



New Council members elected and installed

At the Feb. 4 Annual Meeting, members of Living Waters elected six members to three-year terms on the Church Council: Todd Muehlbauer, Carolyn Neubauer, Kelli Pederson, Dan Pederson, Kirsten Stiegel and Brian Ulrich. Council members were installed on February 28. *Photo on next page.*

DeNetta Wolbeck is serving as Council president and Dan Pederson as vice president. Other 2024 Council members are Leann Giese, Josh Rock and youth representative AJ Wolbeck.

Thank you to outgoing Council members Daniel Agre, Wayne Anderson, Brad Giese and Tom Satre.



When you step inside the narthex at Living Waters, take a look at our new banners! Installed in early February, the banners display LWLC's new mission statement and the three pillars we're following to foster that mission: Engage, Connect, Inspire.

New mission statement:

"That all would know they are loved by God and are inspired to follow Jesus."

Engage: Actively participate, get involved & faith formation for all ages.


Connect: Encourage spiritual growth for all God's children through small groups & ministry.

Inspire: Guide, fill & foster feelings of love & kindness by service, so all may know they are loved by Jesus.

MARCH 6TH, 13TH, 20TH

Lenten Soup Suppers, 5:30 p.m.

Lenten Services, 6:30 p.m.



SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday	March 24 9:00 a.m.
Maundy Thursday Service	March 28 7:00 p.m.
Good Friday Service	March 29 7:00 p.m.
Easter Sunday Services	March 31 7:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.



Council members were installed during a Lenten service on Wednesday, February 28. Pictured (from left) Pastor Jake Dyrhaug, Carolyn Neubauer, Kelli Pederson, John Fuls, DeNetta Wolbeck and Kirsten Stiegel.

2024 Living Waters Lutheran Church Council



John Fuls



Leann Giese



Todd Muehlbauer



Carolyn Neubauer



Dan Pederson



Kelli Pederson



Josh Rock



Kirsten Stiegel



Brian Ulrich



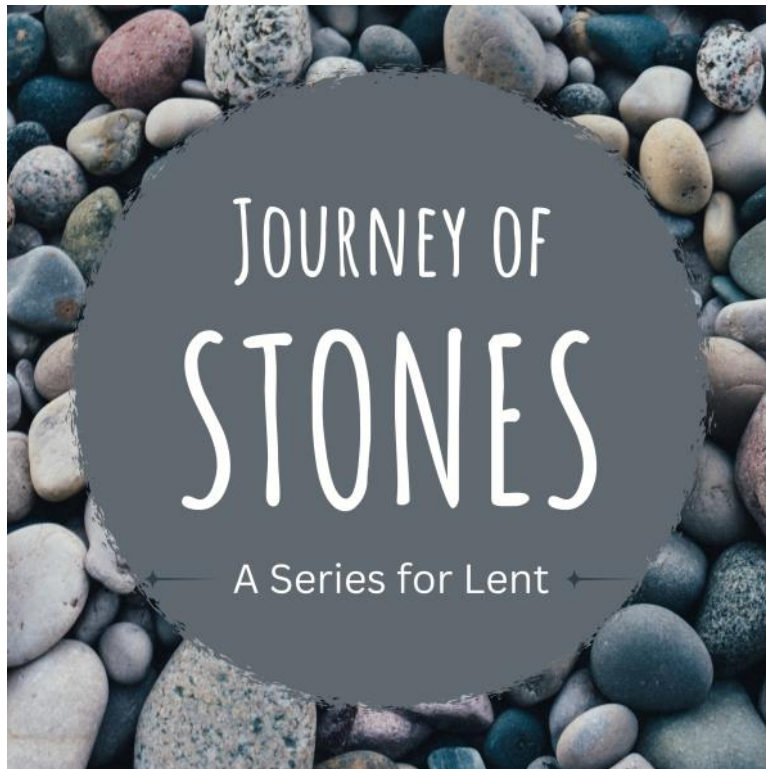
AJ Wolbeck



DeNetta Wolbeck



**Mary Soroko,
Treasurer**



Weekly Lenten services at Living Waters are beginning with the “Holden Evening Prayer” liturgy, and the music sets the tone as together we journey in confession and celebration of grace and of awe at the miracle of the empty tomb and the promise of life.

