



## WOODBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4 Church Street  
Woodbury, CT 06798

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Rev. John A. Thomason, Pastor

# Woodbury United Methodist Messenger

Tuesday, December 22, 2020

## HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

- This will be the last edition of the *Messenger* for 2020.
- Kathy Craig will be on vacation and the church office will be closed the week of December 27, reopening on Tuesday, January 5. The next edition of the *Messenger* will be published that week.
- Pastor John will be in town through January 3, then be on spiritual retreat at Lake George, NY, from January 4 – 10. In his absence, pastoral coverage will be provided by Rev. Paul Hibbard (860-488-7705). Paul will lead worship and preach on Sunday, January 10.



## December 24: Christmas Eve

5:50 PM – Slide/video greetings from church friends

6:00 PM (one service only)

Also livestreamed and archived on the WUMC website

A musical Prelude with virtual greetings from members of the church family . . . a blending of worship elements from our usual two Christmas Eve services, including a Children's Time . . . the lighting of the Christ Candle . . . the retelling of the Christmas story through Scriptures and carols . . . the passing of the Light of Christ.

If weather permits, worshipers in the sanctuary will be invited to go to the enclosed courtyard on Main Street at the conclusion of the service to sing *Silent Night*.

**Pastor's Sermon: *Silent Night***

**Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96, Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20**

**Liturgist: Rynn Naylor**

**Musicians and Singers: Matt Bodwell, Rod Carnes, Jeff and Barb Hunt,  
Kate Keeler, Anna Bower Richardson, Choral Collage**

**Children's Time: *Come to the Manger: Wonder of Advent*, from SkitGuys  
Led by Anna and Matthew Shupenis**

# December 27: First Sunday after Christmas

**Pastor's Sermon:** *A Sign That Will Be Opposed*

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3; Psalm 148  
Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

**Liturgist and Children's Time Leader:** Bud Behlman

**Singer:** Carolyn Shay

# Wednesday, December 30: New Year's Prayer Vigil

7:00 – 7:10 PM in the enclosed courtyard on Main Street

7:15 – 7:45 PM, sanctuary

Also livestreamed and archived on the WUMC website

The Prayer Vigil originally scheduled for December 17 was postponed because of the snowstorm. An alternative Prayer Vigil will be offered on December 30, providing our members and friends with an opportunity to lift up to God their joys and concerns as we end a difficult year and begin a new one which will also be full of challenges.

# January 3: Epiphany Sunday

## Sacrament of Holy Communion



**The Epiphany of the Lord (January 6)** celebrates the coming of the wise men (magi), who brought gifts to the Christ Child, representing Gentile worshipers of the Jewish Messiah. We will observe Epiphany on Sunday, January 3.

**Pastor's Sermon:** *This Little Light of Mine*

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14  
Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

**Liturgist:** Rynn Naylor

**Reader:** Rebecca Hibbard

**Musicians and Singers:** Rebecca Hibbard, cello; Alexandra Jablon, violin

**Children's Time:** led by the Walkup family

**PLEASE NOTE:** We are pleased to continue to provide communion kits for those worshipping at home. If you were delivered a kit for December's Communion Service, we will deliver them to you again next week. Anyone else desiring a kit for January should call the office and leave a message with your name and how many kits are needed and whether you would like the kits delivered or you would be able to pick them up at the church.



# Please Join Us for Livestreamed Worship Events

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 will also be available for later viewing. Later phone broadcasts will no longer be provided.

The options for accessing services electronically remain the same:

- Video: Go to <http://www.woodburyumc.net> and click the link at the top of the 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#.

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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!

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## Children & Youth Ministry

@ HOME RESOURCES for continued Christian Education

- <https://www.cokesburykids.com/free-resources>
- <https://www.nyac.com/childrensministries>
- Scripture Reading: Luke 2:22-40 Jesus Presented in the Temple

**Children & Youth Ministry Programming** • Confirmation class is on holiday break until January 10.

We hope you have enjoyed our Advent in a bag series. More information to come on Sunday school and youth group in the New Year.

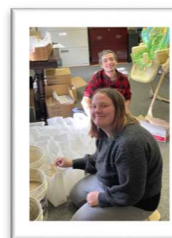
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## Kudo Korner

**Thanks** to last Sunday's worship leaders: *Rod Carnes*, liturgist; *Zachary Cordova*, Advent candle lighter; *Matt Bodwell*, *Rod Carnes*, and *Kate Keeler*, musicians; *Morgan Phillippe*, *Grace Walkup*, and *Anna Walkup*, Children's Time.

**Thanks** to *Rynn Naylor* and *Venetia Phillippe* for arranging the poinsettias last Saturday morning to add to the already beautiful surroundings in the sanctuary. Thank you to all those that generously donated a plant either in celebration or memory of a loved one. Please see the poinsettia listing at the end of this Messenger.

**Thanks** to *Andi Craig* and *Dave Markey* for helping fill the luminary bags that will light the steps and walkway of our church on Christmas Eve.



