

# WEST LINN LUTHERAN CHURCH MINISTRY SITE PROFILE

February, 2023

We, the nine members of the West Linn Lutheran Church Transition Team, respectfully submit this Ministry Site Profile to the WLLC Congregational Council and to Bishop Laurie Larson-Caesar, ELCA Oregon Synod. We believe this document accurately reflects the collective beliefs, visions, concerns, and hopes of our congregation. We believe we have completed this process with the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

## **PART I: WHO WE ARE**

### **Name and Location**

<u>Congregation</u> CONGREGATION/MULTIPLE POINT PARISH/ ORGANIZATION	<u>West Linn Lutheran Church</u> NAME	<u>13045</u> CONGREGATION ID
<u>West Linn, Oregon 97068</u> CITY, STATE, ZIP	<u>United States</u> COUNTRY	
<u>Oregon Synod, ELCA</u> SYNOD	<u>Urban, Traditional</u> TYPE OF MINISTRY SITE	<u>1963</u> YEAR ORGANIZED
<u>Baptized Members: 777 Active Participants: 191 Households</u> SIZE OF COMMUNITY		

### **Contact Information**

#### **Ministry Site (preferred contact information)**

<u>20390 Willamette Dr</u> ADDRESS LINE 1	<u>West Linn, Oregon 97068</u> CITY, STATE, ZIP	<u>United States</u> COUNTRY
<u>wllcoffice@wllc.org</u> E-MAIL	<u>wllc.org</u> WEB SITE	<u>503-656-0110</u> PHONE
		<u>(none)</u> FAX

#### **Chairperson of Congregation or Head of the Organization**

##### Jeff Young, Congregational Council President

<u>13040 S Frontier Parkway</u> ADDRESS LINE 1	<u>Oregon City, OR 97045</u> CITY, STATE, ZIP	<u>USA</u> COUNTRY
<u>503-703-4706</u> CELL PHONE	<u>docjwyong@gmail.com</u> EMAIL	

## Chairperson of Call or Search Committee

**Note:** West Linn Lutheran Church Congregation is in the process of electing our call committee. When we have a Call Committee Chairperson, we will provide this information.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY, STATE, ZIP

\_\_\_\_\_  
COUNTRY

\_\_\_\_\_  
DAY PHONE

\_\_\_\_\_  
EVENING PHONE

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CELL PHONE

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FAX

\_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL

## Demographics

### Language Spoken

	PRIMARY LANGUAGE	SECOND LANGUAGE
<b>In the congregation/ organization</b>	English	
<b>In the surrounding community</b>	English	Spanish

### Race/ Ethnicity (In the Congregation)

#### White

LARGEST

#### COMMENTS OR EXPLANATION

(Type comments here)

### Race/ Ethnicity (Surrounding Community)

White 86.5%

LARGEST

Hispanic 7.4%

SECOND

Asian 5%

THIRD

Black 1.1%

FOURTH

#### COMMENTS OR EXPLANATION

Data from datausa.io

### Gender comparison

60%

MALE

40%

FEMALE

### Age distribution

13%

19 YEARS OR YOUNGER

17%

20 - 34

7%

35 - 49

24%

50 - 65

37%

OVER 65

### Number of Paid Staff

2

CLERGY

0

LAY ROSTERED

5

OTHER LAY PROFESSIONALS

(Volunteers)

SECRETARIAL SUPPORT

(Outsourced)

CUSTODIAL SUPPORT

0

OTHER

### Congregational Information

**Approx. 150 (80 in-person, 70 on-line (households))**

AVG WEEKLY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

45 (Adults plus Children)

AVG ATTENDANCE IN CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Traditional

PARISH TYPE

**Community Type: Bedroom Community**

**Budget of the Congregation/ Organization from fiscal year ending 12/31/2022**

**\$386,421**

TOTAL RECEIPTS LAST FISCAL YEAR (2022)

**\$339,088**

TOTAL EXPENDITURES FOR THE LAST FISCAL YEAR (2022)

**\$39,972**

TOTAL DEBT AS OF 12/31/2022 (Mortgage Balance)

