

THE WINDOW

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

WHLC Staff:

Rev. Chris Olkiewicz

Lead Pastor

Rev. Karen Cluts

Visitation Pastor

Zach Meyer

Director of Youth and Family
Ministry/Congregational
Life Coordinator

Heidi Hennig

Office Manager

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Sunday, September 10
3:30 p.m.

Windsor Heights Lutheran Church
Crabtree Parish Hall

Free Event

Coffee, Lemonade, and Bars Will Be Served

Jill grew up attending
Windsor Heights Lutheran Church

Come Hear Jill's Amazing Story!

Jill's story has been shared on NPR's podcast [This American Life](#) as well as on the trusted media sources [The Atlantic](#), [ProPublica](#), and [USA Today](#)!

The "Do It Yourself" Geneticist:
How Jill Diagnosed Herself and Her Family

Jill Viles is a "DIY" scientist who researchers say has influenced an entire field of study.

Iowa Mom's Genetic Discovery Changes Olympic Athlete's Life

What do Jill Viles, who has the genetic condition Emery-Dreifuss Muscular Dystrophy, and the Canadian Olympic Hurdler Priscilla Lopes-Schliep, bronze medal winner in the 2008 Beijing Olympics, have in common? Hear how Jill correctly identified and diagnosed their connection!



Time for School to Start!

School Supplies for Windsor Elementary

This year we have decided to help the Windsor Elementary students get ready for school! There are many refugee students that attend Windsor Elementary. You may support this service project in two ways, either by purchasing items from the list below and bringing them to church and place them in the marked grocery cart OR you may donate by putting your donation in an envelope at the back of the church and drop in the offering. Your donations can be mailed to the church or dropped off in the box outside the office. Be sure to designate "school supplies" in the memo of your check.

All donations need to be at church by Sunday, August 13; so that supplies can be bought with the monetary donations received. Windsor Elementary has their meet the teacher night on Monday, August 21 so would like the supplies there prior to that night.

- 16 count CRAYOLA crayons
- 24 count CRAYOLA crayons
- CRAYOLA colored pencils
- CRAYOLA washable markers (broad and fine tip)
- Glue sticks
- Ticonderoga sharpened #2 pencils
- BLACK Expo dry erase markers
- Stainless steel child scissors
- Pink erasers
- 12 oz. Hand sanitizer
- Boxes of Kleenex



This project is in place of our fall Lutheran World Relief school kits which you can still put together for the October shipping with the quilts and other kits. Thank you for supporting this school supply service project. If you have any questions please contact Linda Anderson or Julie Borseth.

TONS OF FUN AT VBS!



Thank You to Our Amazing VBS Volunteers!



The Window

YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS!

National Youth Gathering Prep, Info and Sign-Up Begins Next Month!

Next summer the church wide ELCA National Youth Gathering returns! It'll be hosted in New Orleans from July 16-20. Like previous gatherings, WHLC hopes to send a group to this life-changing event. Students in 8th - 12th grade at the time of registration, Fall '23, are eligible to attend, while adult leaders for each group must be 21 and over to sign up. Parents interested in attending with their kids are welcome to join together, and there are volunteer opportunities available at the gathering for those who have finished high school.

Registration begins this fall; starting next month, we'll start hosting info meetings to discuss putting together a group. Keep an eye out for more info on when these will be. General info can be found at <https://www.elca.church/gathering>. Hope you can join us for this incredible experience!

Mark Your Calendars! Wednesday Activities Return September 6!

Crazy as it is to believe, we're not too far away from the return of our regular Wednesday activities. This includes our music ensembles, kids activities (including faith formation and confirmation), community meals and more! We'll release our official schedule for each night later this month and heading into September, so keep a lookout in the E-Weeklies, Facebook and the September Window!



We had so much fun at VBS!

