

WOODBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 3 ISSUE 2

MARCH / APRIL 2011

A WORD FROM PASTOR GREG



The Ministry of Welcoming

"...I was a stranger and you invited me in..." - Matthew 25:35

Jesus tells us to invite the "stranger" into our fellowship.

When I arrived at WBC last year, the first thing I was invited to was the youth Super Bowl Party. Since then, I have been invited into homes, hospital rooms and backyards. I've also been invited into the lives of our WBC family.

Our current sermon series, "...go fish..." shows how Jesus turned ordinary people into Gospel messengers. He started by *inviting* them to enter His Kingdom work. The Disciples ceased to be strangers as they spent time talking, listening, travelling and working with Jesus.

This teaches us how to

approach "strangers" - people who are new to us. We spend time talking, listening, worshiping and working together so that we are no longer strangers but became friends in Christ.

WBC's culture of welcoming continues to grow stronger and deeper! I've seen a lot of welcoming at WBC the past several months. Singles, couples and families have been invited into worship, classrooms, homes, youth mission trip and the general life and work of the church. This is a good thing. New parts are being added to the Body of Christ.

The ministry of inviting is not only for the Greeters, Pastors or Deacons. It's for everyone. Inviting begins with welcome. Walking across the room to introduce yourself is a great beginning. It shows intentional caring.

What else can you do to welcome and invite?

Introduce a visitor to someone else. That tells them not only that *you* value them, but you think *others* will too! Are they by themselves? Don't leave them stranded. Do they have children? Offer to take them to the Nursery or children's classrooms - or introduce them to a teacher. Invite them to coffee or lunch.

Please invite our guests to complete a Welcome Card (found in the Friendship Books). We send a "welcome letter" or email, and make a phone call to each visitor who leaves contact information.

There are people we don't yet know who are waiting to be invited into our life in Christ. Think of the needs they have that we can serve. Think also of the stories, fellowship and gifts they have to share. Let's invite them in!

"Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it." - Hebrews 13:2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

YOUTH NUGGETS	2
RUMMAGE SALE	2
WALK THRU BIBLE	2
ADULT ED. CLASSES	3
UPCOMING EVENTS	3
BIRTHDAYS	4
PASTORAL RELATIONS UPDATE	4
AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING	5
DID YOU KNOW...	5
FINANCIALS	6
PRAYER CORNER	6

"...I was a stranger and you invited me in..."

BREAKING NEWS!

We have just confirmed that the **Sioux Falls University Choir** will be giving a concert at WBC on **Thurs. evening, March 24th** (time TBA). This is the Choir's only concert in the TC area on their Spring Tour. The Choir's last concert at WBC was in 2007. This is a great opportunity to invite friends to hear inspiring sacred music. If you can provide an overnight homestay to a member (or two) of the choir please contact the church office at 651-738-7700.

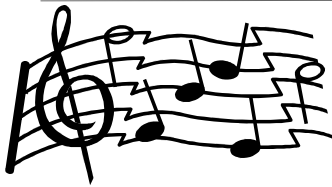
VINTAGE PEOPLE OUTING

The Vintage People will be going to the "KING TUT" Exhibit and film, "Mummies-Secrets of the Pharaohs" at the Science Museum of MN on **Tuesday, May 17th**. Cost is \$25.00 which includes coffee and rolls. Meet at church at 9:30am in order to carpool. Sign up by April 17th by calling the church office at 651-738-7700.



YOUTH SPECIAL NUGGETS (JOB 23:10)

- Thanks to everyone who helped us host our annual Region Youth Ski Weekend, Feb 25 – 27th!
- WBYouth Mission Trip has been finalized. 11 youth and 4 adults are going to Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada July 3 – 9, 2011 with the Youthworks Workcamp organization. Who's going? Jason Castro, Elizabeth Cooper, Greta Eisenrich, Rachel Eisenrich, Noah Hangge, Kayla Jensen, Lucas Oberg, Christopher Ogamien, Kelly Ogamien, Leah Williams, Marta Williams, Pastor Greg Cooper, Beth Eisenrich, Scott Hangge and Carolyn Butler!
- Our YOUTHWORKS 2011 Theme is: **BE DIFFERENT**. Luke 6:27 – 28, "But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you" – TNIV. Thanks to everyone who has shown support with buying cinnamon rolls and helping with the upcoming Rummage Sale March 25 and 26th. Please continue to keep us in your prayers as together we hope to "SERVE others, LOVE Jesus and BE Different!"
- Plan now to attend our Easter Morning Breakfast and Youth Drama on Sunday, April 24th. More details to come in our next Newsletter.



