

inspire!

A monthly magazine of
Wayzata Community Church
OCTOBER 2017
Volume 39, Number 9

inspire the world with the inclusive love of Jesus

Always Reforming

By Rev. Rustin Comer, Minister of Faith Formation

On October 31, 1517, in Wittenberg, Germany, Martin Luther posted his thoughts about some theological topics and the practices of the Church. That simple action began the Reformation — a movement that changed Western society and Christianity forever. As the reformers looked at the European church, they saw an institution that had wandered from the heart of the gospel. Roused to action by the corruption and abuses they saw in the church, visionary pastors and leaders like Martin Luther and John Calvin spearheaded a movement that transformed Christianity and eventually led to the emergence of the protestant denominations that exist today. The Reformation sought to reorient Christianity to the original message of Jesus and the early church. This year is the 500th anniversary of the Reformation movement Martin Luther began in Germany. Over the month of October we will celebrate the reformation and the clarion call to **be a church that is always reforming.**

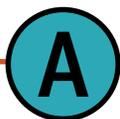
Out of the reformation came five important rally cries that have shaped the Church throughout history. The “Five Solas” are five Latin phrases that summarize the essential doctrines that separated Protestants from Roman Catholics. “Sola” is Latin for “alone,” and was coupled with other words to demonstrate how the Christian life is experienced.

Sola gratia, sola fide, sola scriptura, Sola Christus, and Sola De Gloria — by faith alone, by grace alone, by Scripture alone, through Christ alone, for the glory of God. The key to Reformation theology is found in God’s love for people.

Always Reforming, continued on page 2

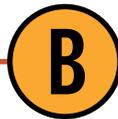


*By grace alone
means that God
gives His love
freely.*



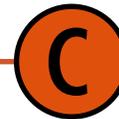
Solas Sermon Series

We will begin a new sermon series in October: *Solas—The Reformation 500 Years Later*. Read more on page 2.



Parables

There is a reformation breaking out at WCC that declares this: the Church is incomplete without our brothers and sisters with disabilities. More on page 4.



Differences Make Us Whole

Jesus reminds us that unity begins in the church and moves out into the world. Read this thoughtful reflection from Rev. Danielle Jones, on page 9.



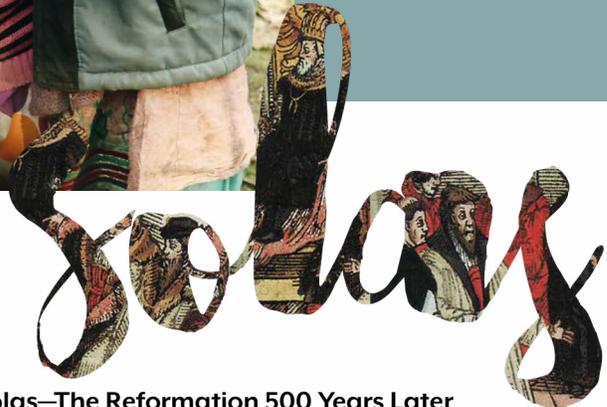
Siblings at the Grahm Camp in Sosan, India
“When asked, they told me they were siblings and they love their life out of the city chaos.”
—Siddhant Soni, photographer (Unsplash)

Always Reforming, from page 1

By grace alone means that God gives His love freely. People don't earn God's love. By faith alone means that those who are in relationship with Jesus are given direct access to God's love and forgiveness. Faith is something God gives to people through His Holy Spirit. By Scripture alone means that God has revealed His truth through the Word of God. The Bible as part of the Word of God, then becomes our source and norm for the truth about God. This doesn't mean that the Bible is the only place where truth is found, but it does mean that everything else we learn about God and the world, should be encountered in light of Scripture.

This is really the focus of the Reformation. God's grace, our faith and the Scriptures are all focused on Jesus Christ and all for the Glory of God. The Reformation moved the focus from the Church to Jesus. When Martin Luther understood Jesus as the center of all of Scripture and man's relationship to God, he saw everything in light of this relationship between God and man. This moved him to teach about the Christian's role in society, the role of the government, and how individual Christians live out their faith.

Throughout these 500 years the church has been in a constant state of evolution. With each generation comes new changes, new opportunities, for the community of faith to draw deeper and more clearer into the love of Jesus. Join us as we celebrate the reformation and seek new ways for Wayzata Community Church to re-form and more emulate the inclusive love of Jesus.



Solas—The Reformation 500 Years Later
A SERMON SERIES CELEBRATING THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION
October 15-November 5, 2017

The Protestant Reformation of the 16th century changed Christianity forever. As the reformers looked at the European church, they saw an institution that had wandered from the heart of the gospel. Roused to action by the corruption and abuses they saw in the church, visionary pastors and leaders like Martin Luther and John Calvin spearheaded a movement that transformed Christianity and eventually led to the emergence of the Protestant denominations that exist today. The Reformation sought to reorient Christianity on the original message of Jesus and the early church.

