





## WOODBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4 Church Street  
Woodbury, CT 06798

Website: [www.woodburyumc.net](http://www.woodburyumc.net)

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Find us on  /woodburyumcct &  /woodburyumcct



Rev. J. Michael Cobb, Pastor

# Woodbury United Methodist Messenger

Wednesday, March 3, 2022

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## March 6<sup>th</sup>: First Sunday in Lent

**Lectionary Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1-11**

**Liturgist & Communion Steward: Rynn Naylor**

**Ushers & Greeters: JoAnn and Bud Behlman**

**WUMC Voice Choir is Back!**

**Audio Visual Technician: Theron Kissinger**

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## 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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## IMPORTANT UPDATE: COVID Response Team

**We are delighted to announce that we plan to resume congregational singing on February 27<sup>th</sup>.**

Our COVID response team has carefully evaluated the risks associated with congregational singing and have determined that our new mask protocols (surgical or N/KN-95) allow us to resume safely this joyous element of worship that has been sorely missed by many. Also, please take notice of the new large capacity HEPA air purifier boxes built by Jeff Hunt and Andrew Styblo of our Board of Trustees. We have four units placed throughout the sanctuary, allowing us to safely close the windows for the remainder of the winter.

The following is a reminder of how you can do your part to protect your church family at in-person worship:

1. Pre-register for the service on our website, [www.woodburyumc.net](http://www.woodburyumc.net).
2. Upgrade your mask to at least a surgical mask. We strongly encourage you to wear an N/KN 95 mask for increased protection. Both will be available to anyone who needs one at check-in.
3. If you or a family member is ill, please stay home and continue to enjoy the service online at our website, [www.woodburyumc.net](http://www.woodburyumc.net), or our YouTube channel at [http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCN-kkokTCbVE9urwgP\\_AEcw](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCN-kkokTCbVE9urwgP_AEcw).
4. Maintain your distance from other family units after briefly greeting one another.

You will find a chart on our website at <https://woodburyumc.net/covid-recovery%2Freopening> to help you determine when it is safe for you to return to in-person worship after being ill or having been in close contact with someone else who is ill.

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## **Thank You To Food Bank Volunteers!**

Twice a year the WUMC sends volunteers each Friday for the month to the Woodbury Foodbank to help serve the people who utilize this important ministry of the Community Services Council. This past February those volunteers were Sam & Meg Temple, Barb & Jeff Hunt, Rae Ann & Jay Hockenberry (who actually served on Thursday because of bad weather on Friday). Gillian Griswold and Pastor Michael Cobb were prepared to serve on the first Friday of February, but bad weather closed the foodbank that day. Thank you to all those who gave of their time to help a neighbor in need. Our next month for providing volunteers in September. It is never too early to check your calendar.

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## **From Woodbury to Ecuador and Back Again – Love in Action**

In 2017 the WUMC began a relationship with the people and the Methodist Church in Ecuador through a connection with Sara Flores and her husband Dakin Cook, missionaries with the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM). The church has supported ministry with the people of Ecuador through prayer, financial gifts to GBGM ministries (Advance Specials in Methodist lingo), sale of handcrafted items with proceeds going directly to Sara for discretionary use there or Advance Specials, and in 2018 a mission team of 12 (most of whom were from the WUMC) spent a week of service in churches in Atucucho and El Prado in Ecuador. But the love and service are not one way. In addition to the hospitality and the care our mission team received while in Ecuador, on several occasions over the past 5 years we have been the recipients of heartfelt prayer from the churches in Ecuador. The last time being on the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of September 11<sup>th</sup>.

With this ongoing mutual commitment to share the love of Christ between the one body in two locations in mind the **Mission & Outreach Committee will be receiving a special offering throughout the season of Lent** to provide continuing support of the ministries of Sara Flores and the Methodist Churches in Ecuador. While the needs in Ecuador are varied, which include programs for children, support for pastors, and just recently recovery from flood damage at the end of January, Sara has asked that the gifts we raise go towards the building of a church and community center for El Prado and surrounding communities. Sara writes, "To achieve this dream, we are in a campaign to promote funds for the purchase of land. The goal is to reach \$20,000 U.S., and we have already saved \$5,000. We pray, confident that we can achieve this goal in 2022. We invite Woodbury UMC to be part of this dream."

