

Woodbury United Methodist Church



Sunday, July 28, 2024

Pentecost 10

9:30 AM Worship

Woodbury United Methodist Church

4 Church Street, Woodbury, CT 06798 203-263-4775

www.woodburyumc.net Church e-mail: wumc@woodburyumc.net

July 28, 2024

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION MOMENT Woodbury Community Services Council
 Jeff McKenna, President

PRELUDE *"The Lord is My Hope"* Patrick Loomis
 Michaela Pellino, Soprano

*CALL TO WORSHIP Lynne Ramsden-Calabrese, Liturgist

L: Why have you come to this place?

P: We have come to find Jesus.

L: Why have you come today?

P: We are tired in body and spirit.

L: Jesus bids you sit and be at ease.

P: We are hungry with nothing to eat.

L: Come and eat your fill.

P: But there are only five barley loaves and two fish.

L: There is plenty for all.

P: Will we find wholeness here?

L: Jesus gathers the fragments of our lives that nothing may be lost.

ALL: LET US WORSHIP GOD.

*HYMN *"Break Thou the Bread of Life"* UMH #599

OPENING PRAYER (*seated, in unison*)

God of our hopes and dreams, we are empty, and long to be filled; we are hungry, and long to be fed; we are lost, and long to be found. Gather us into your love and pick up the pieces of our lives, just as Jesus gathered up the fragments of the five loaves and two fish that remained after feeding the five thousand. Call us anew to eat our fill and find our true nourishment in Jesus, the bread of heaven. Amen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

You know how we are, Lord. We say that we will take time to refresh our spirits and our souls and then we quickly crowd our lives with activities to the point of exhaustion. We turn to you for feeding

and nurture, asking you to give us something to sustain us through our times. We have been given so much, but there are times we bring so little to you. Take what we have, our gifts and our needs. Heal and forgive us when we boldly disobey your word. Remind us that you have given to us all that we need to serve you in this world. The world abounds with your miracles of love and hope. Open our eyes to see them and our hearts to know that these are from you and not of our own making. Heal and restore us to your everlasting love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

THE EPISTLE	Ephesians 3:14-21
*THE GOSPEL	John 6:1-14
*PREPARATION HYMN	<i>"What Gift Can We Bring"</i> UMH #87
THE SERMON	<i>"God of Abundance"</i> Rynn Naylor, Certified Lay Servant

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH #895

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING AND OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY *"I Will Be With You"* James Moore
Michaela Pellino, Soprano

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE UMH #95

*"Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him, above ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

*CLOSING HYMN “*Become to Us the Living Bread*”

UMH #630

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“*Cordoba*”

Isaac Albeniz

+ + +

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.

TODAY AT WOODBURY UMC

OUR PREACHER AND WORSHIP LEADER TODAY is Rynn Naylor with Liturgist Lynne Ramsden-Calabrese. Rynn is our Financial Secretary; Lynne is a member of the Stewardship Committee and sings in the choir. We rejoice in their leadership today.

WE THANK TODAY’S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Liturgist: Lynne Ramsden-Calabrese

Mark Davis, AV Tech

Fellowship Time Host: Christine Smith

Greeters and Ushers: Sandra Purdy and James Levario

FELLOWSHIP TIME follows worship in Fellowship Hall. Please join us downstairs! Don’t know the way? Follow the crowd!

IF YOU ARE A VISITOR, our desire is that you experience the warmth of Christ’s welcome and ours in this church.

PASTOR BRIAN preaches today at Greenfield Hill Congregational Church in Fairfield, where he is part-time as Pastor of Community Care. He retains his Woodbury office days, Monday and Thursday, teaching Confirmation and meetings and visits.

VISION 2024 EMPHASIS TODAY is “Congregational Vitality and Growth.”

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

MONDAY, JULY 29

Stewardship, 2:30 p.m., *Pastor’s office*

Models of Evangelism work session, 6:00 p.m. *Pastor’s office*

Intergenerational Worship organizational meeting 7:15 p.m., *Assembly Room*

TUESDAY, JULY 30

Finance Committee, 7:00 p.m. *Assembly Room*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1

200th Anniversary Committee, 6:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4

Mission and Outreach, 10:45 a.m., *Wesley Room*

THE WOODBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH is discerning whether we will be leading a mission trip to Ecuador in 2025. If you have any interest in joining such a mission trip with us, please email Meg Temple at megtemple1@gmail.com by Friday, August 2. Expressing interest is not a commitment to go on the trip, we are simply gauging interest at this time so that we can plan accordingly.

NEXT SUNDAY

Pastor Brian returns to preach the message “**Guilty (but pardoned)**”, a sermon on justifying grace, based on Romans 3:21-28 and I John 1:5-10. We will receive food offerings for the Woodbury Food Bank (see the list in this bulletin) and foil packets of crackers for Brian’s Bags. After worship Andrew Styblo, EMT, will conduct free blood pressure screenings in the Assembly Room.

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.

*The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt, Pastor Jeff and Barbara Hunt, Lay Leaders
Christopher Shay, Director of Music Matti Paparazzo, Admin. Assistant*

OUR COMMUNITY PRAYERS

Prayers for victims of conflicts in the Middle East, the Ukraine and the Sudan; for those facing life stress, and for our congregation’s forward momentum.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

THANKS FOR BRINGING IN FOIL PACKETS OF TUNA for the Brian’s Bag collection. **Next week:** foil packets of crackers. See the detailed notice about Brian’s Bag Homeless Project.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS may also be left in the Narthex any Sunday; or Thursday, 10 am – 4 p.m. Needed:

Dish liquid Laundry soap Brownie mix
Coffee regular and decaf, coffee pods Toothpaste
Canned: mushrooms, beets, peaches and fruit cocktail
Soups: lentil and cream of chicken Pasta sauce

Thank you in advance for your donations! *“I was hungry and you gave me food...”* Matthew 25:35

ALTAR FLOWERS are welcomed during the summer months from the gardens of members and friends. Bring them any Sunday.