Each Wednesday evening we will hear God’s Word and reflect on the “stones” we carry around—stones of rejection and hurt which weigh us down, stones we may contemplate tossing at someone else, hearts of stone unwilling to let God’s love in.

Each week we will place a stone at the foot of the cross—lay at the feet of our Savior all of those things which separate us from him. Along the way, we will confess our faith, contemplate the truth about ourselves and stand together at the foot of the cross and lay our stones—and our sins—down, and leave in wonder of how God is lightening our load.

We will together journey through Holy Week and together proclaim the resurrection, to announce together the Good News, “He is risen!” We will see how we’d laid our sins at the cross and, behold! They’ll be gone. The stone will be rolled away! Thanks be to God.

Weekly Faith Talks during Lent

People from Living Waters are sharing faith talks during Wednesday Lenten services at 6:30 p.m. March 6th, 13th and 20th. Come early for soup starting at 5:30 p.m. in the LLC.

March speakers:

March 6 : Dan Pederson March 13: Jen Kiewel March 20: Nic Bratsch

Thank you to AJ Wolbeck and Teresa Szymanski for sharing their faith talks in February.



FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

**Saturday, March 16
10:00 a.m.
at the church**

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS REGISTRATION FORM 2024

*If you have more than one child in the class, write the names on the "Child Name" blank, and circle each child's age group.

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Address(es): _____

Phone #(s): _____

Email Address(es): _____

Child's Name (including middle name)*: _____

Child's Age Category (circle one*):

PreSchool (If PreK, how old? ____)

Kindergarten 1st grade 2nd grade 3rd grade 4th grade 5th grade 6th grade

If older than 6th grade, what grade? _____

Adult(s) who will accompany child to the class: _____

Payment \$25 class fee** paid (check here if paid): ____ Scholarship needed? ____

** The cost of a pottery chalice that your child will paint during the class, and that will be used during the First Communion service. You will then be able to take the chalice home as a keepsake of your child's first communion.

Make checks payable to LWLC. Thank you!

_____ Cut here and save bottom portion _____

First Communion Class is Saturday, March 16 at 10:00 am in the Life & Learning Center.
Children must be accompanied by at least one adult.

First Communion will be received on Maundy Thursday, March 28, or Easter Sunday,
March 31.

There will be a First Communion Class offered on Saturday, March 16th, 10:00 - Noon at Living Waters. This is open to all ages.

In the past, this class has been offered to 2nd graders. But with in-person classes not being possible for a couple years during COVID, some were not able to come for classes with a pastor and receive First Communion. This is one reason we are opening it up to all ages. Some may not have been able to attend classes for other reasons. One way or another, we want everyone to have an opportunity to learn about this sacrament and prepare for receiving it for the first time.

Parents and kids attend together. We walk through what the Sacrament of Communion means to us as Lutheran Christ followers. We'll also make clay chalices that students will paint. Will bring them to an art shop to put in a kiln for the paint to glaze. And they'll have the chalices/cups for the day they will receive their First Communion, either Maundy Thursday on March 28 or Easter Sunday, March 31.

Call the church office at 320-255-1135 or email church@lwlcmmn.org to let Pastor Jake know you'll be coming.

Lenten Movie Series Continues

Showtimes: 2 p.m. Sundays—March 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th

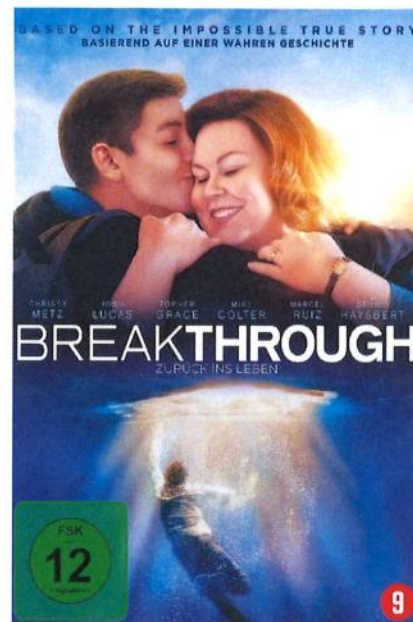
Discussions: After Lenten services on March 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

LWLC's Lenten movie series continues! Every Sunday afternoon at 2:00 through March 24th, a Christian-based movie is being shown at the church. Discussions on the movie take place the following Wednesday evening after the 6:30 Lenten service.

