



## WOODBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4 Church Street  
Woodbury, CT 06798

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

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

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Rev. John A. Thomason, Pastor

# Woodbury United Methodist Messenger

Wednesday, October 21, 2020



## Worship in the Sanctuary Sunday, 10:30 AM

**Video Premiere: 4 PM**

**Audio Playback: 6 PM**

WUMC members and friends are now gathering in the sanctuary for weekly worship. All future Sunday services will be held at the same time and place.

We continue to follow safety protocols established by the New York Annual Conference and, at the same time, seek to provide a worship experience that is welcoming and meaningful. For those who choose not to join us in-person at this time, services will continue to be recorded and made available at the times indicated above.

The options for accessing services electronically remain the same:

- **Video:** Go to <http://www.woodburyumc.net> and click the worship service link at the top of the home page. Facebook and Instagram may also be used.
- **Audio playback only:** 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 of the church website.

## October 25: 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**Pastor's Sermon:**

*May We Not Love Alike?*

**Lectionary Readings: Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17;  
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46**

**Liturgist: Joann King**

**Singers: Laura Brush, Joann King, Todd Purcell**

# Flowers Are Back!

Altar flowers greatly enhance our worship experience and provide a means for our members to honor loved ones. During the period when services were pre-recorded in the sanctuary and later offered outdoors, flower donations were suspended. Now that we have opened the sanctuary for weekly worship, we are resuming the practice of placing flowers in the chancel area. Our floral tribute this week is given by *Joann King* "In loving memory of her father *Ed Jenusaitis* and her brother *Bill Jenusaitis*, whose birthdays were the same day, October 27."



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. We will be contacting the Garden for preparations in our annual poinsettia delivery for the Christmas holiday. Watch for more information in the weeks to come.

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## Church Conference Schedule

**Sunday, October 25, 3:00 PM**

### Joint Church Conference for Valley Parish Congregations

The Connecticut District is divided into several "parishes" which unite neighboring churches for the purpose of mutual support and fellowship. WUMC participates in the "Valley Parish," which is composed of congregations stretching from Watertown to the north down through the Naugatuck Valley.

This coming Sunday, the Valley Parish will conduct a joint Church Conference at 3:00 PM by Zoom. Lay Leaders from each congregation will offer one-minute highlights of their church's ministry over the past year, accompanied by photos. Thanks to *Mark Davis* and *Theron Kissinger* for representing WUMC in these two ways.

All of our church members are invited to participate in the joint Church conference. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87254591872?pwd=U21zWlJSUi9JVnh6eE5VS1NDSVpmQT09>.

### Friday, October 30, 6:00 PM WUMC Church Conference

This gathering on October 30 is for our church only and will also be conducted by Zoom (information is listed below). District Superintendent *Rev. Alpher Sylvester* will preside. We will have a time of sharing about our ministry accomplishments and challenges, and also vote on essential church business. Again, all WUMC members may participate and vote at the Church Conference.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5373398652?pwd=MmVXaSswdzZ0QU9tS3hVczJCSXdsQT09>

Meeting ID: 537 339 8652

Passcode: !WUMC2020

Dial-in: (646) 558-8656 US

Meeting ID: 537 339 8652

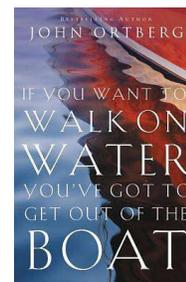
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## Mid-Week Bible Study Tuesdays at 6:30 PM

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

### Midweek Bible Study Fellowship Updates

- 1) Books have arrived and are available for \$11 each. You are able to purchase in the Narthex after Worship service; by calling the church office (203-263-4775); and by contacting Bud Behlman (203) 206-9276.
- 2) Bible Study/Fellowship started on **Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>** (6:30 – 8:00 PM) and will continue on Tuesday nights through November 24.
- 3) Meetings are in-person in Fellowship Hall noting the usual safety protocols will be followed with masks being required. Please bring your own book and Bible.
- 4) Meetings are held simultaneously online and on the phone.
  - Phone-in option: Call (646) 558-8656, Meeting ID: 838 4151 6435 and Passcode: 405251381
  - Online (Zoom) option: <https://zoom.us/join>, Meeting ID: 838 4151 6435 and Passcode: !WUMC2020
- 5) Contact Bud Behlman with any questions at 203-206-9276 or <mailto:budbehlman@charter.net>

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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!

## Another Opportunity to Provide Support

My name is *Robert Jenusaitis* and I am *Joann King's* brother. I will be moving to the Woodbury/Waterbury area in the next few months and I'm looking for a room/apartment in exchange for work. I'm presently working for AARP as an associate for Salvation Army. In the past, I have done caregiving for the elderly and for people with special needs. I have also been a public school teacher for 13 years from 1988-2001. I have also been studying and practicing various kinds of wellness modalities for 25 years. I'm more than able to do yard work and I'm very decent cook.

