



WOODBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Rev. John A. Thomason, Pastor

## Woodbury United Methodist Messenger

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

January 24

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.

**Pastor's Sermon: *God Doesn't Give Up on Us***

**Lectionary Readings: Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12  
1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20**

**Liturgist: Kate Keeler      Reader: Carolyn Shay**

**Singers: Kate Keeler and Carolyn Shay**

**Children's Time: led by Kate Keeler**

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**Special Note – Open floral opportunities for 1/31, 2/7,  
and many throughout the remaining of 2021.  
Please contact the office if interested.**

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## 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. Worshipers 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 will no longer be provided.

The options for accessing services electronically remain the same:

- Video: Go to <http://www.woodburyumc.net> and click the link at the top of the 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#.
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# An Exciting New Adult Fellowship Opportunity

## THE BIBLE: 101

Your Bible is meant to be inspiring, not intimidating; but we often feel uncertain about how to use it.

Pastor John will lead us through a series that will help de-mystify some of the mysteries of...

- † *Reading the Bible for study, reflection, comfort, and insight*
- † *Hearing the message contained in God's word for you*
- † *Locating favorite and familiar passages*

This 4 week study-fellowship will held on **Tuesday nights from 6:30 – 8:00 PM beginning January 26<sup>th</sup>**.

There is no book to purchase, but please have your Bible handy.

Handout materials may be distributed in advance.

You can participate in person or via Zoom (link will be posted on the church's web page).

Contact Bud Behlman (203-206-9276) for additional information.

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## MISSION & OUTREACH NEWS

February is one of the WUMC's months to volunteer at the Woodbury Food Bank, and volunteers are needed for **February 5, 12, 19, and 26**. While we are still in the midst of a pandemic, the food needs of the community have not lessened; and in fact with the economic stress caused by the pandemic, the need nationally for food support has increased. Volunteers continue to be a vital part of the work of the Food Bank, but because of health concerns and state-mandated protocols, the process has undergone changes since our last volunteer opportunity in September of last year.

Below is information that I received from Bob Taylor at the Food Bank outlining how things are being handled at this time. Please review the operating procedures below (including time changes) and let me know if you can volunteer on a Friday or Fridays in February.

"I am sharing the protocols both for staff work and for the client service conditions, which have been and will continue to be conducted during the pandemic exclusively on a home delivery (Thursdays) and pickup service (Fridays and Saturdays) basis. Only our volunteers have access to the food bank interior, and our primary tasks are to receive, cleanse and stock all incoming donations, and to prepare and bag the customized orders for our clients. No client in-store shopping is possible under social distancing and protective protocols and none is anticipated through February at present (I will let you know if conditions change but this appears unlikely given the present course of the pandemic).

As you will note in the protocols, we specifically advise all our good friends to make the judgment first if they would be physically able to volunteer, both in terms of health (of course we ask anyone suffering respiratory or other health issues of any kind please to stay home) and also possible risk during the pandemic (this especially applies to folks in the high-risk category of 60 and over -- I am one of those 60-plus volunteers myself but I know that many, especially those with immunological deficiencies, need to stay on the sidelines for now). Please note too that we ask everyone who volunteers to remain masked throughout their work, to wear gloves during food bank service, and to take other washing and cleansing measures as needed to keep a safe environment. We routinely supply gloves to all who volunteer (I change mine multiple times every shift) as well as masks as needed.

With regards to timeframes for service, the new scenario for Friday client service on a pick-up basis means that we must staff two shifts, one from 8:30 am to 11:15 am, and the second from 11:15 am to 2:15 pm on Fridays. I would greatly appreciate if you could advise me in advance regarding availability of help for either of these shifts on the Fridays during February, as we will work these volunteers into the weekly schedules that I now need to prepare for volunteer help. Unlike the previous in-store service that was possible to fulfill with a staff of myself and one or two volunteers, the multiple demands of the "new normal" at the food bank require me to mobilize shifts with three to five volunteers per shift on Fridays, and we will gratefully include our helpers from WUMC on one of our teams to support these volunteer needs during the month of February. At present, we have a particularly great need for help in the later shift from **11:15 am to 2:15 pm on Fridays**."



**Feeding the  
Community**

If you are able to help out on any of the following **Fridays (2/5, 2/12, 2/19, and 2/26)**, please contact me at any of the means listed below and let me know your availability. Thank you.

Paul Hibbard

Phone: 203-405-1005 (Home), 860-488-7705(Cell)

Email: [paulgyl@aol.com](mailto:paulgyl@aol.com)

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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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## 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: Mark 1:14-20 Jesus Announces the Good News

**Children & Youth Ministry Programming**

- **Confirmation class** continues at 6:30 pm, Sunday, January 24.
  - Be on the lookout for information on our **Lenten Sunday School series** this February.
  - Children, youth, families and anyone else is welcome to join us for **Family Game Night** on Saturday, January 30 at 7pm. Depending on the number of people attending we may play Fibbage, Drawful or Scattegories. Please RSVP to Meg or Catherine by Friday, January 29 so we can plan accordingly.
  - **Children & Youth Ministry Committee Meeting** on January 28 at 7pm via Zoom for all teachers and committee members.
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## Kudo Korner

**Congratulations** to *Victoria Williams*, who, amidst the challenges of the pandemic, earned a place on the 2020 fall semester Dean's List at Assumption University.

**Thanks** to the Prayer Ministry Team and its chair, *Carolyn Shay*, for hosting the "Prayer Vigil for Our Nation" on January 19; and to *Rev. Paul Hibbard* for reprising his role as ringer of our church bell prior to the service.

**Thanks** to last Sunday's worship leaders: *Levi Phillippe*, liturgist; *Danielle* and *Gary McClendon*, *Morgan* and *Venetia Phillippe*, singers; *Danielle* and *Gary McClendon*, Children's Time.

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# The Prayer Corner:

**Christian sympathy** is extended to *Travis Cloud* and family in the death of Travis's grandmother, *Charlotte Cloud*, on January 14 in Monett, Missouri.

**Congratulations** to *Bob and Martha Asman* who celebrated their 59<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on January 20, 2021.

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

**Outpatient tests:** *Jackie Fleming, Laura Brush, Bob Asman, Dave Brencher*

**Recovering at home:** *Emilie Cole; Gary McClendon; 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*); *Jane King*, mother of *Stephen King* and mother-in-law of *Joann King* (Sarasota, FL); *Antonio Stillitano*, grandson of *Paul Hatch*.

**Outpatient treatments:** *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](http://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](mailto: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!**