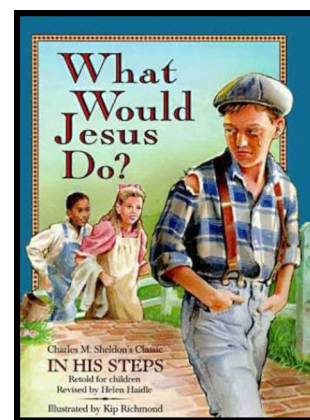


A Message From Pastor Tom

In His Steps: What Would Jesus Do?

When I was in high school, I read the book, *In His Steps* by Charles Sheldon. For Lent this year, I decided to reread the book. In the story the pastor, Rev. Henry Maxwell challenges his congregation to live in the footsteps of Jesus. Members in the congregation then work to follow Jesus in every decision they make. As they do this, they quickly find that it is easier said than done. The story communicates well both the challenges and the joys of living a life devoted to Jesus.



The book was written in 1896 but the message of the story continues to impact readers even today. While it may not be the most interesting story ever told the message told in the story is very powerful. How do we make decisions in light of our faith? Over time, the book has sold over 50 million copies and the story helped to inspire the: “What would Jesus do?” movement.

Through the years I have been inspired by this book and its simple message. In addition to reading the book as a spiritual practice during Lent I am giving a sermon series on: *Following Jesus* on Wednesday evenings. I am using as the theme of my sermon series the scripture verse from 1 Peter 2: 21. This is the same verse that the author based his book on – “For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.”

As Lent draws closer to Good Friday may we continue walking in the ways of Jesus. Jesus was faithful to us even to death on a cross. In the choir anthem, *I Will Glory in the Cross*, that we will be singing on Good Friday, we hear these words: “On a lonely hill of grief and woe there hung a man who suffered here below on a tree, where for me, he willed his blood to flow and I will glory in the cross”.

In 1 Peter 2: 24 we hear: “He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.” May Jesus heal us, may he forgive us, and may he guide us in his footsteps.

Update from Pastor Tom and Family

Kalen, Evie, and I will be moving to Williams Bay on April 25th. Our new address will be: 544 Wiswell Drive, Williams Bay. Evie is very excited about living in the town where she attends school, Kalen will have a shorter commute to her church, and I am looking forward to being more a part of the community that I serve in as pastor. Thank you for your support in this move. This move would not be possible without the support and care of this congregation. Please keep us in prayer as we make this new transition.

Happenings



Highway Pick-up

Join us in cleaning up on the highway on Saturday, April 5th at 7:30 AM. Questions, contact Stu Bieber or Pastor Tom.



Maundy
Thursday

Maundy Thursday

April 17th

Worship at 6:00 p.m.



Good Friday

April 18th

Worship at 6:00 p.m.



Good Friday Cross Walk -

Join walkers in the community for the Good Friday Cross Walk on April 18th at 9:30 AM. The walk begins at Edgewater Park. We will walk through Williams Bay, while carrying the cross, we will stop eight times to pray.

Join us in giving witness to Christ crucified.

April 20, 2025

Easter
SUNDAY

Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service - 7 AM

Community Easter Breakfast - 8 AM

Traditional Easter Worship Service - 9:30 AM

Easter Breakfast - It is our turn to host the community Easter Breakfast on April 20th. If you are interested in helping, please contact Jim Pfeil or Pastor Tom.

Things to Know



Church Choir - Please join us for choir practice on Sunday mornings at 8:50 AM. We will be singing: *I will Glory in the Cross* on Good Friday. All are welcome to join the choir!

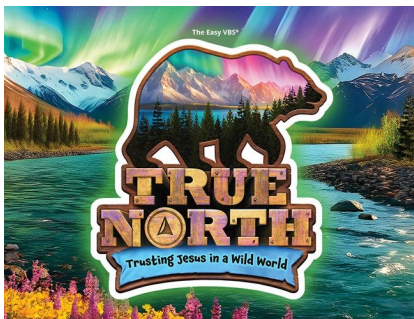
Easter Lilies may be ordered for Easter Sunday. Order forms are available in the worship bulletins and in the narthex.