ANTICIPATED PAYOFF DATE: 1/31/2025 CURRENT INTEREST RATE: 3.875%

**\$55,750**

PPP LOAN AWAITING DECISION REGARDING FORGIVENESS

**\$8,000.00\***

MISSION SUPPORT TO THE ELCA/ SYNOD FOR THE LAST FISCAL  
END OF  
YEAR

**Info**

TOTAL SAVINGS, RESERVES, ENDOWMENT AT THE  
THE LAST FISCAL YEAR

**Savings and Reserves**

\$32,006	savings
\$59,726	cash balance
\$26,776	Endowment (restricted funds)
\$72,000	Employee Retention Program Refund pending

## **PART II: OUR VISION FOR MISSION**

### **Trends in the Community Context of the Congregation or Organization**

#### **Characteristics:**

Write a description of your community in terms of socio-economic status, demographics, primary areas of employment and lifestyle. The Demographic ZIP Code report for your primary ZIP codes may be helpful.

Membership at WLLC primarily hail from the communities of West Linn, Oregon City, and Lake Oswego. All three are considered bedroom communities to the greater Portland area. Most inhabitants work in the greater Portland area, if not in their local City metro markets. Our church community mirrors the demographics outlined in the previous section. WLLC membership and their respective communities vary in achieved levels of education (HS grad - Post graduate degrees), and employment (light manufacturing, public services, teaching, high tech, healthcare services, etc).

The greater Portland area offers an abundance of outdoor recreation and many inhabitants take advantage of the outdoor opportunities to lead a healthy lifestyle (biking, hiking, winter sports, exploring Mt. Hood, Columbia River, and the Pacific Ocean beaches). Metro Portland inhabitants are considered to be "liberal", however, our congregation is balanced with liberal and conservative beliefs.

Information gathered from several sources (listening sessions 2020, annual meetings 2021, and most recently information derived from online, paper, and in-person surveys in 2022) has been used to complete the remaining sections of Part II.

#### **Trends:**

List three changes or trends within the congregation or organization which have occurred in the last three to five years.

Like most congregations, ours struggled during the first two years of the pandemic. In person attendance decreased due to health concerns and local government mandates, programs for adults and children saw significant disruptions, and fewer members supported worship and programming. In addition, in August of 2021 the full time pastors of WLLC retired.

With that as a background, WLLC moved from two services Sunday mornings to one, in addition to offering weekly live and recorded church services via live streaming. Outreach has been positive with many members requesting continuation of the YouTube services in addition to consideration for adding a second service, when in person attendance numbers justify the expansion. Commencing the fall of 2022 in person attendance improved as pandemic restrictions subsided.

As a demographic, youth and young family participation has been impacted the most in our congregation due to the impacts of the pandemic, and departure of our former pastors and Youth Director. WLLC members recognize we need to increase participation of young families and youth in our community and find ways to engage them in our programming. An important identity of WLLC is relationships, connections with others, and members helping one another as well as members of the community when a need arises. Members want to see this identity renewed and strengthened.

**Context:**

List three ways that the community in which you are located has been challenged by change and transition in the last three to five years.

- Members of our community and our congregation have experienced loss of personal connections, employment, and freedoms to exercise personal judgment as a result of the pandemic. In addition, as a result of the pandemic there have been changes in our worship service offerings and formats.
- Dwindling attendance, lack of support for families with small children, and the failure to maintain a thriving youth program has led to absences and departures.
- Nationally, locally, and within our communities, divisiveness, homelessness, racial tensions, and approaches to sexual orientation or gender identity have presented challenges.

**Programs:**

Describe your congregation's or organization's current programs for mission and ministry.

**Programs currently at Church:**

Breast Cancer Fellowship & Support Group  
Congregational Care  
Stewardship  
Choir  
Worship Team  
Adult Faith Formation  
Young Family Faith Formation  
Men's Bible Study  
Women's Bible Study  
Creative Spirits Art  
Grounds Keeping  
Holy Listening  
Library  
RIC (Reconciling in Christ) Ministry  
Prayer Chain  
Quilters

**Programs outside the church supported through Missions:**

H.O.P.E. (Helping Other People Eat, food pantry)  
Sacele - Romania (Companion congregation to WLLC)  
The Father's Heart (Homeless ministry)  
Camp Lutherwood Oregon  
NW Housing  
Incight (Supporting people with disabilities)  
MicroLoans  
Quilts for Empowerment (supporting women in Kenya)  
Going Home II (Prison transition ministry)  
CASA, Clackamas County  
ELCA World Hunger  
National Reconciling Works Programs

