

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/respice 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.



Woodbury United Methodist Church



Mission Statement of the Woodbury United Methodist Church

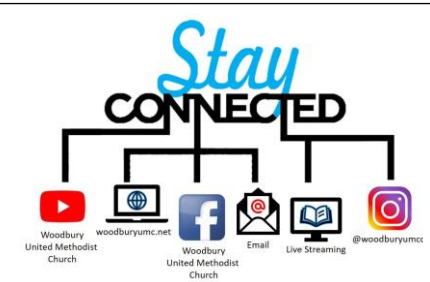
We are a welcoming Christian fellowship who celebrate and share God's love with everyone.

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!

Sunday, October 31, 2021



**Stay
CONNECTED**

- Woodbury United Methodist Church (YouTube)
- Woodburyumc.net (Website)
- Woodbury United Methodist Church (Facebook)
- Woodbury United Methodist Church (Email)
- Live Streaming (Live Streaming)
- @woodburyumcc (Instagram)

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors
4 Church Street, Woodbury, CT 06798
(203) 263-4775 • www.woodburyumc.net

Woodbury United Methodist Church

October 31, 2021
23rd Sunday after Pentecost

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

PRELUDE *In the Hall of the Mountain King* Edvard Grieg
From Peer Gynt

GREETING Pastor Michael Cobb

*CALL TO WORSHIP Shannon Cobb, Liturgist
Night comes early. Darkness surrounds us. The cool night air makes us shiver.

Lord, we know your light shines brighter in the darkness.

Fear wraps its poisonous fangs paralyzing our progress forward

Lord, we know your love casts out all fear.

We set our jaw and face our fear striking out on a path less travelled.

Lord, we know we are not alone for you are always with us.

May the light of Christ, the love of God and the presence of the Holy Spirit surround you always.

Amen and Amen!

*OPENING HYMN #368 *My Hope is Built*
Hymns led by the WUMC Chancel Choir

WE SEEK GOD'S PRESENCE IN PRAYER

*OPENING PRAYER (unison) led by Shannon Cobb

Holy God, we trust that you have gone before and are working, even when we don't see your purposes. Spirit of the Lord, lead us to rightly discern what is real, and not just react to what we think or have been told. You see the dry bones of barrenness and desolation. You know that too many of your children are oppressed, fragmented, miserable and unhappy, alienated from your blessing. Their present condition is not hopeless to you. In darkness, you are light. Lead us to pray as large, deep, and wide as your will for us.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

SAVE THE DATES

Sunday, October 31 – JOINT CHURCH CONFERENCE for Valley Parish Congregations Meeting – 3:00 PM – Zoom.

Wednesday, November 3 – ANNUAL CHARGE CONFERENCE 7:00 PM – Zoom

Sunday, November 7 – All Saint's Day Worship Service – please submit any names (of those that have passed within the past year) to be read during worship to the office **no later than November 1st.**

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 let Theron Kissinger know if you are able to help out that day.

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

THE PRAYER CORNER

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

Recovering at home: *Laura Brush; Gary McClendon; Pat Kurtz; Lynne Brencher; 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*



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.

Woodbury United Methodist Church

4 Church St., Woodbury, CT, 06798

Church phone: 203-263-4775

Web Site: www.woodburyumc.net

Church e-mail: wumc@woodburyumc.net

Church office hours: Tuesday- Friday, 9 AM – 3 PM

Rev. J. Michael Cobb, Pastor

Pastor's e-mail: pastormichael@woodburyumc.net

Mark Davis, Lay Leader

Kathy Craig, Office Administrator

Chris Shay, Director of Music

Mission Statement

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.

Week of October 31, 2021

Visitors are warmly welcomed! If you wish to learn more about WUMC's ministries, please take a copy of our weekly newsletter, *The Messenger*, which is available on the table at the registration area.

If you would like to become a member of the Woodbury United Methodist Church, please speak to Pastor Michael. Inquirers are asked to attend a two-session Membership Orientation class before joining the church.

Today is the 23rd Sunday after Pentecost on the Christian calendar. The Season after Pentecost, also called Ordinary Time, begins the day after Pentecost and ends the day before the First Sunday of Advent. The liturgical color is green, symbolizing growth in Christ.

