

# Willerup Whispers

To Glorify Christ in Word & Deed

January  
2020

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2020

## Ministry Servants

### Pastor

Marvin Singh

### Accountability

### Leadership Board:

#### Chair

Ron Dayton

#### SPPRC

Dick Legge

### Finance Team Lead

Shannon Ghorbani

#### Treasurer

Cathy Yerges

#### Trustees

Gerry Fosdal

Lisa Kalata

#### Lay Leader

Jeanette Retzlaff

#### Goals/Teams

Judy Vasby

Dearest Parishioners,

The year 2020 has arrived! How do we go forward in this year? My fellow pastor and son Andrew gave me the idea: ONE THING, which is found in Paul's writing to Philippians - **But one thing I do**: *Forgetting what is behind and is straining toward what is ahead*, (Philippians 3:13b).

Someone aptly said, we can't go forward by looking at the rear-view mirror, forgetting that we have a big windshield to look forward. Brothers and sisters, the year 2019 may have been a difficult period in your journey of life, the events which affected you such as health, death, marital problems, children's issues, finances, family ties, colleagues, neighbors, and even in the church. If we dwell on it we will have difficult time moving forward. So Paul is encouraging us that the one thing you do is to press forward toward the goal for which God has called. What is that call? What is that ONE THING? This can only be done in and through Christ. Paul again writes, **"I can do everything through him who gives me strength,** (Philippians 4:13).

One of my WhatsApp friends sent me this message on December 31:

*Today is the last day of the year. Time to let go the past and welcome the new. To let go the false and embrace the true. But never forget to thank God for the past. Without the stairs of past, we cannot enter the door of the future. May your New Year be filled with beautiful moments of health, laughter, love, blessings and achieving goals. Reach out to your friends and loved ones. Also reach out to the lonely hearts who need love and care.*

*You can do it with Christ who gives you strength.*

So in the name of Christ move forward and do what God has called you to do. What one thing you can do for the Lord through Willerup UMC?

The ministry teams of OUR CHURCH are waiting for your response to get involved in serving the Kingdom of God. Be in touch with the pastor, office or any team leader/member. If God has called you for specific ministry, come with a plan and share with the church on Sunday January 19 after the church worship service, when we are having a planning meeting for the ministry events of 2020.

We want to thank **each one of you** for using your time, tithes and talents for the Lord. If you don't use it you will lose it and God will give it to someone who is willing to use his or her gifting. Don't bury it, as God has planned it for you.

In coming Sundays sermons will be on the ONE THING series.

1/5	One Thing I Do	Philippians 3:13
1/12	One Think You Lack	Mark 10:21
1/19	One Thing is Necessary (needed)	Luke 10:41-42
1/26	One Thing I Do Know	John 9:25
2/2	One Thing I Ask	Psalms 27:4
2/9	One Thing - Be Not Ignorant (Do Not Forget)	2 Peter 3:8

Pray for your pastors and leaders of the Church. Pray over what is ahead of United Methodist Church in May 2020 at Minneapolis, when The General Conference will meet and decide about the future of the Church. Prayer is powerful so do it earnestly.

Blessings.

Pastorally Yours,

*Marvin and Nalini Singh*



## Celebrations

<i>Birthdays</i>	10	Carly Kriedeman	28	Sharon Nelson
1 Robin Gieck	12	Aaron Singh	29	Henny Lund
1 Jim Jarlsberg	14	Carl Nurmi	30	Tina Langhough
4 David Behm	15	Alma Dayton	30	Kurt Nickelsburg
5 Jeremiah Padula	21	Steve Kriedeman		Jeanette
7 Blake Gieck	22	Dawn Nelson	30	Retzlaff (80!)
8 Richard Peppey	24	Evan Maruszewski	<i>Anniversaries</i>	
9 Owen Cooper		Bernadine "BC"	Steve & Mary	
10 Elizabeth Kendall	25	Christianson (101)	24	Bielefeldt