ALL CHURCH SPRING CONCERT AND DINNER

Dan and
Karin
Wickman

will present a concert of sacred and secular music at our church on Sunday, April 10th at 4:30pm. A dinner prepared by our own Steve Sommers will follow the concert in

Fellowship Hall. The Wickmans perform professionally throughout the country. Dan has a beautiful lyric bass voice and Karin accompanies him at the keyboard.

This will be a wonderful opportunity to invite others to be your guests for the

afternoon. You might even want to sign up to sponsor a table for 6 or 8 people. More details about cost will appear in the bulletin and we will begin taking reservations on March 13th. This event is sponsored by the Vintage People. Please call the church office for further details.

WBC RUMMAGE SALE TO TAKE PLACE IN MARCH

The 3rd (almost) Annual WBC All-Church Rummage and Bake Sale is being planned for March 25-26th, 2011 starting at 9:00am. Bring your clean, gently-used, non-upholstered furniture, household items, small appliances in working order, books, toys, games, movies, tools, adults'

and children's clothing, etc. to Fellowship Hall from Sunday, March 6th through Thursday, March 24th. Also needed are volunteers to help with pricing and organizing items the week before the sale, and volunteers to work during the sale Friday and Saturday.

Contact Winnie Williams (winniewms@gmail.com or 651-735-3315) to volunteer, and Cindy Klatt (cindyjklatt@comcast.net or 651-245-7835) to let her know of any large or unusual items you'd like to donate.

WBC TO HOST WALK THRU THE BIBLE SEMINAR

WBC is hosting another Walk Thru the Bible Seminar, **Saturday, March 5th from 9:00am – 4:00pm** for \$20 for adults; \$10 for children and youth; and \$50 for a family which includes a workbook, snacks and lunch. Registration forms are available at the sign up podium when you come into the church or by calling the church office. Registration will begin at 8:30am. There will be an additional \$5 cost for registrations after the 27th. 64 attended the New Testament last February with great enthusiasm...now we are offering the **OLD TESTAMENT** led by

WTB Instructor, Jeff Mooers.

In just a few action-packed hours, you will memorize more than you ever dreamed possible by using hand motions, catch phrases, and group review. By the end of the day, you'll be able to:

- Grasp the special messages and meanings of Old Testament characters, places, and events.
- Trace major geographical movements on a giant map made by the people attending the seminar.

- Learn to Walk Thru 77 major events in less than three minutes.

- Understand the themes and purpose of the Old Testament.



HOPE YOU WILL SIGN UP and invite a friend to come and join you! You definitely will be blessed!

A PLACE OF WARM GREETING

Our Foyer is an important place. It's where we talk, laugh, greet and hug our church family. It's also where we welcome visitors. With input from several people including members of the Welcome Ministry, the Executive Committee and Trustee Board have been taking steps to enhance the Foyer as a warm, inviting and usable space.

Last October, the Foyer was painted a light tan color to make it more inviting and complement the dark wood that separates it from the Sanctuary. In November, two tables were put beside

the outside window to create a place to sit and talk. These have become quite popular not only on Sunday mornings, but anytime groups are in the building. It's a natural place to sit and talk.

A few weeks ago, three benches were added along the long wall opposite the Sanctuary. These have also become popular.

If you are looking for information that used to be posted in the Foyer you can find it in the hall leading to the classrooms. The Church Calendar, events board and Food Cupboard collection box are all

there.

What's next? We hope to fill some of the empty wall space in the Foyer with short Scripture excerpts and phrases that describe the values and calling of WBC. These would be done with vinyl wall lettering that is appealing to the eye.

As always, we are trying to be good stewards of the resources God gives to us. Using volunteer painters, looking for bargains, etc. the work is being done at a modest cost. If you have thoughts about the changes, please speak to a member of the Executive, a Trustee or Pastor Greg.

