The Pylon

REMEMBER: Before going to bed on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, turn your clocks back one hour!



Woodmar United Methodist Church

Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world

Pastor Esta Rosario November 2022

# **PASTOR'S PONDERINGS**

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

November is here! There are so many special things happening in November! Our Stewardship Campaign continues through November 20<sup>th</sup>, and we mark the celebration of stewardship with our annual Thanksgiving Dinner at 11:15AM. The tradition of the Woodmar Thanksgiving Dinner is to invite our Community Preschool and Childcare families and our community-at-large to our feast. It is a beautiful time of coming together and being thankful for the ways God has blessed us through friendships old and new. I hope to see you there!

Speaking of new friendships: Pastor Dale Zylstra of Christ Lutheran Church (7051 Indianapolis Blvd) has invited us to participate, along with Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, in a Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service at Christ Lutheran. Our worship will include a combined choir...what a beautiful way to express our gratitude to God! Please join us at 7PM at Christ Lutheran!

ADVENT also begins in November! The first Sunday in Advent is November 27<sup>th</sup>, and our Advent Bible Study will begin on Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10AM via ZOOM and in-person in the Fireside Room. We will be reflecting on the Lectionary Gospel Readings for Advent...please join us!

Lots of exciting things happening in November! I would be remiss if I didn't speak a little more about stewardship. Sadly, stewardship has become a four-letter word for many people. When, it should be a word we embrace and for which we give thanks! The Merriam-Webster online dictionary defines stewardship: "the conducting, supervising, or managing of something especially: the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care." I didn't add the emphasis to the word especially...Merriam-Webster did, but I like it! Stewardship is especially the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care.

Think for a moment about what has been entrusted to the care of each and every one of us? I'm sure we can each make a very long list of the things and *people* who have been entrusted to our care. What about ourselves? Haven't we each been entrusted with the precious gift of life? How are we carefully and responsibly managing the life God has entrusted to our care?

Are we being good stewards of our health: spiritually, emotionally, mentally, and physically? Our time? Our finances? The six weeks of our Stewardship Campaign: *Committed to Christ* have focused on being good stewards of the life God has entrusted to our care. When we respond to the longing in our hearts to draw closer and closer to Jesus, we set aside consistent, intentional time to pray, to read and study God's Word, to worship with our community of faith on Sunday mornings, to share our faith stories (witness), to give a tithe to our church (Biblical tithe=10% of our earnings), and to serve.

How are we doing in each of these areas? Are we growing? Are we stagnating? We who claim to be disciples of Jesus Christ are called to be *growing disciples*!!! Are we willing to step up in each of these areas?

# PLEASE PRAY THIS **PRAYER EVERY DAY:**

Holy Spirit, fill me and empower me for the work to which you have called me. Holy Spirit, fill Woodmar United Methodist Church and empower us for the work to which you have called us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# **PEOPLE OF WOODMAR, WHO ARE YOU?**

I am a beloved child of God, called and sent to make a difference in the world.



**Our Mission:** 

To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

**Our Vision:** 

Go. Teach. Love.

Growing as disciples isn't something we wait to do when we have time, or when life is more settled, or...or...or (fill in your own excuse)....friends, the time is NOW! I am praying that we are digging into this series: Committed to *Christ*, that we may grow in our personal relationship with Jesus, and as a result, our church will be filled with passion for the call God has on our lives to live life intentionally with our neighbors.

I'm willing to step up...won't you join me?

See you in worship!

Living in the Grip of God's Grace,

Pastor Esta

# LUNCH/DINNER/DESSERT WITH THE PASTOR & THE STEWARDSHIP TEAM:

Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 4 – 5PM in the lounge Thursday, November 10th, 6-7PM in the lounge

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

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Combined Thanksgiving Worship on Wednesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7PM at Christ Lutheran Church, 7051 Indianapolis Blvd. Participating churches: Christ Lutheran, Gloria Dei Lutheran and Woodmar UMC!

Hanging of the Greens & pizza on Sunday, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>! Combined Choirs will present a Merry Methodist Christmas Cantata on Sunday, December 18th at 3PM at Ridge UMC. Participating churches: Christ, Fifth Avenue, Marquette Park, Hobart First, Hammond First, Hyde Park, Dyer, Griffith, Ridge, and Woodmar. Each church is asked to bring five desserts to share.

# LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

During the holidays we try "to put on a happy face," even though we might be dying on the inside. If you or someone you know can relate to this due to losing a loved one, losing a job, a divorce, an unexpected diagnosis, or \_\_\_\_\_, you are invited to come just as you are to our Longest Night Service on Tuesday, December 20th at 6:30PM in the Lounge/ Library. We will read Psalms of Lament, pray, and sing together as we acknowledge our grief in the midst of the hustle and bustle of the "happiest time of the year."

**瀊滐滐縺滐滐滐滐滐滐滐滐>** 

# CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

4PM - Lessons & Carols, Candle-Light

9PM - Lessons & Carols, Holy Communion, Chancel Choir, Candle-Light

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP AT 10AM - Yes! Christmas is on a Sunday!

# INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT

Committed to Christ Bible Study runs until the week of November 13<sup>th</sup>! There are three sessions to choose from:

Sundays at 11:30AM in the lounge/library led by Pastor Esta Tuesdays at 11AM via ZOOM led by Donna Benirschke & Yvonne Jackson

Fridays at 1PM via ZOOM led by Rosanna Fowler & Ramah McCabe

Week 3: Worship Week 4: Witness

Week 5: Financial Giving

Week 6: Service

# **PRAYER STATIONS**

Prayer stations will be set up in the Sanctuary on Thursdays beginning October  $20^{th}$ , through November  $17^{th}$ , 10AM-1PM. Please come and spend intentional time praying for our church members and our church. You will be blessed as you bless others through prayer.

**Racial Equity** will resume on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 10AM via ZOOM. We will be listening to a six-week podcast series called "Expanding the Table." Here is the link, if you'd like to get a head start! Https://www.r2hub.org/library/podcast. There is also a downloadable discussion guide.

# **ADVENT STUDY**

begins Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10AM via ZOOM and in-person in the Fireside Room.

Week 1: Matthew 24:36-44 Week 2: Matthew 3:1-12 Week 3: Matthew 11:2-11 Week 4: Matthew 1:18-25

Esta Rosario is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Advent Study

Time: Nov 22, 2022 10:00 AM Central Time. Every week on Tue, until Dec 13, 2022, 4 occurrence(s)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85824731385? pwd=SUc2OXJhbmRJbWttYjJueGpIRUZrUT 09

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 858 2473 1385

Passcode: 015681

Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kd2Dfm18ua



**EVA ARCE** is performing in the production of "The Lion King" through the Hammond Academy of the

Performing Arts in November.

Performance Dates/Times: Thursday, Nov. 10th @ 7PM Friday, Nov. 11th @ 7PM Sunday, Nov. 13th @PM

Let's all go and support Eva! What a fun field trip!

# COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL & CHILDCARE

Big news! The Christmas Pageant is returning this December. The **COMMUNITY** Pageant will be on Thursday, December 15, at 5:30 pm. The Preschool & Childrane Christmas Pageant is a joyful tradition of Community Preschool. A number of years ago, Woodmar UMC's Altar Guild sewed precious

costumes for our cast of about 30 characters. The Altar Guild sewed additional costumes as our enrollment climbed. The Christmas story will be performed through songs, adorable children in costumes and narration. A reception will be held in the Community Center following the program.

Thank you for supporting our Butter Braid fundraiser. The frozen items will be delivered on Friday, November 4. Orders may be picked up at noon or on Sunday.

Congratulations to one of our Stellar Staff, Sandra Palmerin. Sandra graduated from Ivy Tech with an Associates degree in Early Childhood. We are proud of you, Sandra!

October was an exciting month. Our program had a visit from the Hammond Fire Department and Police. We appreciate our community heroes! Classes also took field trips to Scheeringa's Farm Stand for pumpkins, a hayride, farm animals and a giant corn bin. A Halloween parade rounded out the month of October with class pictures on hay bales.

# Dear Friends,

Thank you for the outpouring of love as life as I knew it came to a grinding halt with my positive COVID test. Thank you for the emails, the cards, the food, the stepping in to help out, keeping all things running smoothly, and on and on. I am truly thankful for each and every one of you!



