



WOODBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Rev. J. Michael Cobb, Pastor

Woodbury United Methodist Messenger

Wednesday, January 19, 2022

January 23 Third Sunday after the Epiphany

The Season after the Epiphany is a season of Ordinary Time in that it stands between the great Christological cycles of Advent-Christmas-Epiphany and Lent-Easter-Pentecost. The First Sunday focuses on the Baptism of Christ and the Last Sunday on the Transfiguration. The Gospel readings in the lectionary center on the early ministry of Christ. The liturgical color between the First and Last Sundays is green, symbolizing growth in Christ.

Lectionary Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Reader: Bob Asman

Singers: Jeff Hunt, Carolyn; Dramatists: Luke, Nathaniel, and Owen Shay

Audio Visual Technician: Theron Kissinger

**We will not resume in-person services until at least February 6th.
Updates will be provided by email.**

**Worship Together at the Same Time – 10:30 AM
Live Streaming Continues**

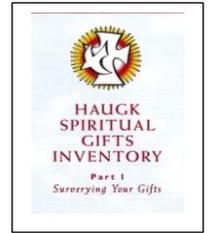
Livestreaming provides an opportunity for all of us to experience worship at the same time, but for the next few weeks at home. You can join us by video on YouTube or audio-only by telephone broadcast. Video recordings of services will also be available for later viewing. Later phone broadcasts are no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

The options for accessing services electronically remain the same:

- **Video:** Go to <http://www.woodburyumc.net>, scroll to the link for livestreaming near the top of our home page. 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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STILL TIME TO JOIN US: Discovering God's Vision for Your Life



This is a congregation-wide study on discovering and understanding your personal spiritual gifts, and discovery ways of using those gifts in ministry. The class has begun and will conclude the last Sunday in February, and runs from 12:30 to 1:45 pm each week with Presidents' Day weekend off.

Materials for the class are available now in the church office. The required workbook and assessment are \$16. (If you need financial assistance, please let me know!) The class is fully online, and is open to all who are interested, including your friends and family. If you aren't sure if this class is for you, you are strongly encouraged to sit in on the first class, or watch the recording. You will need the materials in order to be prepared for the second class, so don't delay. **If you missed the first spiritual gifts class, you can view it online — the link is on the home page of our web site, with the other information about the class. If you would like to take this class, don't delay! There are assignments you will need to complete right away in order to be up to date, so contact Pastor Michael right away to get that material.**

This will be the link for all six sessions of our class. If you are on the fence, you are encouraged to listen in on the first class:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81230567480?pwd=N24vTk5VOHExYWNjciNXWWttWncwZz09>

Meeting ID: 812 3056 7480

Passcode: gifts

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,81230567480#,,,,*754301# US (New York)

Updates from CRT (Covid Response Team)

Reminder: COVID Safety Protocols
(last updated 01- 12- 22)

Given the lack of Covid tests and high infection rate in our community, plus many families with one or more members who have been sick. We are canceling in-person worship services **until at least February 6th at a minimum**. Each week, there will be an online meditation or worship service available for at-home worship posted on our web site and via social media.

Note: A web site has been set up to make available COVID rapid tests from the federal government to every home in the country. The web site is [Covidtests.gov](https://covidtests.gov) and went live Tuesday morning. Based on prior experiences with local test availability, these may go quickly. If you are interested, you are encouraged to order yours right away. (This is being reiterated from an email that was sent out from Pastor Michael Tuesday.)

Mission & Outreach Ministry News

Foodbank Volunteers Needed for February

February is our next opportunity to provide volunteers for the Woodbury Food Bank. Volunteers are needed on all Fridays in February, the 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th. A minimum of two volunteers are needed from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Check your calendar and see what Friday might work for you, then contact Paul Hibbard (call, text or email at 860-488-7705 or paulgyl@aol.com) or the church office to sign up for a day or days.



Thank you for your help.
Rev. Paul Hibbard, Chair

CHURCH RESPONSE TO DEVASTATING FIRE IN THE BRONX, NY

The following is an update from the NYAC regarding help for those affected by the recent devastating fire in the Bronx, NY:

The best way to contribute to long-term recovery for these survivors—which is our UMC special focus—is via monetary donations. Money collected will translate into survivors accessing temporary housing, refurbishing their apartments, and lifting the heavy burden of medical and funeral expenses.

If you wish to respond in a more material way, the following items can be donated *only through January 26th*. You can drop these donations directly to: Public Safety at Bronx Community College, Hall of Fame Gate Entrance, Monday-Saturday, January 11-26th, 2022 from 10am – 5pm:

- Generic (e.g., Visa) gift cards
- Water
- Flashlights
- Batteries
- Cleaning products
- Personal hygiene items

(Please do not attempt to donate clothing, furniture, mattresses, household items, or food items.)

Thank you for your generosity!

