

summer

wayzata community church

**adult faith classes
family ministry events
camp in a box
inspiring stories
and more!**

june-july 2020

Welcome to Summer 2020 at WCC!

In this special issue, we are sprinkling news and stories of inspiration amid the creative, innovative summer events and classes that our ministry teams have created especially for you.

Our goal, as always, is to live in faithful community with one another— whether that's from a distance, on Zoom, or gathering in our sacred space. Much has changed in the past several months, in our church, our community, and in the world. But as Senior Minister John Ross says, "Love is not canceled, and the church never closes— because we ARE the church."

We hope these stories and class offerings will inspire you, encourage you, and help YOU be the church in your lives, community, and the world.



Make Way for Ducklings!

By John Estrem

Director of Building and Grounds

We have 11 ducklings and a mother duck finding shelter in the Labyrinth at Wayzata Community Church. They have been enjoying the extravagant hospitality of this place. They're enjoying fresh grub worms from Chuck and Dons, along with their own private pool.

In this time of uncertainty it is reassuring watching Mother Duck caring for her little ones. It is truly amazing. It's something that draws us close together, giving us

hope, trusting that God is still in control. Sometime in the next few days we will do our version of the Peabody Duck March out of the garden, up a make-do ramp, through the Long Hall, and out the front door. This has been a time honored tradition handed down from Howie Peterson. Remembering you, Howie.



For The Moment

Rev. Dr. John F. Ross, Senior Minister

See you in September?

From my column dated May 31, 2005:

"This will be my first summer in Minnesota, but my sense is that the distractions of summer will impact your attendance at Sunday morning worship. Sabbatical time like summer is important, but keeping God as a central focus in your life is important also.

For the moment, I challenge you to consider summer as a time of spiritual growth... not spiritual decay. Worship is our primary touch-point as a community, but there are countless ways to deepen and enrich your faith. Choose one... and pursue it with the same vigor you pursue recreation in life... and I'll see you in September... but hopefully before!"

How ironic. After 30 years of begging people to come to church during the months of summer, this year I'm asking you NOT to. After 17 years in Minnesota resisting the sentiment of "See you in September", that's now just a HOPE. And after nearly 3 months of social distancing, finding new ways to "deepen and enrich your faith" isn't a complimentary alternative to worship— it's ESSENTIAL.

Like the Spring of 2020, the Summer of 2020 is going to be unlike any other in our lifetime. But that doesn't mean it has to be worse— barren of meaning and mission. This special edition of the *Inspire* is filled with invitation and reflection opportunities for church and worship to happen where it all began— in homes.

I was scheduled to be on sabbatical from May 26-August 26 this year. That is, of course, off the table. But my goals for this summer remain the same: rest, renewal, readiness. What are your goals for the summer of 2020? In what ways can the church support you in meeting those goals? In what ways are your goals even more important now than ever? How will you spend the uniqueness that will be the summer of 2020?

In May of 2005 I said, "See you in September" but I really didn't mean it. In May of 2020 I was prepared to say "See you in September" for reasons of my own choice. But now I'm saying "See you in September" for the best reason of all: because this is what it looks like to love our neighbor... at least for a while longer.

For the moment, consider your life, your faith, and your goals for the summer that is before us. And hear me utter these words with a unique brand of pastoral affection: "I'll see you in September!"

Be well... and know that you are loved,

John

Meet our Moderator

Mark Palmer



Mark Palmer became WCC's new Moderator at the Annual Meeting on May 3, 2020.

Hello! My name is Mark Palmer and as many of you know, I am the newly elected Moderator for Wayzata Community Church. This is an essential role in the church, especially now as we learn to navigate our “new normal”. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work with our ministers, church leaders, and the greater WCC community as we rise to meet these new challenges.

I live in Shorewood with my wife of 31 years, Kathleen, and our dog, Chloe. We have two children, Emily and Daniel. In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, watching hockey and playing golf. I also work as an Associate Coach-in-Chief for USA Hockey, teaching younger generations of coaches about the sport.

I was born and raised in Minnesota, which helped foster not only my love of hockey, but also of Wayzata Community Church. My family has deep ties rooted in WCC. Both my parents, Donald and Lois Palmer, and my grandparents were married in this church, as was my sister. Additionally, Reverend Will Green, a former minister at WCC, participated in my wedding to Kathleen.

Much like my parents passed their faith and love of Wayzata Community Church on to me, I'd like to think that I have passed this on to my children. Beginning when they were little, Emily and Daniel helped their grandfather and me present the offering during the Sunday church service. They also assisted their grandmother in the men's department during many rummage sales. Upon reaching high school-age, both Emily and Daniel chose to be confirmed at WCC. Even now, both children participate in our family's Christmas Eve tradition of ushering at the 5:00 p.m. candle-light service.