Thanks to all those making special contributions to our worship service today: *Shannon Cobb*, Liturgist and Reader, *Lynn Ramsden-Calabrese*, Greeter and Usher; the *WUMC Chancel Choir*, Singers; *Theron Kissinger*, Audio Visual Technician.

Please note: 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 are also archived on the church's website 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#.
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WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE (GNT)

read by Shannon Cobb

Hebrew Bible Reading

Ezekiel: 37:1-14, pp. 938-939

I felt the powerful presence of the LORD, and his spirit took me and set me down in a valley where the ground was covered with bones. He led me all around the valley, and I could see that there were very many bones and that they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal man, can these bones come back to life?" I replied, "Sovereign LORD, only you can answer that!"

He said, "Prophecy to the bones. Tell these dry bones to listen to the word of the LORD. Tell them that I, the Sovereign LORD, am saying to them: I am going to put breath into you and bring you back to life. I will give you sinews and muscles, and cover you with skin. I will put breath into you and bring you back to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD."

So I prophesied as I had been told. While I was speaking, I heard a rattling noise, and the bones began to join together. While I watched, the bones were covered with sinews and muscles, and then with skin. But there was no breath in the bodies. God said to me, "Mortal man, prophesy to the wind. Tell the wind that the Sovereign LORD commands it to come from every direction, to breathe into these dead bodies, and to bring them back to life."

So I prophesied as I had been told. Breath entered the bodies, and they came to life and stood up. There were enough of them to form an army. God said to me, "Mortal man, the people of Israel are like these bones. They say that they are dried up, without any hope and with no future. So prophesy to my people Israel and tell them that I, the Sovereign LORD, am going to open their graves. I am going to take them out and bring them back to the land of Israel. When I open the graves where my people are buried and bring them out, they will know that I am the LORD. I will put my breath in them, bring them back to life, and let them live in their own land. Then they will know that I am the LORD. I have promised that I would do this—and I will. I, the LORD, have spoken."

*Gospel Reading

Matthew: 27: 45-54, pg. 44

At noon the whole country was covered with darkness, which lasted for three hours. At about three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud shout, "*Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?*" which means, "My God, my God, why did you abandon me?" Some of the people standing there heard him and said, "He is calling for Elijah!" One of them ran up at once, took a sponge, soaked it in cheap wine, put it on the end of a stick, and tried to make him drink it. But the others said, "Wait, let us see if Elijah is coming to save him!" Jesus again gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

Then the curtain hanging in the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split apart, the graves broke open, and many of God's people who had died were raised to life. They left the graves, and after Jesus rose from death, they went into the Holy City, where many people saw them. When the army officer and the soldiers with him who were watching Jesus saw the earthquake and everything else that happened, they were terrified and said, "He really was the Son of God!"

HYMN OF PREPARATION #572

Pass it On

SERMON

Pastor Cobb

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Pastor Cobb

Through loving deeds and generous acts, we become a blessing to others and give honor to Christ's name. What greater treat could we ask than to share in God's saving work?

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

Dry Bones
(led by the WUMC Chancel Choir)

arr. Tom Fettke

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Spirit of Life, we breathe our lives upon these gifts that they may be become a fertile plain of green life and strengthened hope for all who live in the valley of dry bones. May the wind of your love carry these gifts far beyond us to the places most in need of your compassionate grace. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

CLOSING HYMN #561

Jesus, United by Thy Grace

BENEDICTION

As we leave this place, let us hear the "rattling bones" coming together as you make your people who you intend them to be: healthy, whole, functioning, life-giving. Thank you for every sign of Your goodness we see, no matter how small. Stop short of nothing less than giving us a new heart, a new spirit, a new life. We go in peace to love and serve the Lord, **In the name of Christ. Amen!**

POSTLUDE

Toccata in D minor

JS Bach

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COVID Messaging Update – Week of October 25, 2021

Please remember to pre-register for worship services on our church website: www.woodburyumc.net

Please join us downstairs following worship for our first indoor Fellowship Hour. Simple grab-n-go refreshments of apple cider and donuts/muffins will be provided. We ask that masks be worn at all times, except when consuming refreshments. Social distancing of 6 feet between extended family units is required. Brief handshakes and hugs are fine if both parties agree. Weather permitting, children are encouraged to play in the courtyard under adult supervision (masks are still required). Be joyful, but help us protect the most vulnerable in our church family.

