

*Welcome to*

# Woodridge Congregational Church United Church of Christ

*An Open & Affirming Congregation and  
A Caring & Welcoming Community*



Worship at 10:00 AM

October 29, 2023

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

[facebook.com/woodridgecongregational](https://facebook.com/woodridgecongregational)

As a caring and welcoming community, using the Bible as a resource and the teachings of Jesus as our guide, we joyfully welcome everyone into our Christian community, regardless of race, ethnicity, class, age, mental status, family structure, physical or mental ability, religious background or theological perspective, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression. As Christian disciples, we invite all to share in the life, leadership, ministry, worship, sacraments, blessings and joys of our congregation.

Gathering Music

*Yesterday*

composed by John Lennon and Paul McCartney  
Prime Time Chimers, directed by Bob Quintiliani

What's happening at Woodridge? *(see below)*

Opening Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Call to Worship *(responsive)*:

One: We come to worship a generous and loving God.

**All: Praise the Lord!**

One: Our hope is in our Lord, our God.

**All: Praise the Lord!**

One: We give thanks for the gift of all of God's creation.

**All: Praise the Lord!**

One: We give thanks for God's help in times of need.

**All: Praise the Lord!**

One: We give thanks for God's mercy in times of trouble.

**All: Praise the Lord!**

One: We know that God will be with us always.

**All: Praise the Lord!**

I'm gon-na live so God can use me, an-y where Lord,  
work so God can use me, an-y where Lord,  
pray so God can use me, an-y where Lord,

an-y time! I'm gon-na live so God can use me, an-y  
an-y time! I'm gon-na work so God can use me, an-y  
an-y time! I'm gon-na pray so God can use me, an-y

where Lord, an - y time! I'm gon - na  
where Lord, an - y time! I'm gon - na  
where Lord, an - y time!

Scripture Reading: Psalm 146: 1 - 8 (NRSV)

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

<sup>2</sup>I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

<sup>3</sup>Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

<sup>4</sup>When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.

<sup>5</sup>Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God,

<sup>6</sup>who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever;

<sup>7</sup>who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;

<sup>8</sup>the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

Prayer of Confession (*responsive*):

One: Often our efforts to love you with heart, soul, mind, and strength can fall short.

**All: God forgive us.**

One: Our lack of trust in you sometimes hinders our ability to give ourselves completely to you.

**All: God forgive us.**

One: We may deny that you know what is best for us.

**All: God forgive us.**

One: We may not always be as generous to others as we should be.

**All: God forgive us.**

Assurance of God's love and forgiveness

Children's Message

Passing of the Peace

Scripture Reading: Romans 5: 1 - 5 (NRSV)

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
<sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope  
of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that  
suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,  
<sup>5</sup>and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the  
Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

Sermon

"Community of Grace"

Rev. Scott Spencer

Hymn

*There Are Many Ways of Sharing*

Carolyn W. Gillette

There are man - y ways of shar - ing, but God's  
bap - tized in the wa - ters, we've been  
blest by gifts you give us, some are

3  
spir - it gives each one. There are dif - ferent ways of  
giv - en work to do. When you call your lov - ing  
set a - part to lead. Give us Je - sus' love with -

6  
car - ing, It's one God whose work is done. God whose  
child - ren, you give gifts for ser - ving you. God we  
in us as we care for those in need. Give us

9  
gifts are o - ver flow - ing, May we hear you when you  
join in to cel - e - bra - tion, of the tal - ents you im -  
faith to make de - ci - sions, give us joy to share your

12  
call; part. word. Keep us ser - ving, keep us grow - ing, for the  
Bless each bap - tized, one's vo - ca - tion, give each  
Give us u - ni - ty and vi - sion, as we

15  
com - mon a good of all. We've been  
one serve your church and heart. All are  
serve your church and heart. All are

Prayer Concerns and Celebrations

Anthem
*Carry the Light*
A. Beck
Woodridge Choir

Offering

Doxology
*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise God, all crea-tures here be -

4

low; Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God, a - bove ye heaven-ly

8

hosts, Cre - a - tor Christ and ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le -

12

lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - - - ia!

Closing Hymn
*Great Is Your Faithfulness*
New Century Hymnal #423

Benediction

Benediction response
*Peace I Leave with You, My Friends*
*refrain only, New Century Hymnal #249*

Postlude

# What's happening @ Woodridge?

## *Woodridge Holiday Bazaar*

Saturday, November 11, 9 am - 3 pm

Country Store, Homemade Crafts,  
Children's Elf Shop, Timeless Treasures

Luncheon served 11 am - 2 pm

Homemade Soups, Sandwiches & Pizza

## *Bazaar Update*

How is a Bazaar like an Amish Barn Raising?

It involves work, wonderful fellowship and achieving a goal. Many hands make light the work.