Wayzata Community Church has meant so much to me throughout my life. It is fitting that the church's name includes the word community, because community has always been a top priority of the church, as it is today.

Finally, I'd like to thank the Past Moderator, Ann Shaw, for her outstanding service to Wayzata Community Church and its members. It was a pleasure to work with her this past year. Ann did a phenomenal job in handling a variety of challenges, and I look forward to picking up where she left off. Fortunately, Ann will continue her involvement in WCC through our Camp Visioning group, the Interfaith Ministry group, and as a Middle School adult leader.

adult faith formation



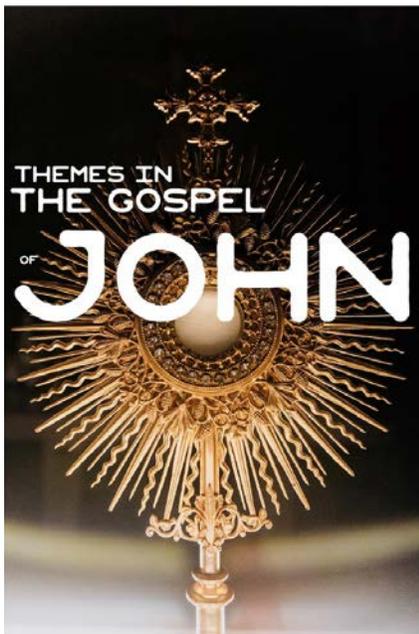
Church in the Inventive Age

Teacher: Rev. Doug Pagitt - Author, Pastor, and Activist
Time: Wednesdays, June 3, 10, 17 & 24, 10:00 a.m. on Zoom
Cost: \$25.00 - Includes a book mailed to you.

Scholarships available.

Many books seek to predict the future of Christianity, but few help us grasp the opportunities of the current situation and equip us to navigate the present. Doug Pagitt, author, radio host, and pioneering leader, does just that, offering fresh, optimistic insights and practical suggestions. According to Pagitt, the last two centuries can be divided into four epochs: Idyllic, Industrial, Informational and now— Inventive. The Inventive Age— our current reality— presents distinct opportunities for how faith communities think, what they value, and the tools they use. Pagitt offers leaders in Christian communities (and beyond) essential frameworks for participation in the Inventive Age.

Register at www.wayzatacommunitychurch.org/summerregistration



Themes in The Gospel of John

Teachers: Rustin Comer and Danielle Jones
Date: Monday, Wednesday and Friday in June on Youtube, Facebook & in your email
Cost: FREE

The Gospel according to John is a rich collection of the stories of Jesus and his followers. Join Danielle and Rustin in the month of June as they unpack key themes in the Gospel of John. Themes like:

- Light and Darkness
- Water and Life
- Seven Sign and Seven Discourse
- The I AM statements

Each of these themes will bring us to a deeper understanding of the way of Jesus and our call within this world. Register at www.wayzatacommunitychurch.org/summerregistration



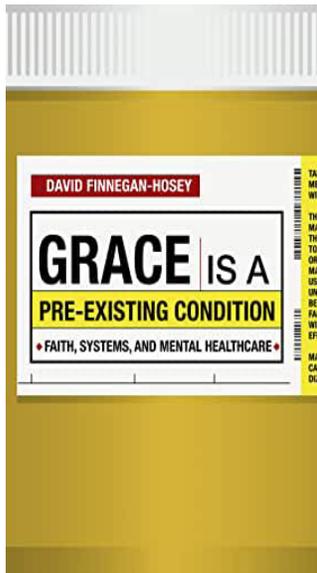
The Book of Hosea

Teachers: Rustin Comer and Danielle Jones

Date: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday in July on Youtube, Facebook & in your email

Cost: FREE

This July, we're offering Hosea as an online Bible study. We'll spend our time in the book of Hosea and experience the love and redemption God has for His people. Join us for this 4 week study with Rustin and Danielle. Hosea is a minor prophet in the Hebrew Bible and tells the story of a radical and reckless love of God. Register at www.wayzatacommunitychurch.org/summerregistration



Book Study: Grace is a Preexisting Condition

Date: Wednesdays, July 8, 15, 22 & 29 (4:00 p.m. on Zoom)

Cost: \$25 - Includes a book mailed to you

Scholarships Available

Crucial conversations about mental health and mental healthcare, from a faith perspective.

Emerging from David Finnegan-Hosey's personal experience of living with a diagnosis deemed a "preexisting condition" by insurance companies, *Grace is a Pre-existing Condition* explores the theological and spiritual dimensions of our public discourse around mental healthcare and mental illness and finds there the transformative reality of grace.

