

# Woodbury United Methodist Church



Sunday, August 24, 2025

10:30 AM

Pentecost 11

Annual Church Picnic

# Woodbury United Methodist Church

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

[www.woodburyumc.net](http://www.woodburyumc.net) Church e-mail: [wumc@woodburyumc.net](mailto:wumc@woodburyumc.net)

**August 24, 2025**

\*Please stand as you are able.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*SPIRITED SONG FEST

Rod Carnes, Adam Riefenhauser, Kate Keeler

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Brian Bodt

## OPENING PRAYER *(said by all)*

*O Living God, bring your blessing upon us today. We ask blessing for the members and friends of our church. We ask blessing for those who come as visitors today. We ask blessing for all who have prepared the picnic. We ask blessing for the natural world that will bless our fellowship time together. Grant that we would be "blessed to be a blessing" today. We ask these things through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## 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.**

## THE OFFERING

*"Thy Word is a Lamp" Grant, Smith, Phillips  
(Your gifts support the ministry of the Woodbury United Methodist Church and its work in community, regional and global mission.)*

## THE SCRIPTURE

Luke 13:10-17

## THE MESSAGE

*"Bent Out of Shape"*

Pastor Brian Bodt

## CLOSING SONG

*"I'll Fly Away"*

Alison Krauss

Kate Keeler, Soloist

## \*BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

+ + +

**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      Jeff and Barbara Hunt, Lay Leaders  
Christopher Shay, Minister of Music      Matti Paparazzo, Admin. Assistant*

## **TODAY AT WOODBURY UMC**

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

**FELLOWSHIP** follows worship in our Annual Picnic on the lawn outside. Thanks Joann King, the Family Nurture and Hospitality Team, and all who brought a dish to share for making this possible.

**VISITING TODAY?** We want you to feel the warmth of Christ's welcome and ours! Please introduce yourself to Pastor Brian Bodt.

### **WE THANK TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:**

Liturgist: JoAnn Behlman      A.V. Tech: Mark Riefenhauser  
Fellowship Time Host: Family Nurture and Hospitality  
Ushers and Greeters: Judy Whilhelms and Mollie Bodwell

**SEPTEMBER FOOD BANK SIGN UP SHEET** is now available outside the sanctuary doors. Please sign up! WUMC member and friends work at the Food Bank two months a year. **REMAINING OPEN DATES TO BE FILLED ARE** Friday, September 5 (two volunteers), Friday, September 19 (one volunteer) and Friday, September 26 (two volunteers) from 11 am – 2 pm at the Food Bank located behind Labonne's grocery store. You may also contact Meg Temple ([megtemple1@gmail.com](mailto:megtemple1@gmail.com); 203.910.3711) to sign up.

**CURRENT FOOD BANK NEEDS** are cookie mixes, canned beets, mushrooms and olives.

**TODAY IS THE DEADLINE TO VOLUNTEER AS A SUNDAY LITURGIST** for the cycle beginning October 5<sup>th</sup>. If interested please contact Pastor Brian ([pastor.woodburyumc@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.woodburyumc@gmail.com) or 203.747.1781, text/call).

**TODAY IS ALSO THE DEADLINE TO ORDER Ordinary Grace** for the September 28<sup>th</sup> reading of the "Faith and Fiction" book club. Order at \$10 each from Christine Shupenis ([cschupenis@gmail.com](mailto:cschupenis@gmail.com)). **LARGE PRINT AVAILABLE.** See the detailed notice in this issue.

**THE BOOK CHRISTMAS JAR** is making the rounds. If finished with your copy, please return it to Carol Galloway. If you'd like a copy, see her there to obtain this engaging tale of kindness to others.

**AV BROADCASTERS SOUGHT:** Might you have the interest to be trained to broadcast and record our weekly worship? Check in with Mark Riefenhauser, AV Coordinator, at 203.558.1685 or [fs5516@yahoo.com](mailto:fs5516@yahoo.com). We need one more person to complete the team!

### **OUR PRAYER INTENTIONS**

For the Rev. John Thomason, recovering from a medical procedure.

For Gabriele Carll and Kathy Pereria, friends of Pastor Brian and Carol, on the deaths of their husbands, Rev. Ed Carll (August 6) and Mike Pereria (August 14).

For Christine Smith on the critical illness of her friend, Christine, and her friends Ann and Terry.

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).

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).

### **THIS WEEK**

#### **SUNDAY, AUGUST 24**

**CONFIRMATION**, 9 a.m., Assembly Room

**WORSHIP**, 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

**CHURCH PICNIC**, 11 a.m., Church Yard

#### **MONDAY, AUGUST 25**

**STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING**, 7:30 p.m., Pastor's office

#### **THURSDAY, AUGUST 28**

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

## **NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 31**

**WORSHIP IS 10:30 A.M.** It will be Labor Day weekend and our theme will be (surprise) “labor,” as Keri Lavish, Connor Langdon and Mollie Bodwell, three young adults at WUMC, reflect on how their professional “labor” is an extension of their Christian discipleship. The scriptures will be Psalm 127:1, Hebrews 6:10 and Matthew 1:28-30. Sam Temple will be liturgist.