ADULT EDUCATION HOUR OFFERINGS

THE ENEMIES OF JESUS A series of character studies focusing on those who opposed the ministry of Jesus. Who were they? How did Jesus respond to them? Facilitator: Wayne Ramsden,

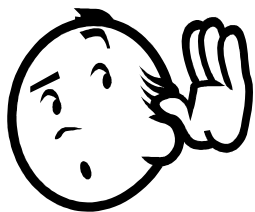
EXPLORING THE WAY: INTRO TO THE SPIRITUAL JOURNEY A seven-week adult spiritual formation class using the materials "Exploring the Way: An Introduction to the Spiritual Journey". Each of us hungers to be close to God. The spiritual journey is the

process of drawing close to God to "feed" that hunger. Facilitator: Elaine Anne MacGregor

"LIFE TOGETHER" – THE COMMUNITY OF JESUS What brings and holds the church together? Is it worship, missions trips, Sunday school, evangelism, fellowship...or something else? The short book, Life Together, is a probing examination of what it means to be a Christian community. In this 10 week class we will see how Jesus calls, sustains and guides us together in ministry. Offered Sundays in

Education Hour and Wednesday evenings starting February 9th from 6:55-8:00pm. Book cost is \$10. Facilitator: Pastor Greg Cooper

"A TRULY ABSORBING JESUS, FOCUSED EXPLORATION OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION" "A Truly Absorbing Jesus, Focused Exploration of the Book of Revelation." A look at all the scriptures leading up to Jesus' Second Coming. Starts on March 6th. Facilitator: Mary Hafner



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS

"Telling Our Stories" Event
Plan on attending two

"Telling Our Stories" Events happening in the months of March and April. Elaine Anne MacGregor will be sharing her story in the month of March and JoAnn Hansen will be doing so in April. Dates and times are still in the planning stages. Stay tuned for further details.

Church Luncheon and Tea

Ladies, mark your calendars to attend the WBC Luncheon and Tea on Saturday, May 7th. Our guest speaker will tell how she found "purpose and mission" in her life and how her work

blesses many others. Lunch will be prepared by our own Steve Sommers with a cost of \$12.00/ person. More details will follow in the months to come but plan now to come and bring a friend.

Vacation Bible School

VBS will be *'PandaMania – Where God is Wild About You!'* Sunday – Thursday, July 24th – 28th from 5:30 – 8pm. Watch for more details!

All Church Camping Weekend

The church camping trip will once again be to St Croix State Park, at the smaller campground we used last year. This year we are going over Labor Day weekend which is Friday, September 2nd through

Sunday September 4th. We would love to have a great turnout, so please, save the date! Questions? Ask Jerry & Winnie Williams, Kaz & Paul Nelson, or Deb & Al Patchin, who will be organizing this event this year.

Chrismon Making Workshop

Plan to join us on Saturday, April 2nd beginning at 9:30am in room #5 where we will make the "Easter Crowned Cross" Chrismon. We would like to get a count of how many Chrismon "Kits" that we will need to order by Sunday, March 6th. The cost per kit will be between \$8 - \$10 depending on the volume ordered. We hope to make 12 Chrismons within the next 2 years so those of you interested may enjoy your own Chrismon Wreath. Contact Pastor Carolyn with questions.



Happy Birthday to all those listed below and anyone else who might have a birthday that we missed! Please call the church office if you do not see your name below and you are celebrating a birthday.



March Birthdays

April Birthdays

(1) Rachel Eisenrich	(19) Jerry Pribnow
(2) Nikki Brown	Gigi Decker
Dennis Kastama	Alexander Gerber
Justice Sikakane	(20) Greta Eisenrich
(3) Shirley Duff	(22) Cindy Barsness
(5) Scott Oberg	Christopher Ogamien
(7) Amanda Ogbuehi	Jeanna Sommers
(8) Delbert Tad Becker	(23) Carol Cline
(10) Lanre Olasimbo	(24) Michael Jensen
(11) Rich Stoebe	(25) Janet Ballantyne
(12) Norma Treague	(26) Liam Ellsworth
(15) Catherine Butler	(27) Henrietta Mayr
Vanessa Parker	Alessandro Amores
(17) Gayle Klooz	(28) Marabelle Eyong
Fredrick Biebert	Grace Reck
(18) Julie Rasmussen	(30) Matt Ramsden

