

# The Pylon

Woodmar United Methodist Church

*Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world*

Pastor Esta Rosario

April 2022



## PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Dear Family & Friends of Woodmar,

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

If you're on social media, you know that Facebook asks every day: "What's on your mind?" My answer this Lenten season is family. Biological family. Church family. The family of God. I am truly grateful for family on so many levels.

First and foremost, I am thankful that Jesus brought us into the family of God. That was the point of the incarnation...Jesus came because, "<sup>16</sup> God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved." (John 3:16-17) You've heard the expression "Blood is thicker than water?" I used to think that meant that the bond in a biological family is the closest bond humans can have, but the meaning is actually deeper than that. The full saying is "the blood of the covenant is thicker than the water of the womb." In other words, the bond we have through the blood of Christ is stronger than our biological familial bonds.

As we journey a couple more weeks in Lent reflecting on the sacrifices Jesus made for us and reflecting on our own discipleship, I pray that we will be encouraged and strengthened in knowing that because of Jesus' great sacrifice and his victory over sin and death, we are part of the family of God. We can be confident of this good news!

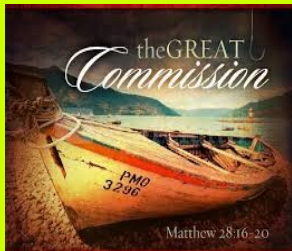
Secondly, I am thankful for my biological family. Olivia and I just took a trip out west. We flew into San Diego, then drove to Yuma, AZ to spend time with Delaney, Ricardo, and Pancake. It was such a blessing to see them in their home environment. Delaney is a CRU missionary, and we were able to participate in a ministry project she's leading while we were there. CRU has partnered with "Helping Hands," an organization that provides needed services to the elderly: they grocery shop for them, provide transportation to medical appointments, and generally encourage them.

**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.**

Delaney and her team set up a table on the campus of Arizona Western College and invited students to write an encouraging note to some older folks who live alone. On Monday evening, we met with her students to do some Bob Ross painting on the backs of the notes. Yes, Bob Ross painting. Delaney put on a YouTube video of Bob Ross teaching how to paint a mountain scene, and we all attempted to follow his direction. Most paintings did not look like what was on the screen, but the conversation, laughter, and fellowship that took place while we dipped our brushes in water and stirred the watercolors while working on a common goal brought her students closer together. The number of students who participated has more than doubled since last year. The Holy Spirit is working through the family Delaney is building with her students.

I experienced the wider family of God in Yuma through our United Methodist Connection. I've been asked to accompany a tuba player in a recital at Valparaiso University on April 18<sup>th</sup>, and the music is challenging...I needed to practice a little while we were in Yuma, so I reached out to two United Methodist churches and asked if I could practice there. Trinity UMC and Gila Mountain UMC graciously allowed me to practice. What a blessing to receive such a warm welcome from our UM brothers and sisters in Arizona!

Last but not least, I am thankful for our Woodmar family. What a beautiful family we have! When friends or family from other places have worshiped with us, they go on and on about how welcoming and loving our church family is! I concur! What a blessing you are to our family and to the neighborhood!

May the Holy Spirit strengthen and renew our family connections.

Blessings on you and yours as we continue to walk with Jesus to Jerusalem. I'm looking forward to celebrating the resurrection of our Lord on April 17<sup>th</sup>! To God be the glory!

Living in the Grip of God's Grace,

*♡ Pastor Esta*

Pastor Esta

**IT'S TIME TO ORDER YOUR EASTER FLOWERS!**

You have a choice between lilies, tulips, and camperships. They are \$12 each. Order forms are in the church Narthex. You may also call the church office (844-3030) and let us know what you would like to order. All orders need to be in by Thursday, April 7, in order for the florist to receive them in time. Also, please see page 4.



