



Willmar United Methodist Church

DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE



Take me
home!

Summer 2017



Inside this Issue:

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- Grandma's Attic
- And more!!

June—August 2017



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Welcome

What is discipleship?

By participating in the life of Willmar United Methodist Church, you have started on a journey. It isn't a physical journey like a trip to Jerusalem, but a spiritual journey to learn about and connect with a loving God we find in Christ. We call this journey "discipleship" and want to welcome you to continue on the journey with us. You may have been on this journey for days or decades, but we believe that there is always room for growth and encouragement.

How to use the Discipleship Guide

On these pages, you will find steps for the journey. From worship and prayer to service and learning, there are ways to dig deeper into faith and discipleship for all ages. Our hope is that you will use this guide to discover the many possibilities for you and your family at Willmar United Methodist Church and connect with others on the journey in meaningful ways. Together, we can continue on the journey, learning and growing in our understanding and love of God.

Worship

One of our core acts of faith is to gather as a community to worship God. During the summer, we have one worship service, which meets each Sunday at 9am.

Throughout the summer we have a variety of worshipping styles. Our Traditional service features organ music and sacred liturgy. The Contemporary service worships using a praise band, guitars, drums and piano. On July 23rd we will have worship shared with Iglesia Puerta al Cielo, the Hispanic congregation which shares our building.

June 4—Traditional Pentecost Acts 2:1-21	June 11 — Traditional The Great Commission Matthew 28:16-20	June 18—Praise VBS Kickoff Genesis 28:10-19	June 25 — Praise VBS Celebration Acts 15:1-21
July 2 —Traditional America Exodus 33:18-23	July 9 —Traditional Wisdom of Wesley — Means of Grace	July 16 —Praise Wisdom of Wesley — The Use of Money	July 23 Joint service with Iglesia Puerta al Cielo
July 30 —Praise Wisdom of Wesley — On a Catholic Spirit	August 6 —Traditional Wisdom of Wesley — The Duty of Constant Communion	August 13 —Traditional Wisdom of Wesley — Christian Perfection	August 20 —Praise Wisdom of Wesley — Thoughts on the Present Scarcity of Provisions
August 27 —Praise Wisdom of Wesley — The Lord’s Prayer from Upon Our Lord’s Sermon on the Mount, discourse 6			

Wisdom of Wesley

Throughout the summer we will be exploring our Methodist heritage by looking at some of John Wesley’s sermons. This series will help us to understand how Wesley’s words of wisdom are still helpful and relevant to us today.

If you are interested in the Wisdom of Wesley, see Pastor Jeff.

I missed worship, but I want to hear the sermon!

It’s actually easier than you think! Audio files of all of our sermons can be found on the church website. Go to <http://www.willmarumc.org>, and click on “worship” and then “sermons.”

If you don’t have a computer but would like a copy of the sermon, call the church office and we can make you a CD recording.

Worship

Ushers and Greeters

Ushers and greeters help to set the tone for worship by welcoming individuals into our sanctuary, answer questions people may have, and assisting with the offering during worship.

If you are interested in helping to greet or serve as an usher, see Susan Cafferty.

Praise Team

The Praise Team is looking for individuals who can fill in on weeks when members are missing. Practices are scheduled for Saturday mornings at 9am.

If you are interested in joining the Praise Team as a sub, see Becky Lippert.

Worship Where You Are

Every week, we prepare first thoughts for the sermon for people who might not be able to be present on Sunday morning but wish to still participate in the worship experience. Each Worship Where You Are contains scripture, the sermon text, a few questions to ponder and a closing prayer. They are then e-mailed to individuals on the mailing list, and delivered in hard copy to our shut ins. We hope they help you in your faith journey

If you are interested in receiving Worship Where You Are, contact the church office.

Missions

Aid Program

The Aid Program is in its 9th year, the time has just flown by. We founded the Aid Program to provide for short term urgent needs for those who are not covered by other helping agencies. There is great need in our community even if we can't (or won't) see it. Many families struggle to pay everyday bills and many are short of food from time to time.

As a faith based aid program, our goals are to: work closely with other agencies, listen carefully, give fairly and offer all clients some type of help, offer help to anyone from Kandiyohi County without regard to ethnicity or religion (membership in our church is not a requirement to receive aid) and be accountable to our church members. Our monthly budget is \$810. Gifts and suggestions are always appreciated.

