



Looking Through a Different Lens Curiosity

October 17 & 18, 2026

Proverbs 2:1-7, NRSV

My child, if you accept my words and treasure up my commandments within you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding, if you indeed cry out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures—then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God. For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk blamelessly

Jeremiah 6:16, NIV

This is what the Lord says: “Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls. But you said, ‘We will not walk in it.’”

Message Notes

1. Open Your Hands
2. Ask Better Questions
3. Step Through the Threshold

Food for Thought

Idea: Curiosity opens our hearts to God’s wisdom and helps us navigate life’s uncertainties with faith rather than fear.

1. Where in your life have you closed your mind to new possibilities because you believe you already know the answers?
2. What question have you been afraid to ask God, yourself, or someone else that might lead to greater understanding?
3. What threshold are you standing at right now, and how might approaching it with curiosity rather than fear change your perspective?
4. What is one practical step you can take this week to seek God’s wisdom with open hands and an open heart?

STILL WATERS exists to **FIND** the lost, **RELEASE** the captive and **DEVELOP** disciples of Jesus

Still Waters Church | 3617 Scenic Road, PO Box 406, Jackson, WI 53037 | 262-677-1311

Worship Hours: Saturday 5:00 pm; Sunday 9:00 am & 10:30 am

Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9am-2pm

Happy Birthday!

October 19 Jill Dhein, Al Helsell, Judy McCabe-Krudwig, Kim Silver
October 22 Lily Smith
October 24 Steven Niles, Rhonda Peterson, Leah Witte

Happy Anniversary!

October 18 Bob & Jessie Yahr
October 22 Kevin & Jenny Ruffing

	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Greeters</u>
<u>Saturday</u> <u>5pm</u>	Valerie Jacobson	
<u>Sunday</u> <u>9am</u>	Tom & Tammy Trueman	Dennis Konieczne & Barb Thorstenson
<u>10:30am</u>	Marc & Kim Bartusek	Ron & Ann Naab

Church Website



Online Giving



Greetings, Still Waters family and friends! Prayers that you are able to get out and see some of the spectacular fall colors. Let's get out and soak it all in! I was able on one of those super warm days this week to walk the trail on our Still Waters property. God's creation is spectacular! This weekend we continue the series we started last weekend called, "Looking Through a Different Lens." The lens through which we view the world keeps changing. In this series, we look at different ways we can shift that lens to see again with love, as God does, our world. This can be super hard, when we find ourselves feel angry, hurt, frustrated, hopeless and a whole host of emotions that come with election season as well as the trials of life! This weekend, Steve will bring the message and help us to look through a lens of curiosity. See you this weekend!

A few updates and notes about the upcoming opportunities, this week and beyond:

Hampton School Partnership Opportunities

We are excited to continue our partnership with Hampton Elementary School this school year! This is a high need school in the Milwaukee Public School district, which has some close ties to our Still Waters family... We have members here who went to Hampton. In addition to the partnership we have with our local elementary schools in which we reach struggling families here, we have expanded our reach to Hampton. Our Tuesday morning group will be attending two resource fairs this month at Hampton Elementary, where we'll have the opportunity to have a resource table, offering any literary resources to families during Parent Teacher Conference evenings. Among the things we hope to offer are any gently used books, in good condition, for children ages K - 5th grade. There are two ways you can support the initiative this month:

- **We have the opportunity to bring dinner for the teachers on the evenings for parent teacher conferences.** If you would like to contribute financially to support bringing of subs for the teachers, **please mark your check "Hampton School."** If we receive more than we need for the dinner for two evenings, we will put any extra funds in our Hampton School Partnership fund.
- **Book Drive: If you have any gently used books** you can donate for the children of Hampton Elementary, **please bring those to church either this weekend or next (Oct 10/11 or Oct 17/18) and we will bring with us to Hampton School.**

Small Group Study "Love Has a Name"

Fall study groups are starting! We have two groups, studying the same book. Choose the time that works best for you:

- **Monday, Sept 14** - October 26, **7:00 p.m.** Facilitated by Pastor Lori
- **Tuesday Sept 15** - Oct 27 **10:00 a.m.** Facilitated by Robin Jasinski/Pastor Lori

We'll begin both groups the same week, Monday Sept 14 and Tuesday Sept 15.

The greatest commandment is to love. And in a world that is increasingly polarized, especially at election time, this commandment gets very real! Together we'll read the book, **"Love Has a Name" by Adam Weber.** For some reason, even though we know we are to love, somehow we end up hurting, belittling, and overlooking people. And "love" is not just a generic concept. It is specific to each person we meet. That is, love has a name. Join us as we meet specific people in author Adam's life, and learn what love looks like in specific situations and people. You have the names of people in your life as well! Book is \$20 and available in the lobby. Sign up for the group on the Connection Card or Online.

Holy Yoga Tuesdays, 8:45 a.m.

Holy Yoga has begun meeting again this fall! We'll meet on Tuesdays, 8:45 am. Donation of \$10 each session suggested. No need to sign up- just come! What a great time to try this intentional practice of connecting with God once per week on Tuesday mornings for an hour! Contact Robin Olson with questions.