Olivia, Delaney, and Pancake



Olivia, Delaney, Ricardo, and Pancake



Bob Ross Painting Night

Tabling at Arizona Western College



# Easter Flowers & Camperships

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number/Amount of Camperships given \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Easter Flowers given (\$12 per) \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**no later than THURSDAY, April 7, 2022.**

1. Please circle which gift you are giving (choose one):

Easter Lily

Tulip

Campership

2. Please circle whether in memory or honor (choose one):

In Memory of:

In Honor of:

4. Name/s \_\_\_\_\_

5. Given by \_\_\_\_\_

**COME BACK TO CHURCH PALM SUNDAY**  
**Invite Family and Friends to the Trustee's**  
**FREE**

**Pancake Breakfast & Bake Sale!**

**Palm Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 – 12:00**



Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Milk, Juice and Coffee

Baked Goods will also be Available for Purchase

Profits from the Bake Sale will go to the Choir

WOODMAR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

7320 NORTHCOTE AVE • HAMMOND, IN 46324 • (219) 844-3030 • WOODMARUMC.ORG

## INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT

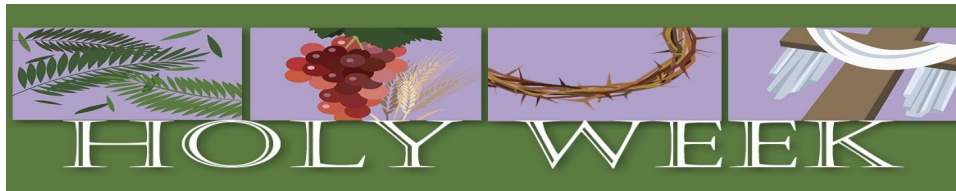
**PLEASE PRAY** for Eva and Clara as they learn how to use their Bibles. We are meeting on Sundays after worship for eight sessions. Once we have completed the eight sessions, they will be presented with Bibles in worship. It will be a day of great celebration!

### BIBLE BOOK CLUB – FRIDAY, APRIL 8<sup>TH</sup> AT 1PM

That's right! We started a Bible Book Club! Over the last year, we've been reading through The New Testament, Psalms and Proverbs together. The reading chart has been posted to our website, and hard copies are available from the church office. The goal is to read five days per week. Please note that this is not a Bible Study. The purpose is to read and share our "A-HA" moments with each other. Once a month, we will meet via ZOOM or in person to share the verse or passage that spoke to our hearts and *why*. This is a great opportunity to practice the Spiritual Discipline of Bible Reading **together** and to practice articulating our personal reflections on Scripture in a safe environment.

### DRIVE-THRU ASHES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

I am happy to report that 68 people received ashes on Ash Wednesday. 34/68 were not members of Woodmar. What a blessing to serve our neighbors in this way! Thank you, Debbie Manger-son, for assisting me on Ash Wednesday...you were a huge help! - Pastor Esta



### DRIVE-THRU COMMUNION FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY & PRAYER STATIONS

We are offering "drive-thru" Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> from 11:30AM – 1:30PM and 5:30 – 7PM. Please come to the preschool parking lot (corner of 173<sup>rd</sup> and Southeastern) and park in the spaces marked "HOLY COMMUNION." If you are physically unable to drive to the church and wish to receive Holy Communion, please contact the church office 219-844-3030, and Pastor Esta will bring Communion to your home. You will also have the option of entering the church through Door G and praying through the prayer stations set up in the Sanctuary.

### GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP, APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup> AT HAMMOND FUMC AT 7PM

FUMC, Hyde Park, Ridge, Whiting, and Woodmar UMC, and Pastor Paul Arnold are working together to offer a Good Friday Worship Experience based on the Seven Last Words of Christ. We invite you to come and experience our Lord's suffering with our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Region.



**COMMUNITY**  
*Preschool & Childcare*

## COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL & CHILDCARE

As Spring comes and the transmission rate of COVID lessens, our enrollment increases. Our two youngest classrooms are now at their maximum enrollment. Pre-K classes have room for growth. The preschool year will wind down in May yet, summer preschool opportunities and full time care will be available. We are excited to bring back our class for two year olds this summer and fall.

April 4-8, is the Week of the Young Child with special plans for each day of the week to highlight early learning. On Music Monday, Pastor Esta will visit each class to lead special music. On Thursday evening, 5-7 pm, families are invited to an open house Reading Night. Each classroom will highlight early literacy activities, a representative from the Hammond Public Library will be present to share resources, pizza will be served in the Narthex, Woodmar UMW Reading Buddies will highlight their Kiki's Hats project, Scholastic books will be given to each child and a representative from On My Way Pre-K will be present with scholarship information and Kickstart Kindergarten resources from IN Department of Education.

Our program had an annual inspection from the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration that focuses on health and safety regulations. Our program had no violations.

