



**Woodlake
Lutheran Church**

2120 76th Street West
Richfield, MN 55423
(612) 866-8449

www.woodlakechurch.org

Pastor Neal Cannon
Pastor Micah Pearson
Pastor Joanne Sorenson

*Woodlake Lutheran Church is a
congregation of the ELCA.*

Worship Schedule

Sunday Morning

10:00am in the Sanctuary
Outside on the Lawn: July 28

Saturday Evening

5:00pm in the Chapel

Wednesday Morning Matins

8:00am in the Chapel

Church Office Hours

Monday 9am – 12pm
Tuesday 9am – 4pm
Wednesday 9am – 4pm
Thursday 9am – 4pm
Friday 9am – 12pm
Saturday Closed
Sunday Before and after worship

Articles for August's issue of *The
Messenger* are due to
office@woodlakechurch.org
no later than July 15.

Pastor's Page

New Beginnings

I write to you now without having met most of you. I don't know your stories. You don't know mine. We begin our time together, as all new people do, with a blank slate.

In the coming months and years, you'll meet my wife, Mary, and my two sons, Noah (3) and Miles (1). You'll learn why somebody from Utah loves the Cincinnati Bengals. You'll find out that I have a twin brother and two sisters. You'll hear some of their stories. There will be times where we'll laugh together, cry together, argue with one another, and build things together.

But for now, blank slate.

For some, that sort of change is scary. For others, it's exciting. Regardless, for Woodlake and for me and my family, it's an opportunity to start anew!

In times of change, I'm brought back to II Corinthians 5:17, "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!"

"Everything has become new." This is a promise so hopeful that it has to be read with the wide eyed anticipation of child. As we learn about one another, this is a promise that - if rooted in Christ - will propel us forward to new visions in ministry together. This is a promise that will let the past slip away. Not our rootedness which has shaped us into the people we are. That will remain. But together, shaped by the Spirit, we become something new. My kids will grow with yours. Children will be born and people will be claimed by Christ in their death. But through it all God will be making us into something new together.

I can't wait to see what it is!

*God's Peace,
Pastor Neal*

Youth Mission Trip is Heading Off!

9 youth and 5 adults are headed to the San Francisco Bay Area in late July to serve a mission site that helps folks who are homeless. The youth need 3 things from us: prayers, white cotton socks to give away, and money to support their travels. There will be a send-off for these youth during the service on July 21, which is also our first service with Pastor Neal. Don't miss the fun!! - Anne Romstad, CYF Commissioner

Register for VBS by July 1, get a free T-shirt! Details on Page 3; Registration form on Page 6.

Around the Table

Notes from Your Leadership Board

Take a good look at God's wonders, they'll take your breath away.
Psalm 66 v.5

We have had conversations about how to move our worship service to the great outdoors. Why? I think we are all so happy to be surrounded by sunshine, the beautiful blue skies and the canopy of greenery from our trees. We Minnesotans are very similar to the bear who comes out of hibernation! We all enjoy the great outdoors much more once the temperature gets above 60 degrees! Experiencing a worship service outdoors always reminds me of being at Bible camp as a teenager and singing "Kumbya" and all the great Bible camp songs.

"God created the skies and stretched them out. He spread out the earth and everything on it. He gives life to all people on earth, to everyone who walks on the earth." Psalm 42 v. 5.

In August, we have an opportunity to worship with our neighbors at Veteran's Park, which will be our Collaboration Service with Oak Grove & House of Prayer Lutheran Church. It really is fun to join in worship with our neighbors and worship in an informal setting. Invite your friends, family & neighbors to join us at Woodlake outdoors on July 28th & at Veteran's Park on August 18th.

Many years ago, I visited the catacombs in Rome, Italy. There are etchings on the walls of these caves where the Christians worshiped secretly, hiding their worship practice from the ancient Romans. We are so blessed, in this country, to have the freedom to worship in the great outdoors, in our beautiful sanctuary & we are free to practice our religious customs anywhere in our country.

The lyrics from "All Things Bright and Beautiful" written by Cecil F. Alexander in the 1800's remind us of God's creation. "Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings, God made their glowing colors, God made their tiny wings. The purple headed mountains, the river running by, the sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky. God gave us eyes to see them and lips that we might tell how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well. All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all."

We have a wonderful group of volunteers who assist in preparing for worship at Woodlake. They include a group who sets up communion and others who decorate our sanctuary. I also want to thank our worship assistants who help during our service with ushering, reading of scripture, and assisting with communion. I also would like to thank all who assist with serving coffee and treats in the narthex & those who tackle the setup of chairs for special services. And, most importantly, thank you so much to those who extend a welcome at our door to all who enter. Your friendly welcome is a beam of God's holy spirit being given to those who enter our community. It truly takes a community of dedicated volunteers & we are always looking for people to add to our crew. Also, if you have ideas about worship and music and are interested in joining the worship and music committee, please let me know. We welcome your ideas!

