

**July 2021**

# Willerup Whispers

*... To Glorify Christ in Word & Deed*

## Gratitude

Gratitude is a disposition. It is a way to live which inspires us to notice all that is already present and abundant around us- from the tiniest things of beauty to the grandest of our blessings – and to take nothing for granted. We can learn to focus our attention on, and acknowledge, that life is a gift. Even during the most challenging times, living gratefully helps us become aware of the opportunities to be a blessing to others and receive a blessing in return.

Gratitude provides opportunities to learn and grow, and to extend ourselves with care and compassion toward others. Gratitude is also nourished in community and in relationships.

*gratitude*

Bill and I are thrilled to be here. We've prayed for this season to be a blessing and what a blessing it has been! Thank you all for the tireless efforts to prepare the parsonage for us! There's nothing like a big, hairy, audacious goal to bring a team together! We are incredibly grateful!

Thank you for making our transition to Cambridge a dream come true. We are definitely feeling the Willerup love and are grateful to everyone who helped us unload our trucks, prepared a welcome meal, brought meals to our home for our first week, organized teams, cleaned, painted and pretty much put your life on hold to sacrifice your time and talent so that we could move in and claim Willerup as our home.

Thank you for being a faithful church during the challenging weeks of COVID. Thank you for being a bright light in the dark world. Thank you for loving Jesus and loving one another. You all glow with the transforming power of the risen Christ! I see Jesus in you—and I look forward with anticipation to see what He has for us to accomplish!



"No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined the things that God has prepared for those who love him." (1 Corinthians 2:9)

Parsonage Prep Team Including, but not limited to:

Karl Nordvall & Tina Langhough, Alan & Janice Lund, Andy Lund, Judith Smrcka, Steve & Julie Kriedeman, Orvin Kendall, Dick & Barb Legge, Gerry & Shelly Fosdal, Peggy Korth, Tom & Alice Becker, Judy Vasby, Becky Grasso, Jeff & Mary Rubish (Photos by Dick Legge)



Worship on Cable 987

Sundays 4:00 pm

Mondays 6:30 am

**Mondays 4:00 pm**

Tuesdays 6:30 am

Tuesdays 4:00 pm

## Birthdays

<i>Birthdays</i>		
1	Laura Kriedeman	23
5	Violet Korth	23
7	Mary Elizabeth Klingbeil	24
8	Alice Korth	25
11	Tim Kalata	25
14	Maddy Martin	29
14	Patsy New	7
19	Hannah Peppey	18
21	Mary Bielefeldt	30
21	Mary Rubish	31



Food Pantry Request:

## Laundry Detergent & Cleaning Supplies, or Soup & Crackers

Basket is in the café, drop boxes at Middle  
or High School, or checks to PO Box 54,  
Cambridge, WI 53523



Worship on Cable 987				Anniversaries			Jul 1	2	3
Sundays 4:00 pm				14	Maddy Martin	Jeremiah Padulah			
Mondays 6:30 am				14	Patsy New	7 & Deborah Arneson			
Mondays 4:00 pm				19	Hannah Peppey	18 Jeff & Mary Rubish			
Tuesdays 6:30 am				21	Mary Bielefeldt	30 Dale & Cris Trieloff			
Tuesdays 4:00 pm				21	Mary Rubish	31 Glen & Marlene Cutcher			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
10:00am Worship	6:30pm ALB Mtg								
11	12	13	14	15	16	17			
10:00am Worship									
18	19	20	21	22	23	24			
10:00am Worship									
25	26	27	28	29	30	31			
10:00am Worship	6:30pm ALB Mtg			1:00pm Mary Circle					





# MIDWEST MISSION

## DISTRIBUTION CENTER

midwestmission.org

### Shipment to Honduras

A shipment valued at \$259,723.28 was loaded at Midwest Mission and sent to Honduras through our partner, Food For the Poor, on June 29th. Items included in this shipment were: 39 electric sewing machines, over 800 air fresheners, 25,295 cloth face masks, 3,500 disposable face masks, 6 exam chairs, 50 hospital grade mattresses, 100 walkers, 103,680 face towels, 800 exam gloves, 400 disposable gowns, 280 MMDC Student Kits, and 168 MMDC Layette Kits.



