





WOODBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4 Church Street
Woodbury, CT 06798

Website: www.woodburyumc.net

Office: (203) 263-4775 • Fax: (203) 263-5867

Email: www.woodburyumc.net

Find us on  /woodburyumc &  /woodburyumc



Rev. J. Michael Cobb, Pastor

Woodbury United Methodist Messenger

Wednesday, November 6, 2021



REMINDER. . . .

Don't forget to turn your clocks BACK
on Saturday night before bed

Worship Together at the Same Time – 10:30 AM
Either in the Sanctuary or at Home!
Live Streaming Continues

November 7: The 24th Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Text: 1 Kings 17:8-16, Mark 12:38-44

Liturgist, Communion Steward & Reader: Rynn Naylor

Greeter & Usher: Sue Vindigni

Singers: the Chancel Choir

Audio Visual Technician: Theron Kissinger

**Now that we are worshipping in house again; we ask that everyone pre-register for worship
on our church website: www.woodburyumc.net**

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 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.

A special message from Pastor Michael

One of the kindest things we can do for one another is to express our appreciation for another person. Letting someone know that you notice them, notice their work, and that you are thankful for them is never a wasted act. In this spirit, having the congregation set aside some time for pastoral appreciation this past Sunday touched my heart — and what better way than with our first fellowship hour in nearly two years? Be sure to check out the photos at the end of this week’s *Messenger*!

I am grateful to have the opportunity to be your pastor, and extend to all of you my thanks for your kind appreciation of me this past Sunday. Be assured, I appreciate all of you right back.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Michael Cobb.

Book Study Bonus Class meets this Sunday morning!

The Sunday (Nov. 7th) morning class using NT Wright’s book *God and the Pandemic* has ended by bringing us to an important question: Now what? Specifically, what might be the right path going forward for WUMC at this point in the pandemic? We will meet at 8:45 this Sunday morning to consider this crucial question. All are welcome!

As part of this discussion, we will also be reflecting on *Elizabeth Felicetti’s* recent article, *My Church Doesn’t Know What to Do Anymore*, recently published in *The Atlantic* magazine and readily available online via searching either the author’s name or the article’s title. While the conversation is grounded in *God and the Pandemic*, those who haven’t read the book but have read this article will not feel out of place participating in the conversation. Email Pastor Michael with any questions. See you Sunday morning.

SAVE THE DATES

Saturday, November 13 – Fall Clean-Up Day at WUMC – please see your Messenger. Great way for students to get community service hours for school. (**Please see the flyer at the end of this Messenger**)

Sunday, November 14 – Be sure not to miss our Special Guest Speaker, our very own *Shannon Cobb*.

Tuesday, November 23 – Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship Service – 6:30 PM at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Woodbury. Pastor Cobb will be preaching that night.

Sunday, November 28 - UMC Student Day - - News to come regarding opportunities for you & college student participation.

Poinsettias ordering has begun – please see information in the back of this Messenger – the deadline to place your order is Tuesday, December 7th. Payment must accompany the order.

Tuesday, December 21 - Blue Christmas Worship Service – 7:00 pm at WUMC

Friday, December 24 – Three Christmas Eve Services – 4:30 pm, 7:00 pm, and 10:00 pm – more details to follow.

Flowers Are Back!

Altar flowers greatly enhance our worship experience and provide a means for our members to honor loved ones. Now that we have opened the sanctuary for weekly worship, we are resuming the practice of placing flowers in the chancel area.

If you would like to donate a floral arrangement, please contact *Kathy Craig* in the church office, where the flower calendar is now kept. There are openings throughout November and the beginning of December. Our Christmas poinsettias will be displayed on Sunday, December 19th and will be available for pick up after our Christmas Eve Services.