**CONFIRMATION also meets NEXT SUNDAY**, 9 – 10 a.m. in the Assembly Room. Thanks to Bud Behlman for teaching this lesson on the membership vows of the church.

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

### **CHOIR REHEARSALS RESUME Wednesday, September 3:**

Bell Choir, 6 p.m. and Chancel Choir, 7:15 p.m., both in the sanctuary. Rehearsals are most Wednesdays. Want to know how singing and ringing expresses your love of God? Please contact Minister of Music Chris Shay at 203.592.8659 or [2cshay@gmail.com](mailto:2cshay@gmail.com).

### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14: “FRIENDS AND FAMILY SUNDAY.”**

We did it last year: let’s have fun again! You tell your friends and family about a good restaurant, right? Regular attendance shows you find spiritual sustenance here! Not regular? No problem! Come see what’s on the menu! We’re not looking to take people away from their church homes. We simply say *“We experience God’s love at WUMC, think it’s special, and want to share it with you.”*

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21:** Megan Houllihan-Aceto, the new Executive Director of the Community Service Council of Woodbury, will offer an in-worship Mission Moment on the ministry of CSCW (including its heralded Woodbury Food Bank) and make a post-worship presentation during Fellowship Time. We will have a special offering for CSCW.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28:** We will be privileged to have the new Superintendent of the Connecticut District, the Rev. Heather Sinclair, as our preacher. With 73 churches in the District, we are fortunate to have her on a Sunday less than three months before she began her July 1<sup>st</sup> appointment. After worship, Rev. Sinclair will meet with our Staff-Parish Relations Committee as they consult on needs and desires for our next pastor beginning July 1, 2026.

If you have thoughts on this, please share them by September 14<sup>th</sup> with Chairperson Christine Shupenis ([cshupenis@gmail.com](mailto:cshupenis@gmail.com)) or any member of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee: Bud Behlman, Mark Davis, RaeAnn Hockenberry, Jeff Hunt, Catherine Mason, Elizabeth Styblo, Sherry Swanhall or Patti Thomas.

**"FAITH AND FICTION: An open minds, open hearts book club"** led by Meg Temple and Christine Shupenis will begin **Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>**, 8:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. We will meet the last Sunday of each month. 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 through Christine Shupenis ([cshupenis@gmail.com](mailto:cshupenis@gmail.com)). Order deadline is TODAY! LARGE PRINT version is available.

**THREE SIMPLE RULES** is a primer to the basics of Methodism: Do no harm; do good; and stay in love with God. This brief, three part series based on the simple book by Bishop Reuben Job will be taught by Pastor Brian on **Mondays, September 29, October 6 and 13** during the day (10 a.m. or Noon) and/or evening (7 p.m.) as warranted. Please register below or sign up on the church website:

**THREE SIMPLE RULES**

**THREE SESSIONS: MONDAYS, SEPT. 29, OCT. 6 AND 13**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SUNDAY, SEPT. 21**

**Give this completed form to Pastor Brian, leave it in his office mailbox, or leave it on the office work station.**

**You may also register with the sign up button at**

**[www.woodburyumc.net](http://www.woodburyumc.net)**

**Yes! Count me in! Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print legibly)

**Preferred contact:**

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I would prefer to attend (if available for more than one time, please number them 1, 2, 3 in your order of preference.) A minimum of 5 attendees will be needed to offer a session.**

\_\_\_\_\_ 10 - 11 a.m.      \_\_\_\_\_ Noon - 1 p.m.      \_\_\_\_\_ 7 - 8 p.m.

## **FOR THE CHURCH COMMUNITY**

**Pastor Brian** can be reached at [pastor.woodburyumc@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.woodburyumc@gmail.com) or 203.747.1781 for 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.

### **Spirited Song Fest Lyrics**

**Lord, I lift Your name on High.**

Lord, I lift Your name on High.

Lord, I love to sing Your praises

I'm so glad You're in my life

I'm so glad You came to save us.

You came from heaven to earth

To show the way

From the earth to the cross

My debt to pay

From the cross to the grave

From the grave to the sky

Lord, I lift Your name on high.

**Peace like a River**

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,

I've got peace like a river in my soul.

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,

I've got peace like a river in my soul.

I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain, (etc.)

I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean, (etc.)

**This Little Light of Mine**

This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine

This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine

This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm going to let it shine (etc.)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Don't let Satan [blow] it out! I'm going to let it shine (etc.)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

### **Amazing Grace**

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found;  
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed.

When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we'd first begun.

### **Thy Word is a Lamp**

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path  
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid  
Think I've lost my way  
Still you're there right beside me  
And nothing will I fear  
As long as you are near  
Please be near me to the end.

I will not forget  
Your love for me and yet  
My heart forever is wandering  
Jesus be my guide  
And hold me to your side  
I will love you to the end