Honduras is one of the poorest countries in Latin America, where 64% of people fall under the poverty line. Many believe Honduras is one of the most vulnerable countries in the world due to the high crime rate and volatile government. 60% of households live on as little as \$3.80 a day and rely on donations and help from developed countries. Most families do not have access to clean water, medical supplies, shoes, and other items or care that we take for granted here in America. It is truly a blessing that so many people come together to help strangers in a completely different country! We hope God looks over these families and continues to help those who need it the most.

*"Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work" [2 Corinthians 9:6-8]*

Food For the Poor, one of the largest international relief and development organizations in the nation, does so much more than feed millions of the hungry children and families living in poverty (primarily in 17 countries of the Caribbean and Latin America). This interdenominational Christian ministry supplies emergency relief assistance, clean water, medicine, educational materials, homes, support for vulnerable children, care for the aged, micro-enterprise development assistant and skills training. Midwest Mission is so thankful for their partnership with Food For the Poor!

If you would like to donate to Midwest Mission to help those those affected by disasters around the world and around the corner:

Please text **MMDCYEAR** to 91999 or go to  
<https://www.midwestmission.org/donate/disaster-relief>



# Special Events

## Mother's Day

We have celebrated many special events in the last 2 months. There's hardly room to recognize all of it, but here are just a few pictures. (The best photos are from Tom Schmude, a few others taken by Dick Legge and Megan Retzlaff.)

## 2021 Graduates



## Missionary Visit from Al Swenson



## Retiree's Breakfast Farewell to Singhs



## Honoring Pat Bryan and Erin Nickelsburg for Graceful Service to Missions and Youth



Below, Judy Vasby shows a list of  
Pat's service roles over the years!





*Retired Pastor Bob Kenas,  
50 Years Since Ordination*



*Farewell to Pastor Marvin & Nalini Singh*



The Singhs were honored with thanks and gifts from: District Superintendent Forrest Wells (top, at podium), ALB Board Chair Ron Dayton (top left), our United Methodist Women's group (above), and of course there was a meal! Lisa & Tim Kalata (left) organized a delicious lunch, attended by Willerup Family, the Singhs' family, and some from other Wisconsin churches they had served.





# History Speaks—by Judy Vasby, Willerup Historian

## FREEDOM IS NOT FREE

*“When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another....”* So begins our U.S. Declaration of Independence from Great Britain, proclaiming that *“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness...”* It then listed 29 grievances against King George III and the British legislature and ended by saying they firmly relied on “the protection of Divine Providence.” It was signed by representatives from 13 colonies, who knew they would be considered traitors and could be hanged. Yet they signed it on July 4, 1776. And then they had to fight to gain “our” independence. The war only formally came to an end when the Treaty of Paris was signed on September 4, 1783.



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA-NC](#)

Next came the U.S. Constitution, the basic rules by which we are governed. It was through the summer of 1787 that delegates to a Federal Convention met in Philadelphia to construct a framework for a national government that could encompass not only the needs of the original 13 states, but also accommodate the anticipated expansion to the West. The Constitution was signed on September 17, 1787. The Bill of Rights soon followed (December 15, 1791) to add 10 freedoms that states requested, such as Amendment I – *“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridge the freedom of speech or of the press...”* Since then, 17 more Amendments have been added, among them – *“the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude”* (#15), ...nor on account of sex (#19). Our country and its laws were based on Biblical values.

I cannot help but think about the Israelites after they were led out of Egypt by Moses under God’s direction. They were going to the land God had promised them. It was a land “flowing with milk and honey.” But they had to fight for it, first to conquer the people who lived there, whose lives were not pleasing to God, and second, to maintain the right to worship God and to follow His laws. But over time, both their kings and religious leaders turned from God and chose to run things their own way. Eventually, God had enough and let the Israelites be conquered and taken to captivity. Too late they realized that they had had true freedom by yielding to God and obeying His precepts.