The “Five Solas” are five Latin phrases that became the rallying cry of the Reformation. They summarize the essential doctrines that separated Protestants from Roman Catholics. “Sola” is Latin for “alone,” or “only,” and was coupled with other words to demonstrate how the Christian life is experienced. Over this series we will explore these historical statements, view them through our contemporary context, and explore the continued call to reformation as followers in the way of Jesus.



in[]between

Ancient and Modern Reformers

In Between is a new learning opportunity specifically connected to sermon series in order to take the teaching from Sunday sermons a little deeper. It's called in[]between because it is exactly that— in[]between our 9:00 and 10:45 a.m. services. This series will be a “TED-like” experience, telling the stories of ancient and modern reformers. Join us at 10:10 a.m. in the Piper Library for great coffee and 15 minutes of learning and discussion.

- Week 1: Luther
- Week 2: Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Week 3: Zwingli
- Week 4: Jim Wallis



for the moment

Rev. Dr. John F. Ross, Senior Minister

The Rummage Sale

Join me in looking back to the past, in order to look ahead to the future.

No. Not OUR Rummage Sale. THE Rummage Sale.

Historians, theologians, sociologists and other people of faith from virtually every discipline will acknowledge that since the 1st century founding of Christianity, a major RE-formation of the Christian church has taken place about every 500 years.

That is to say, the collective church sorts through all that it has accumulated over recent centuries, and sends to the recycling center what feels like extra baggage, while preserving for the future the core essentials. Thus ushering in a new era of Christianity.

At the close of the 5th century, it was the "Great Collapse" of Rome. 500 years later it was the "Great Schism" that divided the Catholic Church. 500 years later as the printing press was invented, it was the Great Reformation that gave birth to our tradition known as Protestantism.

500 years later... is TODAY... this very month of October 2017! And who among us can deny the strong sense of RE-formation that's happening right now? Who doesn't feel the winds of change gaining speed and strength around us? From within the church as well as from outside the church.

Some view change, reform, or reorientation as bad news, denying its existence or declaring the death of the church in headlines, book titles, or the latest research findings. But a growing number of us see what is happening not as the death or decline of Christianity, but a rebirth... an emergence, not of a new tradition but of a renewed claim of God's love in Christ Jesus.

It might be easier for us to just sit back and wait for this next Rummage Sale to occur around us or happen to us, but I prefer to be a part of it. I want us to collectively participate in it — to be a part of what God is ONCE AGAIN doing through His church.

For the moment, join me in looking back to the past, in order to look ahead to the future. We will spend our Sundays in October exploring the five "SOLAS" of the Protestant Reformation of 500 years ago. This is a remarkable moment in time... let's not let it pass us by.

See you in church,

John

Rev. Dr. John F. Ross, Senior Minister



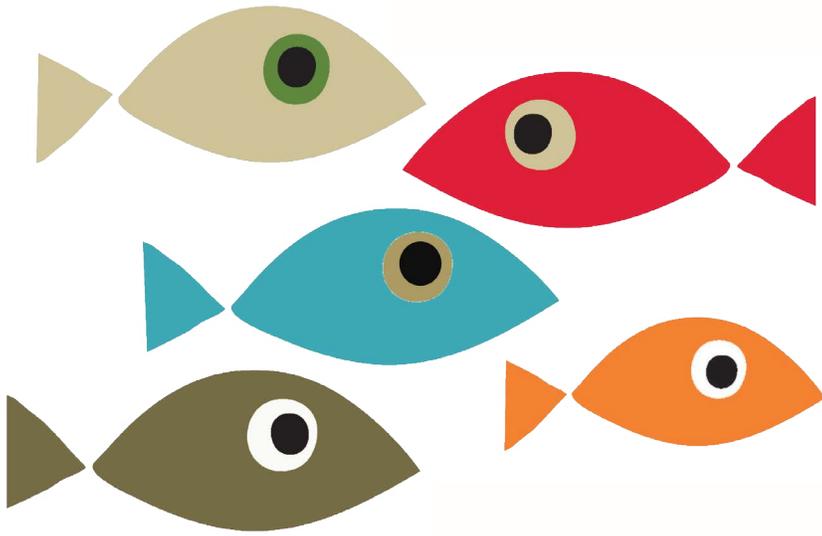
Author Ward Brehm

Bigger Than Me: Just When I Thought I Had All the Answers, God Changed the Questions



On Monday, October 16 at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel, Wayzata Community Church will host one of our own. Author, Entrepreneur and Humanitarian Ward Brehm will share from his new

book, *Bigger than Me*. *Bigger Than Me* is a "collection of candid reflections from a successful businessman about money, ego, truth, busyness, solitude, legacy, dying, faith, gratitude, and much more... If you have found yourself looking for deeper purpose and meaning this book will inspire you to make a course correction that doesn't involve sweeping the past aside. Rather, you can use all of life's lessons to build something new and bigger than yourself." Join us in the Chapel as Ward shares his stories and challenges us to a new way of life.



parables

Summer Camp, Parables-Style

Athletes are both strong and bold. A runner about to begin the race at the start line, the defense at the line of scrimmage, the pitcher standing on the mound. These athletes must be strong and bold, believing in their own ability. WCC's Parables week-long summer camp centered on this Olympic theme, helping campers focus on their own unique talents and skill.

