

WANDERINGS AND WONDERINGS

First of all, I want to thank you again - for all the prayers and concerns, the cards and memorials, and all the kind words and support this past month in light of my Mom's death. I am very grateful to God for you.

Now to change the venue drastically – last week I was privileged to do some continuing education at Wartburg Seminary – two courses taught by the church wide staff of the ELCA. It was very enlightening, useful and challenging (and it will be that for all of us ☺). In one of the out-of-class conversations, we began talking about the results of a multi-year self-study, published in the book “Reveal: Where Are You” - done by Willow Creek Community Church (WCCC). I have talked about WCCC before for good reason; they have been a model church for many, a modern story of Acts 2 – one of the fastest growing and most prolific churches of our time. It is located outside of Chicago. I have had the opportunity to worship there and learn from them. They have also been the target of significant criticism, mostly out of jealousy, though sometimes justified. They have been cutting edge which makes many of us a bit uncomfortable (that means “change”) and they have resources (financial, etc.) that most of us can't match. They have been bold to say, “Look at us. We can teach you something.” And they do have something to say, and have tried – but that isn't always well received.

Enough of WCCC, I would like to commend their lead pastor, Bill Hybels, he has always seemed to be upfront, transparent you could say – he has learned something, he does not hold it back, but reveals it. Pastor Hybels calls the findings from this study, “earth-shaking,” “ground-breaking,” and “mind-blowing.” The report revealed that most of what they have been doing at WCCC form many years and what they have taught millions of others to do is not necessarily producing solid disciples of Jesus Christ. Numbers yes, disciples no.

It also states that success is not determined by the size of the crowd that gathers on Sunday morning, but by the transformation of lives into mature discipleship

– people who live “the faith,” modeling the example of Jesus Christ, in the world 24/7. Not Sunday morning goes, but 24/7 disciples. And what might be the most essential element to mature discipleship is --- is regular reading and study of Scripture. Reading and studying the word is the only way we know what God is doing.

Pastor Hybels states: “*We should have gotten people, taught people, how to read their Bible between services, how to do the spiritual practices much more aggressively on their own.*”

Pastor Harry Wendt, author of the Crossway Bible studies, talks about the Great Commission in Matthew 28:19: “*The opening words in English translations are usually, “Go and make disciples of all nations, teaching them...” However in the Greek the first word is not an imperative. It is a participle. The passage should be translated, “As you are going through this world...” The message does not (so much) have to do with sending missionaries to distant places because some of us cannot go ourselves. Jesus' message is, “As you walk through life, always be teaching and discipling those around you, wherever you go...” Life is to be teaching-about-Jesus, demonstrating-Jesus experience – no-stop!”*

As we get ready to enter the Lenten season again, let us be sure “**to engage God's Word (reading and studying), so that God's Word will engage us (living it).**” In Jesus, God invites us to have this “God encounter,” to let God come into our lives to transform us, change us, that is what we want as followers of Jesus. And then, we are asked to live in/by/through this transformation, so that we are a living witnesses for those around us - 24/7.

Let us see what happens when we plant the seed of God's Word in our lives and in our hearts – don't be surprised if transformation (change), even radical things being to stir in and around us.

Wanderings and Wonderings,
Pastor Bill Peters

WORSHIP – EDUCATION – SERVICE – FELLOWSHIP

WORSHIP

Sunday, January 20th – Epiphany 2

“Alive” worship team will be leading worship.

Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, January 20th following worship

Agenda items to be voted:

- Congregational Elections
 - Approval of congregational budget
 - Approval of parish budget
 - Distribution of Estate (*interest*) gifts
- Congregational Dinner will follow the meeting in the fellowship hall.*

Friday, January 25th – Guatemala “Sending”

A short worship of prayer, blessing and sending.
3:45 pm at Salem Chapel



Guatemala *Pastor Bill be in Guatemala the Sundays of Jan. 27th & Feb. 3rd.*

Please contact Pastor Baldwin via his cell phone - this is the most effective and efficient.