During the first quarter of 2017 we provided aid to 22 households, a total of 29 times (a few households needed help more than once.). Our assistance included help with food, rent, emergency housing, gas, utilities, car repairs, and clothes.

If you are interested in the Aid Program, see Susan Cafferty.

Meals on Wheels

Individuals who are homebound really appreciate a hot meal delivered to their door accompanied by a smile and conversation. We are scheduled to deliver Meals on Wheels May 29-June 2, June 5-9, August 21-25 and August 28-September 1.

If you are interested in delivering Meals on Wheels, see Elaine Henry.

Feed My Starving Children

In response to a 2 year drought, which has created a crisis in the horn of Africa, leaving millions of people at risk due to lack of food and clean water, the Willmar community is working with an organization called Feed My Starving Children to pack high protein meals here in Willmar on June 9 and 10. Individuals age 5 and above are needed to help pack these meals. Because of the seriousness of this situation, we need to act quickly.

If you are interested in Feed My Starving Children, see Susan Cafferty.

Family Promise

Families are the fastest growing segment of the homeless population. Family Promise is a national organization that allows people of faith to work together to provide help for homeless families with children. Our affiliate in Kandiyohi County has been operating since August 2, 2015. We serve families with children, married couples and expectant women. Congregations host 4-5 times per year providing overnight shelter, hospitality and meals. Our day center provides showers, laundry facilities and care for preschool children. Heidi Kohls, our wonderful Case Manager helps families find housing, jobs, or other assistance as needed.

Our next scheduled week to host is August 6-12. Currently we have 13 people enrolled in the program- we are at capacity for the first time!

If you are interested in helping with Family Promise, see Susan Cafferty.

Missions of the Month

Each month, there is an opportunity for everyone to give funds and get involved in missions!

June's Mission of the Month will support our church's Aid Program. We will collect monetary gifts and ask our Sunday School students to donate a toy they no longer use. Our Aid Program provides short term help with food, gas, utilities or emergency housing for persons in need. We serve persons without regard to race, religion, or gender. For more information please see the Care Ministries reports in the Narthex .

July's mission is still in the works. We don't know what it will be but it will be a good thing!

In August we will be collecting school supplies for our annual gifts to children who are returning to school. We will distribute our supplies at the August Community Meal on the 4th Sunday of the month.

If you are interested in these projects or Mission of the Month, speak with Susan Cafferty.

Milk for the Children

We continue to work with the Willmar Area Food Shelf (WAFS) and our local Cub Foods to provide milk for children in our community. We purchase milk from Cub to provide to the WAFS for distribution. Our goal is to donate 15 gallons each week, which costs approximately \$40. Last year we donated 545 gallons of milk and our goal for 2017 is 600 gallons. We have already donated 315 gallons.

If you are interested in the Milk Program, see Susan Cafferty.

Children

Vacation Bible School

Kids preschool—5th grade are invited to dive deep into God’s word with this year’s Vacation Bible School. Our week of “Deep Sea Discovery” is June 19-23 from 9am-12noon each day.

If you are interested in Vacation Bible School, see Theresa Molenaar or Becky Fordyce.

Nursery Care

Every Sunday we provide nursery care for our youngest church attenders. Located in the library and professionally staffed every Sunday during worship, the nursery provides a safe and welcoming space for children to play and experience the love of God while parents attend worship and Sunday School.

If you are interested in nursery care, see Becky Fordyce.

Summer Sunday School

Information about Summer Sunday School is still being finalized. Keep an eye out for updated information in the Spire.

If you are interested in Children’s Sunday School, see Becky Fordyce.

Youth

Valley Fair

Students entering grades 6-12 are invited to come for a day of fun at Valley Fair on Wednesday, June 14th. Any younger students are invited, if accompanied by a parent. Cost is \$35, or \$15 with a season pass.

Friends are always welcome. If you are interested in Valley Fair, see Becky Fordyce.

State Fair Service Trip

Students entering grades 6-12 are invited to join youth from Atwater UMC on a trip to the State Fair August 27th-29th. We will leave in the afternoon on the 25th, work a shift at the Hamline Dining Hall, explore the fair, swim and go to the Mall of America before returning the afternoon of the 29th.

