



WOODBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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



Rev. John A. Thomason, Pastor

Woodbury United Methodist Messenger

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

Worship Moves into the Sanctuary Starting This Sunday, 10:30 AM

Video Premiere: 4 PM
Audio Playback: 6 PM



After meeting outdoors on the North Green since mid-July, our worship service will move indoors for the cold weather months beginning this Sunday, October 4. We will resume our regular starting time of 10:30 AM.

Please see the September 30 “Life of the Church” article written by Lay Leader *Mark Davis* and Pastor *John* for reminders about protocols to be followed for indoor worship. The sanctuary has been deep-cleaned and sanitized, and the best possible procedures for ventilation will be implemented.

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 will continue to be recorded and made available at the times indicated above.

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.
- **Archived worship services** may also be accessed from the main pull-down menu.

October 4: 18th Sunday after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday
Sacrament of Holy Communion

Pastor’s Sermon: *A Window on the World*
Sermon Texts: Isaiah 25:6-10; Revelation 7:9-10

Liturgist: Barbara Etcheto

Singer: Vinita Chapman

Observed annually on the 1st Sunday in October, **World Communion Sunday** calls the Church to be the universal, inclusive Church. The special offering received this Sunday supports World Communion Scholarships, Ethnic Scholarships, and the Ethnic In-Service Training Program. An offering envelope will be inserted into the worship bulletin for your donations.



Holy Communion will continue to be offered using individual kits. Worshipers at home are encouraged to purchase their own elements and celebrate with us as they watch or listen to the service remotely.

Benevolence Offering

WUMC's benevolence fund is used by the pastor to help persons in our community who need food or other financial assistance. The fund is supported by loose plate offerings on Communion Sundays. Because of our unusual worship arrangements in recent months, the Communion offering has not been taken and the fund is depleted. Now that we are returning to the sanctuary for worship, we are resuming the benevolence offering. A special offering box or plate will be placed at the entrance to the sanctuary this Sunday to receive your donations.

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

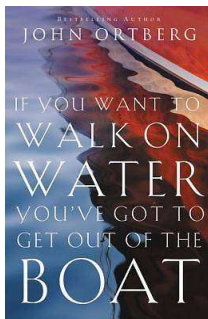
Fall Women's Study 2020

WUMC women (all ages welcome) - Please join us on Sunday mornings 8:45 to 9:45 AM beginning on **October 4th thru November 15th**. 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.

Mid-Week Bible Study Resumes

Have you missed the self-reflection, spiritual nourishment, and Christian fellowship of our mid-week studies? Were you hoping to join a mid-week study for the first time this Fall?

If so, please plan to join the 6-session study based on John Ortberg's award-winning book, ***"If You Want To Walk On Water... You've Got To Get Out Of The Boat"***



Chapters include:

- What's Water Walking?
- The Tragedy of The Unopened Gift
- Find Your Calling And Get Your Feet Wet!
- Facing Our Challenges, Conquering Our Fears
- Good News For Cave Dwellers
- Learning To Wait On Our Big God

THIS STUDY HELPS YOU ANSWER CHRIST'S CALL TO GREATER FAITH AND A NEW WAY OF KNOWING HIM. AS A RESULT, YOU WILL LEARN TO:

- Recognize God's presence
- Discern between faith and foolishness
- Not only expect problems, but field them when they come
- Reorient your thoughts about failure and see it as an opportunity to grow
- Wait on the Lord
- And, ultimately, connect more deeply with God

Understanding these are unpredictable times, we are planning to offer the series both online and in person (if State and Conference guidelines permit), beginning Tuesday, October 20th at 6:30 PM.

If you are interested in joining this study and want to purchase a book, they are in the office – cost is \$11.00 each - please contact:
Bud Behlman (phone/text) 203-206-9276; (email) budbehlman@charter.net

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!

Church Conference Schedule

Please note: The upcoming meetings are Church Conferences in which all members may participate and vote. (A Charge Conference involves members of the Church Council only.)

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

District Conference Highlights

On Sunday, September 27, the Connecticut District held its yearly **District Conference** remotely. *Pastor John* represented our church at the on-line event. Inspiring messages were brought by Bishop *Thomas J. Bickerton*, District Superintendent *Rev. Alpher Sylvester*, and *Rev. Marvin Moss*, the new Director of Congregational Development and Revitalization for the NYAC. District Committees were nominated and elected, and Certified Lay Servants were commissioned. Our own *Rynn Naylor* was recognized for having completed a Lay Servant course on "Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts."

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.

Kudo Korner

Thanks to last Sunday's worship leaders: *JoAnn Behlman*, liturgist; *Carolyn Shay*, singer. Thanks to all worshipers for your hospitality to members of St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

The Prayer Corner:

Christian sympathy is extended to *Kathy Craig* and family in the death of Kathy's aunt, *Marie Petty*, on September 28 in Waterbury. A graveside service will be held in Woodbury on Friday, October 2.

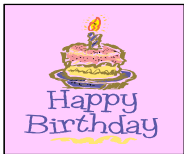
Inpatient rehabilitation: *Angelina Vaiuso*, mother of *Karen Williams* (Bethel Health Care Center, Bethel); *Marie Petty*, aunt of *Kathy Craig* (Abbott Terrace, Waterbury)

Recovering at home: *Steve Thomas*; *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: *Jackie and John Fleming*; *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 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. 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!