list of food items we are collecting to feed the students during the week of VBS, so keep your eyes out for that!

VBS continues to be our biggest ministry week of the year, serving as a great way to connect us with our community. Amongst those joining us this year include students from the Chin Baptist Church, extended family of several WHLC members, kids who join us each month for Liftoff, returning students from last year, and tons of new faces from our community. What a group it will be! We are so grateful for all the time, donations, prayers and support this congregation continues to give to VBS each year. What a wonderful way God has brought so many of us together! We are so excited to host this incredible week!

[Click here for the Student Registration](#)

[Click here for the Volunteer Registration](#)

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



Worship Volunteer Training Session

(Big fun ahead! Read on.)

Volunteers are needed to support in-person worship. We couldn't do it without your help! Volunteer roles include: *lector* (read scripture and the prayers of intercession), *communion assistant* (hold the cup as worshippers come forward to commune), *greeters* (say "hi" more or less enthusiastically), *ushers* (make sure everyone has a bulletin and pass the offering plates). Fortunately all of these jobs are easy-peasy, make guests feel welcome, and help keep Pastor Chris from having a stroke (er . . . maybe?). All you need to do is add your name to the signup sheet at whlc.org or on the clipboard at the back of the sanctuary for the dates and times when you would like to help.

If you have never volunteered to help before, would like to try something you've never done before, or just want to review the basic job descriptions of each role, we will be having a training/orientation/question-answering/tip-dispensing session after worship on Sunday, July 16. Grab a donut hole (or five), a cup of coffee, and come back up to the sanctuary for a short but scintillating hands-on (non-virtual) experience. You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll wonder why didn't I do this sooner?



NEWS, HAPPENINGS & REMINDERS!

ELDERBERRIES!

THURSDAY, JULY 6
11:30 A.M.

Pastor Chris is the speaker for July Elderberries. He will talk about his long-time enthusiasm for cycling—which includes life as a once-upon-a-time, not-very-good amateur bike racer—and get you ready for the Tour de France, which begins on July 1. If you want to know what the word *peloton* really means (hint: not an expensive indoor exercise machine) and understand why the Tour de France is called the Super Bowl of cycling, this Elderberries is for you! He will talk about the 100+ year history of the Tour and why it is the greatest show on earth. (Of course, he's a little bit prejudiced about this.) You are invited to bring a dish to share. See you on Thursday, July 6 at 11:30 a.m. in Crabtree Parish Hall.



Summer Worship Service

Saturday night service is outdoors at 5 p.m. on the WHLC front lawn.

Sunday service is in the sanctuary at 9:30 a.m. Join us for coffee and donut holes after the service in Crabtree Parish Hall.



In observance of Independence Day, the church office will be closed on Tuesday. Have a fun and safe holiday weekend!

Women's Joint Bible Study ~in August~

Women of the Church Joint Bible Study planned for August 10, 2023. Potluck at 6:15 p.m. with Pastor Chris leading the Bible Study at 6:45 p.m. This will be held in Crabtree Parish Hall.



MORE NEWS, HAPPENINGS & REMINDERS!



Do you sing or play an instrument? If so, we would love to hear you offer your musical gift

during a worship service this summer. Solos or groups are great, and any style of music is welcome. If you would like to serve as cantor for singing the psalm, we would welcome that gift as well. Call Heidi in the office to schedule, or talk to Jan Carlson or Pastor Chris if you have any questions.

The Urbandale Food Pantry

The Urbandale Food Pantry's biggest needs right now are:

Toothpaste
Body Wash
Razors
Can Openers
Spaghetios
Macaroni & Cheese
Ramen Noodles
Condiments & Spices

You can place your donations in the shopping carts by the front doors. A volunteer from WHLC will take them to the pantry. Thank you for your donations!

East Lawn Sign

Our iconic sign on the east lawn recently fell and broke. Several members are looking into ways to repair the sign. The council will review next steps for this piece of our church history. Thank you for your patience. ~Kevin Nicolet



TREASURER'S REPORT MAY

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

	May 2023		Year-to-Date		2022 YTD
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
General Offering	34,485	39,886	230,506	199,430	219,845
Other General Fund Income	1,867	1,298	10,176	6,490	4,182
General Fund Income	36,352	41,184	240,682	205,920	224,028
General Fund Expense	43,428	41,150	197,273	205,750	224,974
General Fund Net Income	(7,076)	34	43,409	170	(946)
Special Offering Income	130		2,767		7,753
Special Offering Expense	60		1,045		785
Special Offering Net Income	70		1,722		6,968
Total Net Income	(7,006)	34	45,131	170	6,022

Mortgage Balance	676,250.42
Capital Appeal Permanent Fund Balance	161,005.88

For the month of May actual expenses exceeded budgeted expenses, and we experienced a net loss. Some of the factors contributing to the higher expenses were:

In May we paid an additional \$3,000 of the \$12,000 budgeted additional principal payments on the mortgage. The remaining budgeted expense of \$6,000 will be considered in the fall, based on current financial conditions at that time.

