

Woodlake Lutheran Church

7525 Oliver Avenue South
Richfield, MN 55423
(612) 866-8449
www.woodlakechurch.org

Pastor Charlie Plaster
Pastor Joanne Sorenson

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

Worship Schedule

Sunday Morning
10:00am

Saturday Evening
5:00pm in the Chapel

Wednesday Morning Matins
8:00am in the Chapel

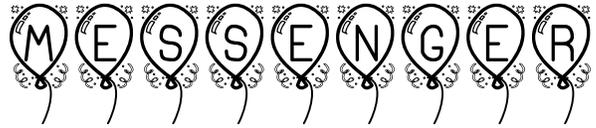
Church Office Hours

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

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



September 2017



Rally Sunday – September 10

10am Worship

Join us for a festive worship service to kick off our new programming year!

11am Lunch and Ministry Fair in the Fellowship Hall

After worship, stay for lunch and fellowship! Menu is sloppy joes. No charge, but freewill offering accepted.

Many of our small group ministries will have representatives available to chat with you and issue an invitation to join them. There is also no better time than fall to join a new small group and get more connected! Sunday School registration will also be open.

Wednesday night activities resuming on September 13

Supper from 5:30 – 6:30: Free for kids again this year, and only \$5.00 for adults!

Music Ensembles

If you've always been curious, now's your chance! Come to the first rehearsal of the year to see what we're all about. If you have questions, please contact Jeong Lee for Handbells, Children's, and Adult Choir (612-866-8449 ext. 15 or jlee@woodlakechurch.org) and Eileen Berge for Spirit Singers (listed below).

Handbell Choir, 5:00-6:00pm in Room 2.

Children's Choir, 6:00-6:30pm in the choir room

Adult Choir, 6:30-7:30pm in the choir room. Anybody from high school to senior can join. If you would like to join but need childcare, please let Jeong know so we can arrange that.

Spirit Singers, 6:30 – 7:30pm in the Fireside Room. We sing a mix of gospel and contemporary. All are welcome to join this fun group! Don't have to read music (but it helps)!! Call Eileen Berge at 952-891-8439 or just come to the first rehearsal.

Confirmation, from 6:30 – 7:30 in the Conference Room. If your 7-9th grade child would like to participate in Confirmation this year, please contact Pastor Charlie (cplaster@woodlakechurch.org, 612-866-8449 ext. 12).

The Latest from the Call Committee

The Call Committee met with Pastor John Hulden, Assistant to the Bishop on Monday, August 14th. We were given the candidates chosen by the Synod as being a good fit for Woodlake. The process now will be to review their profiles, interview each candidate with a set of questions that will be asked of each of the candidates. Based on interviews, we may hear them preach and set a second interview. The purpose of this process is to seek who God is already raising up to be our Pastor. Please pray that the Holy Spirit guide us through each step.

Pastor's Corner

"WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM?"

Matthew 16: 13

It was at least 20 years ago now, that we as a family were traveling through Iowa on vacation. We stayed at a motel in Ames, Iowa on Saturday night and on Sunday morning we went to church. It was a Methodist church on the edge of the campus of Iowa State University. I do not remember much about the church, but I still after 20 years or more do remember the sermon that morning. It was based on Matthew 16:13-20 and centered on the question that Jesus asks the disciples in those verses. "Who do you say that I am?"

Now usually when someone preaches on this text they go on to tell all of us who they believe Jesus is. Not this preacher. He said we could have an endless discussion about who each one of us believes Jesus is. A great teacher. A moral example. A leader in social justice. A spiritual guide. The list could go on and on. But the main point of this preacher was not that we all had to agree on who Jesus is. That never would have happened. His main point was that we simply go and live and serve as our Jesus is calling us to live and serve.

I liked that message then and I still like it now. As you all know we love to talk about the faith. We love to have long and what we think are learned discussions when it comes to things of the faith. This is fine. I like a good discussion about the faith as well as anyone else. But the point of following Jesus is not to talk about Jesus, it is to go and live and serve Jesus by what we do. Where Jesus is calling each of us in our faith is personal. It is different for each of us. That is okay. The important thing is that we go and do what our Jesus is calling us to do in the faith.

*In His Service,
Pastor Charlie*

A 55 Alive class will NOT be available at Woodlake this fall. If you need to take this four-hour refresher class, class locations are listed at the following website: <https://www.minnesotasafetycouncil.org/traffic/4hourLocation.cfm>

Class locations are also posted on the bulletin board by the Fellowship Hall.