## **Building Partners** (Groups currently using our facilities for their programs)

American National Red Cross (Blood Drives)  
Scouting Units (Scouting, BSA; Girl Scouts)  
West Linn Garden Club  
Hungarian Reformed Church (worship space during holiday times)  
JAM (Just A Meeting) AA  
Marylhurst Youth Symphony (rehearsals)  
Mellow Cello (music lessons)  
Moms' Support Group  
National Charity League-Blue Heron Chapter  
Club Everyone  
Spotlight Theater  
Toastmasters  
Turkey Trot (Use our parking lot during local running events)  
Music Makers Choir  
Russell Chamberlain LCSW (mental health services)  
Snickerdoodle Preschool  
Yoga, Barbara Tennant  
Clan Macleay Pipe Band (rehearsals)  
Game Club (Autism support group)

## **Goals:**

What are the primary goals of your ministry site (please refer to any Strategic Plan that has been adopted).

### New Pastor/Co-Pastors

Return to offering two worship services  
Continue offering services via live-streaming capabilities  
Return to Sunday morning programs for Youth and Adults  
Social events (potlucks, movies, etc.)  
Increase Building Partners  
Establish how we define membership in our post-pandemic world  
Determine the direction for the youth program (more excursions and mission trips, more visible, inviting more youth, changing music, partnering with other churches)  
Create open, active and inclusive community

### Church Council Goals & Priorities

1. Priority: Growth & Engagement Goals: -Increase attendance -Increase personal involvement  
-Increase diversity of ages attending -Offer more worship times and styles

2. Priority: Look Forward, Not Back Goals: -Leadership to operate from and engage with this philosophy consistently, practicing mutual accountability when we get stuck focusing too much on the past. -Solicit youth and young adult voices -Recognize the vulnerabilities outside this building, and create opportunities to engage with them -Recognize different needs,

personalities, races, classes, etc in our community, and create opportunities to reach across these barriers.

3. Priority: God's Word at the Center Goals: -Increase the ways folks can access worship -Create 1:1 opportunities or small ministry-group opportunities to discuss, create spiritual relationships, change that comes from the ground up and is centered on the Word -Increase education options for all ages. (Include virtual options? Different times? Recorded class sessions?)

4. Priority: Courageous Stewardship Goals: -Increase Sunday morning volunteers -Increase other one-time and regular volunteers -Leadership to create one to one invitations to re-engage. (Call and check in with folks who previously volunteered, see how they're doing, invite them back or invite them to a new ministry.) -Meet all monthly financial obligations -Create volunteer opportunities in the community outside WLLC

5. Priority: Communications Goals: -Routinely report to congregation re: how many people attend and how many viewed online -Routinely report to congregation re: monthly giving -Review current communications strategy and figure out what to add or subtract -Create/sustain multiple strong communications platforms. Define who is responsible for each, and ensure enough time, bandwidth, and knowledge to follow through. -Create a regular schedule for leadership to consistently speak to the congregation and communicate specific needs

**Energy:**

What is your congregation or organization really excited about right now?

Issuing a Pastoral Call to our church

Expansion of church services and programs

Establishing and growing connections with youth

Growing our congregation, inviting and engaging new members, creating more connections beyond Sunday morning services

Sharing our faith and church life with others

Greater community outreach

**Partnership:**

How does this congregation or organization see itself as a member and active participant in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the synod?

We continue to send congregational representatives to the Oregon Synod meetings and we continue to direct funds for Local and Churchwide Synod events. Our pastors have always been participants within both the local and Churchwide Synod processes. As an example, WLLC participated in God's Work, Our Hands.

Our congregation is interested in expanding our building partners and local community outreach.

Our members support holding community events on our premises and offering an open environment for people to meet.

**Ministry Site Characteristics** (from congregational survey)

**AS A COMMUNITY**

	A LOT LIKE US	A LITTLE LIKE US	A LITTLE LIKE US	A LOT LIKE US	
We tend to be formal and programmatic.	7%	45%	38%	10%	We tend to be informal and spontaneous.
We have clearly defined goals and plans for our future.	8.5%	39%	36%	16.5%	We have no stated goals or plans.
We are racially and economically diverse	28%	21%	28%	23%	We are demographically homogeneous.

**OUR LEADERSHIP STYLE**

We welcome ideas that are provoking and challenging.	29%	22%	34.5%	14.5%	We prefer ideas that are tried and true.
We rely on our leaders for direction.	28%	22%	29%	21%	We rely on group decision-making.
We have learned how to use conflict constructively.	23%	38%	32%	7%	We tend to perceive conflict as something destructive.

