

# Woodside Briefs

NEWS of CONGREGATION and COMMUNITY

*Woodside Church is a progressive Christian community  
committed to nurturing freedom, honesty and diversity,  
where members and friends live Jesus' way of social justice.*

a Congregation of the United Church of Christ and the American Baptist Churches

## IN OUR CONGREGATION

**OUR NEW 'CREATION JUSTICE' TEAM** is exploring how to live in ways that protect the planet. They'll share ideas and host activities so the rest of us can think. If you'd like to help us become more mindful, join the conversation. The next meeting is 6 pm Aug 8.

**ADULT FORUM** is reading "Just Mercy: a story of justice and redemption" by Bryan Stephenson. It's sort of a real-life "To Kill a Mockingbird," about his work to exonerate wrongly condemned prisoners. The Forum meets in the downstairs Board Room 9:30 am Sundays. Drop in anytime.

**WOODSIDE'S OWN NEW "TINY LIBRARY."** Some books have appeared in our space, available for borrowing. You can find these upstairs in our Meeting Room "A." Just borrow whatever you'd like. Please bring it back.

**SECRET PLACES.** Woodside has long subscribed to a quarterly devotional magazine called "Secret Places." We're re-evaluating the need, and ordering this one more quarter, as a sort of test of how interested you all are. If you'd like to use it, take one home from the Tiny Library.

### MICAH'S TABLE: *all about justice...*

**'PROMOTE THE VOTE':** We've passed 400,000 signatures, but need 500,000 by June 29. If you haven't signed, see Leslie. This is a to allow everyone to use an absentee ballot, register automatically, and generally to make voting easier to do.

**DOING OUR OWN WORK:** *An Anti-Racism Seminar For White People*, by the national group Allies for Change, is coming to Lansing this fall. A 40-hour course on weekends, this trains white people to see and respond to racism all around. Cost is \$475. Can we imagine a Woodside contingent? Let's talk.

**ABOUT THOSE MADE GRADS:** We provided swag to 15 returning citizens now trained and working. For an update and pics, see this [story in the Courier](#). Glad to be part of community healing.

## IN THE COMMUNITY

**NEXT DOOR:** The Neighborhood Engagement Hub hosts the webinar, "The Empty House Next Door: The State of Vacancy in the U.S." June 28, noon-1 pm. Watch and discuss with two representatives from the Genesee County Land Bank. No cost, but register [here](#). And bring a brown bag lunch.

## POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN: *update*

"40 Days of Non Violent Direct Action" began Mother's Day and ends this Saturday, June 23.

We've marched in Lansing and Detroit, and this week, in Washington DC, for wage, women's rights, housing, Black lives, LGBTQ rights, healthcare and a host of other issues related to the well being of all.

Over these 6 weeks, Woodside has had a consistently strong presence. Those marching have included: Jay and Leslie Cummings, Joe and Laura Eufinger, Kat Morgan, Dale Emery, Clif Turner, Kerry and Robin Nelson, Karen Eaton and Pastor Deb.

Of those, Jay and Leslie, Karen, Robin and Pastor Deb have been arrested (Jay twice), and will be returning to court to face charges of trespassing (on public property!).

Meanwhile, another black teen was shot and killed; the Supreme Court upheld the death sentence of a gay man, condemned to death rather than life perhaps in part because some jury members thought he might enjoy too much being in prison with men; and more than 2000 children have been separated from their parents at our southern border, victims of an administration that seems more hitlerian than american. Clearly, the work isn't over.

We pace ourselves, but we have to stay engaged. Racism, xenophobia, economic disparity, homophobia, and misogyny aren't going to mend themselves!

Thanks for supporting these folks who represent our congregation and declare a powerful word to the powerful.

For the final push, folks are traveling to DC, leaving Detroit 8 pm Friday, and returning 6 am Sunday. The first bus is full, but if there's a need, there may be a second bus. To get on the list, go to [www.michiganppc.org](http://www.michiganppc.org). Cost is \$25, and you'll want to bring money for food and snacks. But don't let these costs stop you; Woodside has some resources available. Talk to Jay.

## NEXT WEEK AT WOODSIDE

|                 |                  |  |
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| <b>SUN</b>      | 9:30<br>11 am    | Adult forum in the board room<br>Worship, then fellowship. |
| <b>TUES-FRI</b> | 10a-2p           | Office Open  |
| <b>TUES</b>     | 8a-6p<br>5:30 pm | Wildroot Coffee<br>Board meeting/potluck at Angus'         |