

Woodbury United Methodist Church



Sunday, September 1, 2024

Pentecost 15

10:30 AM Worship

Woodbury United Methodist Church

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

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

September 1, 2024

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Mazurka Op 67 No.2 Frederic Chopin

*CALL TO WORSHIP Traditional Cherokee Nation prayer

L: May the warm winds of heaven blow softly on our house.

P: *May the Great Spirit bless all who enter here.*

*HYMN "O God of Every Nation" UMH #435

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(seated, in unison)*

O God, who labored the six days of Creation and called it good; and rested on the seventh day and hallowed it: grant that you would bless our labor and all who labor, that work may be meaningful and not drudgery and contribute to the common good. Grant that we would appreciate the labors of others. And grant that we might know again the promise of Sabbath, and in it find blessed peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION *(by the pastor)*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)* Michael J. O'Donnell, USA, 20th cent.

Almighty and all-loving God, through your Son Jesus Christ you have reconciled the world to yourself. Help us now to be reconciled with one another that we might again dwell in the warmth of your love. Inspire us with your Holy Spirit to put aside the cloak of pride and put on Christ that we might forgive and be forgiven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

FOR OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

THE EPISTLE

James 1:17-27

*THE GOSPEL

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

*HYMN "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian" UMH #402

THE SERMON "Contaminants" Pastor Brian Bodt

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS THE 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.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS, including for the Woodbury Food Bank.

OFFERTORY Come to Jesus Chris Rice
Rod Carnes

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE UMH #588

"All things come of thee, O Lord; and of thine own have we given thee.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*SETTING B (sung) UMH pp.18-20

(All are welcome to receive. Please follow the ushers' direction. You may leave a gift for the pastor's discretionary fund if desired.)

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

*CLOSING HYMN "Father, We Thank You" UMH #565

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Allemande from Partita in Bb JS Bach

+ + +

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.

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.

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*

TODAY AT WOODBURY UMC

VISION 2024 EMPHASIS TODAY is "Spiritual Wellness." 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. Please consider how **YOU** can help move forward **VISION 2024!**

FELLOWSHIP TIME follows worship downstairs. Invite someone you don't know to join you!

IF YOU ARE A VISITOR, our desire is that you experience the warmth of Christ's welcome and ours in this church. Please introduce yourself to Pastor Brian Bodt.

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS are offered after worship in the Pastor's office by Carol Galloway, MSPT.

CONFIRMATION has its retreat today in the Assembly Room beginning with lunch at Noon and adjourning at 3 p.m.

SEPTEMBER FOOD BANK SIGN UP SHEET is in the Narthex. WUMC member and friends work at the Food Bank two months a year. Dates are Fridays, September 6, 13, 20 and 27, 11 am – 2 pm at the Food Bank located behind Labonne's grocery store. You may also contact Meg Temple (203.910.3711; megtemple1@gmail.com) to sign up. See the separate notice for items now needed to donate.

THIS WEEK

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, LABOR DAY - office closed

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Bell Choir rehearsal, 6:00p.m.

Adult Choir rehearsal, 7:15p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

"FIFTH SUNDAY" Planning, 5:30 p.m., Pastor's office

CHRISTMAS CONCERT COMMITTEE, 7 p.m., Assembly Room

NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 10:30 a.m.

"Friends and Family Sunday" worship invites us to invite others. When you find a good restaurant you tell your friends and family. So invite your friends and family to spiritual sustenance here! We're do not seek to take people who have church homes away from them. We simply say "We experience God's love at WUMC, think it's special, and want to share it with you."

The sermon, "Playing Favorites," will be based on Psalm 125, James 2:1-17 and Mark 7:24-37. At the close of worship we will dedicate our recently rebuilt steps, recognize those who made it possible, and then adjourn for fellowship. Do plan to be part of this special day.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

THANKS FOR YOUR DONATIONS TO THE WOODBURY FOOD BANK. You may bring these any Sunday morning or any Thursday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. The current needs are:

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

The items that are most needed for the **next two weeks** are as follows:

kids' snacks
pudding cups
canned pears
box cereal
fruit cocktail.

