



WOODBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4 Church Street
Woodbury, CT 06798

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Rev. John A. Thomason, Pastor

Woodbury United Methodist Messenger

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

Welcome to the WUMC Family

On Sunday, May 9, Mother's Day, *Alivia Marie Craig-Markey* and *Victoria Azul Cruz* received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Alivia's parents are *David Markey* and *Andi Craig*. Victoria's parents are *Hector Cruz-Craig* and *Cristal Gonzalez*. Both girls are granddaughters of long-time member and Office Administrator *Kathy Craig*. (See a few photos at the end of the Messenger)

Also on May 9, *David Markey* was received as a full member of our church by transfer from another United Methodist congregation. Dave is the fiancé of Andi Craig and the father of Alivia. He is pursuing a Master's degree in Business Administration at Post University and is currently employed as a Security Guard at the COVID Vaccination area at Post University, as well as an Assistant Manager at AutoZone in New Britain, CT. Welcome, Dave!

May 16: Seventh Sunday of Easter Ascension Sunday

Ascension Day is the 40th day of the Easter season, commemorating Jesus's return to his Father in heaven. The observance falls this year on Thursday, May 13. WUMC will celebrate Jesus' ascension on the following Sunday, May 16.

Pastor's Sermon: *Endless Easter*

Lectionary Texts: Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53

Liturgist: Anna Bower Richardson - **Reader:** Grace Bower Richardson

Singers: the Bower Richardson family

Children's Time Leaders: the Bower-Richardson family



MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR BETSY LOVE Saturday, May 22, 2:00 PM

Long-time church member *Betsy Love* died on May 8, 2020 at her home in Woodbury. Because of COVID restrictions, the memorial service was delayed until a time when Betsy's family and friends could safely gather. The service will be held on Saturday, May 22, at 2:00 PM in the WUMC sanctuary. Because out-of-town guests and community friends will be attending the service, it is important for our own church members to pre-register. A link will be available on our church website, or you may call the church to make a reservation.

Worship Pre-Registration Requested

We rejoice in our increased worship attendance starting with Easter Sunday! Our seating capacity is now 70. To ensure a place for all worshippers to be accommodated safely, the COVID Recovery Team requests that our members and friends resume the practice of pre-registering for services. You may do this on the WUMC website or by calling the church office. The following is the same link for online reservation of all WUMC events: <https://rsvp.church/r/CqMXUVqE> Thank you for your cooperation!

Please Join Us for Livestreamed Worship Events

Livestreaming provides an opportunity for all of us to experience worship at the same time, either at home or in-person. Worshippers at home may join us by video on YouTube or audio-only by telephone broadcast. Video recordings of services will also be available for later viewing. Later phone broadcasts are no longer provided.

The options for accessing services electronically remain the same:

- **Video:** Go to <http://www.woodburyumc.net>, scroll to "Sunday Morning Worship in the Sanctuary" and click the link for livestreaming. A link is also provided for archived videos for later viewing.
 - **Audio only by phone:** dial 425-436-6391, enter pin with hash sign 2431819#. Note that these numbers have changed from what was previously used. Please mute your phones to eliminate background noise.
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A Reminder about our Special COVID-19 Support Fund

The Church Council has created a support fund to assist persons who have been severely impacted by the economic shutdown related to the pandemic.

- If you **need financial assistance**, please contact Pastor John (845-707-5152). Requests and donations will be kept strictly confidential.
 - If you would like to **make a donation** to the fund, you can mail a check to the church office (write "COVID-19 Support Fund" on the memo line); or you can donate online through the Breeze link on our church's website (write "COVID-19 Support Fund" in the message box). Thank you!
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Memorial Day is right around the corner!

Memorial Day Parade: Woodbury's Parks & Recreation Dept. has announced that they will be sponsoring a parade on Sunday, May 30, 2021, rain or shine. Marchers will meet at Woodbury Middle School at 1:00 p.m. and the parade will step off at 2:00 p.m. All Covid protocols (masks and social distancing) will be observed. Unfortunately, there is an age restriction this year. Marchers must be at least 18 years of age or older. If you would like to participate, please let Lynn Cullen (203-405-3083) know before May 13th. We have a limited number of "Open Doors" red tee shirts (size Large) if anyone would like to purchase one for \$10.00 to wear in the parade.



A Visit with Florence Brown in her home!