Every day the entire group made the journey from the Gym to the Chapel. Our exuberance was obvious to those working in the church, as we did not sneak! Instead, the group of campers and volunteers marched with excitement to our place of worship! We sang at the top of our lungs, we prayed and we studied the Bible.

Deuteronomy 31:6

"Be strong and bold; have no fear or dread of them, because it is the Lord your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you."

We do not just read Bible verses, we make them our own so that we truly understand them. What does this verse mean to the Parables community? In our lives there are times

when we are confident, this is what God wants for us. It may be when we are on the basketball court, running a race, or swimming for a Special

"Scooching Over" as Reformation

So this month we are celebrating the 500th year anniversary of the Reformation—the famous religious movement instigated by a group of Protestants in an effort to "reform" the Catholic Church. The root of the word reformation comes from the Latin word *reformare*, which means "to form again or to change." At its root level, reformation means "to make changes to something with the intention of setting it back on the right path."

A few years ago, here at WCC, we put our stake in the ground regarding what reformation meant to us. As a church, we committed ourselves to a vision that calls us to "Inspire The World With The Inclusive Love of Jesus." And what we have found is that inclusivity is a lovely idea, but a very challenging word to put consistently into action. It's elusive... It goes against the very grain of our human nature. It means opening our doors to people who are different from us, to those who make us uncomfortable and who don't follow our rules of engagement or decorum. It means embracing a ministry called Parables.

Yes, there is a reformation breaking out at WCC. And that reformation declares this: the Church is incomplete without our brothers and sisters with disabilities.

And at that moment, the moment we committed to that challenging vision, I believe we instigated our own bold reformation. Yes, there is a reformation breaking out at WCC. And that reformation declares this: the Church is incomplete without our brothers and sisters with disabilities.

You see, two thousand years ago Jesus was blindingly clear about his demand to make a seat for everyone at the Banquet Table of God. No exceptions. This is hard stuff, but throughout the Gospel we see that it is unmistakably our charge. And here at WCC, we are doing it, in spades. We are "scooching" over to make room for the stranger who has special needs. That is no small feat my friends. That's what reformations look like. Reformations shake things up...they change the game. Together, we are reforming the church.

What a privilege to be in ministry with each of you as we do this important work together. Blessings on the journey.

—Rev. Leslie Neugent



“I can say that these guys have become some of my best friends. I really like hanging out with them each month at our respite/friendship group, and loved summer camp. They’re cool.”

**Samuel Arnold, 7th grader
Minnetonka Middle School East**



Olympics medal. It could also be a time when we are at work or with friends. There are other times when we don't feel strong, we aren't bold and we lack confidence. We may be nervous to make a purchase (“What if I don't pay fast enough?”), or when we have to start at a new school (“Who will sit with me at lunch?”)

When we are scared and without confidence, we will ask for help from our family, our trusted friends or mentors. Above all, we will pray and remember God will not fail or forsake us. He's holding us all the time!

2 Timothy 1:7

“For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and love and of self-discipline.”

A wise camper read this, stood very tall with her hands on her hips and said, “I'm fierce!” Indeed! The lesson is to celebrate what you are able to do, know whom to go to when you need help, and know that it is smart to ask for help sometimes.

Just like a football player wearing a helmet and pads to protect his or her body during a game, we have Jesus to protect us! He will soften the blow of our hurts. He heals our hearts and gives us comfort. Just like the coach's playbook, we have the Bible to guide us. We build our spiritual muscles when we read the Bible and learn together. Our pastors and teachers are like the football coach; the Bible is their playbook. Just like the football players have their team, we have each other. Not just our Parables friends, but everyone at WCC. The inclusive love from our church fills us up and makes us better people. No matter our age, our ability, or what sport we play, we are all on the same team. Team Jesus!

—Kelly Pederson



Spirit Award

The Spirit Award this month goes to our wonderful team of volunteer receptionists: Nancy Bacon, Sharon Gay, Rita Beckman, Pat Halsten, Robin Carlson, Deva Hess, Polly Carver, Mary Ann Mead, Mary Clinton, Rose Minor, Nancy Crist, Ann Schenkel, Jan Eickhoff, Pat Shell, Inez Gantz and Dale Simmons.

The WCC receptionist is most often the first welcoming and friendly face visitors see when they come to our church and the first voice they hear when they call Wayzata Community Church. They are here 5 days a week to greet visitors and answer phones and “work” a 4 hour shift. They are a steady presence here in the Business Office, as they are here every single week. In addition to addressing a myriad of questions, they graciously do key projects: they stuff our Sunday bulletins, help with mailings, address cards, make name tags, put together gift bags, make lanyards, and basically, help us with anything we need. They are a neat group, who truly embody the servant spirit. They are retired teachers, former WCC employees, writers, former secretaries and assistants, as well as many other professions.

We are grateful to our Receptionist team and honor them this month with our Spirit Award. Their dedication, devotion, servant spirit, and great sense of humor defines the team and lifts up all whom they care for.

