

# Woodside World

NEWS of CONGREGATION and COMMUNITY

*Joyfully Defiant for the Sake of a Just World*

a Congregation of the United Church of Christ, the Alliance of Baptists, and the American Baptist Churches

## IN OUR CONGREGATION



**HUNTER MELTON**, our new Administrative Assistant, began his duties this week.

A native of the area, Hunter grew up in Burton and attended school in Grand Blanc. He has worked for the Flint Public Library, West Flint Church of the Nazarene, and Grand Blanc Community Schools.

He also served as Secretary of the Gerholz Counseling Center Board. He worked ("all too briefly" he says) in Yosemite National Park, but he is glad to be back home in temperate Michigan. Hunter is a film buff and an avid reader. Please welcome him!

## LOOKING AHEAD

**TIME CHANGE!** This is your first notice that Daylight Saving Time begins March 10, 2 a.m. We will tell you again.

**THINKING OF MEMBERSHIP?** Preparation is a series of 5 sessions with Pastor Deb and one or more members of the Board of Directors, 9:30 am Sundays, beginning March 10. If you're ready to think about it, mark your calendar and plan to attend.

## A SINGLE SUNDAY AT WOODSIDE

*This morning, as I looked at the notes that I took at both the Adult Forum and the worship service, I realized we together had created a poem. I offer this in gratitude for all you mean to me, for all we mean to one another. "I thank my God every time I remember you." L'chaim! -- Eileen Button, 2.10.2019*

## PUBLIC SERVICE WARNING

We have learned there is a new **email phishing scam** where hackers take over pastors' email addresses, then send a note, as if from the pastor, asking folks to help out with a community need by buying gift cards and sending them to a separate address. Church people are generous, so, easy targets.

**PLEASE BE ADVISED** that neither Pastor Deb nor Woodside will ever ask for gifts this way. Any contributions you make to Woodside mission and projects should be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the office. If you received email asking for something else, please let us know.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**CELLIST AND ACTIVIST YO-YO MA** headlines a concert 4-6 p.m. Feb. 28 at Berston Field House, featuring local artists: musician Tunde Olaniran, artist Natasha Thomas-Jackson, and Kevin Collins' African Drum and Dance. The concert is part of a larger day of action called "Flint Voices: Culture, Community, and Resilience." The community is invited.

**LGBTQ CHOIR REHEARSAL TIME SHIFT.** Please note the choir will meet at 6 pm Wed, Feb 27, then move to 7 pm on Ash Wednesday, March 6.

We are reminded  
that those who benefit  
from the system  
must be the ones to  
stand up for the oppressed.

We must hear this repeated  
from every angle,  
birthed from every injustice,  
because we are not good arbiters  
of what truly matters.

After all, people see  
what they are willing to see;  
and the same people who say,  
"Here am I; send me!"  
are the ones who must carry the message  
that Love is the only way ...  
that if it doesn't come from Love,  
it doesn't come from God.

And so, we wrestle with  
Discernment, the kind that begins  
with a capital letter "D"  
and is whispered from the Holy Spirit  
who is both beyond us  
and inside us;  
the same Spirit that begs us  
to remove our sociological blinders  
that keep us in darkness,  
groping like madmen,  
so that together we might find  
a way forward.