

Woodbury United Methodist Church



Sunday, September 28, 2025

Pentecost 16

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 28, 2025

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"Love Never Fails"

Heath/Cates

Sarah Kate Walkup, Soloist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The Book of Worship, 1965, alt.

Elizabeth Styblo, Liturgist

L: May all who love your salvation say always, "Great is the Lord!"

P: Yes, our heart is glad in God, because we trust God's holy name.

L: Let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

P: We praise you, O God; we acknowledge you to be the Lord.

ALL: LET US WORSHIP GOD!

*HYMN

"Ye Servants of God"

UMH #181

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*seated, unison*) Book of Common Prayer, 1979, alt.

Almighty God, you created us in your own image. Grant us grace to fearlessly contend against evil, and to make no peace with oppression. And, that we may reverently use our freedom, help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice, to the glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

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

O God of Shalom, we have built up walls to protect ourselves from our enemies, but these walls also shut us off from receiving your love. Break down those walls. Help us to see that the way to your heart is through the reconciliation of our own hearts with our enemies. Bless them and us, that we may come to grow in love for each other and for you; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

FOR THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The Rev. Heather Sinclair

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

THE EPISTLE

I Timothy 6:6-19

*THE GOSPEL

Luke 16:19-31

*HYMN *"When the Church of Jesus"* UMH #592

THE SERMON *"You Can't Take It With You"* The Rev. Heather Sinclair
Superintendent, The Connecticut District

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.

MINISTRY MOMENT *"Reimagining 'The Good Life,'" Oct. 19, 6:30 p.m.*
"Men's Fellowship Breakfast," Oct. 25, 8:30 a.m. at Naugatuck UMC
Bud Behlman, Church Council Chair

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING AND OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY *"This Little Light of Mine"* Mark Hayes

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE UMH #588

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

*HYMN *"Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated"* UMH #399

*BENEDICTION The Rev. Heather Sinclair

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 Jeff and Barbara Hunt, Lay Leaders
Christopher Shay, Director of Music 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.

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

A WARM WELCOME TO THE REV. HEATHER SINCLAIR, SUPERINTENDENT OF THE CONNECTICUT DISTRICT. Rev. Sinclair has a distinguished pastoral history in Connecticut at Nichols, Trumbull and First, Shelton in addition to First, Greenwich and Westport and Weston. She has served in many Conference positions, including ten years on the Board of Ordained Ministry and seven years as Conference Worship Coordinator. She lives in Westport with her husband Edward (who goes by Skip) and daughter Grace (16) and Sophia (14). Rev. Sinclair will greet you during Fellowship Time before meeting with our SPRC.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are in honor of Rev. Sinclair and her new appointment as Superintendent, given by the WUMC congregation.

VISION 2025 EMPHASIS TODAY is "*Congregational Vitality and Growth.*" 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: Elizabeth Styblo A.V. Tech: Mark Riefenhauser
Fellowship Time Host: Carol Quinby
Ushers and Greeters: Michael Pinevich and Eileen Bennett

OUR PRAYER INTENTIONS

For Nancy Ossewaarde, recovering from surgery this past Friday.

For the Rev. John Thomason, recovering from surgery.

For Carolyn Shay, being treated for a medical condition.

We extend our sympathy to Christine Smith on the death of her sister's friend, Christine Kowalonek, and her sisters Terri and Anne. The funeral was held yesterday.

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, SEPTEMBER 28

"FAITH AND FICTION" BOOK CLUB, 8:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

WORSHIP, 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

FELLOWSHIP TIME, 11:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS, Noon – 1 p.m., Assembly Room

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

"THREE SIMPLE RULES," 10 a.m., Assembly Room

"THREE SIMPLE RULES," 7 p.m., Assembly Room

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

MISSIONS COMMITTEE, 7 p.m., Assembly Room

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1

ORDER OF ELDERS (pastor), 10:30 a.m., First UMC, Meriden

BELL CHOIR, 6 p.m., Sanctuary

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

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

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, 7 p.m., Assembly Room

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3

TRANSITION ACADEMY, 9:15-10:45 a.m., Church

NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY / PENTECOST 17

We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (Setting B).

The sermon "Call to Duty" reflects on Luke 17:5-10. We will receive the denominational offering for World Communion Sunday,

Woodbury Food Bank donations and gifts to the pastor's

discretionary fund. Our liturgist will be Carolyn Shay and

communion assistant will be Jeff Hunt. After worship, free blood

pressure screenings will be offered in the Assembly Room by

Michael Pinevich, R.N. At 11:45 a.m. our Worship Committee will meet in the Wesley Room.

ON-GOING MINISTRIES

"THREE SIMPLE RULES," our study on the Methodist General Rules, starts **TOMORROW, SEPT. 29.** Sessions are at 10 – 11 a.m. and 7 – 8 p.m. If you didn't sign up but want to join, see Pastor Brian today for a book. Additional sessions are Oct. 6 and 13.

