

***From the pastor's desk***

Meaning of Baptism

Those who are baptized in Jesus do not need to strive after a new life. They have already attained new life through dying with Christ. But they do need to nurture that new life so it can grow and mature. That's what church is for. That's what Bible study is for. That's what prayer is for. It is like the Parable of the Sower. Many of those seeds sprouted up, but only a few grew into maturity. The rest withered and died.

A wealthy businessman was horrified to see a fisherman sitting beside his boat, playing with a small child.

"Why aren't you out fishing?" asked the businessman.

"Because I caught enough fish for one day," replied the fisherman.

"Why don't you catch some more?"

"What would I do with them?"

"You could earn more money," said the businessman. "Then with the extra money, you could buy a bigger boat, go into deeper waters, and catch more fish. Then you would make enough money to buy nylon nets. With the nets, you could catch even more fish and make more money. With that money you could own two boats, maybe three boats. Eventually you could have a whole fleet of boats and be rich like me."

"Then what would I do?" asked the fisherman.

"Then," said the businessman, "you could really enjoy life."

The fisherman looked at the businessman quizzically and asked, "What do you think I am doing now?"

The baptism of Jesus is dying to our self-centered endeavors and being resurrected into a life marked by grace and love. When we live in the baptism of Jesus, we touch the hearts of others and help open them to the Holy Spirit and new life in Christ. Are you living and growing in the new life you have been given?

## *From the Associate Pastor of Music & Healing Ministry*

You are invited to connect with each other and our community!

- **PrayerConnect** –Do you need spiritual support or a reflective moment? Perhaps just some daily words of encouragement? You can receive this daily reflection...And it can come to you privately in your email-of-choice each day, Monday through Friday. Why not sign up and see what can come? If not, you can catch the three weekly editions on Facebook at this address:  
<https://www.facebook.com/woodridgePrayerconnect>
- **The Music Ministry** .... *Thursday rehearsals resume...Chimes 6:30 pm...Choir 7:30 pm. I hope you will join one of these groups. **Our last week of rehearsals will be on Thursday, June 22 We need you!!***
- **'Prime Time' Chimes group** – rehearsals Sundays, right after worship in our sanctuary!
- **Do you play an instrument?** We are looking to build up the “band”. How about you?

As we wind up another “season” of the music ministry (my 9<sup>th</sup> at Woodridge!) I want you all to know what a blessing and privilege it has been to experience the many ways that you have ministered to each other through the medium of music. Please keep praying for our ministry, that it will continue to grow and expand into other places, both musically, physically, and spiritually. Amen!

Now, as we enter our summertime, we hope you know that the music and healing and prayers continue with special and experimental opportunities. Come and see what we are about this summer!

With you on the journey,

Rev. Bob

Email: [nolan1213@verizon.net](mailto:nolan1213@verizon.net)

Phone: (401) 339-6134

## ***Woodridge at work . . . in Mission and Service***



**Volunteers** are always appreciated at the **Interfaith Food Ministry's** pantry, where folks from Woodridge help out on the **second Saturday** morning of each month. Contact Paula Duffy or any member of the Service Committee if you're interested.



**We continue to collect diapers** - through June 18 - for our end of year mission. The diapers will go to children in foster care. This is a tremendous need and always greatly appreciated. Collection boxes may be found in the narthex (sanctuary entry area) and in the Parish House.



## ***Sunday School & Christian Ed News – Summer Edition***

***Children's Sunday is June 11<sup>th</sup>***. We need students to attend on June 4<sup>th</sup> as well to practice for Children's Sunday. Please let Heather Ashworth know if your family is planning to attend June 11<sup>th</sup>. We also have the picnic following church on the 11<sup>th</sup>! (details below) Last year was a great time. *We hope to see all of you there.*

***We will have Vacation Bible School again this summer.*** This year it will be June 26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-11:30. Registrations will be available June 11<sup>th</sup>. It is \$10 for the week per family or free to new students. We are also looking for volunteers. Please see Heather Ashworth for any concerns.