BOOK DROP OFF for the fall Book Sale is in the Narthex. Bring books on Sunday or Thursdays, 10 a.m. – 4 pm. Sale dates will be Saturday, September 14 and Sunday, September 15 afternoons.

Congregational Vitality and Growth: Inviting Facilities

Summer 2024

- Mulch around office entrance
- Remove planters by pergola – plant honeysuckles in ground
- Powerwash/paint fence & pergola, repair fence
- Replace steps – in progress (see Bud Behlman)
- Paint/varnish ramp railing by office entrance
- Remove moss – north side of church roof
- Paint rear dormer of parsonage

Please let Toby McGrath know which projects interest you and when you are available to assist at 203-819-1923 or blackdog2006@me.com

FOR THE CHURCH COMMUNITY

Our Church Directory is being updated with a planned publication date of the first week of August. If you have any changes in your contact information, please contact Matti Paparazzo at wumc@woodburyumc.net.

The Valley Parish Potluck Picnic will be *Sat., Aug. 10th, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.* at Waterbury UMC, 250 Country Club Road, Waterbury. Interested in attending? Please let Catherine Mason, Valley Cooperative Parish representative, know at Catherine.mason02@outlook.com or 203-707-6571.

Hold the date: Outdoor worship at Hollow Park, *Sunday, August 25, 10:30 a.m.* followed by picnic and fun! Please invite your friends and let Joann King know if you have a corn hole game we could borrow.

Liturgists for Sunday worship are sought beginning September 8th. Please contact Pastor Brian (203.747.1781, text/call or pastor.woodburyumc@gmail.com if interested.

Are there hymns you'd especially like to sing? Please let Chris Shay (2cshay@gmail.com; 203-592-8659) or Pastor Brian (contacts below) know.

Pastor Brian can be reached at pastor.woodburyumc@gmail.com or 203.747.1781. Please reach him when folks are sick or in need of pastoral care. Want a visit? Please let him know. He'd love to meet with you!

Are you on our "Living through Grace" weekly email? If not, please contact Matti Paparazzo at wumc@woodburyumc.net. She'll get you on!

Publication deadline for the weekly bulletin and "Living through Grace" e-newsletter is **10 a.m. THURSDAY.** Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

VISION 2024 FOCUS

Each week we emphasize one of the four focus areas: Evangelism, Missions, Communications and Congregational Vitality and Growth, the latter with three subsets: Spiritual Wellness, Financial Health, Inviting Facilities.

“Missions” will be emphasized all summer as we collect for “Brian’s Bags for the Brian O’Connell Homeless Project. See the collection notice below.

“Inviting Facilities” continues to be emphasized with work project options.

“Communications” happen weekly but with special notices as needed.

Please consider how **YOU** can help move forward **VISION 2024!**

BRIAN’S BAGS: Please join Mission and Outreach this summer as we collect items to fill Brian’s Bags for the Brian O’Connell Homeless Project, started by Donna Finneran in memory of her twin brother, Brian. **The “ask” through today is foil packets of tuna.** We still welcome last week’s ask of “snack bars.” The remainder of the weeks will request:

July 28 – Aug. 4: foil packets of crackers August 4-11: 3x5 notebook and pen
August 11-18: gallon size Ziploc bags

BOHP provides homeless people in Connecticut and New York with life’s basic necessities to ease day-to-day stresses of homeless people because each one is someone’s loved on. WUMC will collect one item each week. In September we will join with the Valley Cooperative Parish to assemble our bags together that will be distributed in the fall. Please see Meg Temple with any questions

Church helps feed prisoners in Congo

Men and women incarcerated at Kasapa Central Prison recently received help from The United Methodist Church.

The [United Methodist Committee on Relief](#), the humanitarian and development arm of the church, provided a \$10,000 grant to purchase 16.5 tons of cornmeal, vegetable oil, beans, soy, soap, sugar and salt for inmates. Kasapa is near Lubumbashi, a city in the south of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The Rev. Caleb Mbaz, coordinator of the Disaster Management Office for the South Congo Episcopal Area, which includes Zambia, reported that people incarcerated in this prison live in difficult conditions.

Read full story through the link in “Living Through Grace”

Partnership strengthens bodies and souls

People in Zimbabwe are facing a hunger crisis amid the worst drought in several decades, and United Methodists are stepping up to help.

The Nyadire Connection, a faith-based nonprofit founded by individuals from a network of United Methodist churches in Pittsburgh, has been in partnership with the United Methodist Nyadire Mission community for 18 years. Hearing of the calamities befalling their friends, The Nyadire Connection began working to raise money to provide food support.

A team from The Nyadire Connection arrived in Zimbabwe in mid-June to distribute supplies. They provided households with a monthly gift of 44 pounds of mealie meal (cornmeal), a gallon of cooking oil and nine pounds each of sugar, flour and rice.

“Our relationship with the Nyadire community dates back to 2006 when we started implementing various projects,” said Mary Beth Zollars, who led the team of 10 volunteers from Pittsburgh. She is the Nyadire Home of Hope Sister Rut Scholarship program leader.

Read full story through the link in “Living Through Grace”

Just a small “Thank You”

