

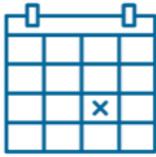
February 2022

Willerup Whispers

... To Glorify Christ in Word & Deed

Page 2—

Calendar



Page 3—

Mission Focus



Page 4—

Youth Events



Page 5—

Groups and Classes



Page 6—

Accountability Leadership Board Meeting Summary



Page 7—

History Speaks



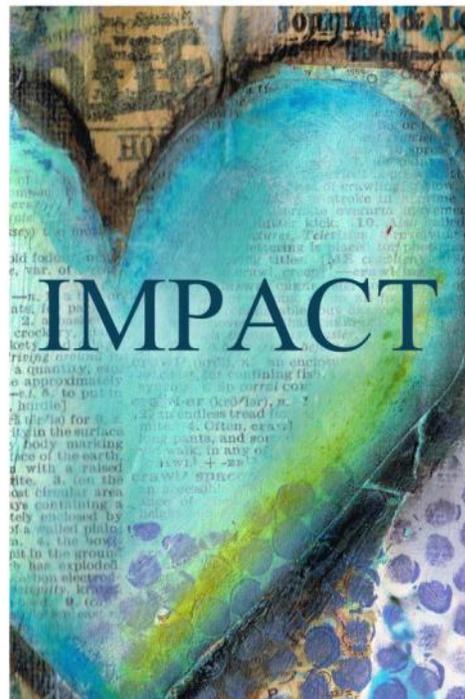
Impact

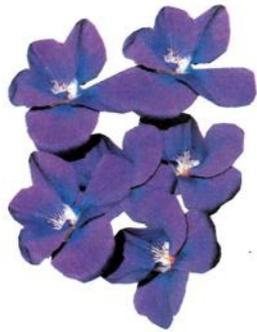
There was a day when the local church was fundamental to the community. The church often met in the same building as the local school. There was a sense that the building itself was the center of the community. Things got done. Relationships were forged. Celebrations were shared. The town was successful, family ties were stronger, help was a phone call away and there was a sense of belonging. People watched over one another.

I feel God calling us to become foundational to our community again. It's our time. I believe He has a vision for us to live into and His vision has always been because it hasn't changed. When we honor Him first—our priorities align with His and our lives transform into being the body of Christ in the world.

We have impact. The world and all its good things are being shaken to the core. Things we once believed would fulfill or sustain us are either gone or on their way out. The gospel has never been more important or impactful than now. Are you ready?

Pastor Jen Wilson



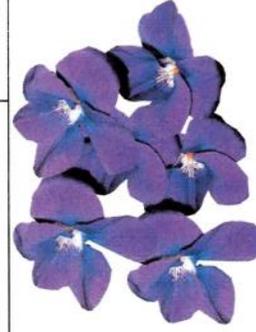


February 2022

<i>Birthdays</i>		<i>Anniversaries</i>	
1	Zachary Fisher	21	Lori Woolever
2	Dale Yerges	22	Alan Lund
6	Marlene Koplin	22	Andrea Kendall
9	Erik Peppey	26	Samantha Fisher
10	Jannette Becker	27	Ron Dayton
10	Donna Kenas	27	Brett Heagney
6	Aaron Lund	10	Ken Schemenauer
9	Dale Koplin	12	Edwin Richards
15	Erik Peppey	15	Chase Jarlsberg
20	Jannette Becker	20	Bill Wilson
21	Donna Kenas	21	Brett Heagney
2	Arlen & Henny Lund	2	Arlen & Henny Lund
25	Alan & Janice Lund	25	Alan & Janice Lund
26	Steve & Carol Armstrong	26	Steve & Carol Armstrong

Feb 1	6:00pm Kriedeman Group 6:30pm Home Again Group	2	11:45am Retiree Potluck 3:25pm Awana K-5th 6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Kenas Group 6:30pm Legge Group	3		4	9:30am Pat Bryan Group	5	8:00am Men's Study 10:00am GriefShare Support Group
8	6:00pm Kriedeman Group 6:30pm Home Again Group	9	3:25pm Awana K-5th 6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Kenas Group 6:30pm Legge Group	10		11	9:30am Pat Bryan Group	12	8:00am Men's Study 10:00am GriefShare Support Group
15	6:00pm Kriedeman Group 6:30pm Home Again Group	16	3:25pm Awana K-5th 6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Kenas Group 6:30pm Legge Group	17		18	9:30am Pat Bryan Group	19	8:00am Men's Study 10:00am GriefShare Support Group
22	6:00pm Kriedeman Group 6:30pm Home Again Group	23	Ruby's Pantry - Jefferson 3:25pm Awana K-5th 6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Kenas Group 6:30pm Legge Group	24		25	9:30am Pat Bryan Group 12:30pm Mary Circle	26	8:00am Men's Study 10:00am GriefShare Support Group

