

April 2022

Willerup Whispers

... To Glorify Christ in Word & Deed

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Summary



WHAT'S NEXT?



Easter...and then what?

Willerup Christians will no doubt be in awe of the work of Jesus this Easter. We are familiar with the events which most of us have put to mind, memory, and heart. Our beloved Jesus rode into Jerusalem hailed as a king, taught at the Temple that final week as he instituted his Lord's Supper, and had one last intimate connection with his disciples. It was his Last Supper. Afterward, Jesus departed for Gethsemane and while he was there was tempted by the devil, disappointed by his sleepy disciples, and arrested. His arrest and subsequent trials—with Pontius Pilate, the Sanhedrin, Herod, and the crowd—make us shudder with complicit guilt. The freight train carrying

cargo of such great significance none could have imagined was on course. There was only one destination, Calvary.

Who among us could have journeyed with the few to see Jesus' crucifixion and stayed until the end? Would you have knelt, covered your head, looked away, tried to stop the holy event that was on display? Maybe quietly you could have made your journey to the tomb where his body laid until the women arrived to prepare his flesh for decomposition. Holy waiting was introduced as the only invitation in need of response.

Fresh dew on the grass released earthy smells of soil and sounds of early morning busy birds awaken with the rising of the sun. First a crack in the seals, and then the sudden amazement of angels and women who came to fulfill a necessary ritual. News! He's not there. None of it makes sense. No one believed. And yet, it was a Risen Christ that met them in their unbelief and wonder. We too are lined up with the disciples to see if, indeed, Jesus was raised and is still risen! Hallelujah, what a Savior!

There is more. We were told. Remember John.

"I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." (Matthew 3:11). Christ Jesus accomplished his work at Easter and ascended to his righteous position. But the work of building God's Kingdom wasn't over. God provided for us AGAIN! We are to be filled yet again with a holy presence. Holy temples in need of washing,

cleansing, and power. This is what is next. Life in the Spirit. Come, Spirit, come.

Pastor Jen Wilson



April 2022

Birthdays

1	Carol Armstrong	18	Bob Kenas
1	Lisa Kalata	20	Edna Kufahl
6	Andy Lund	20	Kevin Yerges
7	Gray Levertton	24	Preston Jarlsberg
10	Tessa Schmude	25	Benjamin Fisher
17	Liam Brown	26	Amy Korth

Cable 987
Sundays 4:00 pm
Mondays 6:30 am
Mondays 4:00 pm
Tuesdays 6:30 am
Tuesdays 4:00 pm

3	9:00am Adult Classes 10:00am Worship with Communion	4	10:00am Knitters Group	5	9:00am Women's Study 6:00pm Kriedeman Group 6:30pm Home Again Group	6	11:45am Retiree Lunch 3:25pm Awana K-5th 5:15pm Confirmation 6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Legge Group 6:30pm Smrcka Group	7	6:30pm Fosdals Growth Group	8	9:30am Pat Bryan Group 10:00am Class with Pastor Jen	9	8:00am Men's Study 10:00am GriefShare Support Group
10	Palm Sunday 9:00am Adult Classes 10:00am Worship 11:00am Souper Supper 4:00pm Worship @	11	10:00am Knitters Group	12	9:00am Women's Study 6:00pm Kriedeman Group 6:30pm Home Again Group	13	3:25pm Awana K-5th 5:15pm Confirmation 6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Legge Group 6:30pm Smrcka Group	14	7:00pm Holy (Maundy) Thursday Worship with Communion	15	9:30am Pat Bryan Group 10:00am Class with Pastor Jen 7:00pm Good Friday Worship	16	8:00am Men's Study 10:00am GriefShare Support Group
17	Resurrection Sunday 7:00am Sunrise at the Camp 8:30am Easter Breakfast 10:00am Worship	18	10:00am Knitters Group	19	9:00am Women's Study 6:00pm Kriedeman Group 6:30pm Home Again Group	20	3:25pm Awana K-5th 5:15pm Confirmation 6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Legge Group 6:30pm Smrcka Group	21		22	9:30am Pat Bryan Group 10:00am Class with Pastor Jen	23	8:00am Men's Study 10:00am GriefShare Support Group
24	9:00am Adult Classes 10:00am Worship 11:00am Congregational Meeting after 10am 4:00pm Worship	25	10:00am Knitters Group 6:30pm ALB Mtg	26	9:00am Women's Study 6:00pm Kriedeman Group 6:30pm Home Again Group	27	Ruby's Pantry - Jefferson 3:25pm Awana K-5th 5:15pm Confirmation 6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Legge Group 6:30pm Smrcka Group	28		29	9:30am Pat Bryan Group 10:00am Class with Pastor Jen	30	8:00am Men's Study



Helping those affected by the war in Ukraine

Willerup Family,

In the Body of Christ, we have family members all over the world. We are one with believers everywhere, and we serve and provide care for all people, to show them God's love for them.