Order deadline is Sunday, April 13th



WBLC is again holding a family event - at the Beloit Sky Carp minor league baseball stadium on Wednesday, June 18th. To get the group discount, we need 25 signed up by April 30. Tickets include entry to the game, a 2-hour buffet, baseball cap, and recognition on the scoreboard. Tickets are only \$20. The sign-up sheet is in the narthex. If any questions, please call Jim Pfeil at 262-903-4626.



Vacation Bible School - Our VBS week will be July 28th to July 31st, Monday - Thursday from 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM. The theme this year is: *True North: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World.* All children going into Kindergarten through Sixth Grade are welcome to attend. Older youth are welcome to come as counselors and to attend a Youth Bible Study with Pastor Tom.

In Our Prayers

IN OUR PRAYERS

All our military men and women: Tom Toyra (Cuba), Clayton Kelley (Pennsylvania), Collins Nash (Africa)
New Requests: Safety for people on our lakes this summer, Larry VanHout, the Fitch family, Gabe Dowling, Alisha Hines, Scott Barkholtz, Connie Decker, the Britzke family, Lynda Olsen, the family Meta (Fries) Drieser, Marvine Engel and family, the family of Jonathan Lewandowski, Abundant Life Christian School, San Jose Mission Church in Beloit, Stacy Creed, Mike Reno, Jo Ann (friend of Reno's), Brandy, Harold Friestad, the family of Jerry Amend (Marianne Peterson's friend), Earl Gunsolus (Marie Stewart's father), Gordon Kohnke (brother of Sharon Yanz), David Mock, Rev. David Groth, the family of Dennis Tanking, Tim Dunn, Rich Weeden, Apple Grove Lutheran Church in Argyle, WI, Susan Johnson, Meta (Fries) Drieser, Craig Davis, Elisa Corcoran's family, the family of Michelle Strom, the family of Rick Fritz, the family of Sarah Greene, the family of Larry H. (father to Tiffany Frey), Muriel Thompson, Mardee Wojcik, Sarah Keith's family, Neill Frame, the family of Minerva Bauer (Marilyn Carlson's mother), Debbie Garcia (mother-in-law of Zach Frame), Dennis Tanking, Sarah and Thelma (Stu's co-workers), Jerry Amend (Marianne Peterson's friend), Lauren Aramini, Teresa Davis's sister, Marilyn DeMore, Fran Burda, Lynne Swatek, The family of Lena Maude Mueller, Connie Decker, Sharon Yanz, Dean Barney, David Burrough, Fran Flucke, Jill and Wendy (friends of Biebers), David Reddy and family, Karin Slayton and family, Dave Mock, Mike Reno, Sarah Wollman (friend of the Frame's), Jennifer (friend of Lynn Peterson), Paul Swatek, Larry H. (father to Tiffany Frey), Kathy Tanking, Wayne Anderson, Al Austin, Audrey (friend of the Beth family), Brett (Chad Beth's brother-in-law), Ron Bieber (Stu Bieber's brother), Dorthey Boss, Bud Breen, Donna Ceschi, Shelly Daniels (friend of the Biebers), the parents of Craig Davis, Jim Davis (Craig Davis's father), Terri DeVries (friend of the Biebers), Don Effenheim (Stu Bieber's brother-in-law), Lauren Fontana, Debbie Garcia (Emily Frame's mother), Kira Granberg, Gordie Grender, Timothy Gebauer, Jack Hagele, Randy Hauschildt (Chad Beth's stepfather), Taylor Heinberg (Chad and Bridget's niece), Judy Hirsch, George Holmes (Natalie Reno's father), Eric Johannesson, Lynn Lange, the family of Paul Lopez (grandson of Diane Sherin), Michael Lois, Curtis Lundin, Jerna Madero (friend of Stu Bieber), Renee McAdamis (friend of Deena Putnam), Emily Newell, Shar Newman (family member of Deena Putnam), Marianne Peterson, Roger Peterson (Laura Breen's father), Stephen Porter (Angela Porter's husband), Michael Reno, San Jose congregation in Beloit, Evie Schultz and Janet (Linda's sister), Bruce Sienkowski (friend of the Putnam family), Lynne Swatek, Larry VanHout (Bridget Beth's father), Dale Vavra, Ursula Wellhausen, Scott Wild, and the people of Ukraine, those impacted from the Turkey and Syria earthquake.