Thanks to the second grant that Community Preschool and Childcare received from the COVID Rescue Plan and in coordination with the Trustees we have reached out to Randy DeVries of Site Services to evaluate the repair needs of the north parking lot. The south lot will be evaluated too and options will be given. Site Services did the parking lot at the YMCA and has worked with many churches.

Cyndi Slaboski



## WOODMAR UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

At the March meeting the board of United Methodist Women met under the direction of President Yvonne Jackson. Plans were finalized for the Agape Meal which we will hold on Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at noon. The program will include explanations of the term "Agape" and of the significance of the Easter egg. Donna Benirschke will give a short inspirational message, and we will sing to the accompaniment of Rosanna Fowler. Pastor Esta will administer communion, and we will share a light meal of kugel, olives, cheese and bread. Please call the church office and tell us if you plan to attend.

The UMW also decided to aid Phil's Friends, an organization which provides church-centered support and hope to those affected by cancer. We will be collecting items which will go into the cancer-care packages that Phil's Friends distribute. Please support this worthwhile cause by bringing new, unused items to the box in the narthex which is labeled for this collection. We need the following:

Hats, Knitted, crocheted, baseball etc.	Fuzzy socks, Women's only
Biotene, 6 oz or smaller	Single toothbrushes & toothpaste
Lotion, Fragrance-free 5 oz or smaller	Puzzle books
Decks of playing cards,	Gift cards
Journals, Size 5X7 (not spiral bound)	Blankets, Rolled throw blankets, crocheted or fleece tied.

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

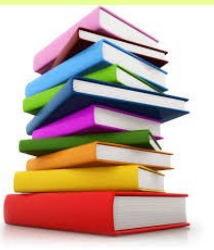
4/01 David Wilkinson  
4/03 Ed Echlin  
4/05 Phyllis Sovola  
4/05 Ivan Lewis  
4/10 Tracie Geurts  
4/19 Ruth Eggers  
4/20 Kathy Baker

happy  
birthday

4/23 Rich Hubster  
4/24 Chuck Anderson  
4/24 James Brill  
4/25 Suzanne Wasmund  
4/25 Trish Tucker  
4/26 Phyllis Ferrini  
4/29 Josephine Kim  
4/30 Kristofer Rosario

### WOODMAR BOOK CLUB

#### Woodmar Book Club



The next book club will meet via Zoom on Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup> 1PM.

*The Stranger in the Lifeboat* by Mitch Albom. A quote from the book reads: "When someone passes, Benjamin, people always ask, 'Why did God take them?' A better question would be 'Why did God give them to us?' What did we do to deserve their love, their joy, the sweet moments we shared? Didn't you have such moments with Annabelle?" "Every day," I rasped. "Those moments are a gift. But their end is not a punishment. I am never cruel, Benjamin. I know you before you are born. I know you after you die. My plans for you are not defined by this world. "Beginnings and endings are earthly ideas. I go on. And because I go on, you go on with me. Feeling loss is part of why you are on Earth. Through it, you appreciate the brief gift of human existence, and you learn to cherish the world I created for you. But the human form is not permanent. It was never meant to be. That gift belongs to the soul. "I know the tears you shed, Benjamin. When people leave this Earth, their loved ones always weep." She smiled. "But I promise you, those who leave do not." — Mitch Albom

## RISK-TAKING MISSION AND SERVICE



The April mission is Heifer International. "Giving an animal is like giving someone a small business, providing wool, milk, eggs, and more. Animal donations can provide families a hand up, increasing access to medicine, school, food and a sustainable livelihood.

Your animal donation will support the lives of families in need. The one you choose is up to you." ~ from Heifer website

**CANNED GOODS** We continue collecting canned goods on the first Sunday of every month for Hammond First for their food pantry. Please bring only unexpired canned fruits, vegetables, and soups. Please designate what items are for Hammond First and what you are bringing for our Blessing Box. Thank you!



Caregivers will continue to meet in person on the 3rd Tues. at 12 noon at The Wheel. We welcome anyone who is or has been involved with caregiving. Just let us know so that we won't start without you. You can phone Rosanna Fowler at 219-836-6269 ([roanfowler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:roanfowler@sbcglobal.net)) or call the church office. It is a time to relax and share with each other.