A colleague shared...“My eyes were opened after sitting at the desk for just a half hour... the breadth and depth of the calls and questions they get...Oh my!!! The receptionists probably know more about the church and the comings and goings of everyone than the staff does — they are our eyes and ears. They are patient, kind, caring, helpful, motivated, passionate, devoted... I adore them and am thankful for each one of them — they all bring their unique selves to our desk — smiles to greet, warm voices to answer, and kind hearts to respond to our congregation's needs.”

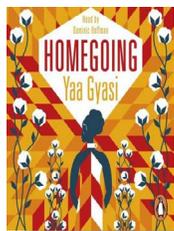
Thank you to our receptionists for inspiring us to share the inclusive love of Jesus Christ.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

October 2017



All Readers Invited! The Third Thursday Readers will meet in the Piper Library on Thursday, October 19 at 1:00 p.m. to discuss *Homegoing*, by Yaa Gyasi. If you like to read and discuss books, consider joining this group of avid readers. Books are chosen by the group members, and include literary and historical fiction, as well as non-fiction of many types, including biography, autobiography, and memoir. Attend every month, or when time and interest allow. Everyone is welcome!

<p>1</p> <p>Rev. Danielle Jones preaching 8 a.m. Chapel Communion, Chapel 9:00 a.m. Celebrations Worship, Sanctuary 10:30 a.m. Parables Worship, Chapel 10:45 a.m. Traditions Worship, Sanctuary Meridian Manor Worship, 1 p.m.</p> <p>Smart Stepfamily Study, 10:15 a.m., Piper Library Middle School Leaders Meeting, 11:45 a.m., Onan Andrea Tatley Ordination, 3 p.m., Chapel Parables & Pizza Family Night, 5:30 p.m. (offsite)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Archives, 9:30 a.m. Women's AA, 10 a.m. Middle School CE Board, 7 p.m. Al Anon, 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Planning Committee, 6 p.m. High School Board, 6:30 p.m. Board of Deacons, 7 p.m. Children's CE Board, 7 p.m. WCCNS Board, 7 p.m. OA, 7 p.m.</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Rev. Dr. John Ross preaching 8 a.m. Chapel Communion, Chapel 9:00 a.m. Celebrations Worship, Sanctuary 10:30 a.m. Parables Worship, Chapel 10:45 a.m. Traditions Worship, Sanctuary Meridian Manor Worship, 1 p.m.</p> <p>Smart Stepfamily Study, 10:15 a.m., Piper Library Pathways Leader Meeting, 12 p.m.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Archives, 9:30 a.m. Women's AA, 10 a.m. Camp & Retreat Board, 6:30 p.m. Membership Committee, 6:30 p.m. I Am That Girl, 7 p.m. Al Anon, 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Thimble Bees, 9 a.m. Executive Team, 5:30 p.m. Rummage Wrap-Up, 5:30 p.m. Building & Grounds Board, 7 p.m. Personnel Committee, 7 p.m. Charles Lazarus Concert, 7 p.m. OA, 7 p.m.</p>
<p>15</p> <p>BAPTISMS Rev. Dr. John Ross preaching 8 a.m. Chapel Communion, Chapel 9:00 a.m. Celebrations Worship, Sanctuary 10:30 a.m. Parables Worship, Chapel 10:45 a.m. Traditions Worship, Sanctuary Meridian Manor Worship, 1 p.m.</p> <p>Smart Stepfamily Study, 10:15 a.m., Piper Library Called to Care Training, 11 a.m. Wayzata Symphony Orchestra Concert, 3 p.m.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Archives, 9:30 a.m. Women's AA, 10 a.m. Soul Sisters Steering Committee, 6 p.m. Ward Brehm Author Event, 6:30 p.m. followed by Reception, 7:30 p.m. Al Anon, 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Thimble Bees Handcrafters, 9 a.m. Mission & Outreach Board, 6:30 p.m. Church Council, 7 p.m. Unique Family Ministry Meeting, 7 p.m. OA, 7 p.m.</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Rev. Dr. John Ross preaching 8 a.m. Chapel Communion, Chapel 9:00 a.m. Celebrations Worship, Sanctuary 10:30 a.m. Parables Worship, Chapel 10:45 a.m. Traditions Worship, Sanctuary Meridian Manor Worship, 1 p.m.</p> <p>Smart Stepfamily Study, 10:15 a.m., Piper Library Cantus Concert, 3 p.m.</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Archives, 9:30 a.m. Women's AA, 10 a.m. Loaves and Fishes, 5:15 p.m. (offsite) Called to Care Forum: Safe Harbor, 7 p.m. I Am That Girl, 7 p.m. I Am That Girl Moms, 7 p.m. Al Anon, 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Thimble Bees, 9 a.m. Fall Leadership Meeting, 7p.m. Generosity Committee, 7 p.m. OA, 7 p.m.</p>
<p>29</p> <p>NEW MEMBER SUNDAY Rev. Rustin Comer preaching 8 a.m. Chapel Communion, Chapel 9:00 a.m. Celebrations Worship, Sanctuary 10:30 a.m. Parables Worship, Chapel 10:45 a.m. Traditions Worship, Sanctuary Meridian Manor Worship, 1 p.m.</p> <p>Smart Stepfamily Study, 10:15 a.m., Piper Library Civic Orchestra of Minneapolis Concert, 3 p.m. New Member Reception, 5 p.m., Ross home</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Archives, 9:30 a.m. Women's AA, 10 a.m. Al Anon, 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>31</p> <p>OA, 7 p.m.</p>



