



WOODBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Rev. John A. Thomason, Pastor

The Life of the Church

by Pastor John

September 23, 2020

Dear Church Family,

Since we started offering in-person worship services, we've been gathering on the North Green across the street from our sanctuary. The Green is public space, made available to us by the good graces of the Town of Woodbury. Several weeks ago, it occurred to our worship leadership team that we might offer to share this public space with another Woodbury congregation by holding a joint worship service.

That desire will come to fruition this Sunday, September 27, at 9:30 AM, when we share the worship hour with members of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Our neighbors will not merely be "guests"; they will be full partners in a service which will blend Anglican worship elements with our customary Methodist order of worship. St. Paul's rector, *Rev. Tuesday Rupp*, will preach.

The Green can easily accommodate both congregations, and our normal protocols will be followed to ensure safety for everyone. The sanctuary will again be our back-up meeting place in the event of rain or cold weather. We were directed indoors last Sunday because of the early morning chill; this weekend's weather is predicted to be milder.

I was away on the 20th, wrapping up a week-long spiritual retreat at Lake George, New York. I want to thank by brother and colleague, *Rev. Paul Hibbard*, for preaching and leading worship in my absence. Paul's voice is always inspiring and reassuring. I deeply appreciate his ministry to our congregation and his personal helpfulness to me.

Grace and peace,

John

Open Hearts . Open Minds . Open Doors