

THE WINDOW

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

WHLC Staff:

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Lead Pastor

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April showers bring May flowers — or lots and lots of activities as many groups and organizations conclude their “program” year and move into a summer rhythm. In the midst of everything going on in your life, keep these church things in mind as we also get ready for summer.

Sunday, May 19 is Music Sunday, an annual spring celebration of how music enriches worship in so many ways. Alleluia Choir, Windsor Bells, and Windsor Brass will all take part in giving glory to God through word and song. Invite someone to come with you at either 8:30 or 10:45 to enjoy the work of our fine music ensembles.

This is a special Music Sunday for Alleluia Choir Director, Jim Cacciatore, who is retiring from that role. Many thanks to Jim for his years of excellent service and inspiring work with the choir. Though he will be impossible to replace, a search committee has been formed and a job posting is circulating through choral and church music networks. If you know of a qualified candidate who would be excellent in this part-time position, please have them contact me.

Saturday, May 25 and Sunday, May 26 the **summer schedule begins**: outdoor worship on the front lawn at 5 p.m. Saturdays and one service at 9:30 on Sunday mornings. I really enjoy worshiping outdoors with our friends the birds and squirrels, under the mighty arms of our ancient sister the elm tree. If you haven't come before, you might like it too. Bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on. We will move indoors if inclement weather threatens.

Also on Sunday, May 26 we have a tentative plan to **welcome new members**. We have been looking for a date to do this for a long time and always bump into conflicts. If you are interested in joining WHLC, even if you were *not* able to attend the new member orientation this winter, please let me know and we'll work it out.

It didn't used to be so, but somehow May and June have become my favorite months. The color of springtime, the warm-but-not-too-warm sunshine, the ability to sleep with the windows open — it's pretty good! I hope the beauty of the earth and the goodness of the creation are inspiring you as well. May it be well with your soul.

Pastor Chris





Hopefully, **May 19** will ‘strike a chord’ with you as it’s Music Sunday and a day to honor Jim Cacciatore! Jim has devoted 26 years to enhancing our choir with music appreciation and vocal skills and has helped deliver the message of scriptures through musical arrangements. Although, we are saddened that Jim is retiring, we will be given an opportunity to thank him for his musical expertise **between services on the 19th**. On a ‘happy note’, there will be cake!

VBS Volunteers Needed!

We're still over two months away from VBS, but things are already full swing on this year's exciting week of Bible School Camp! We already have over 50 registrations if you can believe that! And that number will only continue to grow. We're excited to see new and returning names from last year, from across the community, to extended family members, to our friends at the Chin Baptist Church!



This rapidly rising number of students is super pumped for VBS, and we are happy to host them. As you might imagine, we'll need a ton of helping hands this year to serve this awesome group of kiddos. All, and any, help that can be offered would be so needed and really appreciated!

No prior experience or skill is needed to help at VBS; all you have to do is be willing to have fun alongside the kids! There are all kinds of areas to help out with, including welcoming families each morning, assisting in meal/snack prep or leading a rotation or activity the students visit. As with most years however, the biggest area of help we need are having volunteer leaders/guides for the separate age groups as they venture around the church throughout the day!

Anyone in 7th grade and up can volunteer at VBS, and VBS is a great way to meet community service or silver cord hours! We are flexible with volunteers' schedules and will take whatever time they can offer. Whether you can help for an hour or two on a single day of VBS, assist only in the afternoons, or work alternating days, we can totally work with that!

If you have any questions about VBS or volunteering, please contact Zach! Hope you can join us for this amazing week of ministry and community this summer!

VBS Donations Needed!

Thanks to everyone for sending in decor for us to use this summer for VBS! The 3rd floor has been finished, and we're now moving on to the next floor! We've had a few of you ask us what kinds of supplies we are looking for. At this point in time, we need the following items:

- **Regular or Kelly green disposable tablecloths**
- **Old camping supplies you no longer need**
- **long pins and push tacks (for sticking stuff to the ceiling)**
-

We no longer need any cardboard boxes at the moment (that might change later). As for wooden palettes, we are so grateful to have heard back from several of you offering them up. As of now, we're sort of using them on an as needed basis. We know what we want to use them for, but it's not something we can set up at this time. As such, we won't be collecting too many more at this time, but that may change again in the future!

Thank you all for contributing to the decor; the kids are already loving the forest campsite we're building here inside the church!

Summer



WORSHIP TIMES

The summer worship schedule will begin the weekend of Memorial Day.

Saturday night worship will return May 25 and begin at 5 p.m. on the WHLC front lawn, weather permitting.

Starting Sunday, May 26, there will be one 9:30 a.m. service in the sanctuary. Stop by Crabtree Parish Hall after service for fellowship, coffee and donuts!

We hope you can join us! Everyone is welcome!

