This Sunday, June 30th at 10:30 am

In Memoriam: A Final Commendation

Join us this Sunday, June 30th at our 10:30 worship service as final prayers of commendation are offered for those honored in the "In Memoriam" COVID ministry that has been our "outside the walls" ministry for the past 4 years.

On June 30, 2020, an on-line memorial service was held as a ministry to all who had lost loved ones in the beginning months of the pandemic but were unable to come together to grieve. Following the service, crossed with the names of those who had died were placed on our front lawn to honor them. The number of crosses grew through the four years, as many families experienced loss and disruption to the grieving process caused by the pandemic. As racial tensions increased, and the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on persons of color was recognized, black crosses were added to the memorial. Many have stopped to photograph the project and to express gratitude for this helpful gesture in a time of mourning.

The project has also been written about in several news articles and was included by a study on grief during COVID conducted by the anthropology department of George Washington University, funded by the National Science Foundation and headed by Dr. Sarah Wagner. (See below for various links.)

We hope your will join us this Sunday to remember and join in prayers offering these - all who have died in this difficult time - into God's hands.

Woodstock Church Will Hold On-Line Service for COVID-19 Victims

Woodstock Lutheran Church Memorial Attracts Wide Attention

<u>"These Are Grievous Times" In Memoriam at a Lutheran Church in Upstate New York</u>



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