When I went to the Dr., I thought I had a sinus infection/ear infection. I was shocked that the COVID test was positive. I was stuck at home. I was supposed to go to Seacrest Beach in New Jersey for a week of spiritual renewal...those plans were kaboshed. I will reschedule...just don't know when, yet.

The worst part of having COVID (aside from not feeling well) was the guilt. I wondered, "Who did I unintentionally expose?" If I exposed you, I am sorry! Please forgive me. COVID is so tricky! Thankfully, Miguel has remained symptom-free and COVID-free...we are thankful!

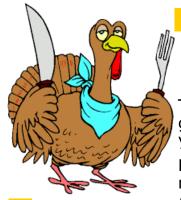
The biggest blessing was the forced rest. I had lots of time to reflect (when I wasn't sleep-



ing), and the Lord convicted me of my need for Sabbath. (We all have that need, by the way!) I had been guilty of allowing work to creep into my Sabbath, which turned my Sabbath into another workday. So, I am reclaiming my Sabbath - one day per week to rest in the Lord - no work, no housework. And, I encourage you to do the same!

Again, thank you for being such a loving church family! You are a blessing!

With Gratitude, Pastor Esta



# WOODMAR'S ANNUAL CHURCH THANKSGIVING DINNER SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20

# IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, and stuffing will be graciously prepared by Cathy Gonzalez and Prudi Leslie. Thank you, ladies! We will also supply a variety of beverages.

Please bring a dish to share following the first letter of your last name.

A-I Salad

J-R Vegetable

S-Z Dessert

Also, please bring your own table service, however, we will supply the cups for the drinks.

We look forward to us all gathering for this wonderful time of sharing a meal and fellowship!

We will also be delivering meals to our homebound. If you are available to deliver some, please let Nancy Craig know (219)688-2705.

# PLEASE RVSP BY NOV. 14. LET US KNOW IF YOU WILL EAT IN, CARRY OUT, OR DESIRE DELIVERY!

- 6 Tom Slaboski
- 7 Joe Lovasko
- 8 John Tucker
- 11 Otie Anderson
- 12 Chris Matthews
- 13 Francis McCabe



- 14 Donna Baggett Ricardo Rosario
- 15 Fran Vukovich
- 16 Danielle Romero
- 21 Hailey Brambert
- 26 Donna Benirschke

# **WOODMAR BOOK CLUB**

# Woodmar Book Club



Book club will meet via Zoom on Monday, Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> at 1PM The book for November is A *Lowcountry Christmas by* Mary Alice Monroe. "A wounded warrior and his younger brother discover the true meaning of Christmas in this timeless story of family bonds. A poignant continuation of the Lowcountry Summer series.

As far as ten-year-old Miller McClellan is concerned, it's the worst Christmas ever. His father's shrimp boat is docked, his mother is working two jobs, and with finances strained, Miller is told they can't afford the dog he desperately wants. "Your brother's return from war is our family's gift," his parents tell him. But when Taylor returns with PTSD, family strains darken the holidays.

Then Taylor's service dog arrives—a large black Labrador/Great Dane named Thor. His brother even got the dog! When Miller goes out on Christmas Eve with his father's axe, determined to get his family the tree they can't afford, he takes the dog for company—but accidentally winds up lost in the wild forest. The splintered family must come together to rediscover their strengths, family bond, and the true meaning of Christmas." Review ~ Mary Alice Monroe's website

# RISK-TAKING MISSION AND SERVICE



The November mission is our Thanksgiving dinner. The funds collected

will pay for the cost of the meal.

Please also note that our cupboard is running low. The **Blessing Box** could use supplies. Please nothing in glass containers, and nothing fresh or frozen!!

Thank you!

You never know what good we are doing or who we are helping...

Yvonne goes to Aqua Swim at the Y. She has met many people and, of course, knowing Yvonne, speaks to them all! Some asked about the garden and could they pick because it had a fence around it. She explained it was free for everyone and also told them about the Blessing Box and Little Library. She was saying—just yesterday—that so many of the people have thanked her and told her that with the help of the fresh produce and items in the Bless Box they were able to make ends meet.

Thank you, God, for allowing us to share your bounty.



Our Caregivers will continue to meet at the Wheel at noon on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday each month. We welcome any additional people who would like to share, or just attend, and hear what others have to say. It is an hour of relaxation in Christian fellowship.