Loading of the Kits & Quilts for Lutheran World Relief

We had a nice day on Saturday, April 20, for the volunteers who helped load the truck for Lutheran World Relief quilts. There were 1,073 quilts, 1,189 personal kits, 99 school kits and 308 baby kits. Over 20 churches contributed! Thanks go to everyone who helped assemble these items!



Special thanks to Dan and Debi Goss for driving to St. Paul, and to Ann Rowland for helping plan this! Several people from Grace Lutheran Church came to help, and they plan to take over the drive at their church this fall.

This drive is so successful and is supported so well by the many churches in the South Eastern Iowa district. A big thank you!

Blessings on this project,
Jan Grannes



WHLC Quilters' 1,000th Quilt!



An exciting day for our church family when we reached our 1,000th quilt for Lutheran World Relief!

Linda Anderson began photographing our quilt "production" in 2013 and with the help of many individuals in the church, number 1,000 was finished.

Sheets have been washed and donated for use as backs, kits have been cut to make assembling tops as easy as possible, in addition to the kits, many tops have been put together with fabric that the maker had on hand. The church has paid for the batting and shipping. Hope Lutheran quilters received more fabric than they needed and shared 25 bolts of fabric for our use. We have lots of donated fabric to be cut, so if you are not into kits but don't have fabric of your own to use, contact me and I will share fabric with you.

The important thing when making these quilts is to use a ½ in seam instead of the ¼ inch seam we usually use when make quilts. This makes for a stronger seam. And of course the size is 60x80 inches, as the method used to pack and ship them scrunches them into bales for shipping and that is the size the baler uses to pack them into containers.

A quilter from a church that does not have a quilting program loves to sew and felt compelled to make quilts for the overwhelming need of refugees. She makes tops and donates them to us to tie and ship.

Thanks to all of you who have helped with this outreach program. As always, we need a few more helpers to tie quilts on Monday morning, 9:30 to 11:30.

Kathy Safris, Linda Anderson, LaVon Heston, Jeri Spizale, Jan Grannes, Dee Koch





WHLC News and Notes



ELDERBERRIES

Thursday, June 6 at 11:30 a.m.

This is still being planned but save the date!

Wednesday Activities Wrap Up for Kids this Month

May marks the final three weeks of Wednesday Evening Activities before we hit the summer break. On May 15, there will be no Faith Formation, Joyful Noise or Cherub Chimes, but all other activities will take place at their usual times. May 8 will be our last week of Wednesday activities for the younger kids, and they'll spend their music time that night prepping for the special music they'll share in worship on Mother's Day!



36TH ANNUAL CONVENTION AND GATHERING SOUTHEASTERN IOWA WOMEN OF THE ELCA JUNE 14 AND 15, 2024

Location: Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church 439 3rd Avenue South, Clinton, Iowa

Theme: "JUST LOVE"

Bible verse: 1 John 3: 11b "We should LOVE one another"

Early Registration Fee: \$70.00

Speaker: Bishop Amy Current

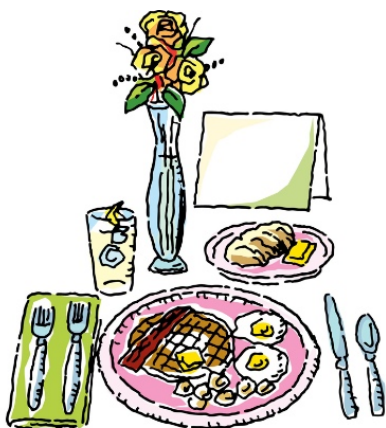
Presentations:

Sleep in Heavenly Peace

My Gear Outreach Human Trafficking and others

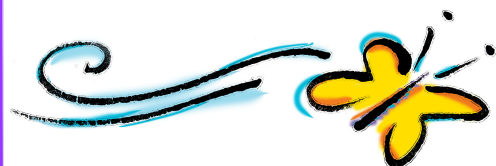
You can find sign-up info and additional info here:

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/64c7da65e662c027d8355b58/t/66182662faf20c2449fcbfb9/1712858>



Women's Bible Study & COMMUNION BRUNCH

Ruth Circle is again hosting a Bible study and brunch for all the women's circles. It will be at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 19.



TREASURER'S REPORT

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

	March 2024		Year-to-Date		2023 YTD
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
General Offering	32,560	40,000	101,241	120,000	161,110
Other General Fund Income	650	1,957	7,569	5,871	5,000
General Fund Income	33,210	41,957	108,810	125,871	166,110
General Fund Expense	38,460	41,923	119,302	125,757	115,643
General Fund Net Income	(5,250)	34	(10,492)	114	50,467
Special Offering Income	1,095		3,048		2,001
Special Offering Expense	6,678		4,583		920
Special Offering Net Income	(5,583)		(1,535)		1,081
Total Net Income	(10,833)	34	(12,027)	102	51,548

Mortgage Balance	524,832.64
Capital Appeal Permanent Fund Balance	129,683.54

Offerings were below budget in March; however it is important to note that the last Sunday of the month was March 31, and offering from that weekend will be reflected in the April statements. Although we are still below budget for the year, we expect the General Offerings to approach budget levels as the year continues.