If you are interested in the State Fair Service Trip, see Pastor Jeff or Pastor Marianne.

Women

Grandma's Attic Sale

The sale will be held Friday, August 4th, 7am-4pm and Saturday, August 5th, 8am-12pm in the Fellowship Hall. This is our annual sale of gently used “treasures” from your closets, attics, or garages.

Please no clothes, sofas, or TVs.

If you are interested in Grandma’s Attic, see Beth Johnston, Judy Terhune, Carley Braband or Elaine Henry.

Women

United Methodist Women (UMW)

We are continuing with our theme “Beacons of Light” for the rest of 2017.

Summer (June, July and August) is very unscheduled for our Circles and other UMW events. The only event scheduled is Grandma's Attic on August 4th and 5th. Details will be found in this booklet and also in the upcoming Spire and bulletins.

Circles will begin the first Thursday in September. Also we will have our Fall Event on the third Thursday of September at 2:00pm.

Enjoy the summer and let's be “Beacons of Light” wherever we are!

If you are interested in UMW, see Judy Boll.

Tuesday Book Club / Coffee Group

Meets the second Tuesday of each month at Lulu Beans from 4:30pm -5:45pm. Activities include short devotions followed by a lively discussion of the book for that month. June we will continue with *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith, July's book is *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamant, and August we will read *The Accused* by Tonya Croft.

If you are interested in the Tuesday Book Club, see Wendy Nelsen or Linda Saunders.

Bazaar Workshop

Join a group of crafters making items for the annual bazaar, 9:30-11:15am every Tuesday.

If you are interested in Bazaar Workshop, see Suzanne Wilson.

Adults

Coffee with the Pastor

Have a question for Pastor Jeff or just want to shoot the breeze? Stop in on Thursday mornings between 9:30 and 11:30am in the library for a chat. There is always coffee and treats enough to share.

If you are interested in Coffee with the Pastor, see Pastor Jeff.

We Can Drive!

We have a newly formed carpool that can help you with a ride to worship on Sundays. If you would like to help by being a driver, please call Susan Cafferty.

If you need a ride for Sunday, please call the church office no later than THURSDAY AFTERNOON. We will need to know which service you prefer to attend. Susan Cafferty will arrange a ride with one of our car pool volunteers and will call you with pick up time. Thanks to our car pool volunteers!

If you are interested in the carpool, see Susan Cafferty.

Volunteer for Vacation Bible School

In order to provide our children with the best Vacation Bible School experience possible, we need your help! Our week of “Deep Sea Discovery” is June 19-23 from 9am-12noon each day. We need help with story time, crafts, service projects, games, snacks, registration, decorating and cleanup.

If you are interested in volunteering for Vacation Bible School, see Theresa Molenaar or Becky Fordyce.

Adults

Care Ministries

Care Ministries provides visitation to United Methodists who are homebound, recovering from illness or coping with grief. We also provide Holy Communion at sites outside of the church, using elements that have been blessed by a pastor. Volunteers are always welcome—you can deliver a bulletin and recording of worship service to a homebound person, serve on the prayer chain, or just stop by and visit with someone who needs a little love. You will help our members realize that they are always children of God.

If you are interested in helping out with Care Ministries, see Susan Cafferty.

Grandma's Attic Sale Needs Donations

This is your chance to clean out your attic, closets or garage and donate items for the sale. No clothes, sofas or TVs please! You may bring donations to the church Choir Room June 1- July 31st.

If you have questions on donations see Beth Johnston, Judy Terhune, Carley Braband or Elaine Henry .

Teaching Sunday School

We are always looking for individuals who are interested in helping raise others up in faith. The Children's and Youth Sunday School programs use set curricula, while Adult Sunday School teachers set their own plan and are resourced by the pastors.

If you are interested in teaching Sunday School for any age group, see Becky Fordyce or Pastor Marianne.

Coloring Club

As individuals of faith, coloring can be a meditative process of praying or connecting to God in a new way. We will continue to gather to practice the meditative art of coloring. We meet the first Wednesday of every month from 5pm-7pm in a come-and-go format (come when you can, for as long as you can). Supplies will be available, but feel free to bring your own as well.