Children & Youth Ministry News

Lesson:

Read Mark 12:38-44 with your family this week. You know that each Sunday in our worship service we take an offering, right? Do you think Jesus likes it when we put *a lot* of money in the offering plate? Do you think Jesus likes it when you put *a little* bit of money in the offering plate? The Bible says, one day Jesus went to the temple and sat down near the place where the offerings were given. He sat and watched the people as they came by and put in their offerings. Many rich people, dressed in fine robes, came by and put in a lot of money. Then a poor widow came by and put in just two small coins. Jesus called His disciples to Him and said, "This woman has given more than anyone. The others gave out of their wealth, but this woman gave all that she had." You see, Jesus is more interested in what is in the heart of the giver than He is in the size of their gift.

Here is the story of a little girl named Hattie and how her gift of 57 cents helped to build a great church. One Sunday morning, the pastor of a church went outside to find a group of children who were unable to get inside for Sunday school because the building was too crowded. One of those children was six-year-old Hattie. When the pastor saw Hattie, he picked her up and carried her into the Sunday school class where he found her a seat. He told Hattie he hoped that someday the church would be able to build a building large enough for all the children. Two years later, Hattie died, and the pastor preached at her funeral service. After the service, Hattie's mother handed the pastor a small purse containing 57 cents. She said Hattie had been saving her pennies to help the church build a new Sunday school building. The pastor took the 57 cents back to his church and told the people about Hattie. The people were so inspired by Hattie's gift that they gave faithfully until they built a wonderful, new building — big enough for all the children who wanted to attend. I'm sure Jesus would say that Hattie gave more than anyone to build this great church. Her heart was pure and she gave all that she had.

Thank You:

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of our Halloween endeavors by donating candy, packaging it with notes from the church, decorating or helping pass out candy. Special thanks to *Venetia, Joann, Sam, Jon, Lydia* and *Pastor Michael*. We didn't have a single piece of candy leftover after greeting almost 300 children!



These photos are courtesy of *Meg Temple*.

Please see the back of this Messenger for more fun photos taken by *Mark Davis & Sherry Swanhall*

Confirmation:

Confirmation class will meet this Sunday, November 7, from 4-6:30 pm to discuss creation, sin and redemption. Thank you in advance to Patti Thomas for bringing the treats.

Fall Clean Up:

All youth are encouraged to attend the Fall Clean Up at WUMC on Saturday, November 13 from 9-12 pm. Your help can go a long way in making our church beautiful for the coming season, inside and out! Don't forget your rakes and gloves. Sign up on the church's website.

Hike:

Please join us for our next hike on Sunday, November 14, at 12:15 pm. We will meet in the parking lot of the Whittemore Sanctuary off Rt. 64. Again, all children, teens and families are welcome. Children younger than sixth grade must be accompanied by a parent to attend. Permission slips will be available in the parking lot.

Sunday School:

Sunday School will meet again on the fourth Sunday in November, November 28. This also happens to be the first Sunday of Advent. The children will be following the adult devotional, Closer to Home. Our in person lesson will be about Hope and Homesickness, centering on 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13. Stay tuned for our children's advent series to follow.

Annual Fall Clean-Up Time at WUMC



For the young & young at heart
Fall Clean Up
Saturday, November 13th
Rain Date, November 20th

All Members Welcome

- Come for one or both fellowship opportunities
- Please register at: <https://rsvp.church/r/CqMXUVqE>

Fall Clean-Up – 8am to 11:30am

- Many hands make light work (tasks on next page)
- Youth earn community service hours for school

Fall Harvest Celebration – 11:30 to noon

- Bring donations for Foodbank (needs on next page)
- Brief outdoor service of Thanksgiving
- Donations may also be brought on Sunday

Fall Harvest Celebration

Fall Clean Up Needs

Priority Tasks:

- ❖ Leaves, pruning, and gutters
- ❖ Spot paint exterior church walls; paint office porch/steps
- ❖ Clean sanctuary, fellowship hall, and bathrooms
- ❖ Organize storage spaces

Tools and Equipment:

- ❖ Leaf blowers, rakes, tarps, and pruning equipment
- ❖ Vacuums and power extension cords
- ❖ Cleaning equipment (buckets, rags, mops) and supplies
- ❖ Pickup truck

