



WOODBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4 Church Street
Woodbury, CT 06798

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Find us on  /woodburyumc &  /woodburyumc



Rev. J. Michael Cobb, Pastor

Woodbury United Methodist Messenger

Wednesday, August 25, 2021

This Sunday Worship is 10:30 AM at the Hollow Park Pavilion continuing on with our annual picnic beginning immediately after worship until 3:00 PM.

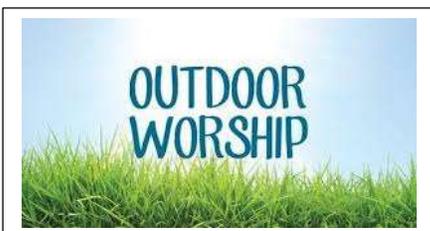
The grill will be on, so come hungry. The games are planned, so come enjoy the sun and the fun with your church family. Volunteers are still needed, if you'd like to help out please sign-up on our church home page. Thanks!



Worship Schedule

WORSHIP TIME RETURNS TO 10:30 AM

**NOTE: Summer Church Office Hours continue until September 7th
Tuesday thru Thursday 9:00 AM-1:00 PM – Office closed on Monday & Friday**



WEATHER PERMITTING – On Sunday, September 5th we will be set up at the North Green. There is no need to pre-register for outdoor service and members of WUMC may remove their masks for outdoor worship. Services for both September and October are scheduled for the North Green unless otherwise noted so stay tuned to your Messenger each week.

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.

Update on COVID and the Recent WUMC Survey

The COVID Response Team (CRT) thanks all members of our church family for taking the time to respond to our recent survey regarding safe worship protocols. We had 32 responses representing 53 members of our church family, which were split about 50/50 between members who are attending worship services in person and those who are joining us virtually online.

Due to the Delta variant driven uptick in COVID cases, we will maintain previously published protocols for indoor and outdoor services. Indoors, all members of the congregation will continue to be required to wear masks. Outdoors, vaccinated members can choose to remove their masks. Social distancing will continue as before. Pre-registration will no longer be required except for special indoor services for which large numbers of attendees are expected. The request for registration for these special services will be made in our weekly e-mail communications.

The CRT has been monitoring closely the recent uptick in COVID cases and hospitalizations in CT, Woodbury, and surrounding communities. As a result, the CRT recommended and the Worship Ministry agreed to begin holding services on the North Green last Sunday and for the remainder of the summer and early fall, weather permitting. In the event of inclement weather, we will conduct services indoors using existing safety protocols. When we return to regular indoor services in the fall, results from our recent survey will be considered, along with the status of the current wave of new cases, in making further changes to our safety protocols.

SAVE THE DATES

Rally Day Sunday is planned for Sunday, September 12, 2021 – more information from our Youth & Education Leaders will be coming very shortly. People of all ages are invited to **bring your backpack** (or whatever you carry for school or work) to church with you on **Sunday, September 12, 2021**.

Everyone will receive a blessing from Pastor Michael plus a special gift as a keepsake for your bag throughout the year. As we begin a new year of school — or return to work after the more relaxed feeling that summer brings — this blessing offers us a fresh start and new energy as we approach the Fall. We begin the school year in prayer, so that those following academic pursuits may experience a blessed and fruitful school year. All are welcome to come up for a blessing!



PS: If you ever thought about inviting a friend to join us for worship, a service that is outdoors and gives them a gift seems a perfect opportunity 😊

Saturday, September 18 — Connecticut Food Bank / Foodshare Walk Against Hunger at 10:00 a.m. to be held at Dunkin Donuts Park in Hartford. We are currently surveying to see which youth are interested in attending. Chaperones (Safe Sanctuary Screened & Approved) will also be needed. Please let Catherine know of interest in participating.

Blessing of the Animals – Sunday, October 10, 2021 will be held from 3:00 – 5:00 PM on the North Green. Many details are being planned for this event and more information will follow very soon.

