



# Willerup Whispers

To Glorify Christ in Word & Deed

**December  
2019**

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## **2019**

### **Ministry Servants**

#### **Pastor**

Marvin Singh

#### **Admin. Chair**

Ron Dayton

#### **Vice Chair**

Thomas Smrcka

#### **SPPRC**

Orvin Kendall

#### **Treasurer**

Cathy Yerges

#### **Finance Secretary**

Shannon Ghorbani

#### **Trustees**

Perry Oates

#### **Worship Director**

Karl Nordvall

#### **Ministries**

#### **Discipleship**

(open)

#### **Youth / AWANA**

(open)

#### **Evangelism**

Peg Korth

#### **Fellowship**

Bob Kenas

#### **Service**

Judith Smrcka

Dearest Parishioners,

Wishing you and your family a blessed and joyful Christmas.

The following verse was highlighted to me as I was contemplating to write this letter.

Luke 2:19- ***But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.***

What were these things? The Annunciation, the Angelic choir, the Shepherd Visitors etc., could not be forgotten.

Pondered in her heart – The meditation.

What is the meaning of this word? It denotes putting together, combining and harmonizing; that process which is a first condition of all true knowledge. Who was she to have such a destiny? Who was He of whom she had become the mother? The moment of self-recollection and self-examination helps us have our heart right with God. (*The Preacher's Homiletics Commentary*, pg.58)

This Christmas, how do we keep all things in our heart? Why did God make me, chose me, love me? Why did Christ come to this world, as the world celebrates. Some have commercial celebrations - cards, cookies, a Christmas tree, decorations, gifts exchanged etc. Others have a Spiritual celebration by worshiping and thanking Jesus for what He is and what he did in our lives.

How has Jesus-Immanuel been with us in our journey of life and of faith?

When did I experience the Immanuel moment in my life? How did 'Jesus save' me, stand with me? How did Jesus multiply my resources to take care of my and others needs through me? How and when did Jesus stand with me, when everyone wanted to 'stone' me?

How did Jesus help me to calm the storm of my life and stop the winds and the waves which wanted to drown me? How and when did Jesus make me say 'by his stripes I am healed?'

When did I hear the voice, 'Peace, I am with you, don't be afraid?'

'Count your blessings, name them one by one,  
And it will surprise you, what the Lord has done.'

We stand with all those whose loved ones are gone from this earthly and temporary abode and changed their addresses in the year 2019: Marjorie Kempf, Lee Powers, Jerry Borchardt, Erin's sister Heather Christensen, Tina's mother Borg Langhough, Steve Daly and all others of our family members who have gone in the previous years.

Our special prayers are for all our shut-ins: Dave & Mary Behm, Ivan & Betty Springstead, Betty Prescott, Barbara Lundgren, Norma Borchardt. We also remember all the college students from our church who are away.

Come and worship with us in December and meditate with us on *Because of Bethlehem*, a study based on the book written by Max Lucado. Participate in Communion (12/1), Singing Christmas Tree (12/7&8), Multilingual Carols service and potluck (12/15), Worship (12/22) and Christmas Eve (12/24 @ 4 & 8 pm)

Please pray for us daily that God may give us his anointing and power so we can serve you better.

*'The Lord bless you; the Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.* Numbers 6:24-26 NKJV

Pastorally Yours,

*Marvin and Nalini Singh*

# December 2019

<i>Celebrations</i>		7	Matthew Klingbeil	20	Taylor Schmude	<i>Anniversaries</i>	
<i>Birthdays</i>		8	Carson Lein	20	Ivan Springstead	16	Matt & Katie Kenseth
4	Linda Faherty	10	Jay Fisher	23	Shelly Fosdal	28	Marvin & Nalini Singh
4	Becky Grasso	16	LaVonne Reschke	25	<i>Jesus of Nazareth!</i>	31	Wesley & Charline Jarlsberg
6	Brandon Fisher	17	Emmett Retzlaff	29	Maxine Paxson		