Carol Olson, Worship & Music Commissioner



Woodlake 2020 Commissioner Reports for June 2019

Mission and Outreach: Laurel Johnson

- The diaper collection for VEAP has been announced and is currently underway with a lot of interest. The collection will continue throughout the Summer months.

Music and Worship: Carol Olson/Deb Heineke

- The Children's Music Program needs were discussed at recent Worship & Music Committee meeting. One of our families was present to represent children's music as one of the important components of our new Worship & Music Director, Joshua Lindgren's position installation ceremony.
- Joshua will be meeting with Monique Rupp to discuss the children's choir.

Congregational Life: Wayne Schmieg

- Family bike ride and picnic on June 2. We biked a few miles on the Nine Mile Creek Trail and then had a picnic at Heights Park in Edina. Pr Micah and family and others joined us there for a picnic. 11 riders took part in the ride.
- 44 Woodlakers, family, and friends watched an exciting Twins game on Tues June 11. \$440 was raised to support the youth trip.

Properties: Paul Olson

- Has provided new sketches of the Pray Ground and [presented] a Minute for Mission about this project on Sunday, June 16.

Continued on Page 3

Woodlake 2020 Commissioner Reports, Continued

Congregational Care: Anne Schmieg

- Prayer shawl ministry has created enough Pocket Prayer Peaces for those travelling with the Youth Mission trip as well as extras for them to hand out to those they meet.
- Valet Parking continues to give their tips to the CYF fund.
- Prayer Chain's prayer request wooden church has been moved to the welcome center desk in the hope that more members of all ages will utilize this ministry.
- Woodlake InK has made 30+ cards to go into the post-high care packages. This care package ministry is on hold until a new coordinator is found.

Children, Youth and Family: Anne Romstad

- On May 5th three ninth graders were confirmed: Alex Farnham, Ruth Sandberg and Anja Urbanz.
- July 12-14 two Woodlake families will be going to The Richfield Collaborative Family Mission Trip at Camp Amnicon, Superior, WI.
- Thanks to Linda Lutgen, our new building manager, the nursery for infants, toddlers and parents has been established across the hall from the Sanctuary, next to the Choir Room. Cindy Hanson and Shirley Stroud will be overseeing its management.
- The Youth Mission trip to San Francisco will have 5 adult chaperones and 9 youth, 7/25-8/07. Pr Neal Cannon, our new pastor for CYF and Outreach will begin July 15th. He will accompany the Youth Mission Trip to the San Francisco Bay Area July 25-August 7. Please pray for them.
- VBS registration has begun, for 8/04 pm - 8/09 Noon. \$50 per camper, \$100 per family.

VBS Dates: August 5 - 9, 2019

Times: Mon - Thurs, 9am - 4:30pm; Fri 9am - 12pm

Ages: Pre-K - 6th grade (completed)

Cost: \$50 per child or \$100 per family (Scholarships Available)



See Page 6 for a registration form!

Worship and Music Notes

What a whirlwind my first many weeks here at Woodlake Lutheran have been. I began on May 19th as Director of Worship and Music simply by filling up my office here with books, photos, clocks, suncatchers, standing workstation... and more books! (I still haven't had time to organize all the books - planning books, books on liturgy, books on vocation, books on art, books on choirs, books on books... and, of course, organ music books!)

My first impression as (an "official") one of you is that we love to sing! We love being engaged in worship and coffee! And we love our church. I'm so grateful to have had so many of you come up to me at coffee time or during the week and affirm the music I am gifted to bring among us (especially those who have affirmed my leadership from the organ: I'm still paying off those two degrees - undergrad and graduate - and I'm certainly humbled to be using the skills I honed in completing them). I'm grateful for those of you who have given time or even just a positive comment toward the visual arts we can create together. The Sunday of my Installation - Pentecost - and the Sunday following - Holy Trinity - are the two big Feast Days until we go into "General Time" and don't celebrate another big Feast until Christ the King in the fall. These Feast Days provide us with scripture and song full of images to conjure in our own mind's eye, of course! But they are also grand opportunities for us to engage our worship spaces in BIG and different ways with candles, fabrics, smells, sounds... the possibilities (like God's grace) are endless! We will find ourselves using even our own bodies - rather than "just" stand/sit: think movement, centering/calming, experiencing space set-apart, encountering our worship spaces more fully - in renewed and engaging ways as the pastors and I work together soon to plan our fall worship and beyond. God's Spirit is alive amongst us when we bring our unique and different gifts together in worship!

Speaking of unique gifts: please join in sharing yours with the following opportunities.

- "Y'all Come! Choir" (ALL ages) on **Sunday, July 14**. Meet in the choir room at 9:15am and learn a song to sing together in worship.