VBS is a team effort; we can't make it happen each year without our wonderful volunteers! Be sure to thank them the next time you see them! Big thanks to:

Megan Seifert, Pam Lundell and Henry Pratt for leading crafts

Amanda Lauritsen for leading music

Ryenn Seifert, and her friends Paige and Abby for leading games

Linda Russell, for leading Bible Study

Ellen Graham, Linda Anderson, Ann Rowland, Sue Crum, Tracey Hirst, Cheryl Rigler, Dianne Greenfield, Jan Johnson, Quent Boyken, Dennis Graham and Chuck Young for meal planning, prep, service and clean up

Bonnie Hyda and Pam Lundell for assisting at the morning check-in station

Heidi Hennig for periodically helping out across the board throughout the week

Sharman Blake, Henry Hyda and Peter Sui for leading the Pre-K kids

Jill Hyda, Lucy Valin and Harper Seifert for leading the K-1st Grade kids

Betsy Pratt, Hadley Rogness and Makenna McNamara for leading the 2nd-3rd Grade kids

Micheal McNamara and Fin Cox for leading the 4th-6th Grade kids

Our Parish Ed Planning Team: Megan Seifert, Pam Lundell, Linda Russell and Amanda Eakins



WHLC NEWS & REMINDERS



Beginning on Sunday, September 10, we will return to our fall worship times. On Sunday, there will be services at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m. with a fellowship time at 9:30 a.m. Saturday evening services will conclude on September 2, and will resume during our summer schedule.

We welcome back all of our musical ensembles, Alleluia Choir, Windsor Bells, Windsor Brass, Cherub Chimes, Joyful Noise and Grace Notes, who will be providing special music throughout the program year.

As we have done in previous years, the style of worship will alternate between the two services, with Amanda and the praise team at one service and Jan at the other service. There is somewhat of a pattern to this as we strive to alternate each weekend, but the scheduling of our ensembles for each weekend may cause the pattern to change at times.



We begin our Wednesday evening programming on September 6, with a meal, confirmation classes, classes/music for the younger children and rehearsal for most of our musical ensembles.

ELDERBERRIES



The Elderberries will meet on Thursday, August 3 at 11:30 a.m. in Crabtree Parish Hall. Our theme will be the state fair. Corn dogs, watermelon and chips will be provided. Dessert will be root beer floats! No need to bring a dish to share this month. Following lunch and devotions, we'll have an Iowa State Fair trivia contest with prizes for all. We'll also be playing a variety of games created especially for the Elderberries by Linda Anderson and her daughter, Amy. Brush up on your state fair history and bring your appetite!

Urbandale Food Pantry

You can always bring the most needed items to church and place them in the shopping carts.



Toothpaste

Body Wash

Razors

Can Openers

Spaghetios

Macaroni & Cheese

Ramen Noodles

Condiments & Spices



A volunteer will then bring your donations to the Urbandale Food Pantry.

Snack Sets

"Gayla's Dishes"

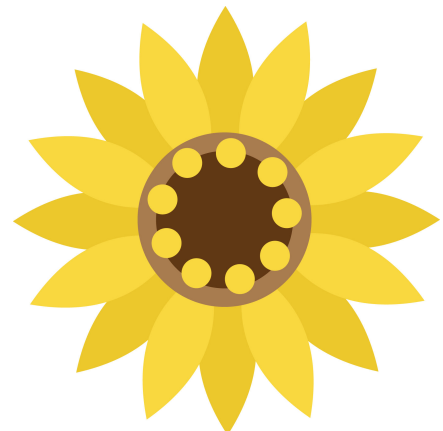


For decades, these glass snack sets were used for many, many wedding receptions, funeral luncheons, confirmation receptions and special celebrations in the original Fellowship Hall. When the new addition was completed, including our fabulous kitchen, we packed and moved 200 place settings. But in the past decade, they have been sitting in the cupboards and used maybe once or twice. So, the decision was made to get rid of them so that space could be better used.

The opportunity was given to WHLC members if they wanted any of the sets. No one responded so they were listed on Facebook Marketplace. In one day, Linda Anderson received 15 inquiries for the dishes. The dishes were picked up on July 25.