Laity Sunday - Sunday, October 17– News to come regarding opportunities for youth

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

A Message from our Choir Director

Our Bell and Voice Choir are beginning to come together once again. If you would like to join either and share your talents, come join us. Bell Choir Rehearsals are from 6:00-7:00 PM and begin on Wednesday, Sept 8, and the Adult Choir Rehearsals are from 7:15- 8:30 PM, also beginning on Sept 8. No experience necessary – just a love for music! Questions about either choir - call or text Chris Shay 203-592-8659.

Children & Youth Ministry News

Calling all kids and families, the WUMC will be collecting school supplies for the needy through Rally Day, September 12. Please consider picking up extra supplies as you purchase your own. If it is on your supply list, chances are there is someone who needs the same things.

We are collecting school supplies to help Woodbury Food Bank clients with school age children, now through the first weekend in September. Here is a short list of the most commonly needed items for these children at the elementary and middle school levels in Region 14 (Woodbury/Bethlehem):

- No. 2 pencils
- Colored pencils
- Washable markers
- Glue sticks
- Sharpies (primarily fine point and black)
- Pencil boxes
- Composition notebooks
- Crayola crayons
- Highlighters
- One-subject and three-subject notebooks
- One-inch and One and a half-inch three-ring binders
- Lined paper for binders

In addition, high school students often need an expensive specific calculator, the TI 84. We would also like to collect new and used TI 84s to distribute to both high schools for students who cannot afford them.

Calling WUMC Acolytes: In September we will have acolytes again for worship. Parents, if your child previously was an acolyte or would like to become one, and he or she can serve in the fall, please contact Catherine to select dates. It's been a long time, so a refresher and opportunity to practice will be offered. More information to come.

@ HOME RESOURCES for continued Christian Education

- <https://www.cokesburykids.com/free-resources>
- <https://www.nyac.com/childrensministries>
- <https://ministry-to-children.com/>

• Scripture selection to read together as a family this week: *Ephesians 6:10-20 about wearing the armor of God: the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit to protect you against evil and allow you to proclaim the gospel of peace.*

Kudo Korner

Thanks to last Sunday's worship leaders: JoAnn Behlman, Liturgist and Reader; Christine Smith, Greeter and Usher; Kate Thomason Keeler, Singer; Theron Kissinger, audio-visual technician.

The Prayer Corner

Prayer Request: for all the children returning to school. It is challenging with all of the mask mandates and the spread of the Delta variant. Let us pray for patience and understanding, love and discernment, happiness and protection for our faculty and our students.

Condolences to the *Carnes family* in the passing of *Jen's father, Peter K. Gallagher* who was on a prayer list for quite some time. Peter passed away on Thursday, August 19th at home surrounded by his family and was laid to rest on Tuesday, August 24th in Bethel. Please keep Rod, Jen and the whole Carnes family in your prayers during their time of sorrow.

In the hospital: *Kinley Mae Drown-Burr*, infant daughter of *Bud Behlman's* cousin, *Jessamie Drown* (Yale-New Haven)

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

Recovering at home: *Carol Hennessey; Liam McGrath; Christian Echeveria*, friend of *Kelly Etcheto; 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: *Cody Cordova, Zachary Cordova, James Levario, Matthew Shupenis*

Homebound members: *Florence Brown, Linda Bailey*

Please continue to remember: Relative of *Rev. Betty Lines* who are seriously ill: brother-in-law *Stephen Lines* (recovering from a stroke in Florida) and *Janet Grant* (sister of *Betty Lines*); *Manny Gesh, Jane True, Blair Feller, Marilyn Bender, Ryan DeRidder and family, and Laura & Stuart Brush.*



If anyone has updates to these prayer requests, please send them to the office email at www.woodburyumc.net.



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.

HOUSEKEEPING NOTES FROM THE OFFICE...