Current Needs of Woodbury Foodbank

Special holiday needs:

- ❖ Stuffing (bagged & "stove-top"); cranberry sauce (jellied & whole)
- ❖ Canned & boxed potatoes (plain & flavored); canned yams
- ❖ Gravy (jarred & canned)
- ❖ Brownie, cake, cookie or quick bread mixes; frosting
- ❖ Baking chips (milk chocolate, semi-sweet chocolate or butterscotch)

Special general need:

- ❖ Soups, especially chowders, minestrone, vegetarian, pea, lentil, pasta & bean, Italian wedding soup
- ❖ Canned tomatoes; pasta sauce
- ❖ Chicken combo and beef combo soups
- ❖ Chicken, beef & vegetable broths
- ❖ Kids' lunchbox snack items – single serve packages

Year-round general needs:

- ❖ Juice bottles & juice boxes; assorted fruit cups
- ❖ Canned chili, beef stew, chicken, pork & beans or corned beef hash
- ❖ Cereals & oatmeal; Pancake/waffle mix & syrup; jams & jellies
- ❖ Cooking oils; condiments
- ❖ Paper towels, toilet paper, napkins & facial tissues
- ❖ Liquid dish detergent & laundry detergent

Kudo Korner

Thanks to all that participated in one way or another to make this year's Annual Church Conference a great success! Electronic copies of the annual report were sent out before the conference. If you would like a printed copy, please contact Kathy in the office.

Thank you to *Diane Hibbard* for keeping this Kudo Korner up to date as she's always sending in little bits of information she's learned about members of our church. This week's news is:

- *Elizabeth Styblo* - has begun a full time job with Epilepsy Foundation of CT in Middletown CT.
- *Matthew Shupenis* is playing on the Nonnewaug Soccer team who have clinched the Berkshire league title.
- *Harry Harwood* is on the Connecticut College Cross country team. League championships are next week.

Congratulations to all three of these fine youth of WUMC – good luck to all of you in these endeavors!

Keith and Elaine Weston have become first time grandparents with birth of grandson on Oct.25. Many in congregation know Keith from trip to Ecuador and volunteering GWIM, Habitat for Humanity and Elaine from Acts 4 Ministry. Congratulations on becoming grandparents, what a wonderful blessing for all.

Thanks to last Sunday's worship leaders: *Shannon Cobb*, Liturgist & Reader; *the WUMC Chancel Choir*, Singers; *Theron Kissinger*, Audio Visual Technician. A special thank you to *JoAnn & Bud Behlman* for stepping in at the last minute to be Greeters and Ushers due to an illness of *Lynn Cullen*.

The Prayer Corner

Continued prayers for those suffering in both *Haiti* and *New Orleans*!

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

Recovering at home: *Laura Brush*; *Gary McClendon*; *Lynne Brencher*; *Pat Kurtz*; *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); *Donna Louise Burke*, friend of *Kathy Craig*; *Lou Calabrese* (husband of *Lynn Ramsden-Calabrese*)

Outpatient treatments: *Dave Brencher*; *Bob Asman*; *Dave Davison*, father-in-law of *Gary McClendon*; *Will Styblo*, nephew of *Jim Styblo* and *Catherine Mason* (Franklin, TN)

Please remember our Confirmands: *Annabelle Cloud*, *Cody Cordova*, *Zachary Cordova*, *James Levario*, *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*, *Jane True*, *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. 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...