Pastor Randy Baldwin #590-0727

Sunday, January 27th – Epiphany 3

Baptism: Ava Aloise Knudtson
Daughter Brooke Wilkinson/Kevin Knudtson



Sunday, February 3rd – Transfiguration

Celebrated with Adult Choir
Holy Communion will be celebrated next week, Sunday, February 10th



“Souper” Bowl Dinner

Sunday, February 3rd - Following worship
Hosted by the Youth

Ash Wednesday Worship

7:15 pm Wednesday, February 6th
Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes
At Winnebago Lutheran Church

Sunday, February 10th – Lent 1

Celebrated with Holy Communion
Installation of Congregational Leaders



INSTALLATION OF CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS

Sunday, February 10th during worship.

All current council members, WELCA officers, and Youth Planning team will be installed

Sunday, February 17th – Lent 2

“Alive” worship team will be leading worship.

Sunday, February 24th – Lent 3

Pastor Baldwin will be leading worship.

Sunday, March 2nd – Lent 4

Celebrated with Adult Choir & Holy Communion

Sunday, March 9th – Lent 5

LENTEN WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday Worship

7:15 pm Wednesday, February 6th
Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes
At Winnebago Lutheran Church

MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIPS

Wednesday, at 7:15 pm

Lenten Supper 6:00- 7:00 pm

Each week the midweek worship will be held at a different parish congregation. We invite you to car pool to the different churches – talk to one another to arrange this.

February 13th Sion Lutheran Church

February 20th Winnebago Lutheran. Church

February 27th Silver Lake Lutheran. Church

March 5th Bethany Lutheran Church

March 12th Immanuel Lutheran Church



PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

Sunday, March 16th

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday, March 20th at Bethany

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP

Friday, March 21st

2:00 pm Winnebago w/Holy Communion

7:30 pm Bethany

EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday, March 23rd w/Holy Communion

7:00 am *Easter Sunrise* – Bethany

10:30 am *Easter Festival* – Winnebago



ONE IN CHRIST LUTHERAN PARISH

PARISH FAMILY FELLOWSHIP EVENT

Game Night

Sunday, February 10th

4:00 – 7:00 pm

At Bethany Lutheran Church

All ages are invited



We plan to have one or two primary games that will enable those gathered to mix and fellowship with one another while having fun.

Then there will be time to play your games geared for small groups.

Bring: Your favorite board and/or group games
And a snack food/dessert to share

A light supper and beverages will be provided.

Childcare will be provided at the church.

Midweek Christian Education for 1st - 4th Grades

3:15 pm to 5:00 pm at Salem Lutheran Church
Winter Session begins January 16th

WOW has changed to F~UN! What is F~UN?
"Faith Unending" Christian Youth Program.

We are off on another exciting adventure as we explore the rainforest and learn about God's love for us. We are REALLY in need of volunteers. The kindergartners join us this semester; there are 75 enrolled in school. There's no prep work on your part – just show up and lend a hand. You'll have as much fun as the kids do!

Call Susi Askildson at 590-1873.

F~UN! (formerly known as WOW), needs your help. One of the projects this semester needs empty paper towel rolls. Please make arrangements to get them to Salem. Thank you!

Confirmation Ministry

Confirmation Classes

Wednesdays after-school at Sion Lutheran Church
4:00 pm – 5:45 pm



Confirmation Bowling

Wednesday, January 23rd

3:30 – 7:00 pm

Cost \$5.50 - bowling (2 games/shoes)

3:30 pm - Lake Mills youth meet at Salem

We will pool rides and head down to SuperBowl, Forest City

Forest City youth meet us at SuperBowl.

Northwood/Glenville youth talk to Pastor Baldwin

6:00 pm – Gathering at Our Saviour's, Leland

We will gather here for a light supper, fellowship, and closing worship.

*Everything will be wrapped up
and heading home by 6:45 pm.*

Seventh Grade Class

Wednesday, January 30th

4:00 – 7:45 pm

Movie "Jesus"

There will be pizza there at 4:00 pm and snacks during the movie.

This is a change in our schedule to help make up for missed classes.



Ninth Grade Discipleship Class

Wednesday, January 23rd at 7:00pm at Salem Chapel

Bible Reading: A Personal Devotion Life Part 1
Pastor David Jordon

There is no Class scheduled for February.

Next Class – March 26th

**Winnebago Luther League Youth
Tubing & Skiing – Mt. Kato, Mankato
Sunday, February 17, 2008**

**Meet at the Immanuel Lutheran
Church at 1:00 pm**

Cost is \$14 Ski Lift

\$13 Rental

\$13 Tubing

Bring your own food or money to buy something.