**OUR PROGRAMMING**

Our facilities are often used by community groups.	69%	22%	8%	1%	Our facilities are only used for our activities.
We train people to minister outside our walls.	14%	31%	34%	21%	We train people to minister inside our walls.
We focus on ideas and beliefs.	30%	23%	33%	14%	We focus on skills and action.

**OUR THEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE**

We are obviously Lutheran in identity and practice.	51%	16%	27%	6%	We are less obvious about our Lutheran heritage.
We participate in synod and ELCA activities.	51%	21%	22%	6%	We are not very active in the synod and ELCA.
We focus on Biblical studies and doctrine.	20%	28%	19%	33%	We focus on contemporary issues and topics.



## **Purpose, Giftedness and Mission**

**Purpose** How does this congregation or organization understand its reason for being in the light of God's call to mission and service? Who are you? Why are you here?

West Linn Lutheran Church's Mission Statement reads simply "We invite all people into a trusting relationship with God through Jesus Christ." WLLC provides a welcoming and safe community for people to come together in worship and participate in sacred community. While this congregation gathers to worship, learn, love and care for one another, we are not exclusively focused on those who have chosen membership in this congregation. We are aware of our responsibility to reach into the community far and wide to attend, and respond, to those who live on the margins. Outreach to those in need is a focus. Demonstrating the love of God and attending to the faith formation of all people, especially our young people, is a growing edge.

Further, a Reconciling in Christ congregation since 2015, West Linn Lutheran Church celebrates people from varying religious backgrounds and diverse spiritual experience. While we remain committed to the Triune God and the saving grace of Christ Jesus, we recognize there are many pathways to God. We are attentive to the ways in which we differ as people and seek to provide welcome to everyone. Our Welcome Statement states, in part, "Our hope is that our congregation loves all as Jesus loves the world. No exceptions."

**Giftedness** What are your gifts and resources for fulfilling this purpose? What are the congregation's or organization's top three assets and how are they being used? Are there obstacles that must be overcome to be able to use these gifts and accomplish the mission?

The people of West Linn Lutheran Church recognize that in his life of ministry, Jesus impacted the world through the relationships he built with those who surrounded him. The people of WLLC recognize the delightful dance of sacred relationship of the Trinity and know their strength rests in building relationships with all people. This means more than promoting friendship, but rather in discovering the beauty in each other through our experiences, our stories, our hopes and dreams. The people of WLLC think strategically and plan for the future, but they hold loosely to those set plans in order to pivot as their context changes. They remain nimble and maintain an open posture to changing circumstances. This flexibility allows the congregation to adapt to a rapidly changing environment.

The people of WLLC are learning to listen with intention. We recognize that we may not always agree, but that we can live in harmony and in blessed community while being aware there may be differences among us. Ultimately, we recognize that diversity is our strength.

We have discovered in tangible ways the overwhelming love, limitless compassion, and thoughtful care from people of WLLC when special needs within the community arise.

Finally, this is a congregation with an incredible work ethic; we realize working to bring about the reign of God is not easy, but it is always with a sense of humor that the work is undertaken. The people of WLLC are eager to laugh, play and enjoy their life in Christ.

**Mission** In light of the way you have described your ministry context in this Ministry Site Profile, what are the top three mission priorities which, if accomplished, hold the most promise for the continued development of this ministry?

We see three areas of focus for our ministry that will continue us on the path to remaining a vibrant and growing congregation. First, we must remain diligent about building our relationships with each other and with our community. Sharing our stories and the intricacies of our lives and experiences will serve to continue to knit us together as one people. While we never agree on all things at all times, we know that beloved relationships form the basis for a community that will grow together in love and respect.

We also recognize our future rests in our young people, and therefore special emphasis on building the relationships within our children will always affirm our love in the world. While we may not always remember a particular Sunday School lesson or the content of any one sermon, we will always remember how we felt held in the arms of our church family. This is true no matter where we are in life's faith journey.

Finally, we are a community "under construction." Exploration of God's Word is a focus and we know Formation is not just a children's program; rather it is a life-long endeavor. Parent and other important adult involvement in our children's faith lives is one of the largest indicators for faith sustained throughout life. We acknowledge interactions between all members of our faith community are critical. We acknowledge our faith grows by actively living it outside our walls and recognizing we all have a role in fostering relationships for growth.