I consider myself to be conscientious and respectful and I will present references upon request. I thank you for taking time to consider my request. Please contact me via my cell phone or [email--360-821-9149hopelovenow@yahoo.com](mailto:email-360-821-9149hopelovenow@yahoo.com)

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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>

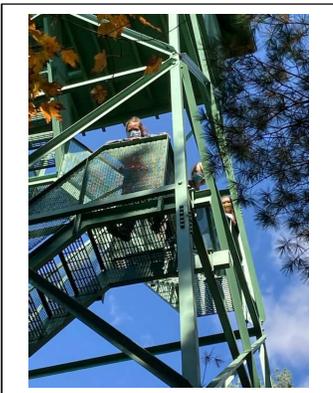
NOTE: Children & Youth programming is currently “on hold” as we explore possibilities for alternative activities. We miss you all and wish you best of luck for your school year. We hope to see you all in Sunday school soon!

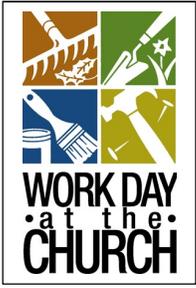
## Youth Group Hikes thru Woodbury

Two hiking opportunities were held for the youth group on Sunday, October 18!

- Hike 1: hike to the Tower in Orenaug Park.
- Hike 2: Whittemore Sanctuary hike at 1:15.

Here's some photos from the hikes. Watch for more information soon regarding a November hike for our youth and anyone that wants to participate. **Please RSVP to Catherine Mason or Meg Temple** to attend these hikes.





# Annual Fall Clean-Up Time at WUMC

**Mark your calendar - Saturday, November 14, 2020.** Members of the Board of Trustees and anyone who would like to volunteer to participate in the **Fall Clean-Up Day** should plan on being at the church for a 9 AM start – until finished. Leaves will be raked, windows will be washed and a variety of other necessities will be wrapped up for the winter months to follow. If anyone would like to help out, please bring your rakes, shovels, gloves and lots of energy. This is a great way for our youth to obtain community service hours for school as well. Come on down and see *Theron Kissinger*.

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## Kudo Korner

**Thanks** to last Sunday's worship leaders: *Mark Davis, Carolyn Shay and Bud Behlman*, Lay Witnesses; *Rod Carnes*, liturgist; *Matt Bodwell, Rod Carnes, and Kate Keeler*, musicians and singers; *Kate Keeler*, Children's Time.

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### The Prayer Corner:

**Congratulations** to the *Thomas* family upon the birth of *Hazel Rae Thomas* on October 17 at Waterbury Hospital. Hazel weighed 8 lb. 3 oz. The proud parents are *Dylan Thomas* and *Carly Neto*; the proud grandparents are *Steve and Dawn Thomas*. We rejoice in God's gift of a new life!

**Christian sympathy** is extended to *Rev. Betty Lines* in the recent death of her nephew, *William Brazier*, in Virginia. William was a retired submarine officer in the U.S. Navy and will be buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

**Please continue to remember** other relatives of *Rev. Betty Lines* who are seriously ill: niece *Sharon Parish* (hospice care in Idaho); and brother-in-law *Stephen Lines* (recovering from a stroke in Florida).

**Inpatient rehabilitation:** *Angelina Vaiuso*, mother of *Karen Williams* (Bethel Health Care Center, Bethel)

**Recovering at home:** *Ally Roche; 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:** *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 Buzzannc*, *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. 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 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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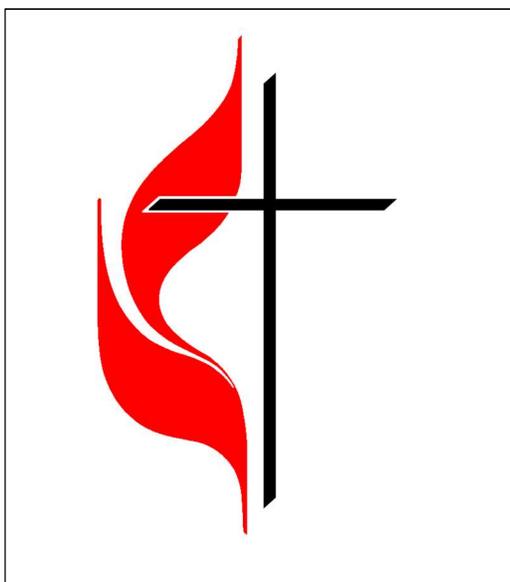
## **Mission Statement of the Woodbury United Methodist Church**

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!**





## News from the Connecticut District

Dear Friends,

The DS would like to bring your attention to the invitation below from Roena Littlejohn, Conference Lay Leader.

October 9, 2020

My Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I greet you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who is first and foremost in my life. Please share this important announcement with your congregation.

### ANNUAL LAITY CELEBRATION

Saturday, November 14, 2020

Time of this virtual event 10:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.

### Study Book

We will be studying the book *Black & White: Disrupting Racism One Friendship at a Time*, by Teesha Hadra & John Hambrick. We have a limited number of copies available at the Conference Center for purchase, on a first-requested, first-mailed basis.

If you choose to purchase your own copy of the book (from Amazon, Cokesbury, Barnes & Noble, etc.), there will be no charge for the Laity Celebration.

If you wish to purchase a copy from NYAC and have it mailed to you, your cost will be \$15. **HURRY, ONLINE REGISTRATION BEGINS October 9, 2020!**

In the service of the Lord,  
Roena Littlejohn, Chair: Board of Laity  
203-331-9653



**Rev. Alpher Sylvester,  
Superintendent**

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New York Conference of  
The United Methodist  
Church

***In Connecticut, After God, We Put People First!***