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



27	10:00am Youth-Led Worship! 4:00pm Worship @ Home Again Senior Living	28	10:00am Knitters Group @Willerup 6:30pm ALB Mtg
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“COMMUNITY TREE”

February “Support Our School” Project

A February Project to “Support Our School” will be our next focus in reaching out to our community in love. Our Cambridge Elementary School (CES) staff and children have had to deal with one crisis after another during these past two years of COVID and controversy. Starting Sunday, February 6, our Mission Tree becomes our COMMUNITY TREE adorned with valentine cards listing ways we can help the school. These cards have been passed out to staff members, and will be returned to Willerup UMC with each staff’s request of things to pray about, material needs, and/or volunteer opportunities. Your role is to take a card, or more, and pray for that staff person throughout the month of February. Then, if able, donate financially through the “Good Samaritan Fund” (GSF), to enable Willerup to fulfill their material requests. A sign-up sheet for those able to volunteer will be passed during February services. If you add your name to this list, Shelly Fosdal will contact you regarding opportunities for service. On Monday, February 28, the church staff will drop off all

material items we are able to provide, the list of available church volunteers, and give reassurance of our continued prayers.

The response from the elementary staff that Pastor Jen and I reached out to was overwhelmingly emotional and very positive. Staff had tears welling up in their eyes. Their comments were of feeling alone in the struggle, weariness, and the constant busyness of filling-in for others. These all faded into the background when told of this project. We at Willerup are a blessed and sacrificial group of God’s servants; let us bring that ten-fold to the staff and the children of our community for His glory.

Shelly Fosdal

GSF Sub-committee member

WE CARE CAMBRIDGE ELEMENARY SCHOOL



A Circle of Blessing Starts with Investing in our Youth ... and Eating Pancakes



Our amazing Youth Group, including junior and senior high students from all over Cambridge and surrounding communities, is serving a Pancake Breakfast the day this issue is being printed.

Today they bless us with a delicious hot meal, and we bless them in return with free-will donations.



Those donations will help around 15 students attend a **winterXtreme** retreat at Camp Timber-Lee, where blessings abound for campers and staff alike. As the students return with a fresh view of their faith, they will begin planning to bless us again. Our annual Youth Sunday will be held February 27, with worship led, usually top-to-bottom, by our Youth 12-18 years old. If you have experienced it before, you are likely already looking forward to it!

A LOT of effort goes into the circle of blessing from the Pancake Breakfast to Youth Sunday. Yet it is only a small example of the great circle of blessing that we enter when we help to teach, encourage, and empower the next generation in our Christian Faith, some of whom will return as Leaders and Teachers in future years. May we all join that circle, in whatever way fits us best: prayer, finances, preparing a meal, an encouraging note to a leader or student, etc.

Below, enjoy recent photos of our Youth (6-12th grade) and Awana (K-5th grade) programs, courtesy of Pastor Jen, who enthusiastically participates in both programs.



Groups and Classes:

We have LOTS of groups and classes currently meeting, with more to begin soon! See our list on the right, or in your weekly bulletin and email, to find out which is a good fit for you!

A few current or upcoming groups to highlight:

Our **Knitters** are going strong, and welcome you to join them, whether you're an absolute beginner or a pro, for projects large or small.



Pastor Jen is **teaching about Judges** on Friday mornings at 10am on-site at Willerup, as well as by Livestream on Facebook at 7:30am each weekday.



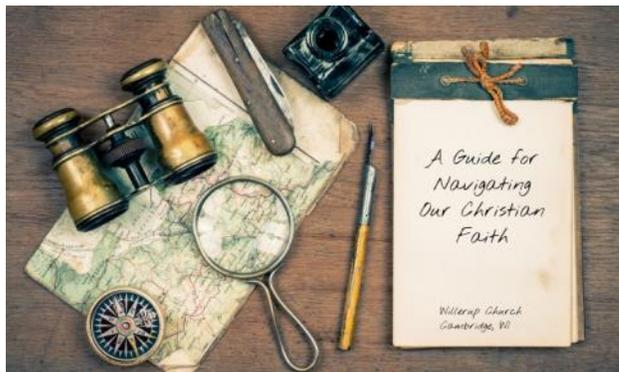
GriefShare support group will begin meeting Feb 5 on Saturdays from 10-12. All are welcome. Contact Jeanette Retzlaff at 608-423-3360. Topics will include "Living with Grief," "Effects of Grief," "Uniqueness of Grief," "God's Prescription for Grief," etc. Workbooks will be provided.