Right now people are suffering, those still in Ukraine, and those who have fled.

In our own congregation we have Vita Kushanova, from Ukraine, who was able to bring her parents, Gaylena and Vladimir out of Ukraine during the conflict. We continue to pray for their health and well-being here in the US.

Pastor Jen Wilson is acquainted with Dr. Piotr Gasiorowski, head of the Wesleyan Church of Poland. His church is providing supplies to those still in Ukraine, as well as serving some of the over 4 million Ukrainian refugees who have arrived in Poland. An interview with Piotr is available on our website, willerupchurch.org.



We also have a connection through Wheatland Salem UMC (Pastor Jen's previous church) to Alina, Kasia, and Sergiy also in ministry in Poland, and serving those in Ukraine.

We will do all we can to pray for the people and leaders involved with this situation. We also pray for God to intervene. He knows the best way—even through the tragedy. We must remain committed.

Pray also for those in Russia to know the truth of the situation, and for those soldiers who were sent, young, unwilling, or unknowing into this conflict.

Our world needs Jesus. We need Jesus. We are very much aware of the battle that rages from what seems like from crisis to crisis will not likely let up anytime soon. Prayer bonds us together like nothing else. Pray without ceasing.

Thank you to all who have given, we have raised over \$15,000 to bless those who may have left their homes with almost nothing, and to share God's love with them.



Palm Sunday is April 10

Worship at 10 am
Following Worship, stay
for a Souper Sunday
Luncheon



Easter Sunday is April 17

Sunrise Worship at
Willerup Bible Camp, 7 am
Breakfast at Willerup
Church, 8:30-10 am
Worship at Willerup Church
at 10 am

Awaken Women's Retreat

I want to be the me God wants me to be as I grow up through the
Creation Stories of our lives.

Understanding our story and who wrote it
Writing give us control
Outcomes of our stories

I want to be the ME God created me to be.

Speakers:
Tina Langhough
Beth Turner
Worship: Jen Wilson

May 6-7
Friday 6-8:30 pm
Saturday 9am-5pm
Registration \$25, scholarships available
Includes lunch, materials, and creative
supplies



Groups —For Fellowship and Bible Study

Call or email church office or
leaders with ?'s

Adult Classes Sun 9 am

Knitters Group Mon 10 am, at
Willerup, call Becky 608-333-2519
*Beginners to Experts—All are
welcome!

Women's Group Tues 9 am, at
Willerup, call Jeanette 608-423-
3360

Steve & Julie Kriedeman Tues 6
pm, at home, 608-225-4014

BC Christianson & Tom Smrcka
Tues 6:30pm, at Home Again
Auditorium, 608-423-3128

Awana K-5th Grade Wed After
School-5:15, at Willerup, Andrea
Kendall, awana@willerupumc.org,
608-333-9623

Youth Group 6-12th Grade Wed 6
-7:30 pm, meal provided, Andrea
Kendall, awana@willerupumc.org,
608-333-9623

Dick & Barb Legge Wed 6:30 pm,
at home, Dick-608-772-4738

Tom Smrcka Wed 6:30 pm, at
Willerup, Bob-262-370-3676

Gerry & Shelly Fosdal Thurs 6:30
pm, at Willerup, 608-501-9442

**"Together in the Middle," Megan
Retzlaff**, Thurs 7pm, 608-698-5783

Pat Bryan Fri 9:30 am, at home,
Full!, Pat-608-423-3454

Class with Pastor Jen Fri 10 am, at
Willerup, further sermon insights

Men's Group, Tom Schmude Sat
8 am at Willerup 608-219-2098

GriefShare Sat 10-12, Willerup,
Jeanette 608-423-3360

Member Bio—PAT NEW: A Life-long Do-er

Patricia Ann was born in 1932, the ninth child of Olaf and Jennie Rindahl. She was baptized by Rev. Gilbert Gilberts on July 15, 1932. She went by “Patsy” until she entered in high school, and then, she switched to “Pat.”