Join Rev. Lindy Purdy for Soup, Salad & Song on Wednesday, October 18 at 12 noon in Mithun Hall for delicious homemade soups, salads, bread and dessert! Anyone "55 or Better" is invited to share in this! The lunch is free, and made possible by the committee and by those who wish to share their culinary skills with the group. Each lunch is a unique and wonderful experience of great food and fun. Sign up at the Reception Desk or call 952-473-8877. **Last minute diners are welcome!**

4 Women's AA, 10 a.m.
Adult Faith Formation Classes, 10 a.m.
Adult Faith Formation Classes, 4 p.m.
Children's & Youth Choirs & Classes, 4:30-6 p.m.
Suppers, etc., 5:15 p.m.
Worship on Wednesday, 6:15 p.m.
7th Grade Milestone, 7 p.m.
4th Grade Milestone, 7:15 p.m.
Adult and Youth Classes, 7:15 p.m.
Adult Choirs, 7:15 p.m.
Middle School Crossroads, 7:15 p.m.
High School Acts, 7:15 p.m.
Al Anon, 7:45 p.m.

5 WCCNS Operations Board, 9:30 a.m.
Women's AA, 10 a.m.
Emotionally Health Spirituality Class, 6:30 p.m.

6 Pacem in Terris Retreat, offsite

Parables Respite/ Friendship Care, 5-9 p.m.

7 Pacem in Terris Retreat, offsite
Saturday Seekers, 8 a.m.
Old Timer's Basketball, 9 a.m.
SAFE Church Seminar, 9 a.m.
AA, 11 a.m.

11 Women's AA, 10 a.m.
Adult Faith Formation Classes, 10 a.m.
Adult Faith Formation Classes, 4 p.m.
Children's & Youth Choirs & Classes, 4:30-6 p.m.
Suppers, etc., 5:15 p.m.
Worship on Wednesday, 6:15 p.m.
Adult and Youth Classes, 7:15 p.m.
4th Grade Milestone, 7:15 p.m.
Adult Choirs, 7:15 p.m.
Middle School Crossroads, 7:15 p.m.
High School Acts, 7:15 p.m.
Al Anon, 7:45 p.m.

12 Finance Committee, 6:45 a.m.
Women's AA, 10 a.m.
Library Committee, 2 p.m.
Emotionally Health Spirituality Class, 6:30 p.m.

13 Kids' Night Out, 6 p.m.

14 Saturday Seekers, 8 a.m.
Israel Trip Planning Meeting, 9 a.m.
Old Timer's Basketball, 9 a.m.
AA, 11 a.m.

18 Women's AA, 10 a.m.
Adult Faith Formation Classes, 10 a.m.
Soup, Salad and Song, 12 noon
Adult Faith Formation Classes, 4 p.m.
Children's & Youth Choirs, 4:30-6 p.m.
Suppers, etc., 5:15 p.m.
Worship on Wednesday, 6:15 p.m.
Adult and Youth Classes, 7:15 p.m.
Adult Choirs, 7:15 p.m.
Middle School Crossroads, 7:15 p.m.
High School Acts, 7:15 p.m.
Al Anon, 7:45 p.m.

19 MEA Weekend

Women's AA, 10 a.m.
Bible Study with Lindy Purdy, 11 a.m., Folkestone
Third Thursday Readers, 1 p.m.

20 MEA Weekend

21 MEA Weekend

Saturday Seekers, 8 a.m.
Old Timer's Basketball, 9 a.m.
AA, 11 a.m.

25 Women's AA, 10 a.m.
Adult Faith Formation Classes, 10 a.m.
Adult Faith Formation Classes, 4 p.m.
Children's & Youth Choirs, 4:30-6 p.m.
Suppers, etc., 5:15 p.m.
Worship on Wednesday, 6:15 p.m.
New MEmber Orientation, 7:15 p.m.
Adult and Youth Classes, 7:15 p.m.
4th Grade Milestone, 7:15 p.m.
Adult Choirs, 7:15 p.m.
Middle School Crossroads, 7:15 p.m.
High School Acts, 7:15 p.m.
Al Anon, 7:45 p.m.