The author's insights will be of benefit to anyone concerned about creating a more just healthcare system, but particularly those who struggle with— and care for those who struggle with— mental health. Though focusing on mental health, including preexisting conditions and medical debt, his observations are equally applicable to people dealing with a variety of physical and chronic illnesses. While intentionally approaching the subject through the lens of Christian theology, this book is a contribution to a broader conversation about healthcare policy; a conversation which is likely to be in the spotlight in future political debates. Combining the accessibility of personal narrative with issues receiving attention on the national scale, *Grace Is a Pre-existing Condition* can begin vital and creative dialogues at a crucial time for the church and the country.

Register at www.wayzatacommunitychurch.org/summerregistration

early childhood

MINISTRY

A Note from Ms. Hannah

As we continue living through this time of physical distancing, Early Childhood Ministry will continue to send out a weekly email with updates specific to our ministry. We will share our Summer Sunday School content which will have an interchanging variety of Bible story videos, occasional special videos from Ms. Hannah, music, and simple family activities. We will also be continuing to do hard copy mailing of surprises for your child and family.

If your child is registered for Early Childhood Ministry and we have a current email address on file, your family will receive our most up-to-date information. If you or someone you know would like to receive Early Childhood Summer content, please fill out our Family Ministry registration form on our website at www.wayzata-communitychurch.org/summerregistration.



Get ready for a fun and laid back summer of I SPY! Our theme for the whole summer is all about what we can spy with our little eyes. It's a great theme that not only helps us find and notice the little things that help us believe in Jesus, but will also gear us up for VBS in August, where we will be discovering how to trust in what we CAN'T see because of what we CAN see by putting the FOCUS on God and His amazing plan for us. Watch for more details coming in July!

I Spy Sundays - Drive Thru Scavenger Hunt Sundays, June 28 or July 12

9:00-11:00 a.m. in the WCC Parking Lot

Get ready for some larger than life summer fun! Register to be a part of our I Spy Sunday Drive Thru Scavenger Hunts! Select one Sunday, either June 28th or July 12th, and sign up for an arrival time slot. We'll have all the supplies you need to hunt for all of the extra special big and small items we have hidden around our parking lot. As of now, this will be a full-on drive thru experience for you to enjoy from the comfort of your car, but know that we will adapt this event as requirements from the state become clearer closer to the time of each hunt. Families who register will receive all of the details, including a parking lot map and instructions, the week before their selected hunt date.

Registration link: <https://calendly.com/wccearlychildhoodministry/i-spy-sunday>

For the Whole Family

FAMILY FUN BOX

(registration needed)

Are you tired of planning what your family can do during this time at home? Your WCC Family Ministry Team wants to help! We are putting together a night for your family to enjoy. We will take care of the fun, food & fellowship! When you register we will ask you some specific questions so that your activities are age-appropriate with activity level preference. Boxes will range in price. Available starting in June! Register at www.wayzatacommunitychurch.org/summer-registration

PROJECT JOY!

(registration needed)

Become a Joy Bomber this summer with your whole family for this faith-filled service-oriented experience. Your WCC Family Ministry Team is creating projects for you and your family to do together to bring joy to others' lives and to help one another during these times. Register your family as Joy Bombers and help us spread God's love through acts of kindness. Register at www.wayzatacommunitychurch.org/summerregistration

elementary

MINISTRY

Summer Activities for K-5th Grade

As we continue to walk through this unprecedented time in our world, it's crucial to stay connected to our faith family. Throughout the summer months Jodie is offering a variety of activities for elementary age kids to connect with God and each other. Read through the offerings and join in this summer!

Faith and Fun Storytime

Begins Tuesday, June 2

Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. on Zoom

For K-3rd grade

Join Jodie every Tuesday morning on Zoom for a faith filled story, followed by discussion and sharing. Jodie will sign in 10 minutes early each week to chat with kids. Class gathering begins on June 2 and will run about 45 minutes each week. Class may be moved to a park if things change. Click on the Zoom link (found on our website at www.wayzatacommunitychurch.org/summerregistration) to join in on the fun all summer long!



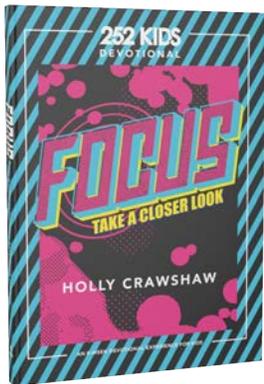
Focus: Take a Closer Look Weekly Devotion

Begins Wednesday, June 10 (runs for 8 weeks)

Wednesdays: 3:00-4:00 p.m. on Zoom

3rd-5th grade (grade in fall of 2020) and outgoing 5th graders

We all want our kids to "have faith." But what does that mean? Where does faith come from? What does faith look like in action, especially when bad things happen or life is uncertain? *Focus: Take a Closer Look* is an interactive devotional that helps kids understand what it means to place their trust in Jesus and follow Him every day. By taking a look at the lives of some of Jesus' earliest followers, we can help kids grow a faith that's centered around the life, work, and freedom found in Jesus. Class may be moved to a park or the church if things change.