The Rindahls lived in a house across from West Side Park, the 3rd house from Koshkonong Creek, a block away from Willerup Methodist Church. Her Dad was a very accomplished card player and won the house in a poker game at the Cat and Fiddle in Madison. They lived there until Patsy was 12, when her Dad won another house, while playing cards at the Ice House on the west shore of Lake Ripley.

(It literally was an icehouse - the place where ice, cut from the lake in winter, was stored in straw for use in summer. Pat remembers the ice truck coming to their home and the delivery man chipping down a block of ice to fit their ice box. She said it was a treat to eat the chips he made before they melted.)

The ‘new’ house her Dad provided was the last house on the right along the road going to Rockdale from Cambridge (now County Highway B). The family was large, but Pat says that it didn’t seem that crowded, because the older children kept moving out to start their own lives while the younger ones were still being born. Her siblings in birth order: Jeanette Anderson, Dorothy Westoby, Virginia Yago (called “Marcie”), Olaf Jr. (Billy), Aubrey (Bubby), Ruby Bouma, Audrey Kravik, Geneva Rindahl (didn’t marry), then Pat herself, John, and Judith (Judy) Jacobson. There also was a set of twins who were born after Billy, but they died when about one month old. Pat is the last remaining sibling.



They all grew up in the Cambridge area and attended Cambridge schools. In fact, Pat was very active in high school (now the Cambridge Museum, attached to the Middle School on South St.). Pat was on the honor roll, a cheerleader, and a member of the band. She also was the 1949 Prom Queen, the date of King LaVern Gulseth. She remembers her sleeveless gown of creamy beige, satin on the top and net on the bottom.

She married Glenn New at Willerup on January 27, 1951. They had a candlelight service officiated by Rev. Wendell Bennetts. Her sister Geneva was her maid of honor, and Gene Smithback was Glenn’s best man. She and Glenn had two children: a daughter, Jill, and a son, Scott. Jill was baptized at Willerup in 1952. Scott was born in 1955 without an opening between his stomach and intestines and had surgery when 3 weeks old to correct that condition. He was baptized at the Fort Atkinson Hospital by Rev. Armon Lathrop.

The family moved to Loves Park, Illinois, because Glenn got a job working for Lorden Distributors. Because they wanted to provide a good house for their children, they decided Pat should go to work. In the 1950s-60s, it was not common for married women with young children to work away from home. But fortunately, Glenn’s unmarried Aunt Hattie came to live with them, and she looked after the children during the day. That is how it came to be that Pat has a long work record outside the home.

Pat first did key punch/clerical work for 3-4 years at Blue Cross/Blue Shield, then a few months at General Cement, and then at Barnes Drill, all in Rockford. Pat explained that key punchers typed codes onto long narrow cards using a machine like a typewriter, and those codes instructed early computers that ran machines.



Pat pet-sits Bailey, the very friendly dog of her son Scott’s girlfriend, Joyce.



They moved back to Cambridge when Jill was a high school freshman, about 1967. But eventually, she and Glenn divorced after 25 years of marriage

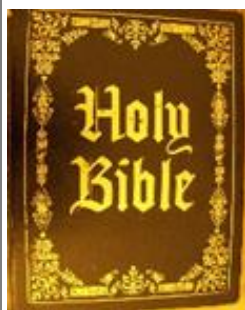
Other jobs Pat has done include clerical work, and then being a buyer for Dorsey Trailers in Edgerton, where she purchased safety equipment for workers and tools for making semi-trailers. Later, she worked for John Cargen, who had three companies in Beaver Dam. Obviously Pat enjoyed driving.

In addition to all this, Pat has been a landlord, starting from when the family moved to Loves Park and she rented out the house they left behind. Pat recalls that when they returned to Cambridge and bought the house she now lives in, along Highway 12 just east of town, there were 10 summer cottages. She converted three to year-round rental houses and tore down the rest. She also owns one on a different lot and another that has two apartments in it. It was formerly known as the Roost Motel. She also owns and rents a duplex in Rockford. Her rentals are seldom vacant. Pat affirmed that she really learned a lot about home repairs and remodeling from owning these rentals.