Florence Brown, our church's 102-year old matriarch, enjoyed a home visit and shared Holy Communion with *Rae Ann Hockenberry* and *Pastor John* on May 11. Rae Ann has visited Florence regularly all the years she has lived at Pomperaug Woods. Rae Ann refers to Florence as her "church mom," as Florence and Rae Ann's late mother were both born in 1919.

Reminder of our June 6th Celebration

Plans are underway for Pastor John's Retirement Celebration. Due to COVID restrictions, we are planning to hold this event outside so more people can attend if their schedules allow, but we will be limited in number.

We urge you to **pre-register** (<https://rsvp.church/r/CqMXUVqE>) if you haven't already because we are close to the 70 person capacity if we have to switch to indoors due to inclement weather. If we continue with our outside plans, we can accommodate over 100 people. The planning committee will be reaching out to various individuals who expressed an interest in helping coordinate all the details involved from set-up to clean-up and everything in between.

You can pre-register at our church website at www.woodburyumc.net by using this link: <https://rsvp.church/r/CqMXUVqE>, or you can call the church office (203) 263-4775 and leave a message.

If anyone would like to share a few comments, photos, videos – send your comments to wumc@woodburyumc.net and photos/videos should be sent to Theron at theronk@hotmail.com.

Children & Youth Ministry

@ HOME RESOURCES for continued Christian Education

- <https://www.cokesburykids.com/free-resources>
- <https://www.nyac.com/childrensministries>
- <https://ministry-to-children.com/>
- Scripture Reading: John 17:6-19, Jesus Prays for His Disciples

Save the date! Calling all children, teens and recent youth group alumni! Join us from 1-3 pm on Saturday, May 29 for an afternoon of games on the lawn and spend some time with Pastor John before he leaves.

EDUCATION & GRADUATE RECOGNITION MAY 30: Honoring Our 2021 Graduates

The annual WUMC Education Sunday & Graduate Recognition will be held May 30th during worship. WUMC will recognize our high school grads during the service and all graduates will be honored in the worship bulletin insert. If your family has a college, high school or eighth grade graduate, please let the church know.

Notice: WUMC has a scholarship for graduating high school students. Our 12th graders are invited to submit the WUMC Scholarship Request form along with their senior picture or other recent photo by the deadline of May 22nd to be considered. The link to this webpage is as follows: <https://woodburyumc.net/children-%26-youth-1>. For more information contact Catherine Mason catherine.mason02@outlook.com or 203-707-6571.

Kudo Korner

Thanks to last Sunday's worship leaders: *Rynn Naylor*, liturgist and reader; *Venetia* and *Morgan Phillippe*, singers.

The Prayer Corner:

In the hospital: *Christian Echeveria*, friend of *Kelly Etcheto* (VA Hospital, West Haven)

In rehabilitation: *Robert Mitchell*, brother of *Marci Lowman*, the daughter-in-law of *Marion Lowman* (Gaylord, Wallingford); *Michael Etcheto*, grandson of *Barbara Etcheto* (Gaylord, Wallingford)

Recovering from surgery: *Jackie Fleming* (Laser eye procedure on May 6)

Please remember our Confirmands: *Cody Cordova, Zachary Cordova, James Levario, Matthew Shupenis*; their teachers: *Catherine Mason, Meg Temple, John Thomason*; and their mentors: *Mike Boisseau, Mollie Cole, Rev. Paul Hibbard, Carolyn Shay*.

Recovering at home: *Amanda Eager* (friend of the *Temple* family); *Liam McGrath*; *Caroline Cloud*; *John Fleming*; *Steve Thomas*; *Paige LeBlanc*, mother of *Jessie Lynch* (Manchester, CT); *Dominic Vaiuso*, father of *Karen Williams* (Newtown); *Robert Ayers*, father of *Tacy Nettleton* (Woodstock, GA); *Carl Hinkle*, father of *Toby McGrath* (Greensburg, PA); *Donna Louise Burke*, friend of *Kathy Craig*; *Peter Gallagher*, father of *Jen Carnes* (Brookfield, CT); *Lou Calabrese* (husband of *Lynn Ramsden-Calabrese*)

Outpatient treatments: *Dave Brencher, Bob Asman, Mary Wilkins*, sister of *Barb Hunt* (Rochester, NY); *Dave Davison*, father-in-law of *Gary McClendon*; *Stephanie Galaburri*, friend of *Sandy Carbonaro*; *Will Styblo*, nephew of *Jim Styblo* and *Catherine Mason* (Franklin, TN)