Congregational Care Corps wants you to know you are all in our thoughts and prayers each day. We hope all is well with you and your families. We continue to meet in person for worship, and hope to see you if you feel comfortable coming. We know not everyone will, and that's okay! If there is ANYTHING at all that you need, please do not hesitate to call the church office or Nancy Craig at (219)688-2705. May God watch over you and bless your lives.



## WHAT'S UP, WOODMAR?

Sonrise Seniors, darts, and Karate are back meeting in the church and are all extending an invitation to you to join in the fun!



Brianna's Hope is back on Wednesdays at 6PM.

## PAWS FOR PEACE

Our four legged friends and their parents miss visiting Hartsfield Village. They hope to be able to get back to it soon!

Publication's title	The Pylon (Tax ID 35-0988814)
Issue date/frequency/number	April 1, 2022 published monthly, Issue No. 132
Authorized organization's address	Woodmar United Methodist Church 7320 Northcote Ave., Hammond, IN 46324
Contact information	Office email: <a href="mailto:office@woodmarumc.org">office@woodmarumc.org</a> Pastor's email: <a href="mailto:esta.rosario@inumc.org">esta.rosario@inumc.org</a> Web: <a href="http://www.woodmarumc.org">www.woodmarumc.org</a> Phone 219-844-3030 Fax 844-3038
Normal Sunday Schedule	Children's Sunday School-9AM Worship-10AM, Children's Church-10:15 Coffee fellowship following





It's April! Spring is a great time to order scrip for yourself or as a gift. Fannie May scrip cards sell for \$10 and we earn 25%!!! Please talk to Nancy Jarmula after Sunday worship.

News to share?  
The deadline for the *May Pylon* is **April 18th.**

**BLESSING BOX**

Thank you for keeping it stocked with nonperishables! Please make sure the canned goods have a pop top lid as the homeless may not have access to a can opener. **Please do not bring carbonated beverages, perishable items, FRESH MEATS, or items in glass containers.** Thank you!

**FINANCES**

February ended on a negative of \$8,000 with \$17,600 cash on hand. We have received 30 Pledge Cards (sent out 105) totaling \$53,000 allocated to Current Expense. Community Preschool had a positive month of \$6,700. They received a second Stabilization Grant on February 16 for \$129,079, which can be used thru September 2023. This will help keep the Preschool operating as our enrollment numbers slowly increase to pre COVID 19! The Capital Campaign balance is currently at \$59,300.



**FEBRUARY FINANCIALS**

<u>Income for budgeted expenses</u>	
Donations	11,267
Rental income	1,825
Fundraisers	
Initial offering	14
Foundation	
Scrip	1,344
Preschool/church	1,765
Preschool for custodian	1,310
Income for budgeted	17,525
Year to date income to expenses	13,585

<u>Budgeted expenses</u>	
Program expenses	465
Building related	12,315
Office related	509
Staff expenses	11,529
Apportionments	631
Finance & Fees	121
Total Expenses	25,572
Feb. operating income to expenses +/-	(8,008)

<u>Unbudgeted Income, Special Funds</u>	
Missions	110
Special	3
Memorial Fund	
Property Maintenance	910
Capital Campaign	1,620
Altar Flowers /Communion	48
Misc.	
<u>Interest income</u>	
Total	2,691

**Woodmar United Methodist Church**

7320 Northcote Ave  
Hammond, IN 46324-2943  
Phone (219)844-3030  
www.office@woodmarumc.org

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**YOU ARE INVITED TO ZOOM EVENING PRAYERS!**

When: Monday – Thursday, 8:00 – 8:15PM

How to enter: through your computer, iPad, smartphone or landline phone

**Please note that this zoom information is valid until – May 26<sup>th</sup>.**

Esta Rosario is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Evening Prayers

Time: Feb 28, 2022 08:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Wed, Mon, Tue, Thu, until May 24, 2022.

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZARD-mpqjwpGN21ujK7eDgLLM0rpxbY4btI/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGsQdsqG9CSsxuORpwIBIlgc-vwiGZeJY0PzQrvKHdWRgTaGs8SIKJnEuGE>

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84600147329?pwd=cEx2SlY5SERSb0J3Nkswc0hnaW91dz09>

Meeting ID: 846 0014 7329

Passcode: 917104

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,84600147329#,,,,\*917104# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 846 0014 7329

Passcode: 917104

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kjHLC5A1k>