In faith matters, Pat remembers being very involved with Sunday School, Confirmation class, and Vacation Bible School. Her family attended Willerup, and she remembers Rev. Anton Amundson (1936-39) because his son, who was about the age of her older brother Bubby, teased her inappropriately, and it scared her. But Pat's best early memory of Willerup was while Rev. P.M. Peterson served here, 1939-1945. He was a popular pastor for many, and somewhere Pat has a picture of her and P.M.'s granddaughter on a swing by the parsonage. They were quite young.

A church experience that meant a lot to Pat was being the narrator at Christmas programs while she was in elementary school. She said it was because she could speak loudly (no microphones, remember). And she felt especially close to the Lord when she got confirmed. She doesn't recall exactly when that was, but Rev. Peterson made classes so interesting. There were about seven students in the class, and one was Donny Prescott. She remembered having to answer catechism and faith questions in front of the whole congregation. Pat also fondly remembers going to Sunday night services and sitting next to Jean Prescott, Don's sister. The Prescotts lived in the house on Water Street that is directly across from the front church driveway. She reported that Jean always pressed Pat's cuticles down and told her that procedure would result in beautiful fingernails.

Pat was always a do-er. While living in Loves Park she co-taught Sunday School with a neighbor at Christ Methodist Church in Rockford. Pat has served at Willerup as a member of the administrative board, a "kitchen" lady, and a trustee, including serving as head trustee when the Welcome Center was added. Her experience maintaining rentals was a big help.



A verse that is a favorite of hers is Matthew 22:39 - *Love your neighbor as yourself*; which Jesus called the Second Greatest Commandment (the First being to love God with your whole heart, soul, and mind).

Pat has two favorite hymns: First, *Amazing Grace*, a favorite of so many. She especially likes the melody. And another favorite is *It Is Well With My Soul*, fondly remembering the way Orion Fossum sang it. More recently she has come to like *Dancing in the Sky*, a contemporary song that she would like sung at her funeral.

Her advice for younger Christians today: The greatest gift of ALL is love.

Judy Vasby

Willerup Church Historian

(Having been a part of the Willerup community since 1932, Pat has many stories she can share with us! A longer version of her bio will be available shortly at willerupchurch.org)

Willerup United Methodist Church
Accountability Leadership Board (ALB)
Meeting, March 28, 2022, 6:30 pm
Summary, pending approval at mtg.

1. Call to Order – 6:29 pm

Members Present:

Shannon Ghorbani – Finance
Judy Vasby – Communications
Orvin Kendall – Chair
Dick Legge – SPPRC
Lisa Kalata – Trustees
Carl Nurmi – Lay Leader
Steve Kriedeman – Trustees
Non-voting members:
Pastor Jen Wilson
Megan Retzlaff – Secretary

2. Opening Prayer – Dick Legge

3. Moment of quiet meditation and prayer

4. ALB Card Ministry Requests (names kept confidential)

5. Leadership Training / Message from Pastor

Parable of the soil – a speaker made this point: you always have to keep planting more seeds, you don't always know which locations they will grow in! Example: We are now partnered with the local library to provide Study Bunnies to support those learning to read.

6. Consent Agenda:

March 7 ALB Meeting Minutes
Financial Report

Motion to approve: Judy, Second: Lisa
Approved by vote

7. Church Calendar discussion. Anything to update? Planning needs for Lent and Easter?
171st anniversary – celebrate May 1

8. Church Membership Tracking Pastor Jen and Megan will work to bring official records fully up to date

9. Secondary/Backup Signer for the church checking account

Recommendation to ask Cathy Yerges to be second signer on checking account.
Motion by Orvin, Second by Dick
Approved by vote

10. Board Reports

Pastor / Worship (Pastor Jen)

Worship team transition - Announce Karl Nordvall upcoming role change
Church management software "Planning Center"

Trustee Team (Lisa, Steve)

Roof damage over Johnson room
Cost to repair will likely be below our deductible

Staff, Pastor, Parish (Dick)

Admin Asst. Position has been announced
Plan to advertise opening and do an interview process.
Lay Leadership (Carl) – Monitoring online metrics and trends

Communications (Judy)