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

TRUE INCLUSION, the book for our Affirmation and Inclusion initiative, is available through Meg Temple (203.910.3711; megtemple1@gmail.com). Cost is \$15.

BOOK DROP OFF continues for the fall Book Sale. Leave books in the Narthex on Sunday or Thursdays, 10 a.m. – 4 pm. **Sale hours will be 1 – 5 p.m. on Sat., Sept. 14 and Sun., Sept. 15.**

LITURGISTS for Sunday worship are sought beginning September 15th. Please contact Pastor Brian (203.747.1781, text/call or pastor.woodburyumc@gmail.com if interested.

DONATIONS ARE WELCOMED as part of a *Fall Fest at the Hollow* fund-raiser (Sept. 14 and 15) for **The Community Services Council of Woodbury**. **Suggested items** are fall decorations, candles, a pillow, coffee or snacks. Proceeds from these items will benefit both the food bank and the fuel bank. CSCW President Jeff McKenna and Food Bank Director Deidre Bologna will be there the whole day, but they would love volunteers to do half hour shifts with them. Those wishing to volunteer or donate items please contact Meg Temple (203.910.3711; megtemple1@gmail.com).

VISION 2024: INVITING FACILITIES, Summer, 2024

- Remove planters by pergola – plant honeysuckles in ground
- Powerwash/paint fence & pergola, repair fence
- 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

Save these dates:

September 17, 6:30 p.m.: Our Ecuador mission partners will meet with us at WUMC. Please keep them in your prayers for the work they are doing and for safe travels. We look forward to meeting with them as we prayerfully plan our 2025 Ecuador Mission Trip.

October 20: 200th Anniversary of Woodbury UMC on this site.

Sunday, October 20: 10:30 celebration worship with hospitality following.

Please hold this date in your calendar to celebrate what God is doing for Christ's ministry through Woodbury United Methodist Church. Plan to be part of this historic occasion.

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.

ECUADOR VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION

Ecuador Volunteers in Mission 2025 is in the process of forming a team to continue a relationship with GBGM missionary Sara Flores and the United Methodist Evangelical Church of Ecuador.

Ecuador VIM 2025 is looking for 12 individuals with a heart for mission and ability to participate in expected projects in Ecuador. Currently the team is expecting to begin construction of a new church for the community of El Prado, assist with a local health clinic, and help with a local children’s program.

Team members should be in good health since they will be working at elevations of 8,000 – 9,000 feet and have a current passport with an expiration date of no earlier than December, 2025. Team members may need some vaccinations depending on health recommendations by the U.S. State Dept. and the NYAC.

Persons interested in this opportunity should contact Team Leader, Rev. Paul Hibbard, at paulgyl@aol.com or 860-488-7705.

AMONG OTHER NEWS

- Those receiving the Voices weekly free local newspaper will see the second of two WUMC ads on page 2 in Wednesday’s edition. The Voices management offers a “buy one, get one free” to local churches, with the cost of the ad underwritten by a donor.

- New church directories are available on the Narthex table. Please contact the church office (wumc@woodburyumc.net; 203.263.4775) with corrections.

- Pastor Brian’s devotions for the week of May 5-11 are now published in The Upper Room Disciplines, 2025. This annual soft-cover book provides daily devotions based on the Revised Common Lectionary (the scriptures we use in worship most weeks). Each week has a different author.

If you are interested in a copy, please let Pastor Brian (pastor.woodburyumc@gmail.com or 203.747.1781) know.



An Evening With Sara Flores General Board of Global Ministries Missionary in Ecuador

If your church is supporting a missionary through the GBGM, is interested in connecting with a missionary, or simply has a heart for mission come to the Woodbury United Methodist Church on Tuesday evening, September 17th and meet Sara Flores and her husband Dakin Cook as they share their story of ministry and mission in the country of Ecuador.

The gathering will start at 6:30 p.m. and will include refreshments, a presentation, and a time for questions and answers. Information will also be available on becoming a Covenant Partner with a missionary as well as other ways to support GBGM missions worldwide.

If persons from your church will be attending, please r.s.v.p. to the Woodbury UMC at 203-263 4775 or wumc@woodburyumc.net or the Rev. Paul Hibbard at 860-488-7705 or paulgyl@aol.com by September 15th.