Around the Table

Notes from Your Leadership Board

I am not sure who said it, but I read it somewhere and it has always stuck with me.

"The only constant is change"

Since I have been on the Leadership Board, there has been nothing but change. I want to recognize a few volunteers who have kept the youth program alive this past year. Deb Jungers, Kirsten Hargreaves and Kara Beckman, thank you from the CY&F and Leadership Board of Woodlake, from the bottom of my heart. Thank you is not enough to show you how you are blessed and how you have blessed Woodlake. And please include in your prayers, Heather Wageman.

That being said, we are in a holding pattern right now. We are putting a call out, we have completed our ministry site profile, we have tough interview questions prepared, and now we wait for the Holy Spirit. We wait on the Lord. We wait, we pray. Psalm 130: 5-6.

As the Leadership Board, we recognize how difficult it was to keep our Children's, Youth, and Family programs going without a dedicated staff member. And we realize how differently the spirit moves each of us, and appreciate all that are moved to come to church on Sundays and all the days in between Sundays to help make Woodlake safe for all the youth in our community. But, we can also see the benefit of having a new Pastor to be able to help hire assistance as he/she needs and sees fit. But life goes on, fall is here, and all the things that keep us busy have started again.

So, I am asking for a lot, I know. I am asking for patience through the changes, and assistance as an entire congregation to provide support to any volunteers at our church this next year. Especially volunteers for Sunday School, Confirmation, high school and college students, and families. And another HUGE thank you to the volunteers over this past summer. The VBS week was great, and many kids were not Woodlake members. And the Mission Trip seemed to have a profound impact on our youth and North Carolina. And with your help, we will be able to continue to provide these great works for our youth this year too.

And finally, please pray for wonderful candidates, smooth interviews, appropriate questions, and for every one of us involved in this call. We will release as much information as we can as soon as we can.

*Kim Myers,
Commissioner for Children, Youth, and Family*

Worship and Music Notes

Thank you!

Dear volunteers, I wanted to take a moment to express my appreciation to our volunteers including Marian Miller, Starr Carriere, Mary Olson and Carol Dokken for their dedication to create a “better place” here at Woodlake. Clean windows, walls, and chairs!! Thank you for all your work in choir room!

We did not rehearse over the summer, and the dust and spider webs had accumulated. But now the spider webs are gone and I can feel fresh air. We are ready to have rehearsals to start a brand new season. For all your precious time, effort and hard work, thank you. You have truly been a blessing to us.

There are now two mirrors in front of the choir room. Gordy Wilson and Jay Hermann worked to hang the mirrors during summer and I witnessed the process as they worked with fine sense and skill.

Our choir will be able to observe how they make beautiful sounds and expressions while they rehearse with others through the mirrors.

Thank you, Gordy and Jay, for your help! We will remember your work at every rehearsal.

New season!!!

Are you ready to bring your energy and passion to our new season?

Whether you can join the music groups or not, you are able to support our music groups.

The pianos are thirsty. They need distilled water to control the humidity. Your one dollar purchasing of the one jug of distilled water can control the piano humidity for one month. Keeping the humidity in and around the piano stable is important. Good maintenance can extend their life.

Our rehearsals for all music groups in Woodlake resume on Wednesday, September 13.

Handbell choir will rehearse every Wednesday at 5:00pm.

Children’s choir at 6:00pm at choir room for 30 minutes rehearsal. Dinners are free for children.

Adult choir at 6:30pm at choir room: Anybody from high school to senior can join.

Please contact Jeong at 612-866-8449 ext. 15 or jlee@woodlakechurch.org if you are interested in any of the above, or if you have other ideas of what you might like to do! A small voice ensemble, trying a new instrument, one time or ongoing - anything you want will be great!

Jeong Lee, Director of Worship and Music

The Spirit Singers are also recruiting! Please see Page 1 of the Messenger for details.

Mission and Outreach

VEAP says Thank you, Thank you, Thank you! What an awesome school supply drive this year! They will certainly make many students excited for school. Thank you for helping make this happen.

Woodlake Hosting Families Moving Forward: September 10-17

Yes, it’s that time again! FMF is operated by Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative; check out their website at <http://www.beaconinterfaith.org/>. Volunteers will be needed to help set up and take down rooms, act as hosts, prepare meals, wash dishes, do laundry, and stay overnight. Check out the sign up table in the narthex after Sunday worship, or contact lead coordinator Scott Dahlquist at sjaadahlquist@comcast.net or at 612 919 9232 to see how you can help.