Confirmation classes will be held during Lent, March-April for students 6th grade and up. Contact Pastor Jen or the office.

It feels like we just celebrated Christmas, but Lent, Holy Week, and Easter are right around the corner!

Ash Wednesday the first day of Lent, will be March 2.

During Lent we will study a Guide to Navigating Our Faith, with devotions written by Willerup folks. (Thank you to all contributors!)



During Lent a Confirmation Class will be held, as noted above.

For Holy Week, the week of Jesus triumphal entry into Jerusalem, followed by his betrayal, arrest, and death, we will see our beloved Christmas tree turned into a cross. This reminds us how the precious baby in the manger grew up to become a painful sacrifice for our sins, though He also rose and lives today.



Easter Sunday will begin with a 7 am Sunrise Service — held at the Bible Camp this year! Then a breakfast will be served back at Willerup by Nick Gieck and a crew of men, followed by joyous worship at 10am.

Groups —For Fellowship and Bible Study

Call or email church office or leaders with ?'s

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

Bob & Donna Kenas 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

Starting Feb 5, GriefShare Sat 10-12, Willerup, Jeanette 608-423-3360

**Willerup United Methodist Church
Accountability Leadership Board (ALB)
Zoom Meeting, January 24, 2022, 6:30 pm
Summary, pending approval at Feb mtg.**

1. Call to Order, 6:32 pm

Members Present:

Orvin Kendall – ALB Chair

Shannon Ghorbani – Finance Team Lead

Dick Legge – Staff/Pastor/Parish Relations

Lisa Kalata – Co-Trustee

Steve Kriedeman – Co-Trustee

Judy Vasby – Ministries Team

Carl Nurmi – Lay Leader

Pastor Jen Wilson

Megan Retzlaff – Secretary

Dave Heagney to share on AED machine

2. Opening Prayer

3. ALB Card Ministry Requests and Messages to Send

4. Message from Pastor

We are all feeling constant pressure from constant change. We can't go back to the way things were in the past, but God is faithful in EVERY situation, to bring order out of chaos.

Habakkuk 1:5 *"Look at the nations and watch—and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told."*

5. Consent Agenda:

Approve previous Meeting Minutes and Finance Report

Finance – fund 70 amount did not get transferred to General fund in December, will be corrected to follow usual procedure.

A few small clarifications requested for December meeting minutes.

Finance note that Kelley Kenseth has fully taken over as treasurer.

Motion to approve consent agenda as amended: Dick; Second: Judy
Approved

6. Church's AED (automated external defibrillator) machine update –

Dave Heagney

AED is at top of stairs next to elevator

Battery and pads need to be replaced every 4 years, currently due

Battery \$398, Pads \$69

To fully replace AED would cost \$1500

AED machine has instructions so a layperson can use without medical training

Motion to purchase battery and pads, and seek AED training for some at church, possibly ushers and ALB members: Dick; Second: Shannon
Approved

Intention to address safety training on other topics that may be beneficial, and to replace AED machine in future, as current model will become obsolete.

7. Church Calendar: Pastor Jen requests that a calendar to be provided to ALB for future meetings

8. Church Usage Policy

Some revisions needed to document: review with new Kitchen Leader, add information on use of church for funeral due to recent change in funeral home practices, etc.

Orvin will lead this project.

9. Covid Protocols and Policy. Are there any concerns or items that we need to discuss?

Dick as chair of Covid Squad reports that there has not been any known active spread due to our church activities.

A concern was shared by a congregation member about seeing masks being worn improperly or left off during Willerup Sunday Worship.

Leaders will remind congregation of option to sit in Heritage Hall if you are not able to wear a mask.

We will purchase some of the now-recommended N-95 masks for church.

10. Deaconess work description and scope – Judy Vasby

Judy is considered an uncompensated employee of Willerup UMC. How shall her 25-40 hours per week be distributed?

Judy's deaconess work will focus on History/Archives, but include other responsibilities.

Communications Liaison will be new ALB job title. Several tasks suggested.

Judy will give update at each meeting on United Methodist denominational matters.

11. Youth Group/Awana Items to be aware of:

Youth (6-12th Grade)

Pancake Breakfast: Jan 30 – fundraiser for Winter Retreat, any supplement needed will come from Youth Fund.