Like all quarter-ends, March 2024 General Fund Expenses include the quarterly Benevolence payments. Overall, year-to-date expenses are coming in lower than budgeted. In addition to the normal seasonality of expenses, a portion of this favorable variance is in the Buildings and Grounds category, much of which is due to our cleaning bill for March not arriving until April, meaning that will catch up next month. However, with Building and Grounds and many other expense categories, careful expense management without sacrificing programming is keeping our overall expenses under control.

In April another Certificate of Deposit for \$108,000 will mature and be up for review. This CD has been earning 4.25% and interest rates are currently higher than that, so we will be able to improve that rate when we renew.

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

Please let me know if you have any questions,
Barb Waymire





WHLC BAPTISM



Welcome to our church family!

**The
Sacrament of
Holy Baptism
was
celebrated
April 21 for
Theodore
Frederick
Wieland.
Parents are
Kory and
Hannah
Wieland, and**



grandmother is Tracey Hirst.

**Baptismal sponsors are
Marshall and Staci Mease.
Welcome to our church
family, Theodore!**





College Care Packages



Grateful college kids have enjoyed receiving their care packages from their WHLC family. Thank you again to everyone who provided goodies and helped with planning. There will be more opportunities in the fall to help with this ministry team! -Maren Steensen



Sympathy to the friends and family of Vivien Wells, who died Saturday, April 13. Her funeral will be at WHLC on Thursday, May 16, at 11 a.m., with a luncheon following.



Thankful and Blessed



In the midst of Holy Week, many of you came together to help in some way for the celebration of the life of Ron Stoen, father of Tracy Hirst.

Many, many people brought bars and cookies - Cheryl Rigler, Inez Boyken, Julie Borseth, Mary Wilke-Adair, Carol Popken, Sue Crum, Dana Leahy, Cindy Petersen, Kathy McCracken, Cindy Ambrosion, Deb Goss, Peg Armstrong-Gustafson, Cheryl Wheeler, Maren Steensen, Delores Koch and Linda Anderson. They were all delicious and tasted by the kitchen crew before serving!

There were many that helped with setting up, serving, coffee, dishes and laundry. Setting up - Dianne Greenfield, Cindy Ambrosion and Zach Meyer. Serving, tasting, plating bars and serving - Inez Boyken, Sue Crum, Kathy McCracken, Julie Borseth, Sharman Blake and Linda Anderson.

Coffee and Lemonade table - Quent Boyken and Julie Borseth.

Dishes, cleanup and laundry - Chuck Young, Quent Boyken, Peg Armstrong-Gustafson, Paula Virtue, Sue Crum and Inez Boyken.

With three funerals in two weeks, we have reached out to more people and all have been very generous in helping out in one way or another. It takes a team and we are so blessed to have you the members of WHLC on our funeral luncheon team, thank you!

Blessings, Linda Anderson and Sharman Blake





MAY BIRTHDAYS



- 3 Benjamin Klooster
- 4 Judy Munger
- 5 Janice Bice, Everett Waymire
- 6 Will Canine
- 7 Samuel Steensen
- 8 Cindy Ambrosion,
Anne Rowland
- 9 Eric Boyken, Ross Curnow,
Brinkley Seifert
- 10 Patrick Fergus,
Georgann Johnson
- 11 Dick Wilberg
- 14 Lori Glawe
- 15 Pamela Lundell
- 17 LaVon Heston
- 20 Marile South, Scott Woodin
- 21 Everly Burgin
- 24 Karen Cluts, Chris Nicolet,
Ann Stoen
- 25 Kendra Ziemke
- 27 Ava Valin



Birthday Blessings



THANK YOU!

Many thanks to Rick Wagaman for picking up the donated peanut butter and delivering it to the DMARC Food Pantry warehouse. We clocked in at 392 jars. Well done, church! The peanut butter will be shared across the food pantry network wherever the need is greatest.



Thank you to all who helped to put the choir room back together! The room has been repaired after the water damage and is ready for use!

Thank You, Funeral Volunteers!

Thank you to Bonnie Hyda for organizing volunteers for all funeral services! She and Henry also come and set up the narthex and sanctuary prior to funerals.

Thank you to Linda Anderson and Sharman Blake for all you do to make the funeral luncheons go smoothly! We know you make lots of phone calls for salads and desserts, and do lots of set-up and tear-down.

And thank you to all church members who help and donate their time for funerals! You're all appreciated!