Please direct questions about our Conference response, or to get the link for monetary donations, to Rev. Nikki Hutt, NYAC Disaster Response and Missions Coordinator, nhutt@nyac.com, 914-615-2248.

Thanking you once again, Rev. Paul Hibbard

Children & Youth Ministry News

- **Confirmation Class for January 23 is canceled.** We hope to schedule a retreat to make up 3 critical lessons. Confirmants, parents, & mentors please let Catherine or Meg know of your availability for the weekend of February 19-21.
- **COLLABORATION NEEDED:** The Children & Youth Ministry leadership team is now very small. I am reaching out to the chairs of other WUMC committees as well as our parents of WUMC Children & Teens to invite your collaboration for outreach & intergenerational programming with the Children & Youth Ministry. Please contact Catherine Mason, Children & Youth Ministry Chair if willing. I am happy to coordinate an initial discussion opportunity. Thank you, Catherine

AT HOME FAMILY SCRIPTURE READING & REFLECTION:

The Body of Christ & Its Spiritual Gifts

Our scripture reading today is from Paul's letter to the church of Corinth and talks about how the body of Christ is made up of different parts, each with its gifts to be used in harmony with one another.

READ TOGETHER: *1 Corinthians 12:12-31a*

REFLECT TOGETHER: *Discussion Questions*

- Why do you think Paul uses the body as an analogy for Christians? Do you think the metaphor of “we are parts of the body of Christ and the body of Christ is the church” makes sense? What is easy or difficult to understand about that metaphor?
- How might this scripture affect how we value diversity in the church? What do you think it means to have diversity in the church?
- Think about the human body. How loud would you be able to clap if you had only one hand? How well would you write using only your thumb? Every part of the body is important and works together to help us express all that it means to be human. Who do you think are the “backbones” of our group? Of our church? How about the heart?

- Have you ever tried to do or be a part of something and it just didn't feel like you fit? Talk about that experience? How can we help others discover how they fit and use their gifts as part of our group and church?
- Verse 14 says, "Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but many." Think about our church. How diverse is our church? How would our church be if there were no children or teens? How would it be if there were more young people? How can we be better about inviting people of all ages to church who may look or act or live differently than we do?
- What gifts are listed in verses 28-30?
- Have you heard of any other gifts listed in scripture or worded differently in other Bible versions?

Adapted from: "Third Sunday after the Epiphany, Year C - Youth Lessons." *UMC Discipleship Ministries*, The United Methodist Church, <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/love-never-ends-being-the-body-of-christ/third-sunday-after-the-epiphany-year-c-lectionary-planning-notes/third-sunday-after-the-epiphany-year-c-youth-lessons>.

Kudo Korner

Each week we will be featuring those that stepped up and led us in worship with some from the "comfort of their own home." We would like to thank those that led us safely in last Sunday's service: *Bill and Judy Wilhelms*, Readers; *Amanda Cloud*, Singer; *Barbara and Jeff Hunt*, Bells; *Theron Kissinger*, Audio Visual Tech; *Chris Shay*, Music Director; *Pastor J. Michael Cobb*. Thank you all!!!

The Prayer Corner

Continued prayers for those suffering in both *Haiti, New Orleans, Washington State*, those affected in *Kentucky and surrounding states during the recent tornadoes*, those suffering with depression and the families affected during the fire devastation in NY.

Outpatient rehabilitation: *Michael Etcheto*, grandson of *Barbara Etcheto*

Recovering at home: *Laura Brush; Lynne Brencher; Carol Hennessey; Liam McGrath; Robert Mitchell*, brother of *Marci Lowman* (the daughter-in-law of *Marion Lowman*); *Amelia Eager* (friend of the *Temple* family); *Steve Thomas; Dominic Vaiuso*, father of *Karen Williams* (Newtown); *Carl Hinkle*, father of *Toby McGrath* (Greensburg, PA); *Jeanne Semeraro, Cindy Tedesco, and Donna Louise Burke*, friends of *Kathy Craig; Lou Calabrese* (husband of *Lynn Ramsden-Calabrese*)

Outpatient treatments: *Dave Brencher; Bob Asman*

Please remember our Confirmands: *Annabelle Cloud, Cody Cordova, Zachary Cordova, James Levario, and Matthew Shupenis*

Homebound members: *Florence Brown, Linda Bailey*

Please continue to remember: Relative of *Rev. Betty Lines* who are seriously ill: brother-in-law *Stephen Lines* (recovering from a stroke in Florida) and *Janet Grant* (sister of *Betty Lines*); *Manny Gesh, Blair Feller, Marilyn Bender, Ryan DeRidder and family, and Laura & Stuart Brush.*



If anyone has updates to these prayer requests, please send them to the office email at www.woodburyumc.net.



If you would like to send someone a birthday card, please see our website @ www.woodburyumc.net for this month's birthday listing. Once we go back to in house worship - 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 reach Pastor J. Michael Cobb by email at pastormichael@woodburyumc.net. 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!!!

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!