Winter Retreat at Camp Timber-lee Feb 4-6 – about 16 kids planning to attend

Youth Sunday: Feb 27

Current Youth Leaders: Andrea, Karl, Andrea Kittle-Phillips, Jeff Boshart, Pastor Jen

Cambridge Awana Club (K-5th Grade)

Had to cancel Jan 12th: too many leaders either testing positive or in close contact and quarantining. Club able to resume Jan 19.

Glow in the Dark friend night is Feb 2.

Currently 12 T&T students (3-5th grade) and 4 Sparks.

Andrea Kendall - Would like to ask ALB to approve getting a church credit card for use with Youth/Awana supplies.

Motion to approve a credit card for Youth Leader, currently Andrea Kendall – Lisa K; Second: Dick

Approved

12. Any other items to discuss?

Dick – per SPPRC training by Forrest Wells local DS – in our district there are currently 20 unfilled pastoral vacancies
Encouragement to Willerup people to join the ministry or get trained as Lay Speakers

13. Next Meeting Date & Time Feb 28th 6:30 pm

14. Adjournment and Closing Prayer

Motion Judy; Second Shannon

8:30 pm, Prayer by Pastor Jen

15. Closed Executive Session for one Item - "Staff, Pastor, Parish" topic regarding Staffing needs



Yesterday Is History

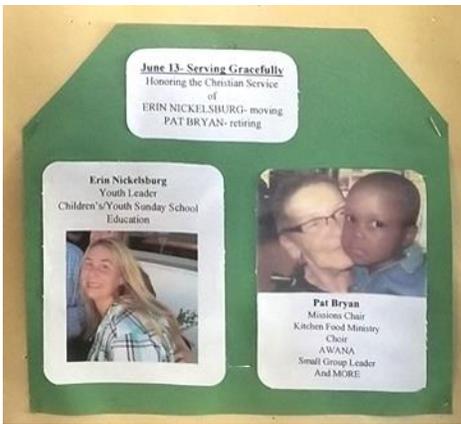


History is NOT boring, especially when we're in it. It's fun to go back through family albums and see how we looked, where we went, and with whom. We remember the styles of clothing, the hair-do's, the foods, the cars, the serious events, and the goofy things that happened. We remember the way Aunt Helen wiped her hands on her apron, the loud laugh of Grandpa Joe, and the perpetual twinkle in cousin Bill's eyes. When taken all together, these things remind us of who we were and how we became the persons we are now.



The saying goes, "Today is the present, tomorrow is the future, and yesterday is history." The past helps to inform us about how to live now, both from the bad decisions and from the good ones we want to repeat. Each day we share a bit of ourselves with those around us, and our interactions matter, because they help shape their lives, too.

The new history bulletin board in the long hallway pictures church events in 2021 that have shaped our Willerup family. Even though we were shadowed by Covid, we did a lot together.



Start at the top left and look down the column. Then go to the top of the next column and track down to the bottom, and so on across the board. You will notice in column three that we said 'good-bye' to the Singhs and 'welcome' to the Wilsons- all within a couple of weeks. It doesn't show all the hustle that went into cleaning and painting the parsonage and the pastor's office for the transition. But all who participated remember it well.

That's what I hope you will do, as you look at the History Board – note the

events and pictures and people, and then remember the rest of the story, as Paul Harvey used to say. We were so blessed by God through one another. And you know it – because you were there.

Psalm 133:1 -Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.

Judy Vasby, Willerup Historian



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

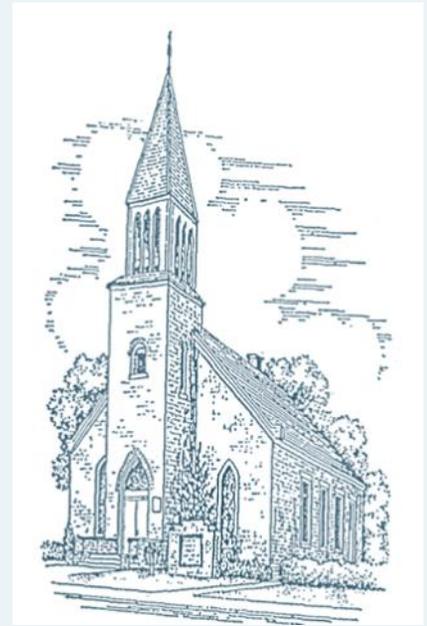
Our Purpose

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 2022 Contact information
Accountability Leadership Board
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: pkewnurmi@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



The Willerup Whispers Newsletter

Available by Email or in Print
Editor: Megan Retzlaff

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February 2022 Issue

Pastor's Letter—Page 1
Calendar—Page 2
Missions Update—Page 3
Current Events—Pages 4-5
ALB Summary—Page 6
History Speaks—Page 7