

Woodbury United Methodist Church



Sunday, August 10, 2025

Pentecost 9

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

August 10, 2025

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"Prelude in B minor"

Chopin

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jay Hockenberry, Liturgist

L: *"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit."*

P: *That's in today's scripture reading, isn't it?*

L: Yes! Christians must be ready to act, and to shine Christ's light.

P: *That's what we want! We are here to get our spiritual batteries charged so that Christ's light within us can shine.*

ALL: MAY IT BE SO! LET US WORSHIP GOD!

*HYMN

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

UMH #206

PRAYER OF THE DAY (seated, in unison)

A prayer based on

John 8:12 and Matthew 5:14

O God, your Son, Jesus the Christ, said, "I am the Light of the world." May his light fully illumine our lives. He also said, "You are the light of the world." That's us! So in this worship today, help Christ's light that has been entrusted to us to shine: the light of love, joy, hope and peace. We pray for this by the power of the Holy Spirit, that it might blow fresh on us today. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Lord, sometimes our light goes out and we cannot see your light. We search for "the light at the end of the tunnel" but end up just groping in the darkness. We stumble in that darkness, sometimes a darkness of our own making. When it is, help us to own it and confess it so that you can forgive it. And help us to do better, so that the light of Christ may again radiate in its fullness. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

FOR THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

*THE GOSPEL

Luke 12:32-40

*HYMN

"Thy Word Is a Lamp"

UMH #601

THE SERMON

"The Light Within"

Karen Allen, Certified Lay Servant

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING AND OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

"You are the Light of the World"

Schwartz

Sam Temple, Tenor

*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

*HYMN

"O Spirit of the Living God"

UMH #539

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Hornpipe" from "The Water Music Suite"

G. F. Handel

+ + +

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.

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*

TODAY AT WOODBURY UMC

WELCOME TO WOODBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH!
IF YOU ARE A VISITOR PLEASE COMPLETE A VISITOR'S CARD AND PLACE IT IN THE OFFERING. Our desire is that you experience the warmth of Christ's welcome and ours in this church.

A WARM WELCOME to Karen Allen, a CT District Certified Lay Servant. Karen writes: *Good morning! My name is Karen Allen and I am happy to be here today to share a story of Christ with you. I am a member of the Huntington United Methodist Church in Shelton CT and have been for the last 50+ years. My husband, Bud, and I are parents of two children and the grandparents of three wonderful granddaughters: Michala, Brynley and Zoe. Pastor Brian and I met at HUMC while he was a pastor there. He is responsible for my transformation from a quiet member of the church (who sat in the very last pew in the church) to speaking before you today. I became a Lay Servant Minister 20+ years ago. I serve my church as treasurer, trustee, lay leader and choir member. I have led the service at my church many times, but this is the first time that I have preached in another church! With Christ by my side, I hope to have you see your eyes in a new way: God's way!* **May God bless you, Karen!**

PASTOR BRIAN BODT AND HIS WIFE, CAROL GALLOWAY, are on vacation, returning in time for worship next Sunday.

FOR PASTORAL NEEDS while Pastor Brian is away, please contact Co-Lay Leader Jeff Hunt at 203.558.6607 or jeff27hunt@comcast.net. He will reach the pastor on call.

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

VISION 2025 EMPHASES TODAY are "*Spiritual Wellness*" and "*Evangelism.*" Emphases are Evangelism, Missions, Affirmation and Inclusion, Communications, Youth and Young Adults and Congregational Vitality and Growth (Spiritual Wellness, Financial Health, Inviting Facilities).

WE THANK TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Liturgist: Jay Hockenberry A.V. Tech: Mark Riefenhauser
Fellowship Time Host: Christine Shupenis
Ushers and Greeters: Michael Pinevich and Eileen Bennett
Worship Host: Meg Temple

THE BOOK CHRISTMAS JAR continues to generate interest. Finished with your copy? Please return it to Carol Galloway when she returns next week; and see her then if you'd like a copy to read this engaging tale of kindness to others.

WOODBURY FOOD BANK DONATIONS may be brought any Sunday morning or any Thursday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. **Items most needed for the next two weeks are cookie mixes, canned beets, mushrooms and olives.**

The September Food Bank Sign Up sheet is now available outside the sanctuary doors. Available dates are Fridays September 5, 12, 19 & 26 from 11-2 at the Food Bank located behind LaBonne's grocery store. You may also contact Meg Temple at 203-9 10-3711 or megtemple1@gmail.com to sign up.

OUR PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the devastation from the Guadalupe River Flood in Texas, the loss of life, and the recovery efforts by many, including the Church.

For conflicts in the Middle East and our troops stationed there; and for the conflicts in the Ukraine and the Sudan.