Men's Breakfast, Wednesday, October 21, 8:30 a.m.

Men are invited to this monthly men's breakfast, 3rd Wednesday at 8:30 a.m., meeting at a local restaurant (which switches from month to month). Contact John Haas at jxhaas@yahoo.com or 262-617-7004 to sign up for this month's breakfast! (John calls the restaurant to make a reservation,

so please contact him by Tuesday, October 20.)

Souper Sunday! October 25th, 11:45 a.m.

Last months "Souper Sunday" was amazing! Thanks to so many who showed as we gathered, connected, laughed, and cared for each other. "Souper Sunday" is an awesome meal for our congregation, sponsored by our youth one Sunday each month. Come for a great meal/ intergenerational fellowship. Free will offering accepted, and proceeds will benefit our amazing youth ministry. Sign up on your Connection Card or website. Contact Lisa with questions.

Still Waters Women

Calling all women... come on **Sunday, October 25**, and enjoy meeting with other women of all ages for planning and fellowship after the 2nd Sunday worship service, approximately 11:45 a.m. Enjoy some wonderful soup and lunch from Souper Sunday, and then come on and join us for a time of fellowship, planning, and connection. Sign up on the Connection Card or website.

Trunk or Treat

Save the date! **Sunday, October 25th, from 12:30 -2:30 p.m.** we'll host "Trunk or Treat!" Join us for a wonderful afternoon of treats, s'mores, hot apple cider, photo booth, and more! The event provides a safe family environment for kids to enjoy Halloween! Contact Jena (jenametzler@gmail.com)

Be a Trunk

You can "Be a Trunk"! Come on Sunday, October 25th, with a decorated vehicle trunk, and ready to hand out treats! Come and get your vehicle 'situated' 12:00-12:30, and ready to hand out treats from 12:30 - 2:30 as kids/families come by. In the event of rain, we will set up inside the Sanctuary. See the website for all the guidelines regarding 'being a trunk'.

Don't forget to "Fall Back"

Daylight savings time ends on Sunday, November 1, so remember to set your clocks back an hour (for those of you with clocks that don't do that automatically!) Enjoy the extra hour of sleep and see you Sunday morning!

All Saints Weekend, October 31/November 1

The weekend of October 31/Nov 1 is All Saints Weekend. On this weekend during worship, we **remember and honor those who have gone before us** and are now in God's heavenly kingdom. We will read the names of those Still Waters members who have passed away within the last year, as we light candles. We will also be given the opportunity for those who would like to, to light additional candles honoring and remembering *all* our loved ones who have gone before us, whether this last year or anytime. It is a wonderful weekend to remember the ways those who have gone before us have impacted us and made us who we are. **If you're worshipping online, feel free to get a one ore more candles ready at home**, that you might light your own candle(s) there.

Grow with Abide

Informational Meeting: Sunday, November 1, at Noon

What could grow when we bring our gifts together? Abide, our gardening ministry rooted in John 15:5, invites you to help imagine an inclusive garden space on the Still Waters property—a place to grow, share knowledge, enjoy nature, and build friendships across generations.

Join us to learn more about how we'll design and develop this space together. Whether you enjoy gardening, building, cooking, art, or simply spending time outdoors, there's room for your ideas. No gardening experience needed! Sign up on your connection card or website if you'd like to attend the informational meeting, or even if you're interested in the ministry but not able to come to this initial meeting. Contact Lisa at swym2019@gmail.com with questions.

Jesus said, "Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit." —*John 15:5, NRSV*

The Flock, Sunday November 8, 5:00 p.m.

Fellowship and Informational Meeting for Youth, Parents, and Siblings

"The Flock" is the name given to a monthly gathering for an informational meeting for youth, parents,

and siblings. Snacks available. Sign up online or on the Connection Card.

Feeding America

Join us on **Wednesday, November 11** (always the 2nd Wednesday of the month) at **1:00 p.m.** for this very important ministry to distribute food to those who are food insecure. On-the-job training is always available; we often have new volunteers each month, so no worries if it's your first time. We'd love to welcome you!

Family ADVENTure: A Hands-on Christmas journey for all ages - Saturday, Nov. 21st

Calling all children and families! On SATURDAY November 21st we will have our Family ADVENTure! We'll begin with a meal at 11:30 a.m. Then from 12:00 -1:30, together we will prepare for the Advent Season (which starts the 4th weekend prior to Christmas, i.e. November 30). During this amazing ADVENTure, we'll Journey Towards the Light through hands-on stations. Everything from Boomwhackers, experiencing the stable where the manger was, a scavenger hunt, and a craft to take home! Come join us for a family fun filled time! Be sure to sign up on our Connection Card or website so that we have enough materials for all. Invite a friend! This is a great event for all!

Friendsgiving Sunday, November 22!

We're so excited for Friendsgiving! The youth will be hosting this special intergenerational gathering on **Sunday, November 22. Doors open at 4:00 p.m., and dinner begins at 5:00 p.m.** True to Friendsgiving tradition, friends have the opportunity to sign up through the Still Waters website to bring a favorite family side dish to share. If you're willing to share your recipe, we would love to add it to our growing **Still Waters Friendsgiving Family Recipe Book!** Send recipes ahead of time to **office@stillwaterschurch.com**.