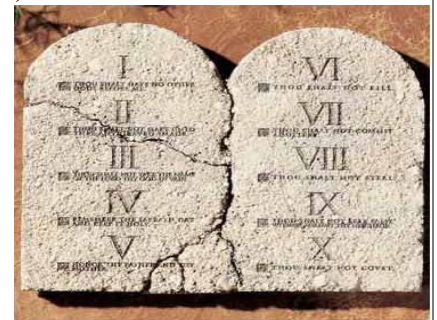
The United States also began as a promised land in its own way. Most of the men who wrote our founding documents had a large measure of faith in God, knowledge of the philosophies of the times, and an understanding of scripture. They were inspired to create a form of government that had never been tried before – one in which the people, not kings or aristocrats or the military, made the decisions.

Through the years we have struggled with what is right and fair and with giving minority groups equal access and protection. But the reason for the struggle has been the general acceptance that God brought our nation into being and is leading us along. However, like the Israelites, we need to stay vigilant to our own behaviors and to people or groups who are trying to bring us down. We have to accept personal responsibility, to actively participate in making decisions about how we are governed, and to stay in touch with God for this grand experiment to work- *“one nation, under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.”*

And as with the Israelites we must understand that the freedoms we enjoy are not free. There was and is a cost, and sometimes war is declared. Willerup Methodist Church was incorporated in 1851, and members of the congregation have participated in most of the wars since then. I am not going to comment on the merits of individual wars, nor the lack thereof, just on the service and sacrifices of men and families through decades who took responsibility to maintain our freedom.

### Civil War (1861-65)

It is of interest that Wisconsin had the only all-Scandinavian regiment in the Union Army. The “15<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin” was made up of mostly Norwegians, with some soldiers from Denmark and Sweden. It was led by Col. Hans Christian Heg, whose family came to the U.S. from Norway in 1840. He organized the



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA-NC](#)



unit by making an appeal to all young “Norsemen,” saying that it was their duty as “brave and intelligent citizens to extend their hands in the cause of our Country.” He led this regiment and then a larger brigade in several battles. He was shot and died in the Battle of Chickamauga in 1863.

### Statue of Col. Hans Christian Heg

Col. Heg abhorred slavery and gave his life to see it banished. A statue was erected in his honor on the Wisconsin Capitol grounds in 1926. In June 2020 during a Black Lives Matter protest, individuals pulled the statue down, decapitated it, and threw it into Lake Monona. The State Capitol and Executive Residence Board (SCERB) has since voted unanimously to restore the statue.

According to the Village of Cambridge history, a number of men from Cambridge served in the **Civil War**. The following are buried in our church cemetery: Lewis Knudson & Gunner Thorson- died in the war; Gustave Madson, John Halvorson, & Thomas Nelson- served, but not killed.

### Willerup Veterans of WWI who are buried in our cemetery

Peter Himle, Norman Holt, Oscar Johnson, Chris Netland, Chris L. Thronson, Olin Tillung.  
There may be others who served, but were buried elsewhere.



### Willerup Veterans of WWII (Dubbed “The Greatest Generation”)

Airforce: Howard Borchardt, Roger Hanson, Kenneth Jarlsberg, Walter Korth. Army: James Bjork, Orvin Jarlsberg, Paul Jarlsberg (killed in action), Warren Jarlsberg, Wesley Jarlsberg, Alfred Kenseth, Jens Kohl, Edmund Nassett, Aubrey Rindahl, Olaf Rindahl, Jr., Fred Wolff (killed in action). Navy: Karl Fossum, Robert Jarlsberg, George Prochnow, Ivan Springstead.