26 Women's AA, 10 a.m.
Bridge, 12 noon
Emotionally Healthy Spirituality, 6:30 p.m.

27 WCCNS Halloween Ball, 6 p.m.

28 Saturday Seekers, 8 a.m.
Old Timer's Basketball, 9 a.m.
AA, 11 a.m.



Coming Up in November

- **All Church Potluck and Show: Sunday, November 5 at 5 p.m.**
- **Wayzata Symphony Orchestra Concert: Sunday, November 19 at 3 p.m.**
- **High School Turkey Bowl: Wednesday, November 22 at 3 p.m.**
- **Women's Annual Christmas Tea: Thursday, November 30 at 7 p.m.**



Red Cross Relief

Following the devastation of Hurricane Harvey in Texas, our WCC Sunday offering raised over \$14,300 to help the American Red Cross. The Red Cross has wide-ranging relief efforts providing safe shelter, food, and comfort to people affected by both Hurricane Harvey and Irma. It is part of a large team of agencies and organizations responding to help those in need.

Thanks to generous donations like the ones from Wayzata Community Church, in the last three weeks:

- Shelters were opened in 8 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.
- The Red Cross and community partners have provided more than 890,000 overnight stays in emergency shelters due to these hurricanes.
- The Red Cross has served nearly 2.3 million meals and snacks to people in need.

Donations also helped deploy the almost 6,000 Red Cross disaster workers, including more than 115 from Minnesota, and 276 emergency response vehicles on the ground right now, helping thousands of people affected by these storms.

WCC member, Rick Graft, has been a volunteer with the Red Cross for almost six years. Locally, he responds to fires and other disasters and serves on the Logistics Team, which opens shelters when needed. In addition, Rick has deployed nationally twice, as a driver of a Red Cross food truck, delivering meals in damaged neighborhoods. He is tentatively scheduled to deploy for two weeks after Thanksgiving to work as a fork lift driver in a warehouse.

Rick says he gets great satisfaction from working with the Red Cross and loves sharing his knowledge of the logistics of how it responds to major disasters. To learn more about Red Cross relief efforts just ask Rick, or visit redcross.org.



Andrea Tatley's Ordination

On Sunday, October 1 at 3:00 p.m. in the Chapel, WCC member Andrea Tatley will be ordained as minister of the UCC. Andrea is a writer, photographer, and spiritual therapist. She works at Abbott Northwestern Hospital as the Spiritual Health Provider for the Palliative Care team.

"For me," she says, "I find deep connection to God through practices such as travel, being outdoors, gardening and climbing around the boulders on the north shore of Lake Superior. My work is focused on nature-based therapy as it integrates with spirituality and includes the sacred creative, mindfulness and their impact on lowering anxiety and stress while increasing resiliency."

Andrea has completed her requirements at United Theological Seminary and extends an invitation to the WCC community to her ordination on October 1.

1. Save the Date for the WCCNS Halloween Ball! Dress up your little ones and join us to celebrate Halloween with a fun DJ, snacks, crafts, and a raffle with great prizes! Join us on Friday, October 27 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. for all the fun!



2. Join us for Adopt-a-Neighborhood at Kimberly Meadows for Painting Pumpkins on October 24 from 6-7:30 p.m.! Our program of Food, Fun and Fellowship helps us to be good neighbors to residents at Kimberly Meadows. Volunteers are needed to help bring food, to set up and serve dinner. Please contact Vicki Thompson at peterthompson9@comcast.net or 952-542-9152.



3. Cranberry Ridge Housing—Important Dates! Please mark your calendars for these 2 important dates regarding the Cranberry Ridge affordable housing development in Plymouth and plan on attending:

- **Wednesday, October 18 at 7 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting**
- **Tuesday, November 14 at 7 p.m. City Council vote**

Thank you for showing your support of this important community initiative!

4. Interested in becoming a member of Wayzata Community Church? Please join us for an upcoming New Member Orientation Class.

This hour is packed with helpful information including a short overview of our church's heritage, traditions and ministries, led by Rev. Danielle Jones, with a brief message from Rev. Dr. John Ross, Senior Minister. Classes are offered on:

- Wednesday, October 4 at 7:15-8:30 p.m. in the Community Room
- Wednesday, October 25 at 7:15-8:30 p.m. in the Community Room

Please register for one of these classes at www.wayzatacommunitychurch.org/newmemberclass

5. Mission Festival Wine Tasting Event: SAVE THE DATE!

Plan on joining us on Sunday, November 19 for the Mission Festival Food & Fun at 6Smith in Wayzata! This year's theme is "Bach Brew, Wine & YOU!" Look for more details coming soon!



6. Loaves and Fishes.

We have only one serving date this month, on Monday, October 23, from 5:15-7:00 p.m. at St. Stephens School on Clinton Avenue, Minneapolis. We appreciate any help from volunteers. Contact Mary and Jim Meyer via WC-Connect if you can help serve.



Making meals to share at a community food pantry.

Jesus reminds us that unity begins in the church and moves out into the world.

Differences Make us Whole, Not a Whole Lot Different

By Rev. Danielle Jones, Minister of Congregational Life

I got my first job in ministry when I was 23 years old. I was inexperienced and in over my head, so I knew I needed a small group to ground me and pray for me. And so I started praying. I prayed that I would find a small group filled with people like me — young women who were single, working in ministry, and seeking God.

