

Winner Methodist Church

THE VISION

OCTOBER

2025



Leadership Council

The Leadership Council convened on September 21, 2025, with the following members present: Pastor Tony Coffman, Malon Burtz, Donna Duffy, Diane Durrin, Liz Farley, Vanessa Goodell, Linda Nelson, Dan Patmore, Lori Schaeffer, Clint Vanneman, Bobbi Viedt, Clint Woods, and Judy Mills.

The meeting was called to order and began with an opening prayer led by Clint Vanneman.

A motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting was made by Liz Farley and seconded by Diane Durrin. The motion passed unanimously. Following this, Malon Burtz moved to approve the treasurer's report, which was seconded by Linda Nelson and approved.

Pastor Tony provided a journal summarizing recent activities. Since the last council meeting, the church has had four funerals and one wedding.

The GPS program is currently serving 62 children. Managing the volume and activity levels has been a challenge due to the large number of participants. Vanessa Goodell is planning to discuss with Kim DeMers the possibility of relocating the prekindergarten and kindergarten children upstairs to help address these concerns. There have also been some issues reported with the microphone.

Confirmation classes are progressing well. There are 13 students enrolled in the 7th and 8th grades, while the 9th-grade class consists of seven participants. Diane Durrin noted that having students attend church and participate as ushers and acolytes helps them learn about church operations and fosters a sense of connection.

The Outreach Committee is working to increase the number of meal gatherings with food provided. Plans are underway for an Estate Planning Night. The Cares Committee will prepare and distribute Halloween bags.

The SPR Committee met to review employee evaluations and consider raises. The committee discussed the possibility of hiring someone to manage the church's website and social media platforms. They are also reviewing the duties of an associate pastor.

"Sounds of Christmas" is scheduled for December 7 at 3:00 PM. The Live Nativity will take place during the 9:00 AM church service.

Lori Schaeffer presented the proposed budget, noting a 7% increase in the budget request for 2026. She made a motion to approve the budget and present it to the charge conference on October 19. The motion was seconded by Liz Farley and was approved. Lori also mentioned that the church has a fund for needy families, which could be utilized in place of the pastor's discretionary fund.

There were six funerals held at the church during August with Pastor Tony officiating four. The Trustees Committee provided a list of ongoing projects, including the installation of a new highway sign. The AV Committee reported that the back screen malfunctions when the air conditioner turns on. The Missions Committee gave a presentation and will contact community members regarding Christmas meal outreach.

Pastor Tony explained that the nominations committee will meet on Monday evening. He reviewed term limits for SPR and Trustees committees as outlined by the GMC. Pastor Tony also announced that he will be taking Mondays as his regular day off, and all church activities will be scheduled on other days.

A motion to adjourn was made by Clint Woods and seconded by Dan Patmore. The motion was approved, and the meeting concluded at 11:45 AM. Pastor Tony Coffman led the closing prayer.

The next Leadership Council meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Mills, Recording Secretary

Pastor's Corner

October 2025

Rest

Sabbath is a word we don't hear used very often today. Here are two reasons. First, the origins of Sabbath aren't from an English word, but a Hebrew one. Second, even in the church, where the word means something, it's not talked about much today.

The question is this. "Why isn't the church talking about the Sabbath today?" The answer is as simple as it is sad. The church isn't talking about it because the church doesn't want to hear it.

Most of us like to think we want and need rest, but then we do nothing to intentionally build that rest into our schedules. Our younger generations are go... go..., go. By the definition, they might be the primary group that actually makes time to rest. Then, after we have kids, it becomes nonstop for maybe two decades. And the more kids we have, the busier we are. When our children become teens we have them in year-around sports or other extra-curricular activities, including on Sundays. Even school sports are requiring kids to take part in practices, games, and tournaments that happen often seven days a week. And as parents, we simply go along allowing this schedule.

We don't teach our kids that a set-aside day of rest is important, because we, 1) don't want to say, "no", and 2) we don't want to for ourselves to rest. Can you feel me pointing all my fingers at you? Nope, I'm not. Trust me. I'm writing this because, like most of you, I am not good at resting either. At 60 now, I don't have kids at home or grandkids and I'm not chasing kids all over the region taking them to practices or watching games. I honestly don't have what we might call a "good reason". I do work a lot of hours spread out over all seven days if I'm not paying attention. So, why am I not resting?

Some have accused me of not knowing how to say, "no". But the truth is that I know how to say no, but I don't want to. As a pastor, I dislike disappointing others or turning someone down when they have a need. While I was pastoring a church of 20, that wasn't often a problem. Pastoring a church of almost 200, it has gotten to be one. And, like too many who are in the same place but unwilling to admit it, I got worn out. And even just within Winner Methodist Church, I'm not alone. Not even close. Many of us are worn out.

Yet, just like me, you can fix it. But it isn't easy. Like me, you must either learn to say "no", be willing to say, "no", or both. We have to say "no" to others, **and** "no" to ourselves.

I had to say "no", to myself. I had to put up hard boundaries and schedule my Sabbaths, my day of rest. God told us to mimic him and take one day each week to rest, to set work aside, sporting practices and games aside, whatever it is aside, and rest. For most that day is Sunday. It's the day we worship and rest. Go to church, then go home and relax, go fishing, walking, take a picnic, etc.; anything that you don't consider "work".