# The Prayer Corner:

**We rejoice** in the recovery of persons in our church family who experienced COVID symptoms in recent weeks: *Travis and Abby Cloud, Toby and Ed McGrath, and Grace Bower Richardson*. We also offer prayers for *Janna Boettcher*, a former church member now living in North Carolina who has tested positive for COVID.

**Please remember** our Confirmands: *Cody Cordova, Zachary Cordova, James Levario, Matthew Shupenis*; their adult leaders: *Catherine Mason, Meg Temple, John Thomason*; and their mentors: *Mike Boisseau, Mollie Cole, Rev. Paul Hibbard, Carolyn Shay*. Confirmation classes are on a brief hiatus through the holidays and will resume on January 10, 2021.

**Christian sympathy** is extended to *Theresa Pagano* and *Sue Farrell* in the death of their husband and father, *Richard Pagano*, on December 20 in Waterbury. Sue is a close friend of *Kathy Craig*.

**Christian sympathy** is extended to *Jeff, Barb, David, and Alyssa Hunt* in the death of Jeff's mother, *Anne Hunt*, on December 22 in Clinton, NY. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

**Upcoming surgery:** *Emilie Cole* (outpatient procedure on December 24 in Naugatuck)

**Outpatient tests:** *Bob Asman, Dave Brencher*

**Recovering at home:** *Gary McClendon; Ally Roche; Steve Thomas; Carol Hennessey; Paige LeBlanc*, mother of *Jessie Lynch* (Manchester, CT); *Dominic Vaiuso*, father of *Karen Williams* (Newtown); *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:** *Mary Wilkins*, sister of *Barb Hunt* (Rochester, NY); *Jackie and John Fleming*; *Dave Davison*, father-in-law of *Gary McClendon*; *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:** 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); *Jean Lilly*, mother of *Meg Temple* (Cincinnati, OH), *Manny Gesh, Jane True, Blair Feller, Marilyn Bender, Ryan DeRidder and family, Laura & Stuart Brush, Janet Grant* (sister of *Betty Lines*).



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. . .**

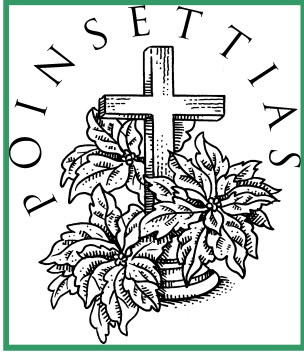
**HANDICAPPED PARKING** - - these are the three spaces outside the office doors (Church Street Entrance). **Please do NOT park there unless you have a handicapped parking tag. If you do park there, please be sure to leave enough room for the people using the handicapped ramp.**

❖ **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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2020

*The beautiful poinsettias, which adorn our sanctuary are given by;*

*From Rev. Paul Beavers, Sr.; In loving memory of Lillian Beavers.*

*From David & Lynne Brencher; In loving memory of Ray & Ginny Fairty, George & Marion Brencher, and Buck & Sally Pedrick.*

*From the Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Stuart Brush; In memory of all our family members whom we miss greatly.*

*From Kathy Craig; In celebration of my new granddaughter, Alivia Marie, and in memory of my friend, Laura Stasaitis.*

*From Mark Davis; In loving memory Abbie's grandparents: Bruce and Norma Davis & Roderick and Doris Blair.*

*From the Hibbard family; In loving memory of our parents and Rebecca's gammas & poppops.*

*From Joann King; In honor of Joann's aunt, Colette Shukis and Steve's mom, Jane King.*

*From Carolyn Shay; In loving memory of our parents; Arthur & Elizabeth Ayars and Alyce & Joseph Bishop.*

*From Christine Smith; In loving memory of her brother-in-law, Jack O'Brien and her parents, George & Hope Smith.*