A Caregiver can be a grandparent raising grandchildren or someone caring for an ill relative or friend. It is important to learn to take time for yourself. Please feel free to join in.

Publication's title

Congregational Care Corps is looking for volunteers to help with the Thanksgiving dinner, including clean up afterwards. There will be sign up sheets in the Narthex.

Please help us with the Hanging of the Greens and pizza after worship on Sunday, Nov. 27!





BRIANNA'S HOPF

# WHAT'S UP, WOODMAR?

Sonrise Seniors, darts, and Karate are again meeting in the church and are all extending an

invitation to you to join

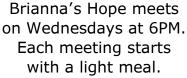
in the fun!

Each meeting starts with a light meal.



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Phone 219-844-3030 Fax 844-3038



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Children's Sunday School-9AM Normal Sunday Schedule Worship-10AM, Children's Church-10:15 Coffee fellowship following





# Remember Scrip!

When you purchase Scrip cards through the church, you are donating to the church's current expenses! It does not cost you anything additional to purchase one. It is as simple to use as a credit card. There is a wide variety of cards that we can order for you and we have many on hand. Just ask Nancy Jarmula on Sunday morning. They are great to use yourself or to give as a gift! And...the church earns a percentage from every order! Thank you for your support!



The United Women in Faith, formerly the UMW, continued meeting regularly. We have combined our circles and gather together on the third Wednesday of the month at 2PM in the narthex. When the weather gets bad in the winter we will shift our meeting to Zoom. To support Brianna's Hope, once a month, two of our members will bring dinner to that organization. Our board continues to meet via Zoom on the first Monday of the month.

Church Women United is hosting *A Call to Prayer* at Dyer UMC, 2016 Church St., Dyer, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>. Registration 9AM. Luncheon at noon.

# **FINANCES**



We ended September with income over expenses of \$5,000, but only due to a contribution from Community Preschool of \$10,000 to pay our bills for the month. Total expenses were in line with our budget for the month. We also received funds from the Foundation to reimburse expenses from VBS, Community Garden & the Community Picnic. Community Preschool had income over expenses of \$3,500. Their enrollment is up and they are doing well.

# SEPTEMBER FINANCIALS

Income for budgeted		Budgeted expenses		<b>Unbudgeted Income, Special</b>	
<u>expenses</u>		Program expenses	424	<u>Funds</u>	
Donations	10,416	Building related	5,991	Missions	125
Rental income	540	Office related	1,081	Special	
Fundraisers		Staff expenses	11,157	Memorial Fund	
Foundation	1,828	Apportionments	609	Property Maintenance	540
Scrip	28	Finance & Fees	<u>355</u>	Capital Campaign	495
Preschool-church e	exp 11,765	Total Expenses	19,617	Altar Flowers /Communic	n 12
Preschool for custo	<u>dian 350</u>	•	·	Other spec. donations	
Income for budget	ed 24,927	September operating income to		Brianna's Hope/Rehab	94
Ĭ	•	expenses +/-	5,075	• •	
Year to date incom	ie to	• ,	•	Interest income	
expense	<11,148>			Total	1,266

### Woodmar United Methodist Church

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



# INFO FOR EVENING PRAYERS BEGIN-NING WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16<sup>th</sup>

Esta Rosario is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Evening Prayers
Time: Nov 16, 2022 08:00 PM Central Time
(US and Canada)

Every week on Wed, Mon, Tue, Thu, until Feb 2, 2023, 46 occurrence(s)
Please download and import the following

iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.
Weekly: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/
tZwoceiurz4oE9K-

KUHef75L5qXCgYku\_wrd8/ics? icsToken=98tyKuGgqz0rHNWQshCBRpw-GY\_od-7zmCVBj\_p2tyrNBiYENyiJ9phNYt0BefH

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88561615296?
pwd=ZkowNWxMSGljbXdDUXRNcGc5TDE
xQT09

Meeting ID: 885 6161 5296 Passcode: 273023

Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) Meeting ID: 885 6161 5296 Passcode: 273023



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Camperships \$10

Purchased by

In honor/memory of

Please add a sheet of paper if needed.

ORDER NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 8!