

# Woodside World

## 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, the Alliance of Baptists, and the American Baptist Churches

### IN OUR CONGREGATION

**OCT 7: BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS.** To celebrate the Feast of St. Francis, we're inviting friends and neighbors (with their human companions) for liturgy and snacks. See Jamie to find out how you can help! And plan to join in, 3 pm, Sun, Oct 7, at our new place, 503 Garland.

**ORDINATION NEWS:** We are pleased to report that last Friday, **Pastor Deb** was voted favorably by the American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago, and is now a fully-fledged pastor of the Baptist tradition. (She remains a credentialed pastor of the UCC, as well.) A certificate is forthcoming, we're told. **Linda Angus** was in the proceedings, and has promised reflections for the next Woodside World.

### TRANSITION PLANNING

**MOVING FORWARD.** We are excited to announce the Board of Directors has chosen architect Chris Nedanis of Gazall Lewis to work with us on redesigning the interior space in our new building. He's met with our team, made a lot of notes about what we need and what we imagine, and is working on first draft drawings. We know this is a long process, but it is so good to be on the way.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(APPARENTLY A NEW FEATURE)

#### FROM JON KINGEN:

*The MeToo movement embraces all females, including the transwomen who receive their own types of abuses. Most all transwomen have gender surgery (top and bottom). Abuses? Yes! Murders? Yes! 18 so far this year that we are aware of.*

*However my thoughts are that transmen are always excluded in movements such as a MeToo because we get dumped into the guy category (usually a yay-me!). But the vast majority of transmen usually only get top surgery and for a number of reasons do not get bottom surgery. This has caused an enormous abuse cycle for transmen. Many many many get raped and murdered as well. We get attacked at gyms, colleges, homes, everywhere same as females but we are forgotten about.*

*The studies and numbers are not as available for transmen as they are for tranwomen. Mainly because we are less visible. The last estimate I heard for 2018 Female-To-Male murders was 12 and it is estimated that the rapes are in the hundreds. But out of pride and embarrassment most transmen do not file reports.*

### MICAH'S TABLE — THE WORK OF JUSTICE

**MASS INCARCERATION REFORM:** We have had two victories this past week — Gov. Snyder signed the "Ban the Box" law and the "Parole Reform Act". We have been working on these for at least 5 years.

Now, you can help make one more victory happen this fall. You may remember that Woodsiders have been working on legislation to "Raise the Age" at which children in Michigan are automatically treated as adults in criminal justice actions. Here's your part:

- Take a victory lap and feel good about the win. But quickly. Now,
- Write a letter of support. Need a template? [Here's one.](#) And here's the [email address.](#) But hurry. Supporters say letters should be emailed by this Friday.
- Come to the hearing. Tuesday, Sept. 25, 9:30 am, Lansing Capitol Building. Talk to Jay or Clif Turner about carpools.
- Call your House rep. And here's the way to [find out who it is.](#)

**RACE AND FLINT:** The Sloan Museum hosts An Experiential and Historical Look at Race in Flint. Harold Ford, a lifelong Flint resident, will offer a 21st century perspective. More info [here.](#) Pre-registration is strongly recommended.

*This event is part of the Flint Truth and Action Partnership Project Speaker Series, presented with the UM-Flint Office of University Outreach.*

**YOU MAY ALSO WANT TO CONSIDER** Sloan Museum's free exhibit "RACE: Are We So Different?" open through December 9, 2018.