(1) Justin Towner	(19) Dick Peterson
(3) Junior Owusu	(20) Marg Amundson
Jean Widen	June McLean
(4) Robert O'Brien	(23) Stephan Lucking
Jerry Williams	Kevin Rockwood
(9) Rachel Gerber	(24) Eugene Wald
Megan Hartmon	Brian Frich
(11) Melroy Anchen	(26) Faythe Oberg
(12) Bonita Lindell	(27) Diane Axelrod
(15) Ted Munson	(29) Lynn Sandquist
(16) Dave Johnson	Paul R. Nelson
(17) April Stoebe	(30) Zach Fagan
(18) Ben Hangge	Paul A. Nelson



UPDATE FROM PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Who are we? Members of your Pastoral Relations Committee for Pastor Greg are Bob Klatt, Linda Kleinsasser, Bonita Lindell, Carol Nelson, Al Patchin, Wayne Ramsden and Ron Sandquist.

What are we? A group of people elected by you to work with Pastor Greg in developing and strengthening quality ministry relationships between the congregation and Pastor Greg.

In what ways do we plan on fulfilling our responsibilities? Since last fall we have met three times and had considerable

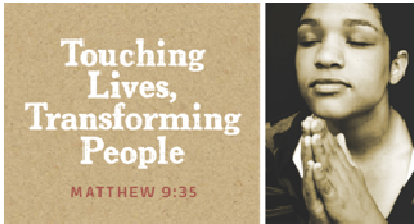
discussion with Pastor Greg to determine *who* we are to be for him and *how* we will support him in his relationship with the congregation. We viewed two videos on the work of pastoral relations committees that jump-started and shaped our thinking and conversations.

We have considered several principals for fostering healthy ministry leadership: **shared ministry** between the pastor and congregation (moving away from an “us-him” approach, but with accountability for ministry roles); **communication** concerning Pastor Greg’s call to ministry among us (this includes a strong emphasis

on education for the Committee, congregation and Pastor Greg); **healthy balance** between “being” and “doing” for the pastor; **listening carefully** to both the pastor and congregation as they **share** their **perceptions of mutual ministry**.

We are new members of the Committee developing, with Pastor Greg’s input, a model for ministry suited to our pastor and ourselves as the Lord leads us together. We desire nothing less than a fruitful shared ministry and a pastor who is thriving in mind, body and spirit. Please pray for us as we continue our lively and enthusiastic conversations and work together.

AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING



America for Christ gifts support Christ-centered ministries that are transforming lives across the United States and Puerto Rico—from addressing Children in Poverty initiatives and resettling refugees violently driven from their

homelands to providing evangelism training, developing discipleship resources and leading ministry workshops and conferences.

How can I make a donation?

There are a couple of options: Include your donation with the offering at your local church.

Visit our Web site at www.abc-afc.org and click the "Giving" button, which will take you to our donation page. Be looking in the bulletins in the month of March for further information about



the America for Christ offering including hand-outs, offering envelopes, etc. The 2011 offering will be collected during the **March 27th** Sunday Service. Please come prepared to give what you can to this great cause. Thank you for your generosity!

DID YOU KNOW.....

