

From the pastor's desk

I love the story about a rich man who wanted to take his money with him beyond the grave. When he was nearing death, he prayed fervently about this matter. An angel appeared to him and said, "Sorry, you can't take all your wealth with you after death, but the Lord will allow you to take one suitcase. Fill it with whatever you wish." Overjoyed, the man got the largest suitcase he could find and filled it with pure gold bars. Soon afterward he died and showed up at the gates of heaven. St. Peter, seeing the suitcase, said, "Hold on, you can't bring that in here with you." The man explained how God had given him special permission. St. Peter checked it out with the angel Gabriel and the story was verified. "Okay," said St. Peter, "You can bring the suitcase in with you, but first I must check its contents." He opened the suitcase to see what worldly items this man had considered too precious to leave behind. "I don't believe it!" said St. Peter. "You brought pavement!?"

Communion Celebration

On Sunday May 7th, five students from our 2017 Communion class will be celebrating their completion of the course. Help us celebrate this exciting accomplishment by attending the service and offering your congratulations to:

Dillon Bombardier Aliyah Macaruso Antonio Macaruso
Abigayle MacDonald and Alexander Quintana-Cruz II

Mark your calendars for June 11th as we end a very successful Sunday School year. Sunday School students will be participating in the service so attendance is especially important and encouraged.

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. 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?**

A special thanks to all who were a part of the Holy Week and Easter music this year. What a marvelous and joyful sound you made! It was a wonderful dedication to our risen Savior and a privilege to experience. Amen!

Encouraging everyone to help us build our faith community at Woodridge!

With you on the journey,
Rev. Bob
Email: nolan062400@gmail.com
Phone: (401) 339-6134



The annual **Plant Sale** will be held on **Sunday, May 21** at Stamp Farm on Comstock Parkway in Cranston. Go to the farm, choose from their large selection of annuals, perennials, hanging baskets, vegetables, herbs, etc. Be sure to mention Woodridge Church when you check out so that the church will receive a percentage of the sales. Invite your friends, family, neighbors - the more, the better! Please see Debbie Therrien if you have questions. For directions & other info: www.stampfarms.com

We welcome new members into our community:

Kyle Cooley and his fiancée **Michelle Croce**. They have four children and live in Cranston. Michelle is a clinical lab control clerk at R.I. Hospital.

Heather Croce also works at R.I. Hospital. She and her family are Cranston residents.

Bridgette Louro is an attorney at R.I. Legal Services. She and her family live in Cranston.

Maureen McMaster is a long-time employee of R.I. Hospital. She and her husband Peter are Cranston residents. (Bridgette Louro is their daughter.)

Olive Preeti and **David Immanuel Abraham Gnanasegaran** and their daughter live in Warwick. They are both software engineers.

Woodridge at work . . . in Mission and Service



Diaper collection From May 14th, Mothers' Day, to June 18th, Fathers' Day, we will be collecting diapers for foster moms and dads as our end of year mission. The CE Committee talked with the agency, Children's Friend and Service, about their greatest need as a foster parent and they all said "Diapers". This is a great service we can provide to families that are also providing a great service for children in the most need.



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.

Save the Date!

Woodridge Church Picnic

When: **Sunday June 11, 2017**

Time: 12:00 PM to whenever

Where: Goddard Memorial State Park
1095 Ives Road
Warwick, RI 02818
Section Field I- 87-94

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

Please sign up to bring a side dish.

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.

WARRANT

The 2017 Spring Meeting of
Woodridge Congregational United Church of Christ
will be held on Sunday, May 7, 2017,
in Fellowship Hall immediately after the worship service at which time the
following agenda will be in order:

1. To hear staff and department reports.
2. To discuss any new business that may come before the meeting.

/s/ Holly Cole, Clerk

Marsha S. Southard, Moderator

Thank you for your continued support of the ministries of the church through pledges and offerings. Keeping your support up-to-date even when circumstances 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.

* * *

Deadline for our next (June) issue – May 21; to be mailed/emailed the end of May.

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

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

Woodridge Congregational Church

An Open and Affirming Congregation

A Caring and Welcoming Community

 Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/woodridgecongregational

THE WOODRIDGE WORD ~ May 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