Dec 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8:15am Prayer 8:45am Sun School 9:00am NO K-12 Today 10:00am Worship 3:45pm Singing Tree	7:00pm Prayer Group 7:00pm Thompson Center Ministry		11:45am Retiree's Potluck Christmas 3:25pm Awana Club K-5th 6:00pm Youth Group	5:30pm Attend Community Cafe 6:00pm Jefferson Jail Ministry	10:00am Thompson Center Ministry	8:00am Men's Study 4:30pm Singing Christmas Tree 7:00pm Singing Christmas Tree
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
8:15am Prayer 8:45am Sun School 9:00am Sun School K-12 10:00am Singing Christmas Tree	4:00pm Sing-a-long at Our House 7:00pm Prayer Group 7:00pm Thompson Center Ministry		3:25pm Awana Club K-5th 6:00pm Youth Group 6:30pm Admin Council And ALB	6:00pm Jefferson Jail Ministry	10:00am Thompson Center Ministry	8:00am Men's Study
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
8:15am Prayer 8:45am & 9 Sun Sch 10:00am Multilingual Carols 11:15am Potluck	10:30am Mary Circle - Meet at Food Pantry 7:00pm Prayer Group 7:00pm Thompson Center Ministry		3:25pm Awana Club, Backwards Uniform 6:00pm Youth Group	1:00pm Mary Circle 6:00pm Jefferson Jail Ministry	10:00am Thompson Center Ministry	8:00am Men's Study
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
8:15am Prayer 8:45am Sun School Adult 9:00am Sun School K-12 10:00am Worship	4:00pm Sing-a-Long at Our House 7:00pm Prayer Group 7:00pm Thompson Center Ministry	4:00pm Family-Friendly Worship 8:00pm Worship	Community Christmas Meal, Gather at 11:30, Serving 12-1 pm, RSVP at 423-3777, Free-will offering	6:00pm Jefferson Jail Ministry	10:00am Thompson Center Ministry	8:00am Men's Study
29	30	31				
8:15am Prayer 8:45am No Sun School Adult? 9:00am NO K-12 Today 10:00am Worship	7:00pm Prayer Group 7:00pm Thompson Center Ministry					

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



**December Food Pantry Request:**  
What would you like to eat in the midst of a Wisconsin winter?  
Bring for the Deerfield Food Pantry. *Bless you!*



## November Missionary Update

FOR EVEN THE SON  
OF MAN CAME NOT  
TO BE SERVED BUT  
TO SERVE OTHERS  
AND TO GIVE HIS  
LIFE AS A RANSOM  
FOR MANY.

MARK 10:45



CALEB & LAURA  
**COOK**  
CRU.ORG

September 5, 2019

**College students have arrived** and the new ministry year has begun! Our geographic area alone represents over 500 Cru staff on roughly 50 different teams who have begun their efforts to share the good news about Jesus around the world. Our work of coming alongside these staff and teams with mission specific training and resources has also begun.

One way Caleb provides this mission specific training is by helping Cru staff grow in their ability to cross cultures with the gospel both domestically and internationally. The main way this happens is by coaching staff and teams through Our Cultural Journey, a curriculum that has been developed to further equip staff in their ability to relate cross-culturally and serve in multiethnic settings.

This curriculum covers topics such as thinking biblically about cultures; understanding ethnic identity, cultural intelligence, and ethnicity in the Bible; and learning through cross-cultural relationships. As the year begins, Caleb will start his work of guiding individuals and teams through the Our Cultural Journey curriculum.

In Cru, we are trusting God to send out trained missionaries who give college students the opportunity to hear the good news about Jesus, grow in their faith, and learn to minister to others. Thank you for your partnership in this ministry of equipping others to reach people for Christ.



Caleb and the kids took a quick trip to visit family on the East Coast over the holiday weekend. Laura got to stay home and nest in preparation for baby's arrival. It was a great weekend for all of us!

GIVE THANKS TO  
THE LORD, FOR  
HE IS GOOD; HIS  
LOVE ENDURES  
FOREVER.

PSALM 118:1



### Prayer Requests:

Please pray for our 500 staff on 50 teams who have started a new cycle of ministry this month.

Please pray for Laura and our baby girl.

Please pray for Caleb and the teams he will be coaching through Our Cultural Journey.



**Evelyn Hope Cook** has joined our family!



# Upcoming Events!

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**Our dear sister in Christ, Kristie Kempf has moved.**

Kristie has been a long-time faithful attendee at Willerup and loves to serve the Lord and his people.

New address: 5355 Nobel Drive, Fitchburg, WI 53711

Please keep her in your prayers, and stay in touch!

New phone: 1-608-298-7272

## New Church Leadership

Willerup's new leadership structure, the Accountability Leadership Board (ALB), which will replace our current Administrative Council, will begin meeting in December, and take the reins in January.

Please pray for the new members, and that our transition to new leadership would be Spirit-led.



## Singing Christmas Tree 2019

Share Christ with the community this Christmas!

Performances December 7 at 4:30 and 7 pm,

December 8 at 10 am Worship

Joy, Hope, Love! Music and Cookies!