Update The Prayer List - Please review the church prayer list. If you wish to add a name to the list or remove a name from the list, please let us know (secretary@wblc.org).



www.wblc.org
262-245-5995

THE MISSION OF THIS CONGREGATION IS TO:

PRAISE God

PROCLAIM the message of Jesus Christ

REACH OUT with this message to people of
all backgrounds and cultures

CREATE A COMMUNITY of Christian support, love, and forgiveness.

Williams Bay Lutheran Church
February 20, 2025-Church Council Minutes

Members Present (please cross out absent members)

Bieber Filloon Love Reno Pastor

Call to order:

Council Vice-President Filloon calls this meeting to order.

Devotion and Prayer:

Pastor leads the council in a devotion and prayer. The devotion was from Ephesians chapter six on putting on the full armor of God.

Minutes from February council meeting:

Bieber moves to approve. Love seconds. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report:

Love moves to approve. Bieber seconds. Motion carried.

Committee reports:

Pastor reports for Youth and Education. Final day of Sunday School and Graduation Sunday will be May 18th. Special refreshments to follow the service. The confirmation students are attending the Wednesday Lenten Worship services and writing a Lenten worship note. Vacation Bible School will be July 28th to July 31st. The theme will be True North-Trusting Jesus in a Wild World. Please share the news about our VBS ministry.

Bieber, Filloon and Pastor all attended the March 16th Property and Finance meeting. Two gas stoves and a microwave oven have been purchased and installed in the church kitchen. Vern Choyce replaced the broken door closer in the church sanctuary. The project to replace our church signs continues. There is some discussion about whether it would be possible to light these signs. This is deemed improbable. A spring church clean-up date is anticipated but not yet scheduled. Treasurer Frame is investigating whether it is possible to place our Mission Investment Funds into an interest earning account. There is discussion at council about doing the same with a portion of the congregation's checking and memorial funds.

Pastor reports for Worship. Wednesday Lenten services are going very well. The Holden Evening Prayer is the liturgy being used for Lenten services. Bell choir performed on March 16th. The church choir will perform on Good Friday. Choir practices will occur after service on the three Sundays before Easter. Sunrise service is scheduled for 0700AM on April 20th. Breakfast to follow. As indicated, new stoves are installed in the church kitchen. Sometime prior to the Easter breakfast, the stoves need to be turned on for an hour or so to be broken in. Beloit SkyCarp game is scheduled. In order to ensure that the congregation gets a discount on tics, it is decided that we should invite the congregation of Christ Lutheran Church of Sharon to join us. Filloon motions. Bieber seconds. Motion carried.

Bieber reports for Stewardship. A couple of individuals have come forward to serve as counter recruits for church offerings. Bieber agrees to say a few words about The Cross Walk during service on April 13th. A highway pick-up will be scheduled for April.

Pastor reports for Outreach/Evangelism. The congregation will participate in the CrossWalk on April 18th at 0930. This event will begin at Edgewater Park.

Pastor's Report: Pastor will email his report to the church council.

Pastor's written report is submitted and reviewed by Pastor for the council.

Motion to approve reports:

Bieber moves to approve the committee reports as presented. Reno seconds. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Current officers will remain in their positions until nominations and votes can be completed at a future meeting. No action taken on making a donation to the Open Arms Free Clinic. Monthly devotions sign-up sheet will be completed next month.

New Business:

No new business. No other agenda items.

Motion to adjourn:

Bieber moves to adjourn. Love seconds. Motion carried. Next council meeting is April 17th at 0700PM. O'Brien has opening devotions on April 17th.

Closing:

The meeting closes with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by:

Stu Bieber,

Church Council Member

Pastor Tom's Mission and Ministry Report for February 2025

Ministry Highlight:

- For the five mid-week Lent services, I am giving a sermon series on what it means to follow Jesus. For the theme of the series I am using the Scripture verse, 1 Peter 2:21: *"To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps."* I am also using as inspiration for my sermon series the book: In His Steps by Charles Sheldon. In Sheldon's novel the pastor of the congregation challenges his congregation to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. This is the focus of my sermon series.

The first Lent service I preached on the importance of taking time to read the Bible and on being on a Bible reading plan. I concluded my sermon by speaking about the importance of being in prayer. For the second Lent service I preached on the importance of sharing one's faith. I will continue preaching sermons on following Jesus for the remaining three Wednesdays of Lent.