Calling all crafters! If you or someone you know is thinking about being a vendor at our craft sale, now is the time! Contact Christina Hardy at chardy727@gmail.com. She can fill you in about the price and size of spaces available.

Everyone can participate by saving items and books for Grannie’s Attic, bake items for the bake sale, volunteer, shop, invite friends, and have lunch.

Remember the profits from table rental, bake sale, Grannie’s Attic, and the lunch room are shared by VEAP, Loaves and Fishes, and Families Moving Forward. Last year they each got a check for about \$1300!

Small Group and Circle News

To learn more about our small group offerings, be sure to check out the Information Fair on Rally Sunday, September 10! Please see Page 1 of the Messenger for details.

Circles

Circles meet once a month and are times for women of all ages to have fellowship, devotions, and Bible study. Circle Leaders – September *Gather* magazine with Bible Studies are now available in the church office (one for each circle).

Esther Circle: September 5 (1st Tuesday), 11:30 am in the Yorke Room at 7500 York.

Faith Circle: September 5 (1st Tuesday), 7:00 pm, at Cheryl B's home

Lydia Circle: September 12 (2nd Tuesday), 12:30 pm, Fireside Room.

Rebecca / Sarah Circle: September 13 (2nd Wednesday), 1:30 pm, Fireside Room.

Sunday Morning Circle: September 24 (4th Sunday), 8:45am in the Heritage Room

SALT Planning Brunch

Sunday, September 17, 11:15 in the Fireside Room

SALT (Socializing Adult Lutherans Together) kick off planning brunch will be September 17th at 11:15am in the Fireside Room. SALT events happen once a month and we enjoy a variety of activities including bowling, game nights, dining out, concerts in the park, and service activities. All are welcome! RSVP to Cheryl at 612-270-0371.

Matins Speakers

Our speaker program resumes in September! Join us for the Matins Morning Prayer service at 8am, every Wednesday in the chapel, and stay for fellowship and coffee at 8:30, with a speaker at 9am.

Sep. 6: "Life After Death," Jennifer Hassenstab

Sep. 13: "Task Force Unlimited," Paul Lian

Sep. 20: "Hockey Injury," Duke Piper

Sep. 27: Bible Study with Pastor Joanne

Faith and Fiction Book Club

Next meeting is Thursday, September 28, 7:00pm in the Heritage Room (fourth Thursday). Our book for September is *I'll Walk Alone* by Mary Higgins Clark. Join at any time!

Monday Morning Small Group

The Monday AM Small Group invites you to join them for fellowship, discussion of faith topics, and an occasional service project. We meet in the Fireside Room from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM every Monday. Attend as often as you are able or just drop by on a Monday morning. Our first meeting will be September 11th.

Homebound Ministry Update

If you would like to become a part of the Homebound Ministry or if you know of someone who is homebound, please call or email the church office ([612-866-8449](tel:612-866-8449) or office@woodlakechurch.org).

Save the Date: Saturday, November

4 from 10:00-11:30 AM for the next continuing education session for the current homebound ministers. Details will be in the October Messenger.

Collaboration Corner

Men's Fellowship Group Gathering

Thursday, September 14, 9am, House of Prayer Parish Hall (7625 Chicago Ave South)

All men are invited for fellowship – devotions, topic (A Boy Scout high adventure activity), meet, greet, chit-chat, and hear Boy Scout Leader Scott Dahlquist discuss his participation and experience with Boy Scout Troup 262 in a backpacking and camping trek in the New Mexico mountains at the Philmount Scout Ranch. Sign up in Woodlake's church office, or call Noel Sagness at 612-866-0833 for more information.

Combined Senior Groups of Oak Grove, Woodlake, and House of Prayer Lutheran Churches Present "Rick Steves' Luther and the Reformation"

Tuesday, Sep 19, 11:15am at Oak Grove Lutheran Church

Enjoy this special commemorative video on the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. Menu is ham and swiss sliders, cole slaw, potato chips, and dessert. Suggested donation of \$3.00. Don't miss this excellent presentation! Sign up in Woodlake's church office.

Pin of the Month – September

School will be starting soon and organization is important to start a fall day with a smile. With Pinterest there are many ways to stay organized, including our 22 Back to School Organization Tips pin. Find this pin at www.pinterest.com/familyfaithfun2/Parenting-tools or search Pinterest for familyfaithfun2 and check out our Parenting Tools board.