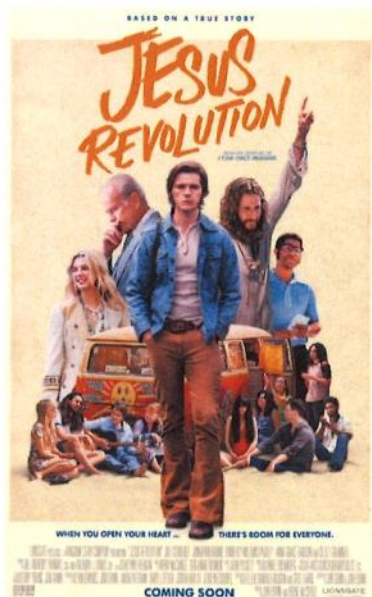
March 3: Evan Almighty March 10: Breakthrough March 17: Jesus Revolution March 24: The Apostle



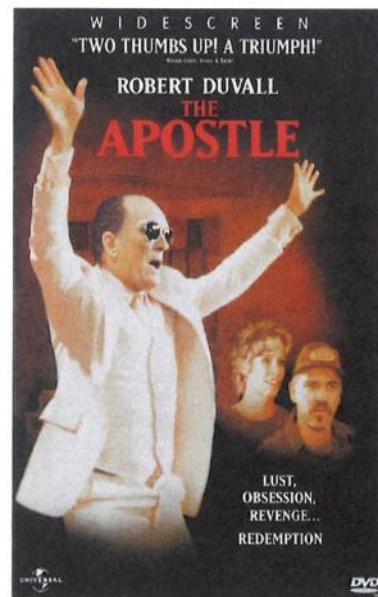
Week 3 - Discussing March 6th



Week 4 - Discussing March 13th



Week 5 - Discussing March 20th



Week 6 - Discussing March 27th

TABLE TALK SERIES ON THE CURRENT PALESTINIAN/ISRAELI CONFLICT

March 3 at 10:15 a.m.

Rev. Dennis and Naomi Raymond,
"Palestine 2018"



Rev. Dennis and Naomi, Stephani Dyrhaug's parents, traveled in 2018 to the Holy Land, and in conversations with Palestinian residents of the West Bank, were asked to "Please tell the American people what's going on here." They will share about their travels and how we may understand better the current events in 2024.

Meet at the back of the sanctuary.



March Events

- * **Sunday Movie Showings:** March 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th at 2:00 p.m.
- * **Mary's Mermaids Meet:** March 6 from 10 a.m. to noon
- * **Lenten Soup Supper and Service:** March 6 at 5:30 and 6:30 p.m.
- * **Game Day:** March 9 from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Life & Learning Center
- * **Children's Hand Bell Choir Practice:** March 10 and March 17 at 10:10 a.m.
- * **Lenten Soup Supper and Service:** March 13 at 5:30 and 6:30 p.m.
- * **First Communion Class:** March 16 from 10 a.m. to noon
- * **Finance Committee Meeting:** March 19 at 5:30 p.m.
- * **Church Council Meeting:** March 19 at 6:30 p.m.
- * **Lenten Soup Supper and Service:** March 20 at 5:30 and 6:30 p.m.
- * **Council Retreat:** March 23 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Celebration Lutheran Church in Sartell
- * **Lenten Soup Supper and Service:** March 27 at 5:30 and 6:30 p.m.
- * **Maundy Thursday Service:** March 28 at 7:00 p.m.
- * **Good Friday Service:** March 29 at 7:00 p.m.
- * **Easter Sunday Services:** March 31 at 7:15, 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Butter Braid Youth Fundraiser

Living Waters youth are selling Butter Braid pastries to raise funds for their trip to New Orleans this summer for the ELCA National Youth Gathering. Each hand-braided pastry is filled with your choice of 7 flavors: Bavarian Crème ; Strawberry & Cream Cheese; Apple; Cinnamon; Blueberry & Cream Cheese; Raspberry; Herb & Cheese. \$15 per pastry. Orders will be taken through Sunday, March 10. Order at church on Sundays, or call the church office. Delivery will be either March 19 or March 20. Thanks for your support!