Forward-Looking:

- I am working on setting a date for New Member Sunday, either Sunday, March 30th or Sunday, April 6th. I will let the church council know when the date is set.
- Later this Spring I will be giving a First-Communion class to the Sunday school children who are ready to receive Holy Communion. After receiving the class instruction, I will plan for a First- Communion Sunday.

I will be taking vacation time after Easter from Monday, April 21st to Monday, April 28th.

If you wish to be a worship server, please contact the church office and you will be added to the list or put your name on the sign-up sheet at the back of the church.

April Sign-Ups

April 6	8:00 am	9:30 am
Usher	<i>Not Needed</i>	Jim Pfeil
Lector	Natalie Reno	Wayne Anderson
Cantor	<i>Not Needed</i>	Wayne Anderson
Comm. Assist. (2 needed)	<i>Not Needed</i>	
	<i>Not Needed</i>	
Altar Guild	Dori Freundt	
Altar Flowers		
Refreshments		
Offer. Counters (2 each week)	Allen Filloon	
	Stu Bieber	
SS Teacher	Sarah Keith	
April 13	8:00 am	9:30 am
Usher	<i>Not Needed</i>	Chad Beth
Lector	Dori Freundt	Mary Mock
Cantor	<i>Not Needed</i>	Mary Mock
Comm. Assist. (2 needed)	<i>Not Needed</i>	Mary Mock
	<i>Not Needed</i>	
Altar Guild	Dori Freundt	
Altar Flowers		
Refreshments		
Offer. Counters (2 each week)	Dinah Harner	
	Jack Williams	
SS Teacher	Jen Galvin	

April 20 Easter	7 am Sunrise	9:30 am
Usher		Jim Pfeil
Lector		Bridget Beth
Cantor	Pastor Tom	Bridget Beth
Comm. Assist. (2 needed)		
Altar Guild	Jorine Granberg & Lynne Swatek	
Altar Flowers	Easter Lilies	
Refreshments		
Offer. Counters (2 each week)	Dottie Lock	
SS Teacher	No Sunday School—Easter Sunday	
April 27	8:00 am	9:30 am
Usher	<i>Not Needed</i>	Chad Beth
Lector	Dori Freundt	Mary Mock
Cantor	<i>Not Needed</i>	Mary Mock
Comm. Assist. (2 needed)	<i>Not Needed</i>	Mary Mock
	<i>Not Needed</i>	
Altar Guild	Dori Freundt	
Altar Flowers	Dottie Lock	
Refreshments		
Offer. Counters (2 each week)		
SS Teacher	Jen Galvin	

Maundy Thursday, April 17 6:00 p.m.	
Usher	
Lector	
Cantor	
Comm. Assist. (2 needed)	
Altar Guild	Jorine Granberg & Lynne Swatek

April 2025

Williams Bay Lutheran Church

11 Collie St., Williams Bay, WI 53191

Ph: 262-245-5995 E-mail: secretary@wblc.org

Website: wblc.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
		1 10:30 am Worship at Sherwood Lodge	2 9:30 am Senior Coffee 6 pm Lent Worship	3	4	5 7:30 am Highway Clean-Up	
8 am Simplified Worship 8:50 am Choir 9:30 am Worship Service	7 <i>Church Office Closed</i>	8	9 9:30 am Senior Coffee 6 pm Lent Worship	10	11	12	
Palm Sunday 13 8 am Simplified Worship 8:50 am Choir 9:30 am Worship Service	14 <i>Church Office Closed</i>	15	16 9:30 am Senior Coffee No Confirmation 6:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal	Maundy Thursday 17 6 pm Maundy Thursday Service 7 pm Council	Good Friday 18 9:30 am Community Crosswalk 6 pm Good Friday Service	19	
Easter Sunday 20 7 am Ecumenical Service 8 am Easter Breakfast 9:30 am Worship Service	21 <i>Church Office Closed</i>	22	23 9:30 am Senior Coffee No Confirmation	24	25	26	
27 8 am Simplified Worship 9:30 am Worship Service Pastor Tom on vacation Apr. 21st - Apr. 28th	28 <i>Church Office Closed</i>	29	Pastor Tom on vacation April 21st - April 28th				
		30 9:30 am Senior Coffee 6:30 pm Confirmation					