After registering, Jodie will send or drop off your child's devotional book. Each week we'll meet on Zoom exploring our faith through discussion, prayer and the engaging activities. There is a \$20 fee (cost of devotional book). Register for this class at www.wayzatacommunitychurch.org/summerregistration

Moment for Mission for K-5th Graders

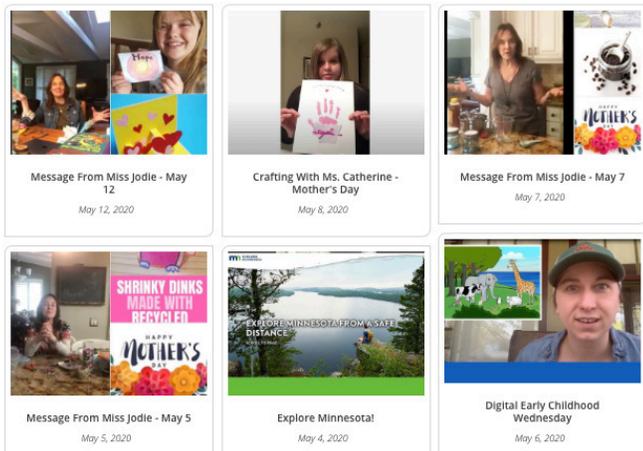
Class begins Thursday, June 4

Thursdays 10:00-11:00 a.m. on Zoom

For K-5th graders and outgoing 5th graders

Serving others in our community and world is one of the best ways to express our Christian faith in action. Join Jodie each week as we work on a service-oriented activity together, but from our own homes! Early each week Jodie will let you what supplies you'll need to work on the project. Let's live out our faith as the hands and feet of Jesus. If restrictions are lifted we may begin meeting at a park or at church.





Together at Home

By Jodie Nyberg
Director of Elementary Ministry

Everything changed in our world on Sunday, March 15th. For the first time in the 16 years I've been in ministry at WCC, there would be no Sunday or Wednesday programming. Everything had moved to a digital-only mode because of Covid19. We went from a full robust program the Wednesday before.... to nothing. I knew it was important to find a way to be present in the lives of our kids.

The following Monday I decided to begin filming 10-12 minute Facebook videos with a simple message and activity to do at home for our Elementary Ministry families. Since my very tech savvy son is living at home during quarantine, I knew I had someone close by to help film and edit. We have posted a video every weekday. I knew that kids were going to be anxious when their whole world was turned upside down, so each video is grounded in a simple message of faith, hope, joy, and love.



Many messages are mission focused, encouraging families to do something for others in our community. I explain that a feeling of pure joy comes when we put others' needs before our own. In March we sent 135 letters to the older church members who are living alone. We've also made May Day baskets, Mother's Day gifts, three-ingredient brownies, and ice cream in a bag, to name a few of our fun projects.

Honestly, doing these videos has helped keep all of our spirits up in this uncertain time. The videos will continue throughout our time of isolation. (To view the content click on the Together at Home page on our website: www.wayzatacommunity-church.org/togetherathome/).

Make A Joyful Noise Begins Wednesday, June 3 Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom For K-5th graders

Does your child find connection to faith through music? Then join Jodie this summer on Zoom each week as she plays some of her FAVORITE faith filled music videos. We'll sing and dance to 3- 4 different songs each week then end each week with a mini concert. Kids who play instruments or sing will have the chance to perform for the group!! (Zoom link is found on our website at www.wayzatacommunitychurch.org/summerregistration)

Let's Play Bingo Begins June 2 Tuesdays, 4:00 p.m. on Zoom For K-5th grade

Join Us each week for Bingo with our church friends all summer long. Each week Jodie will send a blank Bingo Board for your child to fill out! We'll play about 8 rounds of Bingo with a dance break in between each round to get the wiggles out! This is a great fellowship opportunity to gather with our faith friends. Winners receive a box of popsicles or ice cream delivered to your door by Jodie! (Zoom link is found on our website at www.wayzatacommunitychurch.org/summerregistration)

Graceland Summer Sunday School

Throughout the summer months Jodie will be sending you a weekly virtual Sunday School experience for kids ages K-5th grade. This summer the theme is *Focus: Take a Closer Look*. We'll be "faith detectives" as we look close to discover more about God and our Christian faith together. Family follow-up activities will be included each week to make the messages more meaningful for your kids. Families who have registered for programming will receive this weekly experience for their children. (Register at www.wayzatacommunitychurch.org/summerregistration.)