February 7 was Family Night at Living Waters.

Parents joined youth from the Wednesday Faith Education program for pizza, songs and a campfire with S'mores.



FAMILY NIGHT





Children's Hand Bell Choir Returns!

ALL PreK to 6th grade are invited to play handbells on Palm Sunday!

Practice after services at 10:10 a.m.
Sunday, March 10
Sunday, March 17

The children's hand bell choir will play two songs on Sunday, March 24, during the 9 a.m. Palm Sunday service!

No experience needed! Let's celebrate Holy Week in a big way this year!

Living Waters Lutheran Church

HOMELESS DRIVE

Items will be collected through March 15 and donated to Lincoln Center.

Large Bath Towels

Shower Disinfectant Cleaner

Floor Cleaner

Laundry Soap

Paper Towels

Underwear for Men & Women

Cereal (boxed is fine)

Ramen Noodles

Granola Bars

Thank you to everyone who has donated to our Homeless Drive. We will continue collecting items through March 15.

-Leann Giese,
Outreach Liaison





GET CONNECTED!



Living Waters Lutheran Church invites you to get connected! If you have not done so already, please fill out a yellow Connect Survey. The surveys are available at the church or online by scanning the QR code. You can also request a survey by emailing church@lwlcmmn.org.

The survey will help us define what group, activity or ministry you're interested in so that you can get connected with our church. Data will be used to determine small groups at LWLC and develop a volunteer database. We will establish group leads and provide leads with a list of volunteers those leads can reach out to, if necessary and applicable. The survey will also help LWLC promote various

small groups that people can connect with. Groups will be promoted through brochures, Welcome Bags for visitors and our website.

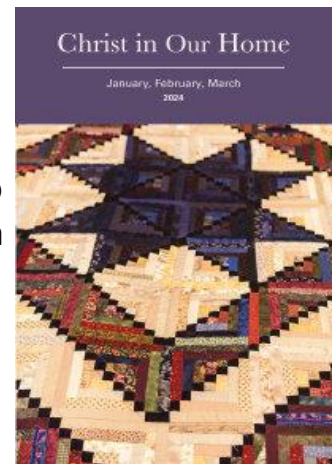
Thank you for taking the time to complete this important survey!



www.lwlcmmn.org/connect-survey/

CHRIST IN OUR HOME BOOKS AVAILABLE

Christ in Our Home books are available at LWLC! *Christ in Our Home* is a quarterly devotional resource that encourages readers to live out their faith daily. Each reflective reading is accompanied by a daily scripture reference and prayer for the day that follows the Revised Common Lectionary. The books are available at the Welcome Center. Limit 1 book per family.



Living Waters Food Shelf volunteers celebrated Pastor Jake's birthday with coffee and cupcakes on February 20.

GAME DAY

At Living Waters
Lutheran Church



Join us for an afternoon of fun at Game Day as we play bible trivia and other games for prizes. Hot dogs, chips and candy bars will be sold to raise funds for the youth trip to New Orleans this summer for the ELCA National Youth Gathering.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9 | 1-3 P.M.

Bring a
friend!



Church Youth
Selling Concessions



Sunday School Schedule —PreK through 1st Grade

Sundays, 10:10 a.m. in the Life and Learning Center Classrooms

The lessons this year for Sunday School will be based on Calvary Connect materials, “Everyday: Responsibility, Patience, Commitment” and the “Spark” Bibles. Please feel free to contact Pastor Jake with any questions.

No class during Lent. March 31 is Easter Sunday, no class.

April 7—Classroom

April 14—Classroom

April 21—Classroom

April 28—Classroom

May 5—Classroom

May 12—Classroom, Mother’s Day, End-of-Year Celebration

Even though Prek-1st grade classes will be Sunday this year, we want to welcome everyone to pizza (\$1/slice) on Wednesdays from 5:30-6:30 p.m. and to the W.O.W. Worship from 6:00-6:30 p.m. Parent volunteers needed to help pick up pizza, make lemonade, serve pizza and clean up. Please contact Pastor Jake to volunteer!