- *Summer Special Music (instrument/s or voice)*. Vocalists and instrumentalists are invited to share your talents in Sunday worship services through the summer season. Many opportunities are still open! Contact me to sign up, or with questions. I'm glad to help with picking music or accompanying you on the piano.

God bless our music-making!

Soli Deo Gloria.

To God alone the glory.

— Joshua Lindgren, Director of Worship and Music

Mission and Outreach

Habitat for Humanity

Nokomis Builds, which draws volunteers from Hope Lutheran Church, Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church, Bethel Lutheran Church, St. Richards Catholic Church and Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church, will be doing a week of service at a Habitat for Humanity house construction site in St. Paul from July 8-12. Volunteers from other congregations of any ability are also welcome to participate, as are youth ages 16 & 17 accompanied by an adult. Sign up for one day or several. Lunch is provided at the site. Contact Mary Petersons with Hope Lutheran Church at marybbpeterson@hotmail.com or (952) 200-3379 to sign up or for further information.

Hennepin County Commissioner Conversation at Woodlake, sponsored by Beacon Interfaith (Families Moving Forward)

Join Beacon congregation members as we learn about the resources needed for supportive housing, including rental assistance. Hear Hennepin County Commissioners discuss the county's role and the potential to be an ally in our work with the legislature. Be part of these exciting conversations as we explore Beacon's future policy efforts and what it will take so all people have a home.

The conversation taking place at Woodlake will be Commissioner Debbie Goettel, District 5. **Join us on Wednesday, July 17 in Woodlake's Fireside Room from 7-8pm.**

To see a list of all dates / locations or register, please visit: www.beaconinterfaith.org/advocate

Not sure who your commissioner is? Go to <http://www16.co.hennepin.mn.us/commissioner/>

Feel free to attend more than one conversation (where you live, where you worship).

Questions? Contact Kat Vann at kvann@beaconinterfaith.org or (651)789-6260 ext. 214

Collaborative and Community Events

The Veggie Table

This summer, House of Prayer and VEAP will be hosting "The Veggie Table" twice a month at Season's Park Apartments. This event includes a FREE produce distribution, yard games, snacks, and a chance to meet and talk with neighbors. Everyone in the community is welcome to attend!

Woodlake is invited to help with setup/takedown, food distribution, and making sure the event runs smoothly. The dates are **Tuesdays, July 2nd & 16th, August 6th & 20th, and September 3rd & 17th, from 4:30-6:30pm.** Our hope for these events is to provide fresh produce in an area where access to healthy food is limited and to foster new connections between Richfield residents. If you are interested in volunteering to help with this event once or multiple times this summer, please contact Brent King at brentgking8157@gmail.com.

Collecting Diapers Throughout the Summer!

Woodlake is joining forces with Oak Grove and House of Prayer to participate in VEAP's "Donate and Do" program, which involves collecting diapers over a certain period of time, and then providing volunteers to repackage the diapers for distribution to families in need. The VEAP Collaboration Team, with a VEAP representative from each church, Oak Grove, House of Prayer, and Woodlake has committed to this project. All three congregations will collect diapers from now until the end of September. The diapers can be any size and quantity. If you would rather they be purchased by others, please use envelopes for monetary donations and designate "VEAP Donate & Do" in the memo line (checks made out to Woodlake).

We will then pick a Saturday in October for volunteers to meet at the VEAP warehouse to repackage for distribution. Thank you for your continued support of this awesome organization. And yes, we are always collecting food!

Summer Worship at Veterans Park in August

Our next opportunity for a collaboration outdoor worship will be Sunday, August 18 at 10am at Veteran's Park. Mark your calendar to come worship with our friends from House of Prayer and Oak Grove. A picnic lunch will follow. Watch for more information next month!

The Numbers

Offering Summary 05/01 – 05/31/2019

Saturday Chapel Service	\$2,224.00
Sunday Sanctuary Service	23,854.50
Simply Giving	7,321.60
IRA's	6,357.71
Properties Projects Fund	450.00
WOODLAKE2020	1,277.00
Water Opportunity	150.00
Misc. (from Families Moving Forward)	100.00
TOTAL	\$ 41,824.81

Worship Attendance for May 2019

Date	Time	Attendance	Weekend or Day Total
Weds, May 1	8:00 AM	14	
Sat, May 4	5:00 PM	15	195
Sun, May 5	10:00 AM	180	
Weds, May 8	8:00 AM	18	
Sat, May 11	5:00 PM	17	182
Sun, May 12	10:00 AM	165	
Weds, May 15	8:00 AM	16	
Sat, May 18	5:00 PM	20	192
Sun, May 19	10:00 AM	172	
Weds, May 22	8:00 AM	12	
Sat, May 25	5:00 PM	26	146
Sun, May 26	10:00 AM	120	
Weds, May 29	8:00 AM	15	

Small Group and Circle News

Circles

Circles meet once a month during the programming year and are times for women of all ages to have fellowship, devotions, and Bible study. Most Circles will be off for the summer. Esther Circle at 7500 York will continue to meet throughout the summer on their usual schedule. Next meeting is July 2, 8:30am, breakfast in the York Room (1st Tues).