CAMP IN A BOX

The Game of Life

Join us for Camp in a Box, hosted by our energetic Summer Camp staff! You will get a Camp in a Box that includes all the materials you'll need for your camp session. Each day will start with the "Morning Show," and include Devotions, Tiki Time with songs and games, and more surprises throughout the day. We can't wait to see you this summer! To register, visit www.wayzatacommunitychurch.org/campinabox.

Camp Sessions

- Middle School 1:** Monday, June 8 – Friday, June 12
- High School 1:** Monday, June 15 – Friday, June 19
- Middle School 2:** Monday, June 22 – Friday, June 26
- High School 2:** Monday, June 29 – Friday, July 3
- Children's 1:** Monday, July 6 – Friday, July 10
- Middle School 3:** Monday, July 13 – Friday, July 17
- High School 3:** Monday, July 20 – Friday, July 24
- Children's 2:** Monday, July 27 – Friday, July 31



Middle School Retreat with a Twist!

**By Christa Bowman Workmon
Director of Middle School Ministry**

The middle schoolers, middle school leaders, and I look forward to the middle school spring retreat all year. We like to say it's kind of like a weekend of summer camp.

We get to grow in relationship with each other and grow in our faith, as we play games, sit down for meaningful discussions, start our day with quiet devotion time, enjoy meals together and make memories that will last a lifetime.

So, when “shelter in place” made it impossible for us to gather for a weekend of fun, I knew we needed to do something special for our students. With the help of our middle school leaders, we came up with a plan for a virtual spring retreat that was basically a Friday evening of silliness and joy. It started with each student and middle school leader receiving a bag of “supplies” on their front doorstep. The bags were filled with party poppers and noisemakers to start the event, glow and light-up items for a glow dance party, snacks, candy and drinks, supplies for games, coloring sheets to put up in their bedrooms and a battery candle, coloring sheet, and markers for doing a “praying in color” activity.

We met on Zoom and loved seeing all those familiar faces. We played games, danced, prayed for people and our world, and ultimately had a retreat none of us will ever forget.

middle school

MINISTRY

Middle School Crossroads Small Group Gatherings on Zoom

Throughout the summer, we like to gather with our small groups to continue to connect and grow in relationships with one another, hear about each other's summer, and have some fun together. This year, we will continue to find ways to connect and have some fun with our small groups on Zoom! Stay tuned for emails from your student's leaders for information!

Making It! with WCCMS Registration needed

Join us weekly to create, build, cook, and try something new with Christa and/or Middle School Leaders and other Middle Schoolers on Zoom. Some weeks you provide the supplies based on what you have in your home and other weeks we will make sure to get you the supplies depending on our project for the week. This summer, try a new activity! More information will be sent in our Middle School Newsletter and posted on Social Media. Date and Time TBA.

Middle School Mission Trip, August 2-7, 2020 Registration on Campsite

Note: We will make a decision during the first week of July if we will be able to go on our Mission Trip.

The Mission Trip is a great way for middle schoolers to get away and get to know each other better, meet new people and grow in our relationship with God. It's a fun way to travel and experience different parts of our beautiful state and do something bigger than yourself. We also enjoy some good laughs, have great conversations and make fun memories.

WE ARE HEADED TO THE NORTH SHORE THIS SUMMER TO DULUTH & GRAND MARAIS! We will be road tripping in our own state to serve our neighbors the week of Sunday, August 2 through Friday, August 7. Cost is \$400 for Middle Schoolers (current 6th-8th graders) and there is no cost for Adult Leaders. Again this year, there are many scholarships available and fundraising opportunities.





During the month of May we immersed ourselves in joy. John Ross preached through the book of Philippians and Rustin Comer and I did a 30-day online Bible Study called “Surprised by Joy”. Joy is not wishful thinking. Joy is not even something we can muster up to make ourselves feel better in difficult times. Joy is a spiritual discipline and a way of life. It takes intention and paying attention.

BY REV. DANIELLE JONES
*Minister of Congregational
Life and Mission*

The apostle Paul wrote the book of Philippians from jail. Cut off from community and away from his greatest supporters, I can only imagine Paul had a lot of time on his hands to reflect on what matters most when it comes to following Christ. In the past two months we, too, have all felt “cut off” from some of what matters most to us. We have not been able to gather with our community of faith or our communities of friends. Many of us are separated from loved ones, fearful that if we see people in person we might get sick or, even worse, we might make someone else sick.