If you are interested in joining the Coloring Club, see Pastor Marianne.

All Ages

Church Library

Located at the top of the stairs, the church library has a generous amount of fiction and nonfiction books for all ages — from toddlers to mature readers. The library is open anytime the church is open. Come and snoop around to find the perfect pick for you and your family! If you haven't checked out a book before, select a book, sign the card and leave it on the card catalog by the door. Returned books can be placed in the wooden box under the card catalog.

If you are interested in the church library, see Nancy Olson.

United Methodist Day at Target Field

Thursday, August 3rd the Twins play the Texas Rangers, and United Methodists are invited to attend! Tickets are \$31 for seats in The Deck, or \$16 for a Home Run Porch view, with \$3 from each ticket being donated to the United Methodist Committee on Relief. As a church, we are planning on gathering interested individuals and traveling together (either by carpool or bus).

If you are interested in UM Day at Target Field, see Becky Fordyce by July 10th.

Flat Jesus is back!

Jesus Christ goes with us everywhere we go. This summer, bring a reminder of Christ with you in the form of Flat Jesus. You are invited to stay after worship on June 11th to color your very own Flat Jesus. Then, bring Flat Jesus with you on your summer adventures, and record your adventures on social media using #flatjesus and #WillmarUMC.

If you are interested in Flat Jesus, see Pastor Marianne.

Revival Celebration at Annual Conference

Everyone is invited to an old-fashioned revival at Lake George Park in St. Cloud on Tuesday, June 20th from 6-9pm. Rev. Junius Dotson will preach and the Annual Conference house band will lead us in a hymn sing. There will also be a service project, food trucks, lawn games and inflatables, plus the park has a splash pad, playground, peddle boats and more.

If you are interested in the Revival Celebration at Annual Conference, see Becky Fordyce.

Fun Fridays

Summer evenings are a time for sitting back and relaxing with friends by the fire pit while the kids play in the yard. June 30th, July 28th and August 18th from 5:30-8:30pm, we are inviting you to come and do just that: relax with friends by our fire pit. Everyone is invited. We will provide hot dogs with buns and s'more supplies to make by the fire, and ask that you bring a side to share. If the night is wet and rainy, we will meet in the Fellowship Hall with games instead.

If you are interested in Fun Fridays, see Pastor Jeff.

Community Meals

We will be serving a free meal to anyone in the community who wishes to join us August 27th at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall. Diners are encouraged to enter through the courtyard doors close to the elevator. Workers should enter through the door by the kitchen.

The Community Meal team consists of master chefs and volunteers who help to set up, cook, serve, and clean up after the meal. Set up happens following worship. Servers are needed at 5:30pm and clean up help starts at 6pm, including 2 people to run the dishwasher.

If you are interested in Community Meal, see Tammy Barnes, Sue Gimse or Damon Jongbloed.

Contacts

Rev. Jeffrey Ozanne

Lead Pastor
jeffozanne@willmarumc.org

Rev. Marianne Ozanne

Pastor of Discipleship
marianneozanne@willmarumc.org

Becky Fordyce

Youth and Christian
Education Director
beckyfordyce@willmarumc.org

Susan Cafferty

Director of Parish Care Ministries
susancafferty@willmarumc.org

Becky Lippert

Praise Team Leader
rklippert@charter.net

Wendy Nelsen

Book Club
320-995-6346

Linda Saunders

Book Club
320-235-1265

Theresa Molenaar

Vacation Bible School
320-979-0857
tmolenaar@cord.edu

Tammy Barnes

Community Meal Master Chef
320-222-8877

Sue Gimse

Community Meal Master Chef
320-905-1357

Damon Jongbloed

Community Meal Master Chef
320-894-5023

Nancy Olson

Librarian
320-235-4162

Elaine Henry

Meals on Wheels Coordinator
320-235-5085

Suzanne Wilson

Bazaar Workshop Coordinator
320-979-2199

Beth Johnston

Grandma's Attic
320-231-1703

Judy Terhune

Grandma's Attic
320-235-4740

Carley Braband

Grandma's Attic
320-231-1789

Judy Boll

UMW President
320-231-1029



Notes

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1818 9th St. SW
Willmar, Minnesota 56201**

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320-235-5403
www.willmarumc.org