Just a bit of history: the first call received was from Pastor Rehfeldt! His daughter, Ann, wanted a few sets that his wife, Cathy, used for many, many years of hosting receptions in the parsonage. Pastor Rehfeldt said he remembered getting down on the floor reaching in the back of the cupboard for the dishes. Two dozen sets are packed ready for the journey to Minnesota!

There are also 50 sets going to New Mexico for a niece's wedding! A lady from a small church took some for the ladies to enjoy for special occasions. The last 50 went to a young couple who were pastors in Pleasant Hill transferring from youth ministry to couples and thought the dishes would be fun for their lady's events! It was so much fun hearing their stories and how grateful they were to receive them. ~Linda Anderson



TREASURER'S REPORT

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

	June 2023		Year-to-Date		2022 YTD
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
General Offering	26,131	39,886	256,637	239,316	246,682
Other General Fund Income	924	1,298	11,100	7,778	4,774
General Fund Income	27,055	41,184	267,737	247,104	251,456
General Fund Expense	41,242	41,150	238,250	246,900	267,439
General Fund Net Income	(14,187)	34	29,487	204	(15,983)
Special Offering Income	(1,496)		1,271		7,864
Special Offering Expense	207		1,252		1,146
Special Offering Net Income	(1,703)		19		6,718
Total Net Income	(15,890)	34	29,507	204	(9,265)

Mortgage Balance	671,543.62
Capital Appeal Permanent Fund Balance	155,999.88

June offerings were lower than budgeted offerings, however when considering the seasonal patterns of our offerings, we have received 108% of anticipated offerings. These lower monthly offerings are the primary reason for the net loss in the month of June. Expenses for the month of June were close to budgeted amounts. This includes quarterly payments for benevolence, which brings our total benevolence for the year to almost \$40,000. It also includes some expenses that occur one or two times a year, such as elm tree care and some kitchen maintenance.

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

If you will not be in church, remember you can always mail your offerings, or contribute through Simply Giving online. There is a link on the WHLC website.

Please let me know if you have questions.
Barb Waymire





We Mourn with You

By now many of you have heard of the death of my mother, Deb Pederson. I am grateful, indeed, for your prayers and support. They have sustained us during her decline these past months and through her journey in hospice for the last month. She received cards and notes from many of you following her strokes in April, and they were still sitting in a prominent place in her home. She told me repeatedly that she could not believe that people she didn't know had reached out to her in this way, and she was very moved by your kindness. For over three years she worshiped with us every Sunday via the livestream and felt a part of our community.

A funeral will be held at her church, Augustana Lutheran, in Sioux Falls on Saturday, August 5. Her obituary is [HERE](#) if you're interested to know a bit about her. I will be away part of this/next week. Pastor Paul Axness and Pastor Karen Cluts will be here to provide excellent worship leadership and pastoral care in my absence, and I am super grateful for their support. I will need to come and go a bit in future weeks as we work on getting her house ready to sell, so thanks in advance for your patience.

Again, many thanks for your prayers for Beth, Bennett, and me during this time of sorrow in our lives.

Pastor Chris





- 3 Finley Cox, Marvin Kister, Grace Swanson
- 5 Noelle Erickson
- 6 Scott Steensen
- 7 Jack Capps, Karla Koudelka, Linda Russell
- 8 Kahlan Rowland, Valarie Rowland
- 9 Benjamin Ryherd, Roger Severson
- 11 Angela Eakins
- 13 Cole Barrett
- 14 Grant Jansen, Jon Newsom, James Petersen
- 15 Tammie Amsbaugh, Stephanie Ely
- 16 Kareem Franklin
- 18 Pam Barber
- 19 Duane Danielson
- 20 Marilyn Cornelius, Marilyn Penberthy
- 22 Alex Brooks, Kathy McCracken
- 24 Cheryl Newsom, Melvin Nielsen
- 26 Elaine Johnson
- 30 John Swanson
- 31 Mark Opsal, Delores Toft