Our current recipe book, featuring recipes shared in previous years, is available online, or you can pick up a hard copy in the Still Waters lobby. **Sign up on the website to reserve your spot/table for this event.** Each table will be hosted by one of our very own Still Waters youth.

Friendsgiving is an evening of friendship, food, and fun, with a chance to renew old friendships and build new ones. We encourage you to **extend this invitation to your friends and family, both within and outside of Still Waters!** We can't wait to see you Sunday evening, November 22!

YOUTH 2027 Dallas, Texas | July 11-14, 2027

We're excited to begin preparing for YOUTH 2027! This United Methodist youth gathering in Dallas will bring young people together for several days of worship, fellowship, and growth. For families considering YOUTH 2027 (Current 8th graders through High School seniors) who are active members of Still Waters Youth Ministries. Help us secure space at the conference hotel and begin travel arrangements, the **\$359 registration fee is due by December 1**. Families should also plan for approximately \$600 per participant for round-trip travel. This is a planning estimate and is subject to change as airfare and transportation costs are finalized. Participants will also be responsible for their own meals while traveling and personal expenses. If cost may be a concern for your family, please contact Lisa privately. YOUTH 2027 is an exciting opportunity and also a significant financial undertaking. Youth Ministries will be working to cover hotel accommodations and other group expenses. Based on our current maximum planning estimate, lodging alone could be approximately \$6,200. Impact Night in February will be an important part of that effort. For those who feel able, gifts above and beyond your regular giving to Still Waters may be designated to help support YOUTH 2027. Regular giving remains vital to sustaining the ongoing ministries and mission of Still Waters. We are grateful for your prayers and support as we prepare for this experience with our youth! Sign up on the Connection Card or Website if you're considering this trip possibility. Contact Lisa at **swym2019@gmail.com** with questions.

Mission Trip to Honduras, July 31 - August 7, 2027

We are planning a mission trip to Honduras July 31-August 7, 2027! As many of you know, in 2025, we established a new Still Waters partnership in Honduras, through the leadership of the in-country

Volunteer In Mission (VIM) Coordinator, Milton Ilovares, in the Danli area, with Pastor Pena and his congregation, Central UMC. We had an amazing trip this year, making connections with the people of Central UMC, connecting in worship together, participating in a medical mission as well as education mission! This next year, we expect to work with kids possibly through Vacation Bible School, as well as adults, as well as some light construction as well as continue the medical mission. That means we are looking at a two-pronged trip: some may participate in the medical mission, others in the 'general' trip, all the same dates! We all fly over together, but during our mission time, we would go either to the medical or the education mission initiative. We'll spend fun time, reflection/devotion time, meal time together. Most of our time will be in Danli, but we will also plan a day to visit the students at the Juan Wesley School in Ciudad Espana, where we will be able to visit the children our church has sponsored at this school. We are excited to participate under the philosophy that has been so important to us-giving a hand up, not just a hand out. **The cost of the trip will be in the range \$2,500-\$3,000**, which includes airfare, lodging, and meals. Youth ages 14 - 18 may attend with a parent. A total of four 2-3 hour pre-trip trainings will be required, and arranged according to the schedules of our trip participants. Background checks will be part of the application process. There are limited spaces, so the first to apply, be accepted, and put down their \$100 deposit will hold their spot. Payment schedule after the \$100 deposit will be \$500 installments due monthly beginning in January, until the balance is paid. If interested or if you have questions, feel free to email me, Pastor Lori, at llossie@yahoo.com or Lisa at swym2019@gmail.com. Sign up to express interest on our Connection Card or our website, and we will reach out to you to share more info. Go to our website, stillwaterschurch.com to formally apply to go on the trip. Remember, **space will be limited so apply soon!**

Note: It's possible the trip will be shortened by one day, and go July 31 - August 6, but we won't know that until we book flights in January. Thank you, Still Waters, for your continued commitment to Find the Lost, Release the Captive, and Develop Disciples!

Thank you!!!!

Well, words will never be able to express my gratitude to the whole congregation for an over-the-top Pastor Appreciation last weekend! And how in the world did you keep that a surprise?? Thanks to Kim Bartusek who voluntarily led a team of planners, as well as those who created an absolutely amazing quilt, and ALL those in the congregation who contributed squares toward that, and those contributing to "Divine Dinners," the "Memories for My Grandchild" keepsake book, as well as personal expressions of appreciation. You went above and beyond, making my tenth year in ministry at Still Waters super special. It is especially my privilege to seek our amazing God with each of you my brothers and sisters in Christ. The greatest gift of all is the way we keep working on loving each other, so that we can be a strong force of love in this world. Thank you, Still Waters, for being a people of grace, as together we seek to be Change Makers the Jesus way!

Prayers surrounding each of you, and for our hearts to be open to God's direction and mission for us, now and always!

Blessings,

Pastor Lori