There are a handful of themes in the book of Philippians that are relevant to our situation today that can show us how to cultivate joy in the midst of our current challenges.

First: community matters. We are more in touch than ever with the difference it makes to be rooted in a community. Paul tells us that unity in community is essential to living out our call as Christians in the world. Unity does not always come naturally to us. We remember Jesus saying, *where two or more are gathered, He is there*. I would add that wherever two or more are gathered, conflict will arise. Conflicts are natural (especially in quarantine). What sets Christian community apart from other communities is the commitment to working through conflict in order to live in unity. Paul, tells the Philippians to work out their conflicts for the sake of being people who live at peace in the world. Conflicts distract us and others from loving and serving. We receive the gift of deep joy when we work out our conflicts and live in unity. Our hearts and minds are at peace and we can better love God and others. Who makes up your community? How can you stay unified even as you are apart? Are there any conflicts you need to smooth over in the coming days?

Another theme in Philippians is the idea of rejoicing. For Paul, joy in the present is connected to joy in the past. As Paul looks back on his time with the Philippians, he gives thanks for the good faith and ministry they shared together in the past. He is grateful for their relationships, grateful that they share the same faith and passion to share God’s love with others, and grateful for their continued faith. Paul’s memories with the Philippians cause him to “rejoice”, giving him joy in the present. What memories do you hold of your time in community that can lead you to rejoice in God’s provision in the past? How can you look back in a way that builds trust that God will continue to provide for you in the future?

May we be a people marked by real joy— joy that is derived from community, unity, remembering, and rejoicing.



high school

MINISTRY

This will be the summer of relationships and connections for the High School Ministry!

As we move forward with building up the High School program, we will be spending a lot of time investing in our leaders, both those remaining and new, to provide a solid foundation, equip, and empower the adult leaders who are the ESSENTIAL WORKERS of ministry. We are also fortunate to have youth who have been inspired to share their gifts who want to dive in and develop a student leadership group. How awesome is that?! Great job WCC family! I will spend time equipping and nurturing their leadership abilities.

If you are interested in joining this fantastic team and walk with our High School Students in their faith journey, send Molly an email (mschroeder@wayzatacommunitychurch.org) and we can start that conversation!

Why Not Wednesdays

When and if restrictions are lifted, and we can gather as a group, we will alternate between gathering around the campfire at Nymo's house for a meal/games, etc. and group events such as Paint Wars and Slip n' Slide Kickball.



Tuesday Talks High School Study June 9-30: "New Eyes"

**June 9, 16, 23 and 30
at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom**

In this four week conversation, we will look at some of the standard and well known Bible stories and the common views

about the meaning found in them. We will then dig below the surface to look at them with "new eyes" to discover how looking at them in this time in our lives reveals aspects of the story that may have been missed and discuss how the story relates to our lives and faith. Tuesdays starting June 9 through June 30, at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom, and if restrictions lift, in person in the community!

July 7-28: "Half-Truths"

July 7, 14, 21, and 28 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

Do you often hear statements such as these?

Everything happens for a reason.

God helps those who help themselves.

God won't give you more than you can handle.

Love the sinner, hate the sin.

They are simple phrases. They sound Christian, something you may hear spoken around sad or tragic circumstances, and they seem Christian-like. Maybe you've even said them at times. They capture some element of truth, yet they miss the point in significant ways. In this four week conversation, we will search for the whole truth by comparing these common Christian clichés with Scripture. Join us for this Tuesday Talk, July 7, 14, 21, and 28 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom, and if restrictions lift, in person in the community!

Pudding Pictionary, 80's Dance Party, Bible Journaling... and more!

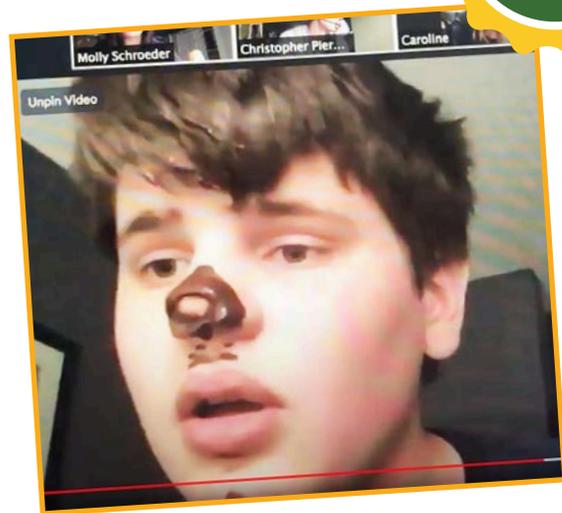


By Molly Schroeder
Director of High School Ministry

Many things in our lives have changed drastically in the last few months, but God and our need for community have and will not. While we know we cannot replace what was canceled and what it meant to our youth, we were able to be together virtually for our Spring Virtual Retreat. While technology provided challenges at times, the need for each other, and the beauty of the relationships between students and the adult leaders were evident. I was able to get to know some of the students better, and it was awesome to connect with them on a different level and see how they all interact and care for each other.