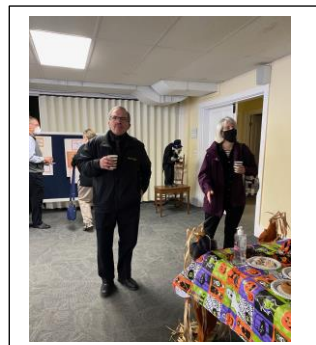
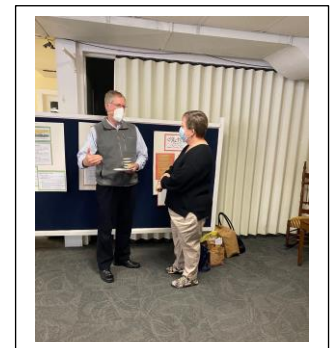
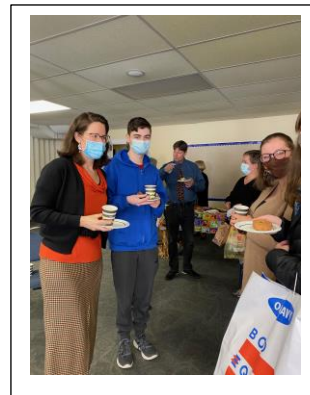
HANDICAPPED PARKING - - these are the three spaces outside the office doors (Church Street Entrance). **Please do NOT** park there unless you have a handicapped parking tag. If you do park there, please be sure to leave enough room for the people using the handicapped ramp.

❖ **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 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!!!

Photos during Sunday Worship & Fellowship Hour 10 31 21





Each Christmas season, our sanctuary is beautifully decorated with holiday trimmings and poinsettias. As the season approaches, we are now taking orders for the poinsettias, which may be in honor of, in celebration of, or in memory of one or more loved ones. A list of acknowledgments will be printed in the church bulletin on Sunday, December 19 and Christmas Eve.

Poinsettias are \$12.00 each. We encourage you to take your flower(s) home with you after the service on Christmas Eve.

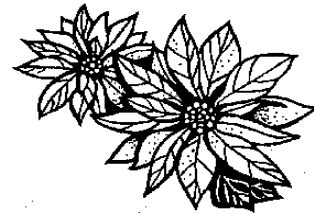
You may order your flower(s) by filling out the form below, and placing it in the collection plate, or returning it to the church office accompanied by a check or cash for total amount (a folder marked Poinsettias Orders is available on the office mail station). All checks should be made out to Woodbury United Methodist Church. ***All orders must be placed no later than Tuesday, DECEMBER 7TH.***

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

In honor/celebration/memory of: (circle appropriate one)

(If more space is required, please attach a separate piece of paper)

_____ Red poinsettia _____ Quantity
 _____ White poinsettia _____ Quantity



Please be sure to list all the necessary information so follow-up calls do not have to be made. Thanks!

Please note ordering deadline to ensure prompt delivery from the Garden Nursery.



WUMC Helping Hands Ministry

Vision Statement:

Provide an extended network of community volunteers for helping those with critical short-term needs, but without sufficient resources and families to whom they can turn.

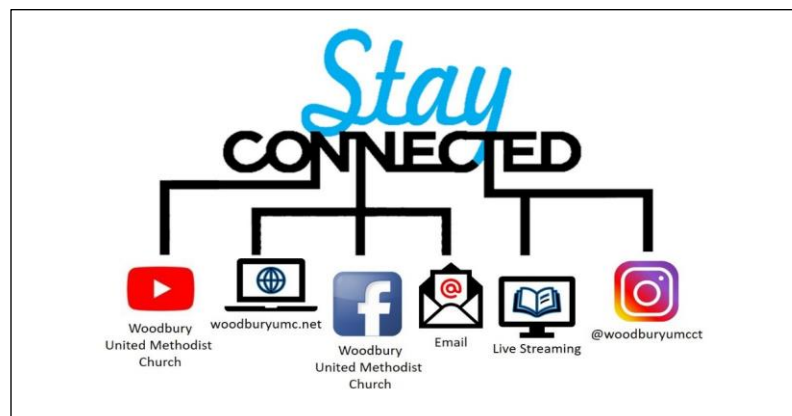
Examples of Types of Services:

- Handyman projects (e.g., carpentry, painting, simple plumbing/electrical/car repairs, computer troubleshooting)
- Home upkeep (e.g., spring/fall cleanup)
- Transportation and delivery
- Family crisis support (e.g., child/elder/respite care, meals)
- Friendly visitor

Nominal Constraints:

- Short-term crisis support: 4-8 hours; 1-2 days
- Work projects: Ideally done in 1 day; up to \$200 for material cost
- Application approval predicated on resource availability and schedule

Please Contact: Woodbury United Methodist Church (WUMC) at WUMC@WoodburyUMC.net.





