



WOODBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4 Church Street  
Woodbury, CT 06798  
www.woodburyumc.net

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Rev. John A. Thomason, Pastor

# Woodbury United Methodist Messenger

Wednesday, September 16, 2020



**Outdoor Worship**  
**9:30 AM, Woodbury North Green**  
**(Please note: Sanctuary Backup Site)**  
**Video Premiere: 4 PM**  
**Audio Playback: 6 PM**

**Reminder - due to our unusual circumstances this fall, those responsible for preparation of the worship space and online video have requested that we continue meeting at 9:30 AM until further notice.**

**The sanctuary is now serving as our backup place of worship in the event of inclement weather.** The sanctuary has been deep-cleaned and sanitized, and the best possible procedures for ventilation will be implemented. If it is raining on a Sunday morning, please come directly to the sanctuary for the worship service if you are comfortable doing so.

For those who choose not to join us in-person at this time, we fully understand and support your personal caution and care for others. Services (outside or inside) will continue to be recorded and made available on our website at approximately 4 PM on Sunday afternoons.

The options for accessing services electronically remain the same:

- Go to <http://www.woodburyumc.net> and click the link at the top left of the home page. Facebook and Instagram may also be used.
- **Audio only playback:** dial 701-802-5464; enter PIN with hash sign 659965#. Please mute your phones to eliminate background noise. This playback will be available at 6 PM.
- **Archived worship services** may also be accessed from the main pull-down menu.

September 20: 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**Pastor's Sermon: *All's Fair in Love and Generosity***

**Reminder – Pastor John is away and Rev. Paul Hibbard will be our guest preacher on Sunday morning.**

**Lectionary Readings: Philippians 1:21-30 (NRSV)  
Matthew 20:21-30 (NRSV)**

**Liturgist: Joann King**  
**Singers: Anna Bower Richardson and Laura Brush**

**Please note: There will be no Zoom Fellowship Hour during the period when we are worshipping outdoors.**

**REGULAR OFFICE HOURS RESUME TUESDAY, Sept. 22nd:  
Tuesday-Friday, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM**

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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!

### **WUMC Supports Early Childhood Center**

Our church's COVID-19 Support Fund was put to excellent use recently. One of our faithful members, *Catherine Mason*, works at the Early Childhood Center in Naugatuck. Catherine made us aware of the need of many young students for back-to-school materials. Our church gave a monetary gift to the Center and received a letter of thanks from its director, *Meagan Rolla*.

**Early Childhood Center at Central Avenue**  
28 Central Avenue  
Naugatuck CT 06770



Telephone: (203) 720-5224  
Fax: (203) 720-5547

August 28, 2020

Dear Reverend Thompson,

Please accept this letter as an expression of my sincere gratitude to you and your congregation. The generous donation of materials for our students to use at home while they are participating in virtual learning will help our students and families immensely. They will be able to create their own classrooms at home, and have all the materials needed to thrive as learners.

You have truly made a difference for the Early Childhood Center Community, and we are extremely grateful.

Sincerely,



Meagan Rolla

# Upcoming Events

**Sunday, September 27** – Joint worship service with St. Paul's Episcopal Church; 9:30 AM, North Green; *Rev. Tuesday Rupp* (St. Paul's rector), preaching

**Sunday, September 27** – Annual Connecticut District Conference (virtual), 4:30 – 6:30 PM

**Sunday, October 25** – Joint Church Conference for Valley Parish congregations (virtual; time to be determined)

**Friday, October 30** – WUMC Church Conference (virtual), 6:00 PM

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## Fall Women's Study 2020

WUMC women (all ages welcome) - Please join us on Sunday mornings 8:45 to 9:45 am beginning on September 20 thru November 1. Location to be determined depending on current recommendations for possible in person meeting or Zoom / Google Meet.

The book being studied is *Grace: More Than We Deserve, Greater Than We Imagine*, by *Max Lucado* (available from Christian Book Distributors or Amazon). For updated information, please contact Jen Carnes at 203-206-6746.

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## Children & Youth Ministry

Back to School @ HOME RESOURCES for continued Christian Education are available on the church website & the following sites:

- <https://www.cokesburykids.com/free-resources/>
- <https://www.nyac.com/childrensministries>

NOTE: Children & Youth programming is currently "on hold" as we explore possibilities for alternative activities. We miss you all and wish you best of luck for your school year. We hope to see you all in Sunday school soon!

Thank you to all parents that participated in the Children & Youth Survey. Your input is greatly appreciated and helpful for informing decisions.

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## Kudo Korner

**Thanks** to last Sunday's worship leaders: *Barbara Etcheto*; liturgist, *Vinita Chapman*; singer, and Children's Time led by *Sherry Swanhall*.

**Thanks** to *Catherine Mason*, who has been elected to serve as WUMC's Lay Delegate to the New York Annual Conference on October 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Anna Shupenis** was featured in a photograph recently in the *Waterbury Republican-American* newspaper recognizing her volunteerism at the Food Truck Festival which took place in Bethlehem, CT last weekend in place of the annual Bethlehem Fair. Congratulations Anna on another effort well done!

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## The Prayer Corner:

**In the hospital:** *Steve Thomas* (surgery on September 17 at Danbury Hospital)

**Out-patient treatments:** Jackie Fleming

**Out-patient tests:** Andi Craig

**Please remember** school administrators, teachers, and students as they begin an extraordinary and challenging academic year. Kate (Thomason) Keeler requests special prayers for Helen Ponella, Kate's middle school principal in Queens, New York.

**Inpatient rehabilitation:** Angelina Vaiuso, mother of Karen Williams (Bethel Health Care Center, Bethel); Marie Petty, aunt of Kathy Craig (Abbott Terrace, Waterbury)

**Recovering at home:** Carol Hennessey; Gary McClendon; Paige LeBlanc, mother of Jessie Lynch (Manchester, CT); Dominic Vaiuso, father of Karen Williams (Newtown); Rev. John Esposito, pastor of Gaylordsville UMC and friend of Pastor John (recovering from COVID-19); 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:** Dave Davison, father-in-law of Gary McClendon; John and Jackie Fleming; 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:** Jean Lilly, mother of Meg Temple (Cincinnati, OH), the Keith family, Manny Gesh, Beth, Jillian & Alex Buzzannco, Kelly Etcheto, Vernessa Kingsbury, Jim Congdon, Jane True, Blair Feller, Marilyn Bender, Eddie Lenox (son of Grace Bell), Ethan Murphy, (great grandson of Grace Bell), Brigitte Weimann, Ryan DeRidder and family, Laura & Stuart Brush, Janet Grant (sister of Betty Lines), and The Thomson family of Ferndale, WA (family of Kathy Craig).



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.

## 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!!!

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## 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!**