Bring this with you on Sunday!!!

Permission/Release Form – Skiing – Mt Kato

I, _____ give my son/daughter _____
permission to ski at Mt. Kato, Mankato on Sunday, February 17, 2008. We assume all medical liabilities
related with this trip. I understand that this permission slip releases One in Christ Lutheran Parish and the
adult chaperones from all corporate and personal liability concerning my child(ren). I also give permission
to adult sponsors to proceed with any medical treatment that is believed to be a medical emergency.

Parent's signature

Date

Phone Number

Emergency ContactPhone Number

*Please send a copy of your insurance card or the necessary information
with this permission/release form. Thank you.*

February Birthdays

1 – James Knudtson
 1 – James Sletten
 4 – Kirk Henely
 5 – Lydia Saxton
 7 – Daniel Charlson
 7 – Tom Fjelstad
 8 – Anita Peters
 10 – Alex Isebrand
 10 – A.P. Nelson
 11 – Gregory Nelson
 11 – Kelly Renshaw
 12 – Gro Bergo
 15 – Orla Nelson
 16 – Mark Egesdal
 17 – Mike Aschenbrenner
 20 – Nicole Charlson
 20 – Bertrin Hauge
 20 – Sara Nyhus
 26 – Rachel Larson
 27 – Brian Abele

February Anniversaries

5 – Noel & Joyce Holtan

WORSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES

9:00 am Worship at Bethany Lutheran Church

10:15 am Sunday School at Bethany

9:00 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship at Winnebago Lutheran Church

“ONE IN CHRIST” LUTHERAN PARISH’

PASTORS’

FEBRUARY PREACHING SCHEDULE

for Winnebago and Bethany

February 3rd – Pastor Bill Peters

February 6th – Ash Wednesday (at Winnebago)

Pastor Bill Peters

February 10th – Pastor Bill Peters

February 17th – Pastor Bill Peters

February 24th – Pastor Randy Baldwon



ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

Wednesday, February 6th at Winnebago at 7:15 pm



CHOIRS PRACTICE & PERFORM

The Adult Choir

Practice – Wednesdays at 8:00 pm

February 6, 20, & 27

Sundays – February 3, 10, & 24 at 10:00 am.

Sing during Worship

Sundays, February 3rd

The “Alive” Choir

Practice

Wednesday, February 13th at 8:00 pm

Sunday, February 10th at 7:00 pm

Sing during Worship

Sunday – February 17th

Cherub & Youth Choir

Practice – Every Sunday at 9:10 am

Cherub Sing

Watch your bulletins for information

Youth Sing

Watch your bulletins for information

WELCA

The Winnebago Women of the ELCA will meet on Thursday, February 28th at 1:30 pm. The hostess is Ruth Sheldon. Devotions will be led by the Martha Circle. The Bible Study will be led by Pastor Bill.

CIRCLES

The *Esther/Ruth Circle* does not meet in February.

LENTEN WORSHIP SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAYS

Lenten Meals will be served before each Service from 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Services will be at 7:15 pm

February 13 at Sion

February 20 at Winnebago

February 27 at Silver Lake

March 5 at Bethany

March 12 at Immanuel

SHOWERS

BRIDAL SHOWER

An Open House Bridal Shower honoring Robin Sime, Bride-elect of Brian Charlson, will be held on Saturday, March 1st from 9:00 – 11:00 am in the Fellowship hall. All family and friends are welcome.



FEBRUARY DUTY ROSTER

Altar Guild.....Watch your Bulletins
 Acolytes.....Megan Johnson
 Tyler Schroader
 Ushers.....Mark Thompson
 Gary Thompson
 Steve Rusley
 John Johnson

**SPECIAL SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING
 2007 – 2008**

Compassion International Children

The Sunday School has been helping 2 children from Compassion International and are holding special offerings each week. Their names are Norma (age 10) from Guatemala and Koboré (age 6) from Africa. If you would like to contribute to this special mission, a box with their pictures is in the Narthex. Some additional information about Koboré and Norma is posted by the elevator wall. Thank you.