Wednesday Education Schedule—2nd through 9th grades

Pizza served at 5:30 (\$1/slice), W.O.W. Worship w/Communion at 6:00, Class from 6:30-7:15

The theme this winter and spring will be “Everyday: Responsibility, Patience, Commitment.”

Remember to sign in each week in the points binders on the table, and keep track of your points on the attendance page.

Head to the sanctuary at 6:00 for “W.O.W.” Worship with Communion. The church service is part of Confirmation/Education. **Please, no food in the sanctuary.*

Then, class from 6:30-7:15.

**Skit and Kids’ Bell Choir practices will be after Sunday services leading up to Palm Sunday, for any who would like to be a part!*

All are encouraged to come for Lenten services, but no class during Lent. Easter is March 31 this year.

April 10—All kids and parents/guardians for a Family Night

April 17—Classroom

April 24—Mentor Night, 7-9th graders. Invite your mentor to supper.

May 1—Classroom

May 8—End-of-Year Celebration

Parent volunteers needed to help pick up pizza, make lemonade, serve pizza and clean up. Please contact Pastor Jake to volunteer!

Living Waters Choir

The Living Waters Senior Choir, directed by Janet Anderson, will present its cantata, "We are Witnesses" on Sunday, April 7, during the 9:00 a.m. worship service.

The choir will meet for practice at 6 p.m. on March 7, March 14 and March 21 in the sanctuary.



Worship Assistant Sign-Up

Sign up to help at a Sunday service using the QR code below.



Sign up to help at a Sunday service using the QR code below.



THANK YOU

For your ongoing financial support.



Set up **BILL PAY** through your bank or credit union. It is free. Contributions will be sent to the church on **YOUR** schedule.

Send money through **PAYPAL**. To avoid paying a fee, make sure to select that you are sending money to a friend. Send to church@lwlcmn.org.

Send contributions the old-fashioned way. **MAIL** checks via **USPS** to:
Living Waters Lutheran Church
1911 4th Ave. N.
Sauk Rapids, MN 56379

Please remember to specify on your check or envelope what your contribution will be used for (e.g. mortgage, general fund, food shelf).



Pastoral Care

At Living Waters, we seek to lead with heart by ministering God's grace and emulating Jesus' care and compassion for His people, especially those who are hurting. If you or a loved one is in need of prayer, a home or hospital visit, or other means of support, please get in touch with Pastor Jake Dyrhaug using the contact information below.

Church Office
320.255.1135
church@lwlcmn.org



Pastor Jake
320.733.0257
pastorjake@lwlcmn.org



Praying with St. Patrick



Pastor Jake Dyrhaug

So, who was St. Patrick? Every year on March 17th most in America honor St. Patrick's Day. That is the day said to be the date of his death, most likely in 461 A.D. Lutherans generally don't pray to the saints, but they have always honored them as people who have lived out their faith in awesome ways, amazing people who lived courageously as followers of Christ. St. Patrick is one of them. I read a bestseller once, *How the Irish Saved Civilization*, by Thomas Cahill—a kind American-Irishman lent it to me to read. My Irish sister-in-law, Eileen, loves the fact that through a couple of those DNA kits, we Norwegian-American Dyrhaugs figured out that we're actually part Irish.

St. Patrick was born in Roman Britain, and his father was a deacon, his grandfather a priest (Roman Catholic priests were able to marry up until the 11th century). At the age of 16 Patrick was captured by a group of Irish pirates. The raiders brought him back to Ireland where he was held captive for six years. Fleeing his master, he travelled to a port 200 miles away and persuaded the captain to take him. He ended up becoming a priest himself back in Britain and would return to Ireland as a Christian missionary to continue preaching the gospel and growing the church amongst the rough crowd of pagans there. He was eventually appointed bishop. His life served to see thousands of people baptized. This was not always a safe place to be, as you can imagine. Many are the priests and bishops, including a bishop of Sweden, who were cut down with a sword. Not all the peoples were so open to the Christian message. In the year of his death, likely in 461 A.D., the Roman Empire was falling apart in chaos as hordes of barbarians poured in. It is said that Ireland was one of the only places where

the books and the arts were not destroyed, and eventually learning and culture went out from there as Europe began its long period of the "Dark Ages" until the Middle Ages. That's why it's said the Irish saved civilization. My own Scandinavian ancestors would likely had never become Christians were it not for the Irish monks who were taken back to Norway and Sweden. I tell that to my sister-in-law all the time.