Why should we do this? First, because God tells us to. Second, because we need it. As I'm writing this, I'm re-committed to the church and to my wife that I will set every Monday aside as my rest day. A day to unwind, to spend time with the Lord, to spend time in my woodshop, at a lake, or simply relaxing with a book or movie.

Will you be obedient with me and make a day for yourselves? It will require you to say "no", which is not easy and may upset some people. But it is more than the right thing to do. It's absolutely necessary. I know, because I've not been doing it.

So now, as I finish writing this, I'm going on vacation. To rest. To get in my woodshop. To fish. To..., well, I'm not sure yet. I will tell you in a week. Blessings.

Pastor Tony

Birthday Blessings!



Dalton Petersen	Oct. 1
Brooke Headrick	Oct. 1
Caren Flynn	Oct. 1
Coleen Patmore	Oct. 1
Jack Frantz	Oct. 3
Mick Rowe	Oct. 5
Myrna King	Oct. 5
Justin Vanneman	Oct. 6
Zachary Olson	Oct. 7
Mark Rohde	Oct. 7
Becky Olson	Oct. 8
Kacie Petersen	Oct. 8
Kim DeMers	Oct. 9
Vickie Barfuss	Oct. 9
Kellen Brozik	Oct. 9
Laurie Osborn	Oct. 9
Lela Swedlund	Oct. 9
Kolbie Osborn	Oct. 11
Kaleb Osborn	Oct. 11
Lori Shaffer	Oct. 13
DeAnne Bolton	Oct. 14
Bella Swedlund	Oct. 14
Jack Burns	Oct. 17
Louise Flisram	Oct. 19
Mike Augspurger	Oct. 19
Bridget Goodell	Oct. 20

Sis Bice	Oct. 20
Wade Burtz	Oct. 22
Anna Kartak	Oct. 22
Chad Blotsky	Oct. 23
Tammy Harter	Oct. 23
Roger Dice	Oct. 23
Tenlie Rohde	Oct. 26
Teresa Mathis	Oct. 26
Asher Nelson	Oct. 27
Clint Vanneman	Oct. 27
Bailey Fisher	Oct. 29
Geneice Gebhart	Oct. 30
Koty Dougherty	Oct. 31



Bryce & Vanessa Goodell	Oct. 7
Rodney & Cora Lookabill	Oct. 16

October 2025

Bible Reading

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1 Psalms 119	2 Proverbs 29-30	3 Micah	4 Acts 5-6
5 Hebrews 11-13	6 Deuteronomy 1-3	7 2 Chronicles 21-24	8 Psalms 120-121	9 Proverbs 31	10 Nahum	11 Acts 7-8
12 James 1-3	13 Deuteronomy 4-6	14 2 Chronicles 25-28	15 Psalms 122-124	16 Ecclesiastes 1-2	17 Habakkuk	18 Acts 9-10
19 James 4-5	20 Deuteronomy 7-9	21 2 Chronicles 29-32	22 Psalms 125-127	23 Ecclesiastes 3-4	24 Zephaniah	25 Acts 11-12
26 1 Peter 1-3	27 Deuteronomy 10-12	28 2 Chronicles 33-36	29 Psalms 128-130	30 Ecclesiastes 5-6	31 Haggai	

OCTOBER 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:00 PM GPS, MYF & Confirmation 7:15 PM Book Club	2 6:30 PM Missions Ministry	3	4
5 9:00 AM Worship Service	6	7 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Group 6:15 PM AV Ministry 7:00 PM Trustees Ministry	8 5:30 PM Worship Committee 6:00 PM GPS, MYF & Confirmation 7:15 PM Women's Bible Study	9 7:00 PM SPR Ministry	10	11 Farner/Jankauskas Wedding
12 9:00 AM Worship Service Communion 10:30 AM Revelation Bible Study	13	14 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Group 7:00 PM Finance Ministry	15 6:00 PM GPS, MYF & Confirmation 7:15 PM Women's Bible Study	16	17	18
19 9:00 AM Worship Service Charge Conference Leadership Meeting	20	21 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Group	22 6:00 PM GPS, MYF & Confirmation 7:15 PM Women's Bible Study	23	24	25
26 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Revelation Bible Study 5:00 PM 9th Confirmation & Mentors Meeting	27	28 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Group 2:00 PM Cares Ministry	29 6:00 PM GPS, MYF & Confirmation 7:15 PM Women's Bible Study	30	31	



BLUE BUCKET REQUEST - COTTONWOOD CREEK ANIMAL RESCUE

FOOD PANTRY REQUEST—HAMBURGER HELPER
INSTANT NOODLE DISHES

WINNER METHODIST CHURCH

Service Time **9:00 AM**

STAY CONNECTED

winnermethodist.org

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Pastor



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TO EVERY THING THERE IS A SEASON,
AND A TIME TO EVERY PURPOSE
UNDER THE HEAVEN: A TIME TO BE
BORN, AND A TIME TO DIE; A TIME TO
PLANT, AND A TIME TO PLUCK UP
THAT WHICH IS PLANTED;
ECCLESIASTES 3:1-2



Flourishing Mama