- **Recycling Made Easy!** New garbage and recycling containers are in the building. Square-shaped recycling containers are in the Foyer and Fellowship Hall.
- WBC finished 2010 in the black! Thank you to all who gave so generously to the church in 2010.
- WBC has a new website design. Check it out at www.woodburybaptist.org. Thanks to **Winnie Williams** who helped design it.
- \$1,745.00 was received for the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering.
- **Harvey and Faythe Oberg** celebrated their 51th Wedding Anniversary on February 20th. Congratulations!!!
- **Cindy Barsness** started a new job with Allina Medical Clinic in Shoreview as a psychologist.
- **Kenzie Kole Pribnow** was born on Jan. 14th weighing 6lbs 4oz and measuring 19 inches long. Parents are Matt & Kami Pribnow of St. Cloud and grandparents are Suzy Brownlee & Wayne Pribnow.
- **Eli Steven Loahr** was born on Jan. 19th weighing 9lbs .5oz and measuring 21 inches long. Proud parents are Josh & Megan Loahr.
- **Christopher Watson**, son of Amy & Kim has recently become engaged to Corey Weedman. The wedding is being planned for October.
- **Virginia O'Brien** graduated on Dec. 23, 2010 from Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions in Provo, UT with her doctorate in Occupational Therapy.
- A "Joyful Noise" was made to the Lord on Feb. 12th with the first ever Hymn Sing. Our spirits were lifted along with our voices as we sang praises to God. If you had any feedback about the event or ideas for another one, please contact Winnie Williams.
- **"Together It Gets Better....Youth Depression and Suicide: A Community Conversation"** on March 3th at 7pm at Woodwinds Health Campus conference room. Woodwinds Health Campus is located on 1925 Woodwinds Drive, Woodbury, MN 55125. The Suicide Prevention Collaborative is very excited to host this free, educational event which is the first in a series of community educational opportunities regarding the important topic of suicide.

Daylight Saving Time will begin on Sunday, March 13th @ 2:00am. Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night!



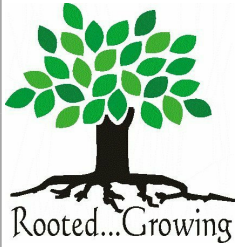
THANK YOU FROM HAROLD NELSON

"Just a note of thanks for the outpouring of kindness - spoken and written gracious words during the week long plus time of my 90th birthday celebration. The unsolicited monetary gifts have been sent to the "clos to my heart" Children's Shelter of Cebu. Again, thanks to all who shared and made the celebration, planned by my children, such an uplifting and pleasant experience."

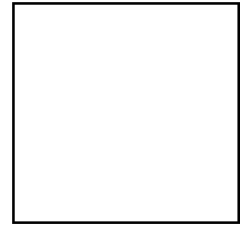
LIBRARY NEWS

The library will have a special Easter display starting in March. Also, a subscription to Christianity Today has begun; feel free to check out an issue of the magazine.





Woodbury Baptist Church
 6695 Upper Afton Road
 Woodbury, MN 55125



Address Service Requested

Editor & Production: Marie Sevigny
Pastors: Jim Winter, Interim Senior Pastor
 Carolyn Butler, Youth & Family

651-738-7700 ■ Fax: 651-714-5663
E-mail: office@woodburybaptist.org
 www.woodburybaptist.org

Did you know that the most current
 newsletter is always on the WBC website!

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

WOODBURY BAPTIST CHURCH
 INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT: 12/31/10

December INCOME:	
Total Income for Budget	\$ 69,118.72
December EXPENSES:	
Salaries/Benefits	\$ 13,126.95
Church Bldg. & Office Supplies	\$ 14,201.85
Christian Education	\$ 229.06
Worship/Ministry	\$ 143.66
Missions	\$ 2,753.29
Total Expenses:	\$ 30,454.81
MONTHLY SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$ 38,663.91
Roofing Fund Total	\$ (8,153.26)
Year-to-Date Budget	\$ 339,577.65
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$ 321,787.95
Year-to-Date Surplus or (Deficit)	\$ 17,789.70
Cash on Hand Balances for:	
Budget Expenses as of 12/31/10	\$ 49,934.01
Flow-thru as of 12/31/10	\$ 29,046.02

PRAYER CORNER

- **Irene Owen Family** as they mourn the loss of Irene who passed away on February 9th. The memorial service was held at WBC on Feb. 19th.
- **Bill Klatt**, father of Bob Klatt is in the process of going through cancer treatments.
- **For our families** who are expecting babies in the coming weeks and months.
- **June McLean** received a pacemaker recently.
- **Tony Boekhoff** is being examined for cancer. We pray for accurate diagnosis and the Lord's healing.
- **Amy Watson's father**, who lives in CA is recovering from a recent surgery.
- **Debbie Goya**, sister of Christie Kastama, suffered a seizure recently and it was determined to be an abscess on the brain. She underwent surgery and is now home healing.
- **John Lundeen** who has pneumonia and is feeling weak.
- Please pray for our sister church in Costa Rica as they serve the community of la Guacima.