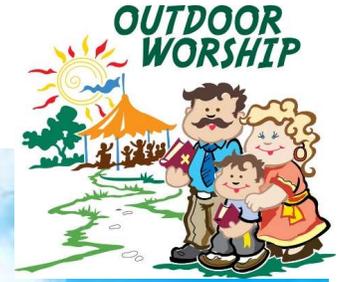
HANDICAPPED PARKING - - these are the three spaces outside the office doors (Church Street Entrance). **Please do NOT park there unless you have a handicapped parking tag. If you do park there, please be sure to leave enough room for the people using the handicapped ramp.**

❖ **Office Hours Tuesday thru Friday 9 am – 3 pm.** – **NOTE SUMMER HOURS** 9:00 am – 1:00 pm continue thru July & August. **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 J. Michael Cobb's cell @ (203) 512-1059. 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!!!

Church Homecoming



Come join the church family as we celebrate “coming home” to WUMC with our annual fellowship picnic. The Men’s group will be supplying burgers, hot dogs, watermelon and we are asking families with the last name beginning with: A-M—please donate a salad & N-Z—please donate a dessert for the picnic.

All games for the children will be provided by the Family Nurture Ministry. Sunday School registration will also take place during the beginning of the picnic. **Please see the sign-up sheet in the office hallway to add your donation to the list or sign up on line at woodburyumc.net.** We hope to see you at the Hollow on Sunday, August 29, 2021! A free will offering will be collected to defray costs of the picnic.



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 Lynch Family to the WUMC Congregation:

Jack, Joey and Ruby will be hosting a bottle drive fundraiser and bake sale this **Saturday, 8/28** at the Majors Baseball Field at Hollow Park 9:00 am -11:00 am. See below for flyer information and they ask that you share this information to whomever.

Mark, Jessie, Jack, Joey and Ruby have all signed up to participate in the 2021 5k Run to Home Base on Saturday, September 25, at Fenway Park, in support of Veterans and Military Families! Home Base, a Red Sox Foundation and Massachusetts General Hospital Program, operates the first and largest private-sector clinic in the nation devoted to providing life-saving clinical care and support for the treatment of the invisible wounds to include post-traumatic stress, traumatic brain injury, anxiety, depression, co-occurring substance use disorder, family relationship challenges and other issues associated with military service. **100% of every dollar raised will go directly towards the life-saving care provided by Home Base.**



We are in the process of fundraising and as a family we have a goal of donating \$5000 to support Home Base. Please go to my Home Base Page (<https://runtohomebase.org/support/#TeamLynch>) to make your donation. Thank you in advance for your contribution. You have no idea how much it means to Team Lynch to have your support! **(Please note their donation link has changed)**



**ALL proceeds go to support
Home Base — Veteran and Family Care**

**Majors Baseball Field at Hollow Park
Woodbury, CT**

Saturday, August 28, 2021

9:00 am to 11:00 am

*Please bring the bottles and cans in a bag.
Thank You for your support!*

Mark reported that they collected over 1,100 last Saturday alone! The drive will continue this Saturday, August 28th – got any donations to drop off???

<https://runtohomebase.org/>



HAITI RELIEF APPEAL from our Mission & Outreach:

Dear Friends in Christ at the Woodbury UMC,

Many of you have likely read, seen or heard about the recent earthquake in Haiti and the rest of the world is gradually learning about the loss of life, property and livelihood this has caused in a nation that was already struggling to support the lives of its people. The New York Annual Conference has just recently sent out an update on conditions there are possible responses at this moment in time. An excerpt from that communication follows. Please keep the people of Haiti in your prayers and consider making a financial offering through the United Methodist Committee on Relief. Information on doing that is listed in the NYAC update.

“The New York Annual Conference (NYAC) has a long history of mission in Haiti and is in contact with leaders and people on the ground.

Our retired Director of Missions, Tom Vencuss—currently a NYAC mission consultant—is in connection with David Draeger, Methodist Church of Haiti (Eglise Methodiste d' Haiti, EMH) mission volunteer coordinator, and others, to offer ongoing insight.