Quarterly payments were made for insurance premiums as well as maintenance contracts, while the budgeted amounts are computed monthly.

For several of the other line items in Buildings and Grounds more than one month was paid during May.

In the upcoming months we can expect to see payments related to Snow Removal settlement with the Town Center, Yard Care & Landscaping expenses under a new contract, and VBS expenses. These expenses were all considered when developing the budget.

While General Offerings were below budget for the month, this is not an unexpected pattern, and for the year we have still received more than \$30,000 in excess of the budgeted amounts. When considering the seasonal patterns of our offerings, we have received 112.5% of anticipated offerings, whereas in May of 2022 we were at 101.3%. Finance Committee is encouraged by these strong giving results.

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

Please let me know if you have questions.
Barb Waymire



- 2 Wanda Baraldi
- 3 Inez Boyken
- 4 Brett Toresdahl
- 5 Marilyn Harvey, Brent Kowalsky
- 6 Marian Perman, Mary Wilke-Adair
- 7 Daniel Krumm, James South
- 8 Laura Fulps
- 10 Sandra Morse, Lisa Klooster
- 11 Colleen Armstrong
- 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

- 1 Don Roose, Calvin Ryherd
- 3 Erika Capps
- 4 Tessa Logan
- 6 Tom Shanley
- 7 Cheyenne Hennig
- 8 Karin Eshelman
- 9 Betty Johnson
- 10 Chuck Safris
- 11 Dianne Greenfield
- 12 Ellie Swale
- 13 Mary Anderson, Dena Baldus
- 14 Andy Rowland
- 15 Wendy Prigge Lucy Valin, Nicholas Waymire
- 19 Ann Reynolds
- 20 Karen Maass
- 24 Alexandra Gustafson
- 25 Annabelle Lubben
- 26 Maurine Edmond
- 27 Kathy Safris
- 28 Kiersten Steensen
- 29 Amanda Franklin, Luke Powers
- 30 Andrew Opsal



WHLC Baptisms!

June/July 2023



The Sacrament of Holy Baptism was celebrated on Sunday, April 30, for Mariah and Nevaeh Wagaman. Parents are Threase Harms and Rick Wagaman. Baptismal sponsors are Tom and Liz Youngwirth. Welcome to our church family, Mariah and Nevaeh!

WHLC SENIORS!

In May, two WHLC students graduated: Nick Cox and Lily Nelson.

To honor these wonderful students,
WHLC hosted a reception in between services on Sunday, May 21.

Congratulations, Nick and Lily!



This fall Nick will pursue his Masters of Architecture at the University of South Florida in Tampa. He will also continue his lacrosse career on their club lacrosse team.



Lily graduated from Valley High School in May. She will attend the University of Iowa in the fall and plans to major in Neuroscience while completing the pre-med requirements. Her future goal is to someday become a Neurosurgeon.



AN UPDATE FROM



Rand and Ann Reynolds



Dear friends at WHLC,

We took a fun detour upon arriving in Spain last month. We were invited to Israel by a former pastor friend (Terry Oliver) who, with his wife (Doris) volunteered at the Bethlehem Bible College March - May. We stayed there at the Bible College in Bethlehem part of the time and also traveled to Nazareth and Jerusalem, by foot, public buses and an occasional taxi. We hope you enjoy reading about and seeing what we saw on our self-guided visit to the Holy Land. Here's a link to our [blog with videos and info](#)

We are now back on our boat now, Terry and Doris joined us as we sailed up the coast of Spain together. Following that passage we spent time in the marina with some minor repairs before heading back out to sea on Monday, June 19, when we sailed to Ibiza. Our "plan" is to relax at anchor in several "cala's" here in Ibiza and hopefully Formentera as well. We will see where the wind blows. The blog will also catch you up about our sailing the warm, friendly and festive waters in Spain.

Blessings to you all!

Sincerely,
Rand and Ann Reynolds





WHLC THANK YOU'S!



Thank you for allowing Roots Capoeira to utilize Crabtree Parish Hall for our annual event. Our national and international guests were blown away at our amazing youth program and commented on how they had felt a different energy from the kids when they were here in the church. Everyone left the event inspired! EJ, Emery, and I are so grateful for the space that you have built here and that you graciously opened it up for the community to use.
~Shalina Wallace



Thankful for Your Kindness



I want to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and phone calls in regards to my recent hip surgery. My recovery is going well and I feel good. PRAISE GOD! ~Jim South



★ ★ ★ WHLC SHOUT OUTS! ★ ★ ★



Dan Goss refinished the wood table that is in the narthex. Thank you, Dan, for sharing your time and talents!

Kitchen Cleaning in May

High 5's to Linda Fasse, Barb Waymire, Donna Yeager, Dianne Greenfield, Tracy Hirst, Julie Borseth, Ellen Graham, Jan Johnson, Cheyenne Hennig, Zach Meyer, Sharman Blake and Linda Anderson!



Thank you, Easter Seals!

CSI Litter Bugs (Easter Seals) picked up trash at our church.