**If you would like to volunteer or have questions, please call Courtney Lombardi at 401-465-0146.**

How can you help the Woodridge Bazaar? Can you help with any of these? If yes, please sign up in the Narthex! Here are some possibilities:

- **Nov 5** Moving tables and boxes to Timeless Treasures Room after church
- **Nov 9** Setting up tables in Fellowship Hall
- **Nov 10** Cooking w/Lou and Decorating; Baking, Candy other food for Country Store need to be delivered today
- **Nov 11** Luncheon Servers, Table bussing, Country Store, Floaters (so everybody can have a break and a chance to shop) and Clean Up

Raffle Baskets will be put together Sunday, Oct 29.

Timeless Treasures donations must be delivered by Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>.  
They may be left on the right side of the stage.  
Please refer to the list of items requested (over).

The Book Store will gladly accept books, puzzles and games.

The bazaar committee will gladly receive monetary donations to defray the cost of food for the luncheon.

There is yarn as well as crochet and knitting patterns for Prayer Squares in the Narthex.

Bring your donations for the Bazaar's TIMELESS TREASURES room! We are seeking new, like-new or very gently used:

- Jewelry, Pocketbooks, Shoes
- Warm winter accessories - scarves, gloves, mittens, hats, sweaters
- Tablecloths and linens (washed, neatly bagged with a description, including size)
- Boxed small appliances
- Kitchen utensils
- Christmas decorations and items
- NO Coats please

Your donations may be dropped off on the stage in Fellowship Hall, Sunday or Mon-Fri, office hours: 9-1.

The deadline for drop-off is Sunday, Nov. 5.

*Thank you very much!*

*Your wonderful donations are key to our success!!*

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### *Thanksgiving Basket Program*

Woodridge is again partnering with local service agencies to provide traditional Thanksgiving meals to families in need. You are invited to participate by signing up for food donations, donation of entire Thanksgiving Baskets, or to donate financially, now through Sunday, November 5.

Questions? Please contact Bob Cole at (401) 623-9443.

#### **Important Notes:**

- Cash and checks are also accepted.
- A full basket\* is estimated to cost around \$40.
- All checks need to be received by Nov. 5.
- Make checks payable to Woodridge Church.
- Write "Thanksgiving Baskets" in memo space.

#### **Important Dates:**

- Basket assembly is Sunday, Nov. 12 during church.
- All Thanksgiving Basket food donations must be dropped off by 10 am on Nov. 12 in Fellowship Hall.
- All cash and check donations must be provided by Sunday, Nov. 5.

**An adult education series continues tomorrow, Monday, October 30, 7:00 - 8:15 pm (on zoom) – all are welcome even if you have never done something like this before ... questions? contact pastor Scott at: revscottspencer@gmail.com or 508 - 838 - 6035.**

The **Grief Support Group** meets Thursday, Nov. 2, 2:00 - 3:30 pm in the Conference Room.

Contact Rev. Burton Bagby-Grose for more information.

Thank you for your continued support of the **Interfaith Food Ministry** with regular or occasional donations.

***A message about this year's stewardship program ...*** our theme this year is "we are all in this together."

Dear Woodridge community ... Thank you for your continued financial support of our ministry and mission over the last year. Your generosity has made a huge difference in continuing the work of our congregation. Over the next few weeks, we are asking you to consider the importance of our ministry and your financial support to continue this ministry in the future.

You may have recently received a letter and attached materials to use as you prayerfully consider your financial support for 2024.

There are three easy next steps.

1. Review the income and expense material provided. The narrative presents an overview of our financial needs.
2. Reflect on the proportional giving guide. This chart provides a fair and more faithful way for each to give. If you are able, please consider raising your financial commitment one or more percentage points.
3. Complete and return the white card with your confidential 2024 Woodridge Church financial commitment. The white card can be placed in the offering basket any Sunday or mailed to the church.

**Please return your pledge by Sunday, November 5 so we can begin planning our ministry and missions for 2024.**

**A new adult education series continues Monday, October 23, 7:00 - 8:15 pm (on zoom) – all are welcome even if you have never done something like this before ... questions? contact pastor Scott at: revscottspencer@gmail.com or 508 - 838 - 6035.**

Worship Ministers for Today's Service

Liturgist: Tricia Pardini

Ushers: Bob Cole, Grant Southard, Marsha Southard, Marianna Sarty

Stewards: Bob Cole, Ellen Hunt, Grant Southard, Marsha Southard

The flowers Sunday morning are given by Lynne Sullivan and Lou Beneduce as they celebrate the birthdays of loved ones.

## ***Prayer List***

Prayers of joy and concern lifted up on Sunday morning or brought during the week are shared in a weekly email message every Tuesday: *Today's God Moment*

### ***Keep in touch and stay informed . . .***

In addition to prayer concerns, we send a Thursday email with general information. Please contact the office if you would like to be added to these mailing lists. Recorded Sunday services may also be found on our website.

#### Our Staff:

*Rev. Scott Spencer, Pastor*

revscottspencer@gmail.com

*Eric Van Dervort, Music Minister*

ewvandervort1@gmail.com

*Sandy Nolan, Organist*

sanolan00@gmail.com

*Dan Blackford, Administrative Assistant*

Office hours 9 am-1 pm M-F woodridgechurch@verizon.net

401 942 0662 or 942 0654