## **PART III: LEADERSHIP NEEDS**

### **The Leader We Seek**

#### **Minister of Word and Sacrament**

ROSTER TYPE

#### **Pastor**

POSITION TYPE

#### **Master of Divinity or Theology**

MINIMUM DEGREE REQUIRED

#### **Full Time**

FULL TIME/PART TIME

### **Language Proficiencies**

#### **English**

PRIMARY LANGUAGE (PROFICIENCY)

### **Experience**

10+ years preferred, but willing to consider any qualified candidate.

### **Top Ministry Tasks**

*The top most critical tasks required in this position.*

#### **The top 7 answers, in order:**

1. Preaching/Worship
2. Pastoral Care and Visitation
3. Building a Sense of Community
4. Youth and Family Ministry
5. Administration
6. Spiritual Formation/Direction
7. Children's Ministry

### **Gifts for Ministry**

*The five gifts essential in this position, and the five that are very helpful in this position.*

Gifts listed as being **Essential, Top Priority**, in order—highest votes first

1. Be an effective communicator
2. Help people develop their spiritual life
3. Be able to share leadership and work in a team
4. Build a sense of community among the people with whom they work
5. Be effective in working with youth

Gifts listed as being **Very Helpful** in this position, in order—highest votes first

1. Bring joy and good humor to relationships
2. Be active in visitation of members and non-members
3. Be effective in working with children
4. Be effective administrator
5. Provide care and nurture

## **Mutual Expectations**

Please list the five primary areas of activity or focus that you wish your newly-called rostered leader to give special attention to during the first year of his or her ministry at this congregation or organization:

Please refer to Council Comments and Survey Results above

## **Mutual Expectations** (continued)

Please list the five ways that this congregation/organization will support and encourage the rostered leader during the first year in order to help her or him accomplish these responsibilities:

- A. Pray for and with you
- B. Share freely the time and talents we have been given
- C. Invite you into mutual conversation with each Ministry and Guild Organization
- D. Live and work with you among God's faithful people
- E. Support you, your work, and the work of this congregation through our stewardship

## **Compensation**

Depends on experience. For a pastor with 15 years experience we expect to offer a salary plus housing figure of \$77,838 in 2023, increasing to \$79,395 in 2024.

## **Parsonage**

None

## **BENEFITS**

### **Social Security Tax Offset**

For base compensation quoted above, \$5,955 in 2023, increasing to \$6,074 in 2024.

### **Pension**

For base compensation quoted above, \$10,055 in 2023, increasing to \$10,265 in 2024.

### **Medical**

Yes. We also provide dental benefits.

### **Vacation**

4 weeks per year plus 2 weeks per year for continuing education. Ordained staff with more than four years will be granted an additional 1 week of vacation for every 3 additional years in their call, up to a maximum of 7 weeks per year.

### **Sabbatical**

All pastors (part-time and full-time) who have served WLLC for a minimum of five consecutive years are eligible for sabbatical leave. For pastors involved in the First Call Theological Education Program, the five-year eligibility period begins upon completion of that program. A sabbatical may be taken no more than once every five years for a duration of up to twelve weeks (including the two continuing education weeks normally granted).

**Parental Leave**

We have no specific provision for parental leave. We would be open to negotiating this with individual candidates as needed.

**Auto/Travel Reimbursement**

Yes. Mileage is reimbursed at the current rate allowed by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Professional Expenses Account**

Yes

**First Call Theological Education**

We would support the continuing education requirements for a First Call Pastor.

**Continuing Education**

We grant two weeks per year of time off that is specifically for continuing education. This is in addition to our regular vacation policy. We pay for continuing education events up to a total of \$700 per year.

**Other Supporting Resources**

Are you able to supply the following items, if requested?

Mission and Vision statement of the congregation or organization	Yes, see Addendum 1
Printed history of the congregation or organization	Yes, see Addendum 2
Strategic Plan: Goals and Objectives	Yes, see pages 6 and 7 above
Budget	Yes, printed copy available
Annual Report	Yes, copy available, or online at <a href="http://wllc.org">wllc.org</a>

## **PART IV: COMMENTARY**

You are encouraged to offer information or commentary that will help the reader appreciate the vision, opportunities, challenges, and nature of your ministry site. Use this opportunity to creatively promote and commend your ministry possibilities.