**January Food  
Pantry Request:  
Canned Ravioli or  
Pancake Mix &  
Syrup**



# January 2020

Jan 1, 20

		Jan 1, 20				2		3		4	
		5:30pm Attend Community Cafe		6:00pm Jefferson Jail Ministry		10:00am Thompson Center Ministry		8:00am Men's Study			
		8		9		10		11			
		3:25pm Awana Club K-5th		6:00pm Youth Group		6:00pm Jefferson Jail Ministry		10:00am Thompson Center Ministry		8:00am Men's Study	
		15		16		17		18			
		3:25pm Awana, Bring a Friend, Hat Day		6:00pm Youth Group		6:30pm Accountability Leadership Board		10:00am Thompson Center Ministry		8:00am Men's Study	
		22		23		24		25			
		3:25pm Awana Club K-5th		6:00pm Youth Group		1:00pm Mary Circle		6:00pm Jefferson Jail Ministry		8:00am Men's Study	
		29		30		31		Sermons on Cable			
		3:25pm Awana Club K-5th		6:00pm Youth Group		6:00pm Jefferson Jail Ministry		10:00am Thompson Center Ministry		Sundays 4:00 pm	
										Mondays 6:30 am	
										Mondays 4:00 pm	
										Tuesdays 6:30 am	
										Tuesdays 4:00 pm	

## *January Missionary Update—Jon & Kathy Christiansen*

Karanda Mission Hospital      “Serving God, Serving Others”  
Mt Darwin District            in the bush of northern Zimbabwe  
[www.karanda.org](http://www.karanda.org)                [www.jonathan.photo](http://www.jonathan.photo)

Excerpts from November 2019 update:

We need the Lord’s people to participate with us in identifying Kingdom resources that can make a difference in our current hour of crisis.

Please pray for us! We know our Savior is able to do far beyond what we can imagine.

We, the staff and missionary community at Karanda, realize that we must do our part in managing our own sustainable funding streams and ensuring that the resources we have available are utilized properly. I can assure you that this is happening. Without explaining the underlying reasons for Zimbabwe’s on-going economic struggle, know that Karanda Mission Hospital continues to play an important role in providing healthcare to many marginalized people in this nation. With the devaluation of the local currency, so many patients are unable to pay for their healthcare costs. Jesus Himself challenges us in compassionate love, to release debt and assist in His name. For weeks now, with no end in sight, folk have been coming to us in droves – often as their last hope. Other major medical centers around the country are crippled due to personnel strikes. In short, by necessity, Karanda is operating below “not for profit” status. Each day presents us with new bills and new challenges, that often seem insurmountable. We know by experience that God is completely faithful. It is my prayer that He will use this note in the way He wants us to accomplish His good work here.

In the midst of this chaos, we have a unique opportunity to share the love of Jesus to the whole nation.

Pray for:

- Staff members who are believers to pray and share the Father’s good news.
- The chaplains, Pastor Kadiwa, Pastor Kambudzi, Mrs. Chisara, and Mrs. Kaujiri
- Jon and Kathy to be directed into conversations with people God loves.
- A new missionary general surgeon to replace Dan Stephens who is retiring.
- Dr. Stacy Zabriskie in working out licensing paperwork to return with her two little ones to serve as a general surgeon.
- A new orthopedic surgeon to join the staff at Karanda.
- A missionary Nurse Educator to assist at the nursing school.
- A maintenance person with a variety of technical skills, for Jon to mentor.
- Missionary school teachers, and someone to work in the community.
- The Zimbabwe immigration department to “promise” a certain number of visa/work-permit slots for folk coming to help us.

And financial needs are as follows:

- \$35,000 to assist with the installation of 14 new bush pumps in the surrounding community.
- \$55,000 to help with efforts to complete improvements on a system to acquire and treat river water for use.
- Until the Zimbabwean economy stabilizes, \$4000/month salaries for the two Zimbabwean doctors.
- \$9,000/month for diesel used for electrical power.
- \$5000/year to send out pallets of surgical supplies.

Know that whatever you help us with will make a difference in someone’s life. Pray that the Lord would accomplish His good work.

For more information about Karanda and the current medical refugee challenge we are facing, go to the update page of our personal website, at [www.jonathan.photo](http://www.jonathan.photo)

### **Now, HOW TO GIVE:**

To be honest, if you do not require a receipt to submit for tax purposes, the best way to give to Karanda is directly into our USA bank account.

*(Contact the Willerup office to get instructions to give directly to Karanda’s bank account.)*

Giving through TEAM is still a great way to donate, if you need tax benefits.

Go to their web address at [team.org/give](http://team.org/give)

In the appropriate box, type “Karanda” and project categories will show up.

Karanda is looking at a serious challenge for days to come. We need help. Lots of love,

Jon & Kathy Christiansen (Ephesians 2:10)



# Upcoming Events!

## Planning Session for 2020 Events

January 19, 2020

beginning after 10am worship

If you lead or help with any ministry/event going on at Willerup in 2020,

If you feel a call to start a ministry/event that will bless our community,

Please stay after worship January 19.

A simple lunch will be provided.

We will fill up the 2020 calendar!