Bishop Bickerton; our new District Superintendent, the Rev. Heather Sinclair; and the churches and clergy of the NY Conference.

For Missionaries, especially Sarah Flores (Ecuador) and Rev. Dexter Ceballos (Mongolia).

For those facing life's difficulties and medical challenges, especially Carol Hennessey, Nancy Ossewaarde, Eni Mucco (friend of Jane Hutter) and Jean Lilly (Meg Temple's mother).

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

WORSHIP, 9:30 a.m., Sanctuary

FELLOWSHIP TIME, 10:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

MONDAY, AUGUST 11

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE, 7 p.m., Assembly Room

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14

OFFICE HOURS, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Church office

NO CONFIRMATION CLASS (see note below)

NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 17

THIS WILL BE OUR LAST SERVICE AT THE EARLIER 9:30 A.M. HOUR. Pastor Brian's sermon "*Watching the Runner Ahead of You*" will be based on Hebrews 11:29 – 12:2. Our liturgist will Liam McGrath. "*Our Testimony*" speaker will be Connor Langdon. The Worship Committee will meet after worship at 10:45 am in the Wesley Room.

CONFIRMATION meets NEXT SUNDAY, 8 – 9 A.M., in the Assembly Room. The remaining schedule is August 24 and 31, 9 – 10 A.M.; and an "afternoon apart," Sunday, Sept. 7, Noon – 4 p.m.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR NEW LITURGISTS! These are the lay persons leading worship with Pastor Brian. They typically lead the responsive Call to Worship, the Prayer of the Day, and read the scripture readings.

The current cycle of scheduled liturgists ends at the end of September. If you would like to be added to the next cycle of October, 2025 - February, 2026, please let Pastor Brian know **NO LATER THAN Sunday, August 24** (the day of the church picnic), preferably at pastor.woodburyumc@gmail.com or text / call 203.747.1781.

REMINDER THAT THE ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC will take place on August 24 after the 10:30 am service. We will enjoy hamburgers and hot dogs as well as, salads and desserts. We will have the picnic on the Main Street side of the church this year instead of in Hollow Park. There will be a sign up sheet soon for bringing the salads and desserts and for helping with the set up of tables and tents.

There is a sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Last names starting with A-L, please bring a salad. All others, please bring a dessert.

The sign up sheet also has openings for helping with table and tent setup before church, grillers, and clean up. You can also contact Joann King at 203-885-2643 or jojenu78@earthlink.net

COMING SOON

WE RETURN TO 10:30 A.M. WORSHIP TWO WEEKS FROM TODAY: SUNDAY, AUGUST 24. Outdoor worship will be followed by our CHURCH PICNIC, both on the lawn outside the church. To offer your assistance with the picnic, please contact Joann King, Family Nurture and Hospitality Chair, at 203.885.2643 or jojenu78@earthlink.net.

FOR THE CHURCH COMMUNITY

ARE YOU ON OUR *"Living through Grace"* weekly email? If not, please contact Matti Paparazzo at wumc@woodburyumc.net.

REACH PASTOR BRIAN for pastoral care or visitation at 203.747.1781 or pastor.woodburyumc@gmail.com

THANKS TO THE CONGREGATION FOR YOUR

GENEROSITY in response to the disaster of the Guadalupe River flooding in Texas.

A total of \$1282 was collected and remitted to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) Disaster Relief at 458 Ponce de Leon Ave NE, Building A, Suite 1, Atlanta, GA 30308. UMCOR is United Methodist's first response to disaster, and 100% of the gift goes to the need because our church, with many others, pays 100% of Conference apportionments, which covers UMCOR's administrative costs.

Special thanks to our financial officers - Deputy Finance Chair Mark Davis, Treasurer Cathy Riefenhauser and Financial Secretary Rynn Naylor - for managing the process of getting your generosity delivered to the urgent need in Texas.

"FAITH AND FICTION: An open minds, open hearts book club"

Led by Meg Temple and Christine Shupenis

We will meet the last Sunday of each month at 8:30am in Fellowship Hall. Our first book will be "Ordinary Grace" by William Kent Kruger. Participants can provide their own copy or we will provide used copies for \$10 each, they must be ordered through Christine Shupenis (cshupenis@gmail.com) by August 24th. Large print version available.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

WORSHIP COMMITTEE, *Sunday, August 17, 10:45 a.m.*, Wesley Room

CHURCH PICNIC, *Sunday, August 24, after 10:30 a.m. worship*, Church courtyard



AMAZON WISHLIST

TO BENEFIT
THE WOODBURY FOOD BANK



• • • **MOST CRITICAL NEED** • • •