Invite your friends!



## Multi-lingual Carols and Multi-ethnic Potluck!

December 15 at 10am Worship, come enjoy Christmas songs in many languages.

Stay afterward for delicious food from many cultures!



## Christmas Eve Worship

Join us on Christmas Eve at:

4 pm for especially Family-Friendly worship

8 pm for worship

## Christmas Day Community Meal

Our Thanksgiving meal was a great success! (see photos)

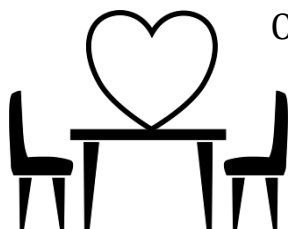
Let's continue this ministry on Christmas as well.

We can serve much more than food.

Look for a sign-up sheet in the Café soon,

Contact the church office or Cathy Yerges:

608-235-8976 cathy@bg3llc.com



## Programs

### Sundays:

#### Sunday School for Ages 5-100!

Kids begin at 9:00 am, grouped by age.

Adults start at 8:45 am

During Advent 12/1-12/22, Pastor Singh will teach on

*Because of Bethlehem* by Max Lucado

In January, the regular Adult classes will resume:

Prayer, facilitated by Ron Dayton,

Or 1 & 2 Timothy, taught by Dick Legge.

### Wednesdays:

#### Awana Club for Kinder-5th Grade

Wednesdays after school (3:25)-5:30 pm

Snacks, Games, Lesson, Bible verses.

Call/text Megan Retzlaff—608-698-5783

#### Youth Group for Middle and High School

Wednesdays 6:00-7:30 pm

Meal, Games, Lesson, Prayer, Friends!

Call/text Erin Nickelsburg—219-242-1136



# So much has happened in the last month . . .

(photos by Tom Schmude, Maggie Schmude, Dan & Megan Retzlaff)

## The Pastor Appreciation Potluck was October 29



## The Youth Group threw a party November 20 to celebrate leader Uli Wagenpfeil's Citizenship



## We participated in a Community Thanksgiving Worship service with other area churches Sunday November 24

Pictured are clergy: Pastor Singh, Rev Brenda Lovick of East Koshkonong Lutheran Church, Rev Jennifer Jelinek of Grace Lutheran (hosting), and Rev. Richard Dowling of Rockdale Lutheran Church. Below—multi-church choir





# Willerup served a Community Friendsgiving Meal on Thanksgiving Day, November 28

Thanks to coordinator Cathy Yerges and MANY who helped!



Above:  
Gerry  
Fosdal and  
Carl Nurmi  
share a  
laugh



Above left: Lori  
Woolever chats with  
Betty Prescott. Above  
right: Brooke and Mark  
Woolever share a joyful  
moment with table-  
mates. Left: Even a  
dinosaur came to the  
table with a young  
friend. Right: Grayson,  
Peter, and Jonathan  
watch sports in the  
basement

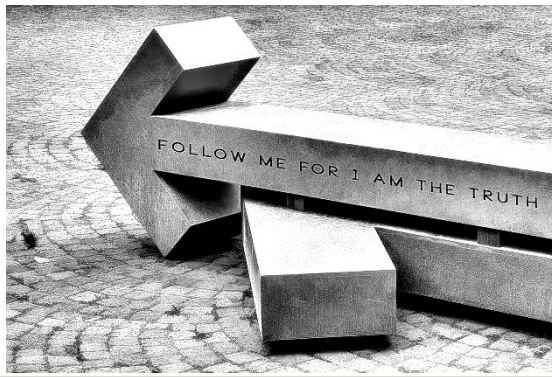


## And the church has some decorations up already for Advent!

Thanks to sanctuary decorator Mary Oates and her helpers







Willerup United Methodist Church  
Charge Conference  
November 17, 2019

Call to Order – 11:30 am

Attendance: 37

Appointment of Recording Secretary - Church

Secretary Megan Retzlaff

Motion: Julie Cooper

Second: Cris Trieloff

Approved

Opening Prayer by Rev Paul Johnsen

Devotional by Rev Paul Johnsen - Isaiah 65: 17-25

Distribution of Annual Packets

Affirmation of Willerup's Mission, Purpose, and  
Conviction, (printed on front of packets)

State of the Church Report led by Pastor Marvin Singh  
(tan sheet)

Approval of the Accountability Leadership Board as  
Presented, led by Rev Paul Johnsen

Introduction by Ron Dayton, current

Administrative Council Chair

Read aloud the commissioning statement  
(second ivory sheet).