## Youth Sunday

March 1

We will be blessed by our 6-12th grade youth group at 10 am worship on March 1. Our talented youth will teach, preach, and share songs, skits, and insights. They will attend Winter Retreats February 7-9th and will be ready to show what they have learned.

## Nights with the Nickelsburgs

All,

Each week we sit and church and learn something new about someone in the congregation. It is wonderful to be able to do this! And we want to do it more often, more deliberately. We want to open our home.

And so, the first Saturday of every month we would like to invite the congregation to a Night with the Nickelsburgs.

Let's get together, eat, play games, fellowship, and pray. Let's enjoy one another's company and grow. No need to cook, Kurt is excited to try out new recipes (seriously, his cooking is amazing). A sign-up sheet will be in the Cafe this week, just so we can get a rough idea of numbers. 6PM-10PM.

In addition the third Saturday of every month will be High School Youth Night. Let's get together, eat, play games, fellowship, and pray. 6PM-10PM. This is open to ANY AND ALL high school students.

We look forward to seeing you!

All our love in Christ,

*The Nickelsburgs*

## Lent and Easter

February 26

Ash Wednesday Worship 7pm,  
imposition of ashes and  
communion

March 8—April 5

Lent Sunday School for High  
School and Adults 8:45 am,  
And 10 am Worship Sermon series  
on *He Chose the Nails* by Max  
Lucado

April 9

Holy Thursday Soup Supper 6:30  
pm, followed by Worship at 7pm,  
communion

April 10

Good Friday Worship 7 pm

April 12

Easter Sunday  
Sunrise Service 7 am  
Easter Breakfast 8-9:45 am  
(no Sunday School)  
Worship 10 am

## Weekend to Remember Marriage Seminar

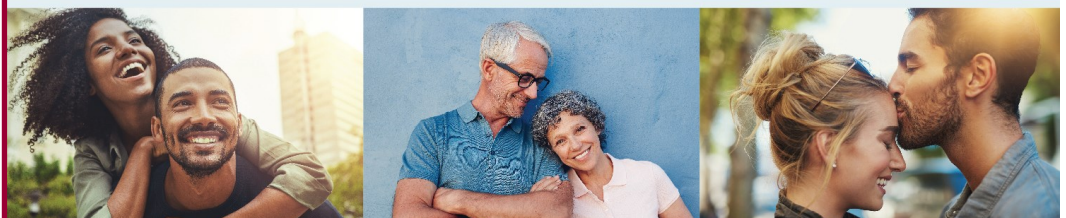
Whether your marriage is flourishing or floundering, you'll leave Weekend to Remember® with the tools to make immediate & lasting improvements to your relationship. Discover for yourself what more than 1.5 million couples have experienced & make your marriage great!

Appleton February 14-16, 2020

Madison May 1-3, 2020

Lowest price! Save 1/2 Jan 6-27, 2020 for any date/location

Use code CAMBRIDGE at checkout to receive current  
discount



Register at [WEEKENDTOREMEMBER.COM](http://WEEKENDTOREMEMBER.COM) or call 1-800-358-6329

# The Singing Christmas Tree

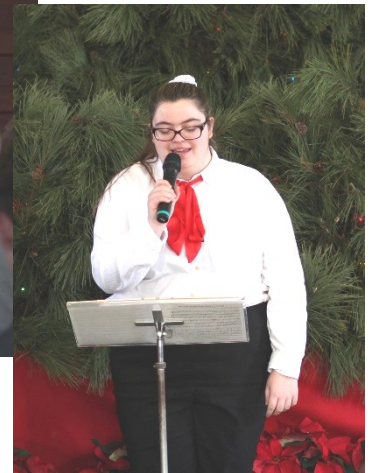
2019 December 7, 4:30 and 7 pm, Dec 8, 10 am

## Sing We All Noel

This year's tree was a great success, and a great joy!

Attendance was 395, over 3 presentations, not counting our choir of 26.

*(Photos by Tom Schmude)*



**Tree Top:** Janice Lund

**Row 2 (L to R):** Judy Vasby, Mary Hommen, Bella Mazzara

**Row 3 (L to R):** Pat Rucks, Lori Woolever, Karen Witt, Cris Trieloff

**Row 4 (L to R):** Mary Oates, Deborah Arneson/Padula, Nalini Singh, Judy Borke, Peggy Korth, Debbie Hommen

**Row 5 (L to R):** Andrew Bamlett, Mikey Jarlsberg, Greg Cooper, Mark Woolever, John Barnes, Kurt Nickelsburg, Dan Retzlaff, Dennis Kopf, Julie Strasburg, Janelle Bamlett

**Director**—Betsy Bamlett

**Coordinator**—Judy Vasby

**Pianist**—Lisa Jarlsberg Wilke

**Organist**—Mikey Jarlsberg

And our Ushers, Greeters, Childcare, Decorators, Kitchen Coordinators, Custodian, Cookie Bakers, Servers, and all others who helped!