November 19-21, 2021

Live at The Summit at Danbury, 100 Reserve Rd, Danbury, CT

Benefiting Ann's Place Cancer Support

Decorated Trees & Grand Raffle

Walk through a winter wonderland of decorated trees. Purchase raffle tickets for a chance to win trees and raffle prizes. Some prizes are worth thousands!

Shopping

Find treasures in the Marketplace, Quilter's Corner and from artisanal vendors. Home accents, specialty food, jewelry, fashions, games, and more!

Live Entertainment Sat-Sun



Taps & Trees Craft Beer Fest

Saturday night sample craft brews, enjoy pub grub by Market Place restaurant, and dance to live music.



Tickets & Hours

General Admission

Friday: Noon - 7pm
Sat-Sun, 10am - 5pm
Age 3-64, \$10; Age 65+, \$5

Taps & Trees

Saturday 7pm-10pm
Age 21+ only, \$85

Ann'sPlaceFestivalofTrees.org



Ann's Place is a nonprofit providing free counseling and wellness programs to people facing cancer. For information visit annsplace.org or call 203-790-6568.



Exciting News regarding Bishop Bickerton:



Council of Bishops
The United Methodist Church



Bishop Bickerton elected as next president of UMC Council of Bishops

11/3/2021 - Bishop News



The newly elected officers of the Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church (from left): President - Bishop Thomas Bickerton, President Designate — Bishop Tracy Smith Malone, Secretary – Bishop Jonathan Holston

For Immediate Release
Wednesday, November 03, 2021

Bishop Bickerton elected as next president of UMC Council of Bishops

WASHINGTON, D.C. - [Bishop Thomas Bickerton](#), the residential bishop of New York Conference, was elected today as the next president of the Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church during the bishops' online meeting via Zoom.

"It is very humbling to be asked to offer my leadership at this point in the church's life and work," Bishop Bickerton said after the election. "While the road ahead will no doubt present us with great challenges, I celebrate a faith which offers the firm assurance that God will provide us with the light we need to find the next step on the path. My prayer is that with grace and deep respect, we will continue to find ways to love one another as a response to God's great love for us. I pledge to lead out of that same conviction and covet the prayers of the church as we embark on this journey together."

Also elected were:

- President-Designate: [Bishop Tracy Smith Malone of East Ohio Conference](#)
- Secretary: [Bishop L. Jonathan Holston of South Carolina Conference](#)

The current officers are Bishop Fierro Harvey, president; Bishop Bickerton, president-designate; and Bishop Tracy Malone as secretary. The new officers will take office at the end of the 2022 spring meeting of the Council of Bishops.

Bishop Harvey will serve as the immediate past president of the Council.

Bishop Harvey calls on COB to lead by love

As the COB began its virtual meeting Tuesday, the current president of the council, Bishop Cynthia Fierro Harvey called her colleagues to a time of leading by the example of love.

The bishops, meeting online because of the continuing world-wide pandemic, heard Bishop Harvey say, "It's time to face the reality that our Big Tent is having trouble holding up to the winds of change."

Bishop Harvey serves the Louisiana Annual Conference, which has seen more than its fair share of heavy winds, rain, and flooding in recent years.

The bishop said that the denomination is in a waiting period that began last year and is now extended to at least 2022, when the postponed 2020 General Conference is scheduled to meet. During this time of waiting, she said, there is the “potential to shift our focus from the very people we are called to serve.”

Quoting John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, Bishop Harvey said that for him, 1 John 4:19 was the “sum of the whole gospel: ‘We love God because God first loved us!’”

She urged all United Methodists to do the work of shaping a new future for the church led by love.

“There are many conversations taking place, many narratives being formed,” Bishop Harvey said. “It is time for us to join together and shape the future for the continuing United Methodist Church.”

