



WOODBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Rev. John A. Thomason, Pastor

Woodbury United Methodist Messenger

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

A Holy Lent

Lent is a 40-day season of spiritual preparation for Easter, beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on Holy Saturday.

This year, WUMC'S Lenten journey is focusing on the end-point of Christ's earthly journey – the cross – where he uttered 7 last "words." Adam Hamilton's book/video series, *Final Words from the Cross*, is serving as our guide. Pastor John is preaching a Lenten sermon series highlighting each of the words in their traditional order. The adult Bible Study Fellowship is exploring the corresponding chapter in Hamilton's book each Tuesday night in Lent (see below).

February 28: Second Sunday in Lent

Pastor's Sermon:

Final Words: Today You Will Be with Me in Paradise

Text: Luke 23:32-33, 39-43

Rev. Paul Hibbard, Liturgist and Children's Time Leader
Morgan and Venetia Phillippe, singers

A Call to Prayer during Lent

" In Christ there is no east or west,
In Him no south or north.
Just one great fellowship of LOVE,
Throughout the whole wide earth!
John Oxenham 1913
United Methodist Hymnal

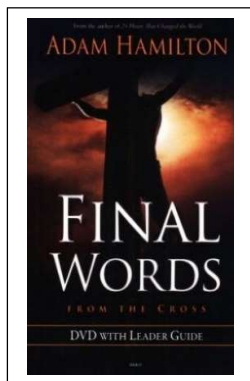
By now, many of you have read the letter in last week's Messenger from Sara Flores and Dakin Cook. They are the missionaries we have a covenant relationship with and who we worked with on our mission trip to Ecuador.

The country of Ecuador is also suffering greatly from the pandemic. Sara and Dakin, along with many pastors and their churches, continue to reach out and minister to the people in need in their communities. A specific request from Sara and Dakin was made, that during this Lenten season, every day at 3:00 p.m. (and 4:00 pm for us after 3/14 when we go to Daylight Savings Time), that we join them and churches all over Ecuador to pray for our world that so desperately “needs this unity of prayer and spirit”.

What a beautiful way to share with our sisters and brothers in Christ and reflect on God’s love during the 40 days of Lent! The power of prayer and the grace and love of our Lord are amazing!!! Won’t you join our prayer ministry team and pray each day?!

Carolyn Shay for the WUMC Prayer Ministry Team

LENTEN VIDEO & DISCUSSION SERIES



Christ’s “final words from the cross” can offer a new understanding of his teachings, his faith, and his own relationship with God.

And Jesus’ words can do the same for each of us. Helping us to renew our relationship with God, strengthen our faith, and live the teachings of Jesus.

In his book “Final Words from the Cross”, well-known pastor and author, Adam Hamilton, provides fresh insight into Jesus’ final words through the perspective of those who witnessed the crucifixion.

In an optional seventh session, he moves beyond the cross to Jesus’ words to the disciples on the road to Emmaus and to those who were witnesses to the Resurrection. (excerpt from Christianbook.com)

Sessions include:

- ❖ “Father Forgive Them.”
- ❖ “Today you will be with me in paradise.”
- ❖ “Behold your son”” Behold your mother”.
- ❖ “My God, My God why have you forsaken me.”
- ❖ “I thirst.”
- ❖ “It is finished” ...” Into your hands I commit my spirit.”

Please join this compelling discussion/fellowship, which will parallel Pastor John’s sermon series.

DAY: Tuesdays (through March 30)
TIME: 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM
PLACE: Fellowship Hall (in person)
Online via Zoom (link available on the church website)
By phone (link and information on the church website)

Books are available through the church office or online through usual booksellers.
Contact Bud Behlman for additional information: budbehlman@charter.net or 203-206-9276

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 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#. Note that these numbers have changed from what was previously used. Please mute your phones to eliminate background noise.
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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!

Children & Youth Ministry

@ HOME RESOURCES for continued Christian Education

- <https://www.cokesburykids.com/free-resources>
- <https://www.nyac.com/childrensministries>
- <https://ministry-to-children.com/>
- Scripture Reading: Mark 8:31-38 Jesus Predicts his death: Mark 9:2-9 The Transfiguration

Children & Youth Ministry Programming

- Our Lenten Sunday School series began on Ash Wednesday, February 17. Videos were posted to the WUMC Facebook page on February 17 & 21. Mollie Boswell will be doing the video for February 28.
- There are still two spaces available if your family would like to do one of the Sunday School videos, [March 25](#), Maundy Thursday and [April 4](#), Easter. Let Meg or Catherine know if interested and they will connect you to the lectionary texts to work from and any child friendly resources you may need.

Kudo Korner

Thanks to last Sunday's worship leaders: *Joann King*, Liturgist; *Paul Beavers, Sr.* and *Joann King*, singers; *Mike Boisseau*, Children's Time leader.

Thanks to all the volunteers that gave of themselves to assist others at the Woodbury Food Bank during the month of February: *Mark Davis*, *Meg* and *Samuel Temple*, *Pastor John*, and *Judy Wilhelms*.

The Prayer Corner:

Recovering from surgery: *Sue Vingdini* (outpatient procedure on fractured elbow, February 24)

In the hospital: *Michael Etcheto*, grandson of *Barbara Etcheto* (transferring this week to Gaylord, Wallingford)

Please remember our Confirmands: *Cody Cordova*, *Zachary Cordova*, *James Levario*, *Matthew Shupenis*; their teachers: *Catherine Mason*, *Meg Temple*, *John Thomason*; and their mentors: *Mike Boisseau*, *Mollie Cole*, *Rev. Paul Hibbard*, *Carolyn Shay*.

Recovering at home: *Amber Craig*; *John Fleming*; *Josh Harwood*; *Gary McClendon*; *Steve Thomas*; *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: Dave Brencher, Bob Asman, Mary Wilkins, sister of Barb Hunt (Rochester, NY); 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.woodburymc.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@woodburymc.net. This is also important to keep track of any of our college students as well!!!



MARCH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS AT WUMC

Ryan & Tacy Nettleton	March 3 rd
Jacob Rego	March 5 th
Barbara Etcheto	March 11 th
Claire Boettcher & James Styblo	March 12 th
Caroline Martinetto	March 15 th
Alivia Craig-Markey & Theresa Sotnik	March 17 th
Julia Richardson	March 18 th
Matthew King	March 20 th
Esther Lin	March 22 nd
Abbie Davis & Michael Etcheto	March 27 th
Joy Eusebio	March 28 th
Alex Buzzannco & Janet Cornell	March 29 th

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



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!