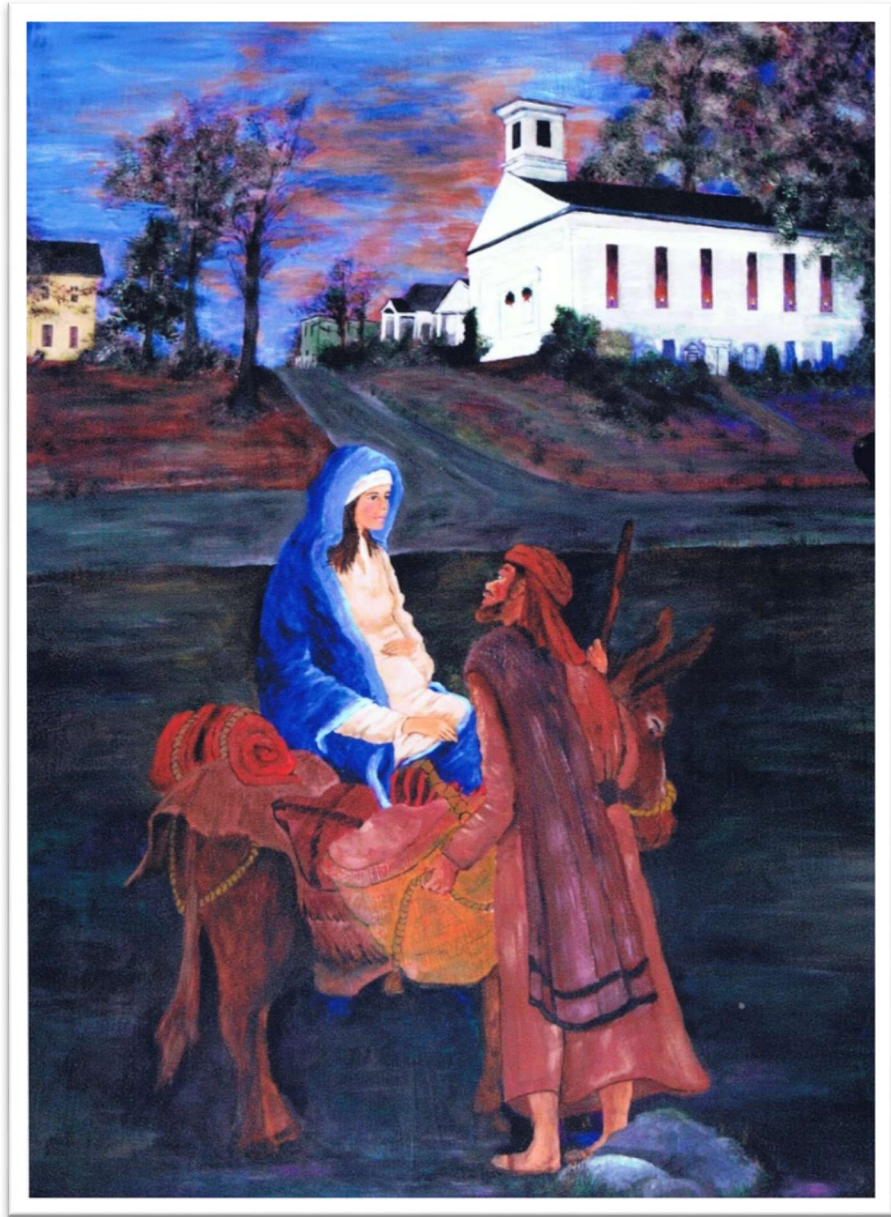




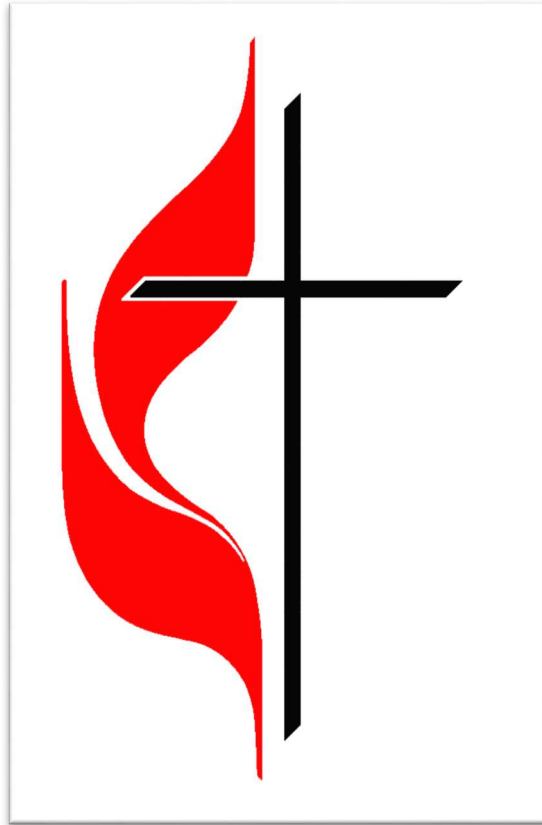
## JANUARY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS AT WUMC

Sandra Carbonaro	Jan 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Lynne Brencher	Jan 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Mel Cole & Christine Smith	Jan 4 <sup>th</sup>
Jack Reyes	Jan 6 <sup>th</sup>
JoAnn Behlman, Austin Fimmano & Jasmyn Malagutti	Jan 7 <sup>th</sup>
Michelene Todd	Jan 8 <sup>th</sup>
Bill Wilhelms	Jan 9 <sup>th</sup>
Lindsey Behlman & Clement Quintyne	Jan 10 <sup>th</sup>
Kathy Craig, Josh Harwood & Jeff Jones	Jan 11 <sup>th</sup>
Travis Cloud	Jan 12 <sup>th</sup>
Florence Brown "102"	Jan 13 <sup>th</sup>
Tesu Beavers & Kathy Bower Richardson	Jan 16 <sup>th</sup>
Janna Boettcher & Dawson O'Hara	Jan 19 <sup>th</sup>
Regina Barcello	Jan 20 <sup>th</sup>
Samantha Roche	Jan 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Nathaniel Shay	Jan 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Skyler D'Andrea	Jan 24 <sup>th</sup>
Martha Asman	Jan 26 <sup>th</sup>
Paul Beavers	Jan 29 <sup>th</sup>
Barbara Yates	Jan 30 <sup>th</sup>

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU ALL,  
BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS ARE ON THEIR WAY!**



Thank you to *Dawn Brownell* for her donation of an oil painting created a number of years ago while her and husband Tom were in Woodbury, CT



## **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!**