**Reader**—Marlene Cutcher

**Pastor** Marvin Singh

**Duet**—Bella Mazzara (pictured singing) & Betsy Bamlett

And special thanks to: **Gerald and Mona Francis of Francis Trees** W3468 Long Crossing Rd. Rio, WI for donating the pine boughs  
<http://francistrees.com/>



# Multi-Lingual Carol Service

Sunday December 15, 10 am

(Photos by Megan Retzlaff)



We enjoyed songs and readings by:

Our own Pastor Marvin and Nalini Singh, in Hindi  
(top left)

Pastor Modesto Soto and a group from the Hispanic ministry of First United Methodist Church in Fort Atkinson  
(top center and right)

Pastor Myungoon Han and family from the Korean United Methodist Church in Madison  
(left)

And our own Galina Powers, in Russian.  
(right)



Then we enjoyed a potluck together.





Awana clubbers sang a song about the Christmas story for their parents, December 18,  
led by Judy Vasby *(Photos by Megan Retzlaff)*



Candlelight Services on Christmas Eve  
at 4 and 8 pm Pianist Julie Strasburg,  
Communion Liturgy by Karl Nordvall



Christmas Day Community Meal  
*(Photos by Holly Ringen)*



**Willerup United Methodist Church  
Church Council Meeting  
Meeting of Wednesday, December 11, 2019  
Lighthouse Room – 6:30 PM**

**Notes from meeting**

**Call To Order - 6:35 pm**

**Members Present – New Accountability Leadership Board members for 2020 and Administrative Council members from 2019**

Ron Dayton – Chair 2019 and 2020  
Shannon Ghorbani – Finance Team Oversight 2020  
Lisa Kalata – Trustee Team Co-Lead 2020  
Orvin Kendall – Staff-Pastor-Parish Chair 2019  
Dick Legge – Staff-Pastor-Parish Team Lead 2020  
Perry Oates – Trustee Chair 2019  
Jeanette Retzlaff – Lay Leader 2020  
Pastor Marvin Singh  
Tom Smrcka – Vice Chair 2019  
Judy Vasby – Goals & Communication Coordinator 2020  
Megan Retzlaff - Recording Secretary

**Opening Prayer - Pastor**

**Review of Agenda for Additions / Corrections**

**Pastor Leadership Teaching** – waived for this meeting

**Consent Agenda Action Items:**

- > Minutes of the November 13, 2019 Meeting
- > Budget report For November 2019
  - Motion To Approve: Perry
  - Second To Approve: Jeanette
  - Determination: Approved

**Action Items For This Agenda**

- > Request For \$50 Travel Expense for Singers for Multi-Lingual Carol service

Pastor: Participants are coming from Milwaukee or further to sing with us in other languages. Would like to provide each of 3 groups, Korean, Spanish, and Congolese, a \$50 gas card from BP.

Motion To Approve: Jeanette

Second To Approve: Perry

Determination: Approved

**Discussion Items:**

- > Reports From Committees

\_\_Budget / Finance

Received donation to offset tax assessment for sidewalk and road work. \$5000.

\_\_SPPRC

Meeting Nov 18 (after charge conference)

Treasurer will remain Cathy, Shannon will be Secretary and Chair.

Pastor thanks SPPRC and Orvin for encouragement

\_\_Lay Leader

There will be informational meetings regarding upcoming changes and options in the Denomination, beginning in February 2020.

\_\_Trustee

\_\_Other Reports - None

- > ALB Transition Planning

- > Request For January Event Planning Meeting

January 19<sup>th</sup> to plan events for church for 2020.

- > Receipt of Painting

The church has received a painting from Ashley Nemitz with support from Bart Edwards.

Cross-stitch picture also received made by former Pastor Tom Morgan.

- > Lighthouse Room Review / Next Steps

- > Other Items:

- > Judy – report etc. on Singing Christmas Tree

**Items For Next / Future Agenda**

- > ALB First Meeting Planning Session
- > Letter Concerning Sanctuary Lighting
- > January meeting – what will change for current ministries under new leadership structure

**Next Meeting: Date: \_\_Jan 22 Time: 6:30**

**Location: Lighthouse Room**

**Closing Prayer: Pastor**

***Thank you Council Members for your service! God's Blessings!***



**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

Church office phone: 608-423-3777

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

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