Homebound members: *Florence Brown, Linda Bailey*

Please continue to remember: relatives of *Rev. Betty Lines* who are seriously ill: niece *Sharon Parish* (hospice care in Idaho); and brother-in-law *Stephen Lines* (recovering from a stroke in Florida); *Jean Lilly*, mother of *Meg Temple* (Cincinnati, OH), *Manny Gesh, Jane True, Blair Feller, Marilyn Bender, Ryan DeRidder* and family, *Laura & Stuart Brush, Janet Grant* (sister of *Betty Lines*).



If you would like to send someone a birthday card, please see our website @ www.woodburyumc.net for this month's birthday listing. Reminder that we are placing flowers on the altar again so let us know if you want to sign up for a particular date.

HOUSEKEEPING NOTES FROM THE OFFICE. . .

HANDICAPPED PARKING - - these are the three spaces outside the office doors (Church Street Entrance). **Please do NOT park there unless you have a handicapped parking tag. If you do park there, please be sure to leave enough room for the people using the handicapped ramp.**

❖ **Office Hours Tuesday thru Friday 9 am – 3 pm.** During the COVID-19 LOCKDOWN – Office visits are by appointment only. Please be sure to have your face covered if entering the building for everyone's health safety. The answering machine will be checked daily; however, if you have a pastoral emergency, you can call Pastor John Thomason @ (203) 263-7575. Thank you!

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION UPDATES???

Please continue to send any changes in names, addresses, phone numbers, emails, etc. Please send them to wumc@woodburyumc.net. This is also important to keep track of any of our college students as well!!!



Open Flower Opportunities for our Sanctuary

May 23rd, 30th - June 13th, 20th, 27th

July 4th, 18th

Please contact the office by phone (203) 263-4775 or email wumc@woodburyumc.net if you would like to order flowers for one of those Sunday worship services.

Mission Statement of the Woodbury United Methodist Church

We are a welcoming Christian fellowship who celebrate and share God's love with everyone.

We seek a closer relationship with Jesus Christ.

Inspired by His example, we strive to be God's hands in this world.

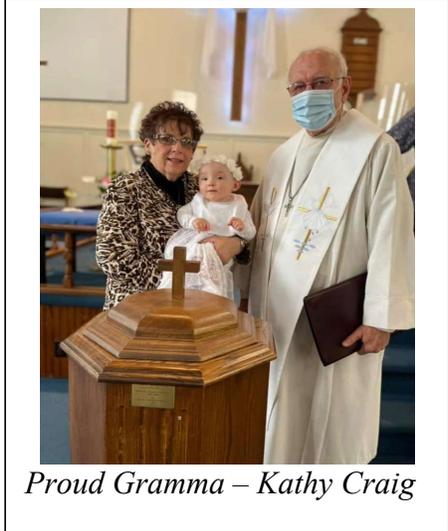
Empowered by God's word, we proclaim the Gospel and serve through worship, study, mission, and community support.

Love is Spoken Here!

Mother's Day Baptisms & New Member Celebration



Victoria Azul Cruz



Proud Gramma – Kathy Craig



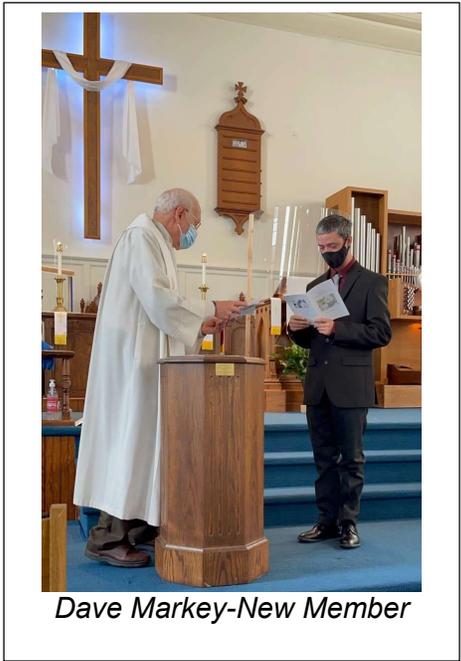
Alivia Marie Craig-Markey



Certificate & Gift table



Rynn Naylor lighting the baptismal candles



Dave Markey-New Member