One of my favorite prayers is attributed to St. Patrick of St. Patrick's Day—written by this man I'd heard about for years but didn't know much about until the last few...

Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down,

Christ when I arise. Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth

Of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that

hears me. I arise today. Through a mighty strength, the invocation of the Trinity, through belief in the threeness, through confession of the oneness of the Creator of Creation.

(How the Irish Saved Civilization, Anchor Books, New York, p. 1190)

Through the first few weeks of March, we'll continue to journey through Lent with the "Journey of Stones" services with Holden Evening Prayer and more awesome faith talks from people of Living Waters. Then as Christ-followers have done for centuries, we will gather in worship and prayer for Holy Week. Maundy Thursday service March 28th will be at 7:00 p.m., and Good Friday service at 7:00 p.m. As we will celebrate the stone rolled away and the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we will have services Easter Morning at 7:15, 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Joy and Peace,

Pastor Jake Dyrhaug

**Did your phone number, email address or mailing address change recently?
If so, please let us know so we can update it in our member records system.
Call 320-255-1135 or email church@lwlcmn.org.**

Servant Team Schedule

Team	Team Leader(s)	Last Name Starts With	Servant Months (first two)
Team 1	Tom & Cheri Satre	A through Cr	February 2023 and September 2023
Team 2	Teresa Szymanski	Cu through Gunderson, D	March 2023 and October 2023
Team 3	Jen Kiewel	Gunderson, J through Koskinen, D	April 2023 and November 2023
Team 4	Tim Wright	Koskinen, S through Moon	May 2023 and December 2023
Team 5	Bonnie Raduns	Moor through Rock, J	June 2023 and January 2024
Team 6	Terry Sylvester	Rock, K through Sz	July 2023 and February 2024
Team 7	Darryl Torrin	T through Z	August 2023 and March 2024

Council Meeting Minutes Attached

The January Church Council meeting minutes are emailed with the newsletter for your convenience. See attachments to your email for detailed minutes, or pick up a copy at the church.

Living Waters Lutheran Church Council

John Fuls – Property team

jctmfuls@msn.com

Leann Giese – Outreach

craftinggiese@gmail.com

Todd Muehlbauer – Personnel

toddmuehlbauer@gmail.com

Carolyn Neubauer – Inreach, Care Core, Secretary

cneub61126@hotmail.com

Dan Pederson – Vice President

djp2880@gmail.com

Kelli Pederson - Congregational life

kellilynnpederson@gmail.com

Josh Rock

jerock96@gmail.com

Kirsten Stiegel – Education

kstiegel@icloud.com

Brian Ulrich

briantulrich@gmail.com

AJ Wolbeck – Youth Rep.

ajwolbeck@yahoo.com

DeNetta Wolbeck - President,
Music and worship liaison

nedswolbeck@gmail.com

Next Council Meeting:

Tuesday, March 19, at 6:30 p.m.

Worship at LWLC

Sunday Service — 9:00 a.m.

Lenten Services — 6:30 p.m.

*WOW Worship Services will resume after Lent. These services start at 6:00 p.m.

FOOD SHELF HOURS

TUESDAYS
10AM - NOON



Church Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Monday

Closed



Contact

Church Office Phone: 320-255-1135

Church Office Email: church@lwlcmn.org

Pastor Jake's Cell Phone: 320-733-0257

Pastor Jake's Email: pastorjake@lwlcmn.org

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LUTHERAN CHURCH**



FACEBOOK:

facebook.com/livingwaters.lutheranchurch



YOUTUBE:

youtube.com/channel/UCXpyZgcJVYXf0w4AtX2Pwng/featured

Living Waters Nursery

The Nursery is open during worship, but it is not staffed.

[Please stay with your child.](#)