### Korean War

Peter Retzlaff

### Willerup Veterans of the Viet Nam War

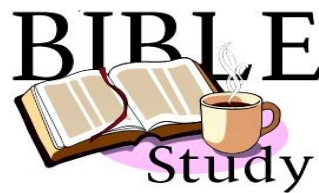
Mark Bouma, Dwight Christianson, Glenn Gilberts, Perry Jarlsberg, Eldon Kenseth, Gary Kenseth, Roy Kenseth, Wayne Kenseth, Darrell Korth, Dick Legge

### Willerup Veterans of the Cold War and beyond

Gerry Fosdal (Air Guard), Scott Fosdal (Marines), Kent Vasby (Air Force, then Air Guard), Thomas Vinje (National Guard), Kevin Yerges (Navy)

Freedom isn't free. We must be vigilant. That requires more than just fighting an outside aggressor. We must be watchful of how we as individuals are living in obedience to God. And we must take the step of sharing Jesus with others in order to influence our culture that following God's Word is where true Freedom is found.

*John 8:31-32 So He (Jesus) said to the Jews who had believed Him, “If you continue in My word, you are truly My disciples. 32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”*



**\*\* Resources on veterans--Willerup archives & *We Remember So You Won't Forget: Stories of Cambridge and Deerfield Veterans* (Cambridge Community Library). The list is incomplete- please tell me of other veterans who were affiliated with Willerup. Judy Vasby at 608-576-0173 or jvasby.office@gmail.com**

## 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

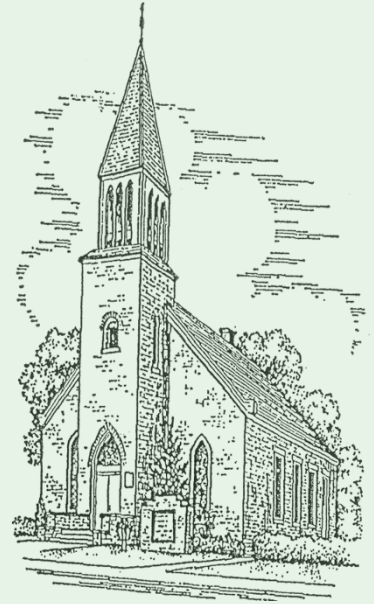
### Our Purpose

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**

2021 Contact information

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

Chairperson: Ron Dayton  
Cell: 608-520-6180  
Email: [rondayton@mac.com](mailto:rondayton@mac.com)

Trustee Co-Leader: Lisa Kalata  
Cell: 920-222-0788  
Email: [ltkalata@gmail.com](mailto:ltkalata@gmail.com)

SPPRC Leader: Dick Legge  
Cell: 608-772-4738  
Email: [dblegge@charter.net](mailto:dblegge@charter.net)

Trustee Co-Leader: Gerry Fosdal  
Cell: 608-719-7647  
Email: [gerry.fosdal@gmail.com](mailto:gerry.fosdal@gmail.com)

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

Pastor Jen Wilson – non-voting member  
Parsonage Phone: 608-423-4410  
Email: [pastor@willerupumc.org](mailto:pastor@willerupumc.org)

Lay Leader: Carl Nurmi  
Home: 608-807-8524  
Email: [pkcwnurmi@gmail.com](mailto:pkcwnurmi@gmail.com)

Secretary: Megan Retzlaff – non-voting member  
Cell: 608-698-5783  
Email: [secretary@willerupumc.org](mailto:secretary@willerupumc.org)

Ministries Team: Judy Vasby  
Cell: 608-576-0173  
Email: [jvasby.office@gmail.com](mailto:jvasby.office@gmail.com)

Church Phone: 608-423-3777  
Church Email – goes to Pastor and Secretary:  
[churchoffice@willerupumc.org](mailto:churchoffice@willerupumc.org)



### The Willerup Whispers Newsletter

(1 Kings 19:11-12)

*Available by Email or in Print*

Whisper Editor: Megan  
Retzlaff,

WMC Administrative Assistant

Visit our Website at:

[www.willerupumc.org](http://www.willerupumc.org)

"Like" us on Facebook

### July 2021 Issue

Pastor's Letter—Page 1

Calendar—Page 2

Missions Update—Page 3

Events—Page 4-5

History Speaks—Pages 6-7

Due to a scheduling conflict, the June meeting of our Accountability Leadership Board (ALB) has been postponed one week to July 5. A summary of the minutes will be made available by email and in print.