Noting that United Methodists are called to do this work with head connected to heart, she said she believed that this is what will keep many people “in The United Methodist Church.”

“Our Methodist DNA calls us to love – to experience love, to be love in a world that does not know love. Love calls for civil discourse. Love calls for a heart of peace,” Bishop Harvey said.

“We must use this time well – with or without a General Conference and out of our love for one another – put our rhetoric aside,” she said, “and begin to work together so that the gospel has a chance of being proclaimed.”

Bishop Harvey made it clear that she is working hard to shape the continuing United Methodist Church.

“That is my call,” she said. “It honors my ordination and consecration vows. It is who I am. I am and will continue to be an Elder, a Bishop, in The United Methodist Church.”

Her prayer, she said, is that The United Methodist Church receives and honors the gifts of all of God’s children.

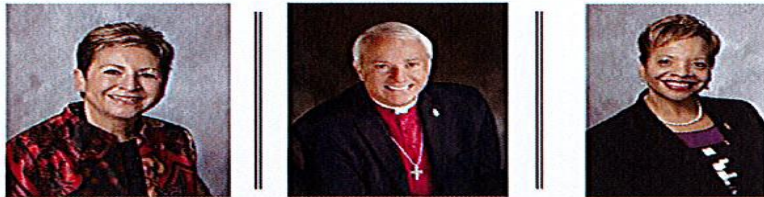
“Black, Brown, White, Asian, straight, gay, transgendered – ALL of God’s children – ALL of whom offer their gifts to God and to the church.”

And the bishop also wanted to make it clear that whatever a “future” United Methodist Church may look like, “you will have a home. If you consider yourselves liberal or evangelical, you will have a home. If you see yourselves as progressive or traditional, centrist or conservative, center-right or center-left, you will have a home in the Future United Methodist Church.”

And that’s because, she said, “that is what I believe the Kingdom of God looks like.”

United Methodist Bishops meet to discuss church future, elect new officers

10/27/2021 - Bishop News



Current officers of the Council of Bishops: President - Bishop Cynthia Fierro Harvey, President Designate – Bishop Thomas Bickerton, Secretary – Bishop Tracy Smith Malone

Council of Bishops Image

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Facing the challenges of the COVID-19 epidemic, the Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church will meet November 2-5 to discuss the future of the continuing United Methodist Church, elect new officers and address other timely topics.

The more than 100 bishops from Africa, Asia, Europe, and North America will be in attendance during the Zoom meeting that will also include continuing work to dismantle racism, promote discipleship; and strengthen mission strategies in the world-wide denomination.

"I am thankful for the work of the bishops who have met on several occasions to focus on topics of creation care, climate justice, the future of The United Methodist Church and the role of the episcopacy in this liminal season," said Bishop Cynthia Fierro Harvey, president of the Council.

She added her affirmation of bishops who have so willingly agreed to take on added responsibilities during this time.

The meeting opens on Tuesday, Nov. 2, with a Memorial Service to remember and honor bishops and spouses who have died since April 2021. Among those to be memorialized are Bishop Daniel C. Arichea who died June 1, 2021; Bishop Joseph H. Yeakel, who died July 4, 2021; Bishop Beverly Shamana, who died August 1, 2021; and Mr. Jeff Swenson (spouse of Bishop Mary Ann Swenson), who died August 22, 2021.

Election of officers

The bishops will elect a new **president**, **president-designate**, and **secretary** of the Council. The current officers are Bishop Cynthia Fierro Harvey, president; Bishop Thomas Bickerton, president-designate; and Bishop Tracy Smith Malone, secretary. The new officers will take office at the end of the Spring 2022 COB meeting and will serve for two years.

"I look forward to passing the gavel next April to the newly elected officers. In the meantime, we have much to do as we are called to lead the church through this important season of its life," offered Bishop Harvey.

The COB meeting will be livestreamed via COB Facebook (facebook.com/umcbishops) and the COB YouTube Channel on two days: Tuesday, Nov. 2 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Eastern Time.; and on Friday, Nov. 5 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Eastern Time.