



# GOOD NEWS FROM YOUR CHURCH

The Newsletter of The Presbyterian Church at Woodbury

May 3, 2023  
Volume 60, Issue 8

## Sunday May 7, 2023

### 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE Communion

Children Pre-K to Grade 7  
Dismiss to Sunday School Class  
after the Children's Message

11:00 AM  
Congregational Meeting  
Coffee and Fellowship

11:15 AM  
Adult Sunday School

## Sunday May 14, 2023

### 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Children Pre-K to Grade 7  
Dismiss to Sunday School Class  
after the Children's Message

11:00 AM  
Coffee and Fellowship

11:15 AM  
Adult Sunday School

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**2¢-A-Meal** collections will take place this month. Please bring in your coins. All collected goes to the Greater Woodbury Cooperative Ministries Food Pantry.



### From the Pastor...

The Session and Trustees met two weeks ago to discern how the Presbyterian Church at Woodbury moves forward post-Covid and discussed mission, vision, finances, and discipleship. It was an uplifting meeting that dealt with some tough issues and the reality of our life together. I came away with a sense that the congregation needed to be reminded that our call is as disciples of Jesus Christ, and we need to be inviting folks to join us plus participating fully in the ministry of the church.

Rev. Katherine S. Michael in an officer training manual for Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota states that: All of God's people are called to discipleship. Jesus' invitation to Simon, Andrew, James, John, and to his other disciples, is the same invitation he extends to us today. "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people."

Jesus came proclaiming the advent of God's reign on earth and calling us to live according to that reign as Jesus' disciples. Jesus calls us to love God with all our heart, mind, and soul, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. (Matthew 22:37-39) Paul calls us to "live lives worthy of our calling" (Ephesians 4:1; 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12) in how we treat others, how we relate to the world around us, how we honor God in all things.

John Dominic Crossan says Jesus preached a "moral eschatology," that places a responsibility on

Jesus' disciples to live in such a way that love is known, and justice is afforded to all people. (Jesus to Christ Frontline DVD)

Being a disciple of Jesus is serious business. It is not a part time or weekend affair. Discipleship defines the whole of our lives, our identity, our purpose, our hope, our world view.

God's people are called to service. When we respond to Jesus' call, the orientation of our lives shifts from self-centered to other-centered living. The first Other, of course, is God. We are creatures of the Divine Creator, called to live in relationship with God and in obedience to God's will. The second 'other' encompasses all of God's creation, human and non-human alike. The call to love means that we join in God's care for creation and preference for the poor. It also means that all of our relationships are brought into the sphere of God's claim. To love others as we love ourselves means working for justice, doing kindness, and walking humbly with God. (Micah 6:8) It means that we treat those close to us and those far away with generosity and compassion. It means that we work to make the world a better place for all people.

I would like to invite ALL members to join the church family for worship, study, and service, in other words – join us in DISCIPLESHIP!!

In Christ,  
Phil

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL:** All are invited to join a new adult education class led by Dave Platt starting this week: *The life of Samson* – “A man of incredible physical strength and debilitating moral weakness”, Samson was nevertheless God’s instrument to rescue Israel from the Philistines during the era of the judges. Using a DVD series by Dr. Robert Godfrey, we will discuss his life and God’s purpose in his life and to explore what this teaches us about Christian living. Join us for some lively discussions on a man poet John Milton described “ a mirror of our fickle state”



**Prayer Gathering**  
**Thursday, May 18th**  
**at 7 pm in the**  
**Church Prayer Garden**

Please join us for a time of prayer for our neighborhood and larger community.

**COMMUNITY DINNER**  
**May 11, 2023**  
**5:30 PM - Eat In**

**HELP AND FOOD ITEMS NEEDED:** Volunteers are needed to help in the kitchen, clean up and to provide dessert for the Community Dinner. Please sign up or call the church office if you can help.

**CHURCH SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN** ends on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

**SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE:**

**SUMMER CAMP:** The C. E. Task Force gives scholarships to children of the church going to Christian camps in the summer. Contact the church office for more information.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** There is a congregational meeting immediately following worship on Sunday, May 7 for the election of officers. The Nominating Committee recommends the following for the class of 2026:

Elders

Linda Blackwell (1), Don Tatham (2), Karen Criscillo(2)

Deacons

Julie Farkas (2), Tori Campo (1), Pat Nolte (1), Teagan Franchetti(youth)

Trustees

Jules Farkas (2) & Russ Pine (1)

**WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION SPRING RUMMAGE SALE**

**SALE DATE: May 6, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm**



NEEDED: Men, Women, and Teen Helpers

PLEASE: Only fill large trash bags halfway full, so they are not too heavy.

CAN NOT ACCEPT: Electronics, furniture, baby equipment, large toys, huge pictures, no personal items like makeup, hair dye and face creams or crafts or stationery.

DROP OFF: Wednesday, May 3: 9am -3pm

Thursday, May 4, 9am- 3pm and 6pm -7pm

**NO DROP OFFS ON FRIDAY, MAY 5**

WHERE: Fellowship Hall

QUESTIONS: Call the church office 856-845-1244 between 8am-12pm

If you drop-off items in a bin, please place your name on the bin so we can return to you.

SIGN-UP: In the chapel to help

THANKS: In advance for all donations.



**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Carol Bowersox, Cathy Howell, and Janet Muhm. A reminder to keep our military personnel in your prayers, including Jonathan Gabler, Nathan Wadding, Cameron Wadding, Jarrod Fetty, and Wesley Tatham.