A few weeks after I started praying I got a call from Susie, the wife of one of the pastors on staff at the church, inviting me to join her small group. I asked her who was in her group and she responded saying, "Well, there is me (a 50-year old "empty nester" with three kids in college), Molly (married 30 year old in our church with a 1 year old and a 3 year old), and Andrea (a 22 year old newlywed who had just moved to Minnesota from Texas). This was not what I had in mind for a small group, but it was what God had in mind.

I reluctantly said yes to that small group wishing that at least one of those women would have been in ministry, or single, or had something in common with me. But it turns out that this small group was just what I needed. Our differences in relationships, life stage, and hometowns kept us seeking the one thing we had in common: a vibrant relationship with God.

For three years we met on a weekly basis sharing our hearts, gathering around scripture, praying for one another and seeking God together. And it turned out that our differences enabled us to keep God at the center and to look for the common threads of how God speaks to us, because we are human, not because of a given life stage or experience we shared.

These days, our world is hyper-focused on differences. In ways it seems we are more divided than ever along political, racial, and economic lines — just to name a few. Jesus had a lot to say about divisions and in short, he said they are not good. As followers of God, our call is not to call out all the ways we are different from others, but to look for what we have in common — a relationship with God.

Before his death in the book of John, Jesus takes time to pray and one of the things he prays for is the unity of all believers. Unity is hard to come by in this world, and it can be just as hard to come by in the church. But Jesus reminds us that unity begins in the church and moves out into the world. As followers of God, we don't take our cues from the world, which tells us to divide ourselves. We take our cues from Christ, who calls us to love one another, within the church and outside the church by focusing on what brings us together and not on what can push us apart. Like that small group I was in all those years ago, we have much to learn from our differences. Namely, all the ways we are the same in spite of differences.



Thimble Bees Ministry

The WCC Thimble Bees begin their 18th year of local outreach with two new leaders: Karla Litch and Kathy Smith.

When the group's founder, Rita Kay Jelinek, asked for new leadership, Karla and Kathy were not looking for more responsibility. But they agreed to co-chair because they "firmly believe in Thimble Bees' mission and want to see it continue to provide its wonderful gifts and joy not only to its recipients, but to its members. This is a very supportive group and a number of longlasting friendships have been forged here."

Kathy and Karla welcome WCC members and friends to join in this opportunity to support and encourage others with handmade gifts. The variety of fun activities includes sewing, knitting, crocheting, cutting fabric, stuffing, tying, etc. Along with familiar items like prayer shawls, baby quilts, and knit hats and scarves, this year Thimble Bees will create some unique, new items, like the "tweedle" muffs for special needs children.



Thimble Bees meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 9:00 a.m.-12 noon in Mithun Hall. Questions? Please contact Kathy Smith at 612-964-3591 or ksmith3600@aol.com.



Charles Lazarus

Music at Wayzata

**Songs of America with Charles Lazarus*
Tuesday, October 10, 7:00 p.m.**

Join Charles and virtuoso pianist Tom Linker in this uniquely intimate setting showcasing great American songs. You'll hear selections ranging from early spirituals and the music of the father of American music, Steven Foster, all the way to George Gershwin, big band great Harry James, and St. Paul composer Steve Heitzeg. The concert will include Heitzeg's American Nomad concerto which is an inspiring hipster's musical journey from the east coast to the west coast of the United States celebrating the myriad styles of American music and the joyful spirit it represents. There will be a special intermission chat with composer Steve Heitzeg. *Tickets (\$20, \$10 for students) available at www.CharlesLazarus.com, and also available at the door.



Cantus

Wayzata Symphony Orchestra

Erin and Tony Play Brahms

Sunday, October 15, 3:00 p.m.

Hungarian Dance No. 6, Academic Festival Overture Op. 80, Concerto for Violin and Cello in A Minor Op. 102 with guest artists Erin Keefe, Concertmaster, MN Orchestra and Anthony Ross, Principal Cello, MN Orchestra. This concert is free; donations gratefully accepted. Join us for a reception to meet the musicians following the concert.

Cantus

Discovery of Sight*

Sunday, October 22, 3:00 p.m.

We have all experienced personal 'sunrises' and 'twilight hours' — moments when we suddenly look at the world in a new way. *Discovery of Sight* revels in the mystery, science, and poetry of what it means to truly 'see.' Beyond seasoned and much-loved masterpieces like Richard Strauss' "Traumlicht," Franz Schubert's "Die Nacht," and Eric Whitacre's "Lux Aurumque," the program breaks new ground with a new commission from Gabriel Kahane. *Purchase tickets at www.cantussings.org.

Civic Orchestra of Minneapolis

Sunday, October 29, 3:00 p.m.

Celebrate with us as we embark on our 66th season of playing orchestral music in our community, directed by Cary John Franklin, with guests Dean Heller, trumpet and Diana Lee Lucker, Organ. The program will feature Charles Watt, *Whitman's Trumpeter* - World Premiere; Charles-Marie Widor, *Symphony no. 3 for Organ and Orchestra*; and Leonard Bernstein, *Symphonic Dances*. The concert



celebrations & transitions

BAPTISMS

It was a summer of Baptisms at Wayzata Community Church. We had Baptisms in Sunday Worship services, Baptisms at Worship on Wednesday, and Baptisms in Lake Minnetonka at the Wayzata Beach! Others chose to reaffirm their Baptisms at the beach. Welcome to all those recently Baptized and those who reaffirmed their Baptisms.

