

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

MEMBERSHIP PREPARATION begins at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday, for 5 weekly sessions before we welcome new members during Easter worship. If you're ready or simply curious about membership, plan to attend.

THE WAYS WE HELP. Woodside's "minister's discretionary fund" allows us to assist folks at tenuous times in their lives -- with rent, water or heat, medical expenses, transportation and things we can't predict. The fund is low. If you are able to make a special gift, just mark it "discretionary" and drop it by the office or in the offering plate. And know that it does a world of good.

WOODSIDE WORLD IN TRANSITION. Starting next week, Hunter will take over much of the production of Woodside World. Please submit notices to him [directly](#), and use the subject line "woodside world." Thanks!

GREENING OUR LIVES

Our Creation Justice Team is initiating the UCC's program called 52 Ways to Care for Creation; they'll include one idea each week here in Woodside World.

THIS WEEK: TURN OFF THE LIGHTS

If you're not in the room, the light doesn't need to be on. Leave yourself post-its to help you remember to flip the switch off when you leave the room.

Energy Myth: You should leave the lights on because it takes more energy to turn them back on than you'll save by turning them off.

Myth Buster: This is FALSE. Fluorescent lights take a small surge of power when turned on, but this is a lot smaller than the amount saved by turning them off. It used to be that starting them shortened their life, but this is not significant. It's better to turn off modern lights if leaving for more than a minute.

Also, are you still using incandescent bulbs in your lamps and fixtures? LED bulbs are energy saving, meaning lower bills, and even better, less coal burnt to produce that energy. And one more reason to switch: LEDs last a long time!

Think about this next time you leave the light on: It takes 714 pounds of coal to run a 100 watt light bulb 24 hrs/day for a year. That coal also produces 5 lbs of sulfur dioxide, the stuff of acid rain; 5 pounds of nitrogen oxides, the cause of smog; and 1852 pounds of carbon dioxide, the gas of global warming.

THINKING OF SUMMER

SUMMER CAMP AT TALAH! This UCC-related camp near Howell holds a lot of memories for Woodsiders and others, and we're always happy to help families make it possible. There are week-long camps for grades 3-12, mini-camps (3 nights) for K-3 grades, weekend camps for young adults, transgender teens and their families, plus family camp. See Karen for more information.

OBSERVING LENT

LENTEN DEVOTION MATERIALS from the UCC are available for your personal use. The theme is *Take Nothing With You*, as we ponder what an unencumbered journey might look like. Check the back table; if we run out, we'll order more. No cost to you.

INTROSPECTION ABOUT RACISM FOR WHITE PEOPLE. Three Sundays in Lent, to help us think, some Woodsiders who have been doing anti-racism work will present tools and insights.

Jamie Schmidt, Leslie Cummings and Robin Evans participated last fall in a series of retreats for white people called "Doing Our Own Work." Now, they'll share with us.

March 24, 31 and April 7, 12:30–1:30 pm, plan to linger over soup and snacks for good conversation.

Just to help with food planning, please RSVP to [Hunter](#) in the church office.

DOING A LENTEN THING? If you're willing to share, drop a note to Pastor Deb and we'll print it in a subsequent issue of Woodside World. We're in it together.

LOOKING TOWARD PALM SUNDAY AND EASTER...

We're still focused on Lent, but we have to think ahead as well.

READERS' THEATRE FOR PALM SUNDAY: Tom is organizing a reading of the Passion Story for our worship April 14. If you'd like to be part of this, talk to Tom!

A BANNER FOR EASTER: Sundays, March 24, 31 and April 7, we'll work together to paint a new banner. We'll have Tyvek, and Easter paint colors on hand, set up in worship area, on the table by the water machine. Please grab a brush or sponge and leave your mark on this new abstract worship addition. Thanks, Jamie, for organizing.