**COLLECTING
 PRE-SCHOOL AGE
 BOOKS**

In January the Winnebago

Sunday School will be collecting new/used Pre-School books (for ages 0 – 5) as a Service Project. They will be giving these books to needy organizations in our area. *Thank you.*

EASTER LILIES



If you would like to order an Easter Lily for the Easter Worship Service there will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex starting on February 3rd. The price of each Lily is \$7.00; please make your check payable to Winnebago Lutheran Church and in the memo – Easter Lily. Sign-up deadline is Sunday, March 9th. When you sign-up please let us know if the Lily is “*In Honor Of*” or “*In Memory Of*”. You can give your checks to either: Sandy Lindflott, or Carmen Knudtson. Thank You.

ATTENDANCE AND CONTRIBUTIONS

(Benevolence includes Missions, Missionary, World Hunger, etc.)

	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Contributions</u>
<i>December:</i>		
23 –	89	\$1320.00
24 – <i>Christmas Eve</i>	325	\$1505.00
		<i>(plus \$2246.06 to Benevolence)</i>
25 – <i>Christmas Day</i>	33	\$ 60.00
		<i>(plus \$265.00 to Benevolence)</i>
30 –	53	\$2731.00
		<i>(plus \$10.00 to Benevolence)</i>
<i>January:</i>		
6 –	104	\$2465.00
		<i>(plus \$1025.00 to Benevolence)</i>
13 –	107	\$1754.00
		<i>(plus \$107.00 to Benevolence)</i>

NARTHEX ADDITION OFFERING

This is included in the above giving!

<i>December:</i>		
23 –		\$ 0
24 – <i>Christmas Eve</i>		\$ 100.00
25 – <i>Christmas Day</i>		\$ 0
30 –		\$ 200.00
<i>January:</i>		
6 –		\$1028.00
13 –		\$ 578.00
Total Given to Date		\$109,949.96
Narthex Loan Balance is at \$56,145.74 <i>(Originally borrowed was \$85,000.00)</i> Thank you.		

PARSONAGE UPDATES

This is included in the above giving!

<i>December:</i>		
23 –		\$ 0
24 – <i>Christmas Eve</i>		\$ 0
25 – <i>Christmas Day</i>		\$ 0
30 –		\$ 0
<i>January:</i>		
6 –		\$ 28.00
13 –		\$ 28.00
Total Given to Date		\$8,971.75

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting for Winnebago this year will be held on Sunday, January 20th

The meeting will follow the Worship Service.

2008 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

- Reports
- Voting on Congregational Leaders and Committee Member
- Approve Parish Revised Budget
- Approve Congregational Budget
- Distribution of Winnebago Estate and Gift Fund
- Congregational Dinner will follow the meeting in the fellowship hall.***

WINNEBAGO'S GIVING TOTALS FOR 2007

Year-to-date 2007 Budgeted Goal


ELCA Bible Camps	\$ 250.00	
ELCA Domestic		
Disaster Relief	\$ 2335.67	
International ELCA		
Disaster Relief	\$ 1000.00	
Local Benevolences	\$ 4813.00	
Lutheran Services of IA		
<i>Includes: Beloit & Bremwood</i>		
	\$ 1087.60	\$ 1000.00
Luth World Relief	\$ 0	
Misc. Benevolences	\$ 5694.12	
Missionary	\$ 63.00	\$ 2000.00
Mission Support	\$13,471.40	\$11,000.00
Waldorf	\$ 216.73	
World Hunger	\$ 3495.54	\$ 1600.00
WOW	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00

As you take a moment to reflect upon how God has provided for you this past year, also reflect upon the above numbers as a means of how we extend God's provision to others. It would be exciting if we could meet and even exceed a number of our goals for this past year. Thank you for sharing what God has shared with you!

Winnebago
Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday, January 20th
Following worship

MIDWEEK LENT WORSHIP

Ash Wednesday Worship
7:15 pm – Wednesday, February 6th
 At Winnebago
 Celebrated with Holy
 Communion and Imposition of
 Ashes



Midweek Lent Worships

Wednesdays

6:00 – 7:00 pm Supper	
7:15 pm Worship	
February 13 th	Sion
February 20 th	Winnebago
February 27 th	Silver Lake
March 5 th	Bethany
March 12 th	Immanuel