***Special summer church school offered during worship for ages 6 months through 6 years old ... so please continue to worship with us through the summer!***

Following the end of our official “church Sunday school year” – we will start a special summer session beginning on June 18 and running through September 3. Children will still begin in worship and then the younger children will be invited to attend the special summer session. We will set up the conference room to accommodate the younger ages with age-appropriate lessons and crafts. It will be “staffed” by teachers, CE committee members, and volunteers from the congregation and overseen and coordinated by Heather Ashworth, CE director. We will maintain our “safe space” policies of 2 teachers/ leaders.

## Woodridge Church Yard Sale + Children's Clothing Sale

Saturday, June 3 8 AM – 2 PM

Clean out your closets, basements and attics! Bring in your items for the yard sale and clothing for babies and kids of all ages. Leave yard sale items on the stage in Fellowship Hall or in the janitor's room (basement). Large items can be picked up. Volunteers are needed to help during the yard sale. Clothing donations should be left on the pre-school side of the Music Room when open or on the stage. Items at the clothing sale are \$1 a piece unless otherwise noted.

Please call Grant Southard (822-0799) or Rick Therrien (463-6343) with any yard sale questions. Call Heather Ashworth (921-1660) for children's clothing sale questions.

## Woodridge Congregational Church Picnic

When: Sunday June 11, 2017

Time: 12:00 PM to whenever

Where: Goddard Memorial State Park

<http://www.riparks.com/Locations/LocationGoddard.html>

1095 Ives Road, Warwick, RI 02818

**Section Field I- 87-94**

Hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks will be provided by Membership & Fellowship and Christian Ed

Please sign up to bring a side dish or dessert.

Bring your own lawn chairs, summer clothes, suntan lotion, sports equipment and join us for a fun-filled day.

**Fun Activities for All Ages!**

If you need a ride please contact anyone on M&F and we can carpool to Goddard Park.

**If you are planning to attend please sign up by June 3**

**June 4 is Pentecost Sunday** – We will celebrate the Sacrament of Communion and everyone is encouraged to wear something **red** (and/or **orange** or **yellow**) ... and if the Spirit moves you, speak with Pastor Scott about contributing something in another language to the worship service.



A big “thank you” from Pat Fortier to the willing volunteers who stepped up to the plate to make sure coffee hours were covered in the month of May. I couldn't have done it without Elayna Boucher, Carolyn Palumbo, Nancy Quintiliani, Edie Righie, Arianna Rothermel, Rebecca Rotondo, Barbara Spencer and Gerda Watkins.



## Has your email address changed?

As some of us know, Verizon is getting out of the email business; customers—like Woodridge—can keep their “@verizon.net” address by moving it to aol or change to a different service provider and a new address. If you’re one of the latter, please let us know so that we can keep in touch.  
*Thanks!*



***Thank you for your continued support of the ministries of the church through pledges and offerings. Keeping your support up-to-date even when summer activities may keep you away from church on Sunday is very much appreciated.***

***If you would like a box of weekly offering envelopes, please contact the church office or our financial secretary, Pat Fortier.***

## Life Line Health Screening Event July 21

Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will offer their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at Woodridge Church on Friday, July 21 in Fellowship Hall.

Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis.

Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete.

In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit [www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle) or text the word circle to 797979

\*

\*

\*

*Deadline for our next (September) issue – August 21; to be mailed/emailed the end of August. Enjoy the summer!*

*Visit our website for the year-to-date financial report, latest board meeting minutes, birthdays & anniversaries and the prayer list:*

[www.woodridgechurchri.org](http://www.woodridgechurchri.org)

*For the latest news, to be added to their email list, and most anything else about the Rhode Island Conference of the United Church of Christ, visit their website:*

[www.ricucc.org](http://www.ricucc.org)

# Woodridge Congregational Church

*An Open and Affirming Congregation*

*A Caring and Welcoming Community*



Find us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/woodridgecongregational](http://www.facebook.com/woodridgecongregational)

THE WOODRIDGE WORD ~ June 2017

Published by: Woodridge Congregational United Church of Christ  
Cranston, Rhode Island 02920

woodridgechurchri.org

*Rev. Scott Spencer, Pastor* revscottspencer@gmail.com

*Rev. Bob Nolan, Associate Pastor of Music and Healing* nolan062400@gmail.com

*Heather Ashworth, Sunday School Coordinator* frobig4@aol.com

*Dan Blackford, Administrative Assistant* woodridgechurch@verizon.net

401-942-0662 / 942-0654