**This feedback was asked of several groups, church council, men and women's bible study, Choir and worship team, open forum, and quilters. What follows is a summary of all key thoughts and overlapping ideas.**

### **Question 1 - Why you're glad you're a member: Why you've remained a member:**

- They were invited by friends and neighbors who attended WLLC and made life-long friends
- Our acceptance and inclusion of children in every aspect of our church, including the Worship service.
- Looked for and found a congregation that supports the ELCA.
- There's community here; everyone is treasured; needs are addressed; everyone want to help everyone else feels like "Home"
- I found the ELCA refreshing -- inclusive, friendly and embracing; we appreciate a rich variety of people and their differing views and opinions.
- I appreciate the liturgical history and worship in the "Lutheran way" which give us faith base thoughtful and challenging sermons
- Local mission and volunteer opportunities in and out of WLLC and community (food bank, prayer groups, quilters, choir, etc.)
- West Linn Lutheran Church is home. It became home from experiences of different churches or denominations.
- Feels like family; our congregation is so genuine, approachable, ready to listen and be respectful

### **Question 2 - What are your top priorities which hold promise to grow this church:**

- Faith based, thoughtful and challenging sermons. Concentrate on the Word or Scripture and not on Social Justice. Provide a forum outside the sermon for further discussion of modern issues
- Bringing in families with children focusing on children's education making it fun and engaging. We must get the parents in the door first.
- Rely on existing leadership and be able to involve new perspectives into your changes
- We are walking the talk -- Doing what we say and claim to be.
- Choir and good music is so important
- Our location holds great promise, the physical location must be welcoming and functional
- When possible, our goal should be to move back to 2 services with Sunday School

## **PART V: COMPLETION OF PROFILE**

### **Discernment Process and Adoption**

Please describe the process used to gather information, formulate responses, and officially adopt this Ministry Site Profile.  
(Approximately 100 words maximum.)

The Transition Team consists of nine members, plus two advisors (interim Pastors). The Team's first meeting was held in June with monthly follow ups, if not more frequently. The Team surveyed the congregation and included results on (page 8 - Ministry Site Characteristics), (page 12 - Top Ministry Tasks / Gifts For Ministry), and (page 15 - Part IV Commentary - Two Questions).

Upon completion, the Ministry Site Profile was forwarded to Congregational Council for review and adoption.

**This MSP was officially adopted by the West Linn Lutheran Church Congregational Council on Sunday, February 12, 2023.**

### **CALL PROCESS ADMINISTRATOR**

The name of the person on the synod staff that the bishop has designated as the Call Process Administrator for this call process.

**(name)**

NAME

**(title)**

TITLE

**(phone)**

OFFICE PHONE

**(email address)**

EMAIL



## **PART VI: ADDENDUMS**

### **Addendum 1–Mission and Welcoming Statements**

#### **Mission Statement**

*We invite all people into a trusting relationship with God through Jesus Christ.*

#### **Welcoming Statement**

(This statement came out of the process through which we became an RIC Congregation.)

*West Linn Lutheran Church is a community of faith that welcomes all regardless of race, religion, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, family status, national origin, age, disability, medical history, political affiliation, financial situation, mistakes made, successes achieved or any other category that you or the world have determined you belong. Our hope and prayer is that our congregation loves all as Jesus loves the world.*

*No exceptions.*

*This welcome extends throughout the life of our congregation.*

## **Addendum 2–History**

### **WEST LINN LUTHERAN CHURCH HISTORY**

In 1961, the Mission Board of The American Lutheran church conducted a survey of the West Linn area and found the need for a new church. The first church council was formed in 1962. WLLC became an official congregation in 1963 and the building was completed and dedicated that year. American Lutheran Church Women, Luther League, a Kindergarten, were all formed and by 1965 WLLC needed to expand to two worship services. Music was immediately seen as a priority, as was door-to-door visitation. In the early 80s, we expanded our building to include our current sanctuary, and in the early 90s we completed Phase 3, our Education Wing. WLLC was experienced by the community as a friendly and welcoming church. Over the years, WLLC members have provided meals, childcare, transportation, and other emergency services for families in need. Other outreach programs included, but are not limited to, meals and Christmas gifts for homeless kids in Portland, Stephen Ministries, Meals on Wheels, shelter and meals for homeless families (SON Program), and overnight coffee and shelter to on-duty police officers during the pandemic. In 2015, WLLC became an RIC congregation.