COLLEGE CONNECTION: time to reach out to our young adults pursuing post-secondary education. Please give the name and address of your student to Patti Thomas at

patti.thomas12@yahoo.com or Carol Galloway at

carol9996@hotmail.com. **THE DEADLINE IS TODAY, SEPT. 28.**

OUR ACTIVE SUPPORT OF THE WOODBURY FOOD BANK

includes both Friday volunteers during September and the food items you donate, week in and week out. **WE THANK THE**

SEPTEMBER VOLUNTEERS: Jon Ossewaarde and Cathy Riefenhauser (9/5), Michael Pinevich and Patti Thomas (9/12), Eileen Bennett and Meg Temple (9/19) and Rev. Paul and Diane Hibbard (9/26). **CURRENT FOOD BANK NEEDS are pumpkin pie filling, cherry or apple pie filling, pie crust mix, crispy onion rings (for green bean casserole)**

"I was hungry and you gave me food...." Matthew 25:35

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 to obtain this engaging tale of kindness to others.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

RECOGNITION OF APPOINTMENT for District Superintendent Rev. Heather Sinclair, **Sunday, October 12, 4 p.m.** at Nichols United Methodist Church, 35 Shelton Road, Trumbull, CT.

FALL CLEAN-UP DAY: Saturday, October 18 at the church. Time, details to follow. Rain date November 1.

REIMAGINING "THE GOOD LIFE:" DISABILITY. FAITH. FAMILY. CULTURE. Sunday, October 19, 6:30 – 8 p.m. here at Woodbury UMC. See the flier in this issue.

"A FEW GOOD MEN" MINISTRY BREAKFAST, Saturday, October 25th, 8:30 – 10:30 a.m. at Naugatuck UMC, 208 Meadow Street. See the flier in this issue for details and registration.

ART4ALL, Saturday, October 25th, 11 a.m – 5 p.m. in WUMC's Fellowship Hall. Works of art by our special needs friends and neighbors. See the flier on the bulletin boards.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, November 2nd, 10:30 a.m. Please submit the names of those who have died since the last All Saints (Nov. 1, 2024) and your relationship (child, parent, sibling, etc.) to Pastor Brian **no later than Sunday, October 26** at pastor.woodburyumc@gmail.com (preferred) or 203.747.1781. Names will be read during Nov. 2nd worship, published in that day's bulletin and "*Living Through Grace*" of October 30th. On request, we will publish and read additional names earlier than Nov. 1, 2024.

MORE DATES / EVENTS TO CONSIDER

October 19, Laity Sunday, 10:30 worship. "*Be Strong in the Spirit*" based on Ephesians 3:16, part of the quadrennial UMC Laity theme "*Together by Grace*" based on Ephesians 3:14-21.

October 26, Reformation Sunday: Confirmation and first speaker in our "*God Is Here*" stewardship campaign.

Saturday, November 8, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Conference Laity Convocation, Sonesta Plaza Hotel, White Plains, NY. Registration \$30 by October 20. Scholarship help available. See the details in the special e-mailing of Sept. 24.

Sunday, November 9, 10:30 a.m. worship: Reception of New Members. If you are interested in joining WUMC, please speak with Pastor Brian (203.747.1781; pastor.woodburyumc@gmail.com)

Saturday, November 15, 3-5 pm: Church Conference at Seymour UMC, 90 Pearl St. Election of 2026 Church officers and Trustees; setting the pastor's compensation package.

Sunday, November 23: Thanksgiving / Commitment Sunday: financial pledges for 2026

Tuesday, November 25: two Thanksgiving services, both at 7 p.m. Woodbury-Southbury service at North Congregational, Rev. Tuesday Rupp, preaching Valley Cooperative Parish at Waterbury UMC

FOR THE CHURCH COMMUNITY

Pastor Brian can be reached at 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. 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.

CHRISTMAS IS NOT YOUR BIRTHDAY: Experience the Joy of Living and Giving Like Jesus is a study that challenges the consumer mentality of the Christmas season. The author, the Rev. Michael Slaughter, was for many years pastor of Ginghamburg UMC in Tipp City, Ohio, one of our largest U.M. churches.

This five part series will prepare us for Advent and Christmas. Pastor Brian will teach it on **five Mondays, October 27 and November 3, 10, 17 and 24** during the day (10 a.m. and/or Noon) and/or evening (7 p.m.) A minimum of five persons per session are required to offer the class. Please register below or on the website:

CHRISTMAS IS NOT YOUR BIRTHDAY

FIVE SESSIONS: MONDAYS, OCT. 27 AND NOV. 3, 10, 17, 24

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

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 link at

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.