

# Woodbury United Methodist Church



*"Friends and Family Sunday"*

September 8, 2024

Pentecost 16

10:30 AM Worship



**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

OFFERTORY

*"God Is So Good"*

Douglas Wagner

\*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 *"Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life"* UMH #427

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*"Prelude in C Major"*

J.S. Bach

*During the postlude, please follow the pastor and choir out to the front steps for the litany of dedication (see next page) and a photo. In the event of rain, this will happen indoors.*

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**THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.**

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**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  
Christopher Shay, Director of Music*

*Jeff and Barbara Hunt, Lay Leaders  
Matti Paparazzo, Admin. Assistant*

## A LITANY OF DEDICATION FOR OUR ENTRANCE

Introduction and recognition of the builders: Bud Behlman, Jay Hockenberry, Jeff Hunt, David Newell, Sr., Alan Rego, Mark Riefenhauser and Sam Temple

Pastor: Jesus said, *"Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you...."* (Rev. 3:20)

People: *I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than live in the tents of wickedness.* (Ps. 84:10)

Pastor: Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. (Ps. 127:1)

People: *Our steps are made firm by the Lord, when he delights in our way;* (Ps. 37:23)

Pastor: though we stumble, we shall not fall headlong, for the Lord holds us by the hand. (Ps. 37:24)

People: *The human mind plans the way, but the Lord directs our steps.* (Prov. 16:9)

**All: O Lord, bless our steps: these literal steps and those who rebuilt them, that all may enter your holy house in safety; our physical steps that we may walk with confidence; and our spiritual steps, that we may say with the Psalmist: "Keep my steps steady according to your promise, and never let iniquity have dominion over me." (Ps. 119:133) Amen.**

## 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.

## TODAY AT WOODBURY UMC

**WELCOME TO "Friends and Family Sunday!"** When you find a good restaurant you tell your friends and family. Thank you to all who invited someone to attend today, and to all who came to find spiritual sustenance here! We 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."* We pray you find that true today!

**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.



LITURGISTS for Sunday worship are sought for Sept. 22, Nov. 24 and December 1, 8 and 15. Please contact Pastor Brian (203.747.1781, text/call or [pastor.woodburyumc@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.woodburyumc@gmail.com) if interested.

**THIS WEEK**

**TODAY, SEPTEMBER 8**

STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS, *Noon*, Wesley Room

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE, *2:30 p.m.*, Pastor's office

BOOK FAIR SET-UP, *4-6 p.m.*, Fellowship Hall

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**

BOOK FAIR SET-UP, *4-6 p.m.*, Fellowship Hall

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**

BOOK FAIR SET-UP, *4-6 p.m.*, Fellowship Hall

BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL, *6 p.m.*, Sanctuary

CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL, *7:15 p.m.*, Sanctuary

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES, *7:00 p.m.*, Assembly Room

VALLEY U.M. COOPERATIVE PARISH COUNCIL, *7 p.m.*,

Naugatuck U.M. Church, 208 Meadow Street, Naugatuck

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**

TRANSITION ACADEMY, *9 - 10:30 a.m.*, church property

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**

BOOK FAIR SET-UP, *9 am - Noon.*, Fellowship Hall

BOOK FAIR, *1 - 5 p.m.*, Church grounds

**NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 10:30 a.m.**

The sermon "Small Talk, Big Talk" is on the theme of "our words as witness" based on James 3:1-12 and Mark 8:27-38. Book sale follows 1-5 p.m. with clean-up 5-7 p.m. See the separate notice in this issue.

**MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

**CHOIR REHEARSALS HAVE BEGUN!** Wednesday rehearsals are Bell Choir at 6 p.m. and Chancel Choir at 7:15 p.m., both in the sanctuary. "Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs...!" (Ephesians 5:19). Contact Chris Shay (203.592.8659 or [2cshay@gmail.com](mailto:2cshay@gmail.com)).

**THANKS FOR YOUR DONATIONS TO THE WOODBURY FOOD BANK.** Bring these any Sunday morning or any Thursday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. **Items most needed for the next two weeks are:**

canned yams   crushed tomatoes   tomato paste   toothpaste

Continuing needs include:

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

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

**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](mailto:megtemple1@gmail.com)).

**FOR THE CHURCH COMMUNITY**

**Coming soon:**

**September 17, 6:30 p.m.:** Our Ecuador mission partners will meet with us at WUMC. See the flier on the rear cover.

**October 20:** *“200 years in this place, united by God’s grace.”*

Letters of invitation were sent by U.S. Postal Service to members, friends and church and community dignitaries this past Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. If you have not received one by early next week, please contact the church office (203.263.4775). **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](mailto: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](mailto: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 FLIER**

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](mailto:paulgyl@aol.com) or 860-488-7705.