Faith and Fiction Book Club

Next meeting is Thurs, July 25th, 7:00pm in the Heritage Room (fourth Thursday). Our book for July is *Stolen from the Garden* by William Swanson. Join at any time!

Summer Series: Bloomington-Richfield Grief Support Coalition

Thursday, July 11, 2019 – August 29, 2019, 4:30-6:00 pm at St. Stephen Lutheran Church, 8400 France Ave. So., Bloomington, MN 952-831-4746 * ststephen.net

July 11: Understanding Grief, Mary Marcoux

July 18: Will I Always Feel This Way, Nancy Jo Sullivan

July 25: The Greatest of These is Love, Nancy Jo Sullivan

Aug 1: Grief: past present, and future, Julie Ditzler

Aug 8: The Teeter Totter of Grief & Hope, Ted Bowman

Aug 15: Is It Grief or Something Else? Dr. Mary Harlow

August 22: Dealing with Being Grief-Struck, Dale Swan

August 29: Energy Therapy For Grief, Karen Morey

Summer Knitting

The morning prayer knitters who usually meet on Thursday mornings during the programming year will meet on the 2nd Tuesday for July and August, 9:30am in the Fireside Room. Next meeting is July 9. All are welcome!

Table Blessings Available from the Church Office

Table Blessings are fresh meals that are packaged and frozen, and are available for anyone to give to anyone they know who is going through a trying time (such as the loss of a loved one, loss of a job, health issues). Table Blessings may also be provided for celebrations such as the birth of a child or a marriage. The frozen meals are stored in the office freezer. A prayer card is available for you to give to the recipient. So easy! If you know someone who could use one, stop by the church office and pick one up today.



**LPBC DAY CAMP
HEALTH, EMERGENCY, AND
AUTHORIZATION INFORMATION FORM**

THIS BOX MUST BE COMPLETED FOR ATTENDANCE

Church where Day Camp is being held _____ Date _____

Town/ST _____ Date _____

I understand and certify that my child's participation in Luther Point Bible Camp's (LPBC) Day Camp program held at the church and its activities is completely voluntary. I recognize that certain hazards and dangers are inherent in Day Camp events and programs and I acknowledge that although LPBC and the church have taken safety measures to minimize the risk of injury, LPBC and the church cannot insure nor guarantee that the participants' equipment, premises and/or activities will be free of hazards, accidents, and/or injuries. I further recognize and have instructed my child in the importance of knowing and abiding by LPBC and the church's rules, regulations and procedures for the safety of participants. I waive any claim against LPBC and the church and/or its personnel for any lost articles, for any injury to my minor child, and/or any injury to myself. The church assumes secondary insurance coverage. I assume primary coverage.

This health history is correct so far as I know, and the person named on this form has permission to engage in all camp activities except as noted.

AUTHORIZATION FOR TREATMENT: In case of emergency, I understand that every effort will be made to contact the parent(s) or guardian(s) of the Day Camper. In the event I cannot be reached, I hereby give permission to the medical personnel selected by the church to order x-rays, routine tests, treatment, and necessary transportation for my child. I give permission to the physician selected by the church to secure and administer treatment, including hospitalization, for my child as named on this form.

AUTHORIZATION FOR TRANSPORTATION: I hereby give permission for my child to be transported for off-site outings.

AUTHORIZATION FOR USING LIKENESS: I hereby give permission for photographs/video including my child and/or myself to be used in the promotion of LPBC and/or the ELCA.

COMPLIANCE WITH ELECTRONICS POLICY: I understand that LPBC does not allow any electronic devices except cameras and I certify that I have ensured my child's compliance with this policy.

Signature of Camper's Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

The information on this form is gathered to assist us in identifying appropriate care and will only be shared with medical personnel. This form is to be completed by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of minors.

Camper's Name _____ Last _____ First _____ MI _____

Preferred Name _____ Female Male

Telephone _____ Birth Date _____

Home Address _____ Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parent/Guardian—In an emergency, notify:

Name _____ Telephone _____

Relationship _____

Location while camper is at Day Camp _____

Who will be picking your child up? _____

HEALTH HISTORY

Does the camper have any physical condition requiring special care? Please explain.

Does the camper have any allergies, i.e.: food, meds, etc? If so, describe reaction and treatment.

Explain any activity restrictions:

Do you carry family medical/hospital insurance? Yes No

If so, indicate: Carrier _____
Policy or Group # _____