UMC update
General conference "deferred" until 2024
Many conversations actively going on
ALB will share on the matter at April 24 Congregational meeting
Wesleyan Covenant Association global meeting coming up on May 7 – local satellite sites usually available to attend

Updated Church Calendar info shared with newspaper

Finance / Budget Team (Shannon)

Efficiency of process is improving significantly
Budget health- Improving, looking closer to 2018 again (pre-Covid)

Board Chair (Orvin)

Plans for April 24 Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting

Items to cover:

Finance report – Shannon
Denomination Update - Orvin
2022 Events and Calendar – Pastor Jen
2022 Goals and status – Orvin
Technology

Discipleship

UMC Denomination status

Meeting in person, Heritage Hall

Documents distributed at meeting will be shared by email also, after the meeting, to all on list

11. Next Meeting Date April 25 & Time 6:30 pm at Willerup

Next meeting we will discuss Fund 70

12. Adjournment 8:30 pm & Closing Prayer

Motion Shannon, second Judy
Approved by vote



Who are We at Willerup?

Our Mission

To **Seek** the Lost, To **Strengthen** the Lord's Disciples,
and To **Serve** in the Lord's Kingdom

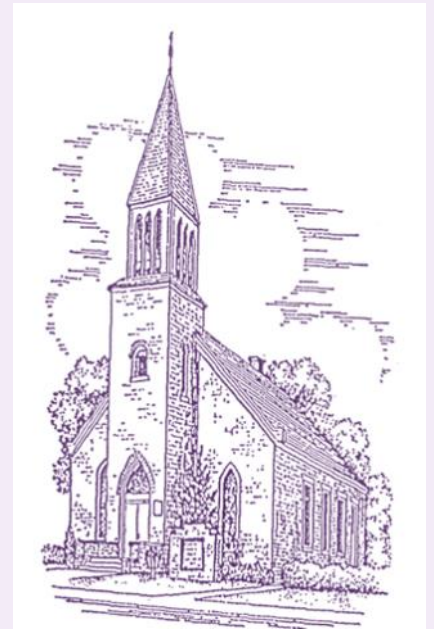
Our Purpose

To Glorify Christ In Word and Deed by....

- ♥ Reaching out and receiving new people, introducing them
 - ♥ to the person of Jesus Christ.
- ♥ **Connecting people** to the community of **faith** which is growing in the **grace** and **knowledge** of the **Lord**.
 - ♥ **Developing** people to **Christ-like** maturity.
- ♥ **Equipping** & sending **disciples** in ministry & mission.
- ♥ ... All to the end of **exalting & honoring God's name**.

Our Conviction

We Believe a Great **Commitment** to the
Great **Commandment** and the Great **Commission**
Will Grow a Great **Church!**



Willerup United Methodist Church Accountability Leadership Board

2022 Contact information

Some members have specialties, but any member can be contacted to share a concern or question.

Chairperson: Orvin Kendall
Cell: 608-371-4727
Email: aokendall@hotmail.com

Trustee Co-Leader: Lisa Kalata
Cell: 920-222-0788
Email: ltkalata@gmail.com

SPPRC Leader: Dick Legge
Cell: 608-772-4738
Email: dblegge@charter.net

Trustee Co-Leader: Steve Kriedeman
Cell: 608-225-2255
Email: juliekriedy@gmail.com

Financial Team Leader: Shannon Ghorbani
Cell: 832-978-9832
Email: shannon.ghorbani@willerupumc.org
Or giving@willerupumc.org

Pastor Jen Wilson – non-voting member
Parsonage Phone: 608-423-2085
Email: pastor@willerupumc.org

Lay Leader: Carl Nurmi
Home: 608-807-8524
Email: pkcwnurmi@gmail.com

Secretary: Megan Retzlaff – non-voting member
Cell: 608-698-5783
Email: secretary@willerupumc.org

Communications Liaison: Judy Vasby
Cell: 608-576-0173
Email: jvasby.office@gmail.com

Church Phone: 608-423-3777
Church Email – goes to Pastor and Secretary:
churchoffice@willerupumc.org



Sundays

**10:00 am Worship
On-Site
& Live-streamed**

The Willerup Whispers Newsletter

Available by Email or in Print
Editor: Megan Retzlaff

willerupchurch.org
**Willerup Church on
Facebook and YouTube**

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