**Each Sunday in Lent there will be well-marked locations in the church where a gift can be left. Gifts can also be mailed to the church or donations can be made through the church's website. If a check is written please make it out to "WUMC" with "Ecuador" on the memo line.**

Lent is traditionally a time when people give something up. This Lent may we also take up this way of deepening our Methodist worldwide connection.

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## Children & Youth Ministry News

### **CONFIRMATION CLASS – MARCH SCHEDULE**

- THIS WEEKEND! Sunday, March 6 - 12:30 to 4:30 PM – Mini-Retreat
- Sunday March 27 - 4 to 6:30 PM - Class

**FAMILY ACTIVITY:** Spend some time with the Lord's Prayer during the coming week by reciting it out loud daily, as a family. Consider reflecting on it, either individually or together as desired or able. How do the words feel different to you when you say them out loud? Does it feel different saying them together than it does saying them out loud but by yourself?

Please let us know if you read these articles – we'd appreciate your input.  
Thank you for your support of the kids. -Catherine Mason

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### **NEW: Lenten Lectionary Bible Study!**

For the Lenten season, we are going to offer a Bible study focused on going deeper into the scripture that was just preached in Sunday's sermon. You have two ways to participate: We are meeting via Zoom on Tuesday evening, and in the Assembly Room at the church on Wednesday at noon (bring your own lunch).

The intent is to give you an opportunity to read the scripture and hear Pastor Michael preach on it, and then to regroup and discuss it. Lent has traditionally been a time to prepare, usually for baptism and membership, so let's use this Lenten Bible study to consider where God may be calling us as a congregation. We will consider the sermon that was just given along with each scripture, and consider what the message suggests for our congregation. Please contact Pastor Michael with any questions.

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### **Kudo Korner**

**Thanks to last Sunday's worship leaders:** *Rynn Naylor, Communion Steward & Liturgist; Mary Grace Styblo, Acolyte; Bud and Jo Ann Behlman, Greeters and Ushers; Theron Kissinger, Audio Visual Technician.*

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### **The Prayer Corner**

**During Lent please join together all are invited to join together for a time of prayer prior to worship from 9:30 to 10 AM in the room off of Fellowship Hall.**

***In your prayers please remember:*** *The People of Ukraine, our sisters and brothers in Christ, after recent mudslides in Ecuador. The following individuals from the WUMC Congregation: Michael Etcheto, grandson of Barbara Etcheto, Lou Calabrese (husband of Lynn Ramsden-Calabrese); our homebound members, Florence Brown and Linda Bailey; Our Confirmands: Annabelle Cloud, Cody & Zachary Cordova, James Levario, and Matthew Shupenis*

***To add other individuals to the weekly prayer list,  
please reach out to Carolyn Shay, 203-518-3177 or 1jerseygirl52@gmail.com***

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### **Altar Flowers**

The floral chart will be placed in the Narthex for your convenience if you would like to select a date further into 2022. REMEMBER: if you don't have an occasion, you can donate and we will be sure to deliver them to one of our homebound people during that week. There has been an increase in floral pricing to \$35.00 for 2022 due to the increase of all supplies used for the arrangements. Call the office at (203) 263-4775 or email at [wumc@woodburyumc.net](mailto:wumc@woodburyumc.net).

## Schedule For This Week

<b>Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Ash Wednesday Worship</b> , 7pm, Sanctuary No Bell Choir Rehearsal this week Voice Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 PM, Sanctuary
<b>Tuesday., March 8<sup>th</sup></b>	Lenten Lectionary Bible Study, 6:30 PM, via Zoom
<b>Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup></b>	Lenten Lectionary Bible Study, noon, Assembly Room (bring lunch!) Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6:00 PM, Sanctuary Voice Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 PM, Sanctuary
<b>Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup></b>	Church Council Meeting, 7 PM, Assembly Room

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## HELP WANTED

# WUMC Looking to Hire a Church Custodian



4-6 hours/week



This position will consist of vacuuming, cleaning the bathrooms, disinfecting high-touch surfaces, and collecting and disposing of trash and recyclables.

If you know someone who may be interested, please have them contact  
the church at:

PHONE: (203) 263-4775

EMAIL: [wumc@woodburyumc.net](mailto:wumc@woodburyumc.net)

Additional information available from Bud Behlman (203-206-9276)