

HERE TO BE THERE

Here to be there. Woodland is here — in the sanctuary and on Zoom — so we can be there, for one another, for our neighbors, and for creation. We're here — grounded in this present moment — so we can be there, ready to move forward as we discern God's dream for us. We're gathered here so we can go out there to meet the world's needs as teachers, medical professionals, business owners, parents, siblings, and neighbors.



2021 IN REVIEW

- Receiving four new members
- Welcoming 141 first-time visitors
- Coordinating weekly Saturday night suppers for our food-insecure neighbors
- Pivoting to hybrid worship
- Added Marissa Varnado to our hub team with a focus on our online worship community.
- Lead Lenten and Advent Small Groups during Sunday School

WORSHIP

After almost a year and a half of worshipping almost entirely online, we were thrilled to be back together in the sanctuary starting in June. While being careful to follow health and safety guidelines, we have loved being back in person with the added component of including those unable to worship in person via zoom. A huge thanks to Jo Schornikow, who pivoted with our musical offerings over and over again!

With the addition of new A/V equipment, we are now able to bring together those in the sanctuary with those worshipping online, including the ability for those online to share their celebrations and prayers live with those gathered in the building. Early in the year, 50 or so members of the Woodland family gathered online for a joint Ash Wednesday service with Eastminster Presbyterian and for Palm Sunday worship, an event delightfully enhanced by the Curbside Palm Pickup coordinated by Marissa Varnado!

Our hybrid Easter service was a highlight of the year, with nearly 100 people gathering together, both in on the front lawn and over Zoom, with an inspiring brass quintet led by Jo. Todd Moore remarked that passers-by on the road were watching from their car windows and even filming, leaving us grateful for the chance to offer a little Easter joy to the neighborhood!

In addition, we enjoyed two Spanish/English bilingual services with our sister congregation, Eastminster Presbyterian, with a hybrid service on the lawn for Pentecost and a joint service in the sanctuary for World Communion Sunday.

It has been a peculiar year in so many ways, but the Woodland family has stayed together, adjusted with good humor, and continued to be "here to be there" for each other and for our community.



An inclusive community of faith

141

first time visitors were welcomed to the worship of Woodland

REACHING OUT

Loving our neighbors is just a part of the DNA of the Woodland family.

This year, thanks to the creative and delicious efforts of Barbara Fay, Ashlan Jackson, and John Rodgers, we continued to partner with other churches and non-profits to provide a weekly Saturday night meal for our neighbors facing this challenging season.

Through Saturday Night Supper, more than 130 meals have been handed out so far in 2021! A number of Woodland members have served as volunteers at the Matthew 25 Food Project, a food bank serving mostly Spanish-speaking neighbors who live near Glenciff/Nueva Vida Presbyterian churches. And this past summer Woodland was invited by Taylor Davenport to serve the children of Project Transformation. One Woodland volunteer was celebrated with two words, "She's awesome!"



SPOTLIGHT MOMENT

I love being at Woodland, because they are the first church I have worked with that cares about an inclusive community as much as I do. Woodland has pulled and stretched me to a deeper understanding of perspectives I have never experienced before. In February 2022 I will officially have been in ministry for 20 years. I attended Memphis Theological Seminary via the Center for Youth Ministry Training program. I graduated in 2013 with a Masters of Divinity. I also completed a distance learning program through Princeton Theological Seminary's Youth Ministry department. I enjoy being behind the scenes and have derived so much joy by setting the stage at Woodland. I am also involved in the tech department, regularly write the church liturgy, and have worked on the education committee.

*-Cory Martin
Facilities Manager
East Nashville Hub Member*

PROJECT THRIVE

Over the past year, Woodland has had the privilege of participating, alongside 17 other Nashville churches, in an initiative called Project Thrive, sponsored by Belmont University. The Project Thrive Leadership Team for Woodland has worked monthly with a coach and has facilitated three congregational conversations (Our Past, Our Present, and Our Future), with well over half the congregation participating in these conversations.

Out of those conversations has come the following "Big Dream" statement, which we hope will guide us as we move into 2022:

Woodland Presbyterian Church is a dynamic faith community rooted in East Nashville. Deep care for God, neighbor, and creation calls us to help build a world where all people can thrive. Woodland is a spiritual refuge for curious people and a ministry laboratory for the evolving work of LGBTQ+ inclusion, for innovative models of faith leadership, and for sustainable use of church property.



2021 at a Glance

- Facilities: \$49,738.57
- Personnel: \$58,548
- Loan Payment: \$15,960.88
- Finance and Administration: \$16,231.81
- Program: \$10,796.56
- Presbytery Contribution: \$5,400
- Disaster Relief \$4,294.66

STEPS IN 2022

Woodland 2022 BUDGET

Anticipated Income

- Regular Giving.....\$105,250
- Building Fund Donations.....\$10,000
- Space Sharing.....\$41,200
- TOTAL Income.....\$156,450**

Anticipated Expenses

- Personnel.....\$60,500
- Program Budget.....\$12,800
- Facilities.....\$47,500
- Finance & Admin..... \$19,100
- Presbytery Commitment: \$5,400
- Loan Payment: \$17,520
- TOTAL Expenses.....\$162,770**

You can participate in this year's stewardship effort online or by completing a 2022 pledge card, available online at <https://woodlandnash.org/2022-commitment/>