Approved

Council Chair Ron Dayton will give a review of his  
Letter on Transition (third ivory sheet)

Read aloud names of members of  
Accountability Leadership Board (first  
ivory sheet), Leader Board stand for  
recognition

One trustee position still open

Review of letter: Transition

Budget (yellow sheets) and Resolutions

This budget has been approved by the  
Administrative Council, which includes a  
motion and a second.

Vote to approve pastoral compensation.

Dick Legge motion to approve as presented  
Greg Cooper second

Approved

Vote to approve budget

Approved

There are two additional resolutions that are  
included when we pass the budget:

Accountable Reimbursement Plan  
Parsonage Allowance

Resolution that ALB is authorized to fill any  
leadership positions that remain or become  
open between now and the next Charge  
Conference.

Jeanette Retzlaff, Motion to  
approve

Second, Dick Legge

Approved

Affirmation of Lay Servants:

Judy Vasby

Peggy Korth

Approve Membership Report

Julie Cooper, motion

Cris Trieloff, second

Approved

Adjournment

Motion, Perry Oates

Second, Greg Cooper

Approved

Time 12:23 pm

Benediction

Thank you Rev. Johnsen!



## 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

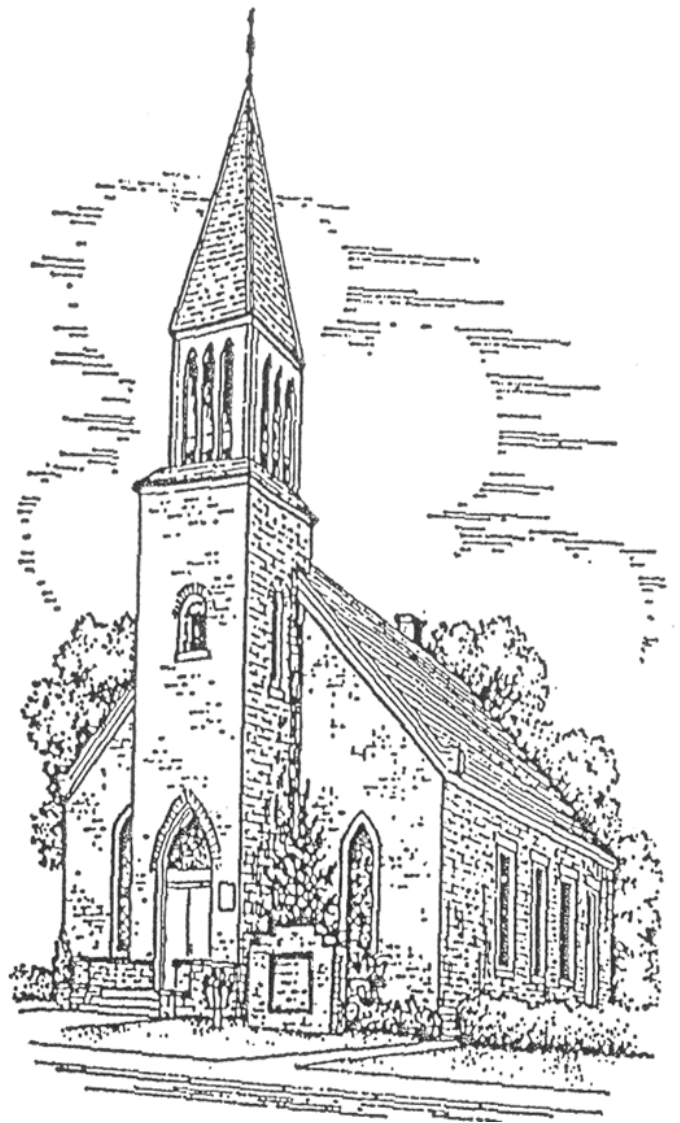
### Our Purpose

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!**



**Every Sunday**  
**8:15 am Prayer**  
**9:00 am Sunday**  
**School, ages 5-100**  
**10:00 am Worship**

## **The Willerup Whispers Newsletter** (1 Kings 19:11-12)

*Available by Email or in Print*

Whisper Editor: Megan Retzlaff,  
WMC Administrative Assistant

All Whisper news & info articles **must be** received  
**no later than the 20th day of the month**  
**prior to the next month's issue.**

**Email:** [Secretary@WillerupUMC.org](mailto:Secretary@WillerupUMC.org)

Church office phone: 608-423-3777

**Visit our Website at:** [www.willerupumc.org](http://www.willerupumc.org)

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