That all sounds lovely and gushy, but we also had a lot of FUN just being silly, playing games, and completing challenges, a great break from the day to day rut we so easily get stuck in. For instance, Andy A. was amazing at pudding Pictionary (you draw the item in pudding smeared on a transparent plate with your face), and Charlie N. kept getting pudding up his nose and gagging. Kyle G. was our Most Valuable Gamer, Taylor S. was the first to suck all of her Jell-O through a straw, and our leader Amy R. rocked it at the 80's virtual dance party and taught the students the Electric Slide. Josh V. and Erica and Laura H. smashed the dance category taking home Best Dance titles. In the Mystery Game category, Cloe N., Charlie & Jacob N., and Ana D. mastered the Cookie Face, Suck-it Up, and Chubby Bunny challenges (Google them) and Julia S., Charlie N., Caitlyn E., and Kate B. took the honors for the close-up photo challenge. We baked cupcakes together virtually, we did art projects, Bible Art Journaling, painted Kindness rocks, and held a Lego Mini-figure challenge. Saturday, Karin and Raina arranged a drop-off point for donations to IOCP and collected a trunk-full of donations.

Saturday night, we held a special candlelight prayer service, virtually praying for leaders, health care professionals, the lonely and isolated, those that have lost a loved one or are ill, and business owners and those who have lost jobs. We lifted up our families and the WCC family in this time of constant change, and most importantly for students, especially our Seniors. Our Senior leaders spoke to acknowledge what students have lost in this COVID19 era and that it is okay to be sad and grieve those things. Our seniors were all individually named as we prayed by candlelight. It was very moving, and deeply needed.



special needs

MINISTRY

Special Needs Ministry will continue to offer Bingo, Unified Choir, and our Beverage Break for caregivers this Summer. The dates and times for these events will be sent out in a weekly email and posted in our Facebook group as well. We hope you are able to join in for some of these fun events! Please note, all events will take place digitally, on Zoom or Facebook, until further notice. (Follow us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/groups/wccsnm/)



Best Buddies Virtual Walk, June 20th

Join the WCC team for the first ever Twin Cities Best Buddies Virtual Walk on June 20th at 10:45 a.m. Every step you take and every dollar you raise helps sustain and grow the Best Buddies programs – creating a world of inclusion. The Best Buddies Friendship Walk is the leading walk in the country supporting inclusion for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. WCC has a one of a kind partnership with Best Buddies which makes you joining in all the more significant. We hope to “see” you there!

Family Photo Scavenger Hunts

Family Photo Scavenger Hunts are unique family events that will take place through our Facebook page. Get ready for some fun!

- **June 25, 10:00 a.m.**
In June we will stay close to home and take photos of items on a list, then share it with our fellow scavenger hunters! There will be prizes!
- **July 23, 10:00 a.m.**
In July we will make things a little more exciting and try to venture out of the neighborhood. Stay tuned for more details.

Inclusive Yoga

Dates and times to be determined, but you will not want to miss the chance to restore your mind and body with the talented Sarah Zuber. Sarah has been teaching Yoga for more than 7 years. She has adapted Yoga classes and techniques for a variety of audiences and is looking forward to working with ALL of us! Sarah is also a local musician and has been involved in church life here at WCC for several years. This class will take place 3-4 times this Summer. There is currently no fee to participate.



Parables Lite at the Lake



June 28, July 12 and August 9

Tune in Live on Facebook or drive your boat over to Leslie's place on Big Island to drop anchor and worship! That's right, Leslie and Autumn are moving from the living room to the dock. This service will have all the elements of a traditional Parables worship service, with a short devotional vs. a longer message. BYOC (bring your own communion) and instruments. Parables Lite takes place on June 28th, July 12th, and August 9th at 10:30 a.m. ALL are welcome!

In place of 1-1 pastoral care time, Leslie will be offering 2 pastoral support groups via Zoom this summer. Dates are TBD. Watch your weekly emails so you can sign up and join in.

mission



Masks and more masks!