Greyson Joshua Blair
Henrik Alexander Feitz
Josephine Ella Shore
Theodore Joseph Fazendin
Anna Bell Swaggert
Wesley William Cowing
Molly Ann Sayer
Beau Matthew Sayer
Vera Jane Sayer
Rita Rene Beckman
Lila Piper Parcheta
Jack Henry Johnsen
Karen Beth Holtmeier
Brandon King Baleisis-Pena
Luke Allen Karban
Jack Matthew Karban
Matea Lee Homan
Caitlyn Lorraine Everson
Kiera Marie Everson
Julian Andrew Randolph
Aric Johnston Randolph
Sanibel Ana-Marie Randolph
Matthew Scott Borneman
Christopher James Dale

Nicole Maiers Sarenpa
Halle Grace Sarenpa
Brent Everett Hasledalen
Allie Henley
Morgan Elizabeth Dahlof
William Robert Dahlof
Samuel Scott Mitchell
Charley Brownlee Krejci
Isabelle Somers Krejci
Hunter John Schaefer
Maverick Mark Johnson
Evan Luke Lindquist
Paige Esther Haase

CARES

If we can be helpful before or during your hospital stay, please call our Pastoral staff at the church, 952-473-8877.

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Barbara Rye	Joyce Blaine
Marcelo Andrade	Dave Williams
Amy Fulco	Bill Seibert

CONDOLENCES

- Joyce Beauchane on the death of her sister, Kay Murphy, on August 2, 2017.
- Ted Kline on the death of his nephew, John Hanneman, on August 2, 2017.
- Cammy Skalla and family on the death of her husband, Rick Skalla, on August 25, 2017.
- Steve Ruedisili and family on the death of his father, Lon Ruedisili, on August 26, 2017.
- Kay Martin on the death of her sister, Amy Lenmark Johnson, on September 1, 2017.
- Steven Stroup on the death of his mother, Sylvia Stroup, on September 7, 2017.



Called to Care Forum:

Being Safe Harbor Bystander Training

Monday, October 23

7:00-9:00 p.m., Community Room

Would you know what to say or do if you saw someone being harassed for their race or religion? Such incidents are happening with increasing frequency right here in our community. This workshop will prepare you with skills, awareness and allies to help you meet such a moment with courage and grace. Co-presented by Sadia Tarannum, Northwest Islamic Community Center Board member, and Connie Fourré, retired Faith Formation Director at Benilde-St. Margaret's School. For more information, contact [Kristen Jeide](#) or [Lindy Purdy](#).

inspire! Magazine is published by Wayzata Community Church, A United Church of Christ Congregation. Assigned articles, or story ideas, may be emailed to Cami Farley at cfarley@wayzatacommunitychurch.org. Please call Katie Kraus at 952-473-8877, ext. 228 with address changes or if you would like to be removed from the *inspire!* Magazine mailing list. Upcoming deadlines: 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 3 for the November 2017 issue. ©2017 Wayzata Community Church. All rights reserved.

- Editor: Cami Farley, 952-473-8877, ext. 225; cfarley@wayzatacommunitychurch.org
- Design: Marnie Baehr, 952-473-8877, ext. 238; mbaehr@wayzatacommunitychurch.org



WAYZATA COMMUNITY CHURCH
inspire the world

A United Church of Christ Congregation
125 Wayzata Boulevard East
Wayzata, MN 55391
(952) 473-8877 • Fax: (952) 473-2695
www.wayzatacommunitychurch.org
www.ucc.org

Inspire! (USPS 472-430) is published monthly, June-July combined,
by Wayzata Community Church, 125 Wayzata Boulevard East, Wayzata, MN 55391.
Periodical postage paid at Wayzata, MN.
Postmaster: send address changes to Inspire! 125 Wayzata Blvd. E., Wayzata, MN 55391
PERIODICAL
TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL



Generosity

Celebrating Our Stories

By Mark Knueppel, Generosity Committee Chairperson

In our generosity campaign last fall, we took a number of steps to make it easier for members to provide their gifts to the church. For example, we added new electronic and mobile payment options for people who manage their lives with those tools. However, in changing our messaging from pledging to giving, we may have inadvertently made it confusing for some members.

Going forward, our annual giving campaign will return to a pledging approach where we'll ask families to prayerfully consider increasing their annual pledge to support our growing ministries. This will allow families and the church to best plan and budget for the year ahead.

The theme for this year's annual giving campaign is *Celebrating our Stories*.

Please look for information in the mail, including a pledge card – our goal is to hear from each of you – with your annual pledge. We ask that you please consider what a small increase in your pledge can do to support our growing ministries.

Also, please stay faithful in your year-end giving, so we can finish 2017 in a strong position and be best prepared for the year ahead.

Thanks again in advance for your support of what God is doing in and through Wayzata Community Church.