Draeger provided the following update on current conditions and needs:

- The EMH Church at Jérémie has significant cracks and it was not safe to have worship indoors.
- EMH Churches at Annette, Desgagné and Leon have reported damage. The conditions of other churches in the Leon Circuit are unknown.
- Jérémie Guesthouse has damage and while it is unknown whether it is structural or not, the security wall around the guesthouse has failed and is down.
- The John Wesley School appears to be intact with only minor plaster damage. But the condition of other schools in the Jeremie and Leon Circuits are unknown.
- The Good Samaritan Home seems to be intact and the Gebeau Clinic looks intact from the exterior although an internal inspection has not been done.
- The village of Gommier, the Roseaux Commune and the Orphanage of Roseaux are in good condition.
- In *Les Cayes*, many businesses and homes are damaged or destroyed. The Church at Les Cayes is damaged; the manse at Les Cayes seems to be in good condition, but the security wall is down.
- Hospital Lumiere and *the large Catholic Hospital are heavily damaged.*

It is still too early and virtually impossible to send much physical aid. Additional information will follow in the days ahead. The main bridge at Jeremie is closed and awaiting inspection due to unknown damage. The road between Camp Perin and Beaumont is closed by a large landslide. And the road to Les Cayes is impassable making deliveries of aid impossible by land.

Continued financial support will be essential for a very long time. Donations are welcome and should be offered through the United Methodist Committee on Relief, International Disaster Response and Recovery on their website.

[To make a donation, please go here to give using the Advance 982450](#)

A bit of good news from Haiti: Missionary Flights International has announced bridge flights from Port au Prince to Les Cayes. Dr. Moncriket Jose, an experienced emergency room doctor has agreed to come to the Gebeau Clinic for at least three months and a resupply of medications to support the Gebeau Clinic has been pledged.

Let us hold our brother and sisters of Haiti in our hearts. God, please give us open and willing spirits to attend to their needs. Every gift can make a difference.”

ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE

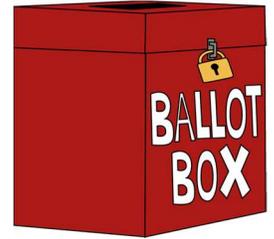


Check if you're registered to vote at:
<https://portaldir.ct.gov/sots/LookUp.aspx>

Register to vote at:
<https://voterregistration.ct.gov>

Complete an absentee ballot application at:
<https://southbury-ct.org/absenteeballots>

*Be a VOTER because your vote is your voice and
your voice matters!*



Information from the Town of Woodbury:

An absentee ballot may be applied for by any qualified registered voter unable to vote due to the following reasons:

- Illness or physical disability.
- Absence from town during all election hours.
- Religious beliefs forbidding secular activity on Election Day.
- Serving as an election official at a polling place other than your own.
- Active service in the Armed Forces.

Application for Absentee Ballot

The application may be faxed to the town clerk's office at (203) 263-5477, but the original signed application must be sent by mail in order for the ballot to be counted.

Ballots will be sent out when the faxed application is received, but it cannot be counted if the original signed application has not been received.

Please mail completed application to:

Town Clerk's Office
281 Main Street South
Woodbury, CT 06798

Application for Referendum Absentee Ballot

Registered electors of the Town of Woodbury or United States Citizens, who are eighteen years or older, and own taxable property assessed at \$1,000.00 or more on the October 1st Grand List, can vote in this referendum. Ballots cannot be mailed for a referendum that is to be held with less than three weeks' notice.

Please remember that obtaining an absentee ballot is a two-step process; first, you must complete an application and it must be verified by the office of the Town Clerk, and second, an absentee ballot will then be issued. Absentee ballots must be given to the applicant in person or to the applicant's designee. Ballots must be returned to the office of the Town of Woodbury Town Clerk before the close of the polls, 8:00PM on the day of the election.

- If you live in a town other than Woodbury, just google the name of the town and voting information. Don't hesitate, get your absentee ballot today if needed. **Your Vote Does Count!**