A heartwarming update from our amazing Thimble Bees Ministry



In the past several months, several members of the Thimble Bees have responded to the request to make much-needed face masks. To date, the unofficial count of face masks made by members is over 800! These masks have been delivered to Interfaith Outreach, Our Lady of Peace, Hammer Residence, congregate care facilities, local hospitals and clinics, veterinary hospitals and many more. The recipients are most grateful, and there is an ongoing need— particularly from hospitals, clinics and congregate care— for additional masks. If you would like

to donate, please contact Thimble Bees Chair, Kathy Smith, at ksmith3600@aol.com.



COVID19 and the RUMMAGE SALE

**By Bill Boulware
Director of Rummage Sale Ministries**

With mixed emotions, we announced that we are canceling the 2020 Rummage Sale. This decision was not arrived at lightly. The safety and health of the amazing volunteers, our loyal donors, and customers must be our top priority. The values of our single largest Mission and Outreach effort, meeting the needs of the many who visit, and the fellowship enjoyed by our volunteers must take second place this year.

So, where do we go from here? Our 100th Sale takes place in 2021. We will be hard at work planning for this milestone for our Church, our neighborhood, and those who have made it all possible with their love, vision and dedication. We will look for ways to allow for continued fellowship when it is safe to do so. Although this is not business as usual, we will persevere and be back stronger than ever— sooner than we think!

The support of WCC, our volunteers and donors continues to be evident. We will post notices that no Rummage Drop-off is possible for 2020. Hopefully, our donors will be willing and able to wait until next June to bring items for our Sale, which will be on August 4th and 5th, 2021.



The Rummage Sale



Michael and Vicki Barber



Nicole and Matt Wilcox



Ben and Emily Lewis



Anne and Josh Slayton



Marta Rucker



Digital New Members Class

Isaiah 43 says, “Behold I am doing a new thing”.

As we live through this time of quarantine, we experience new things that God is doing in our lives every day. One of the wonderful new things we have witnessed is that despite not being together in worship physically, we have nine new families who joined WCC digitally in worship on May 3. Perhaps more amazing is that not only were they from the Wayzata area, they were from as far away as New Jersey and San Francisco!



Distance is no longer a limitation to fellowship. We can experience a spiritual nearness, connecting to one another and to Christ, though we are physically many miles apart. As many of you who have joined WCC in the past 15 years enjoyed a welcome reception at Rev. John and Sheila Ross’s home, so, too, did this group of new members. They had a wonderful time of fellowship—virtually, of course!

Connecting and belonging (even virtually) is part of being The Church...that’s us, where ever we are, we are The Church.



Inspired giving *for the future*

BY JAMES RICE

Judy and I love the mission and ministries of WCC, and have lately started asking ourselves how we can help ensure that they remain vibrant and vital for the future generations.



20 years from now, how might WCC be enjoying a new generation of worship, fellowship, and compassionate community service? How might the excitement of our past engagement be evolving and nurturing the lives and spiritual growth of more people in our pews, programs, neighborhoods, and the world? Can we have conversations now about new ways of sharing our families' talents, time, and treasure to enhance those values and benefits in the future?

Inspired by the wisdom and quality of our clergy and worship messages, as well as, the staff, leadership volunteers, and links with broader community missions, Judy and I have updated our 20 year old estate plan to move from a 100% focus on our immediate family, to a new balance of support for a broader family that includes 10% for the WCC, 10% for the University of Minnesota, and 80% in trust for our children and grandchildren.



For 40 years, our family has enjoyed, and tried to support by pledging and donations of various types, the diverse ministries of WCC. Our kids enjoyed Sunday School; our daughter was married here; and now our granddaughter, Sydney Baumgartner, enjoys camp and occasional singing performances. We have many benefits and wonderful memories through years of membership!

Two years ago, we asked ourselves if we were being generous enough to encourage and enable others to enjoy our congregation's spiritual growth, service, and fellowship. Could we be more creative and dedicated to ensure that our many blessings from WCC could be preserved and expanded, not just for our family, but for others served by WCC?



This plan works for us. What might work for you? How might you be more prayerful and planned in celebrating, sharing and enhancing WCC ministries for the generations that follow us? There are many ways we all can embrace donations of our talents and financial resources to support our church. If you would like to discuss the opportunities for generosity that embrace the needs of our congregation today, and for the many days and years to come, please visit with our clergy or Laura Janckila, Director of Operations, in our church office. Let's map and support fresh journeys for us all into our exciting shared ministry at Wayzata Community Church!



Music That Makes *Our Heart Sing*

On May 21, Adam Reinwald, Autumn Toussaint and Kraig Windschitl gathered to share a few pieces of music that inspire each of them, and the story behind why they treasure each song. Beloved hymns, contemporary songs, and even a touch of musical theater. The concert was shown on Facebook and our website. You can view the concert on our website or our YouTube channel.

