

# Woodbury United Methodist Church



Sunday, September 7, 2025

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Pentecost 12

10:30 AM Worship

# 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)

## September 7, 2025

\*Please stand as you are able.

### WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"The House of God Forever"

Jon Foreman

Joann King, Keri Lavish, Cathy Riefenhouser

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Mark 8:34b-35

Esther Lin, Liturgist

L: Jesus said, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

**P: For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake and for the sake of the gospel will save it."**

**ALL: LET US WORSHIP THE GOD WHOSE VERY SACRIFICE IN JESUS CHRIST HAS SEALED OUR REDEMPTION.**

\*HYMN

"Take Up Thy Cross"

UMH #415

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY (*seated, in unison*)

*Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION (*by the pastor*)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*) Lydia S. Martinez, USA, 20<sup>th</sup> cent., alt.)

*Almighty God, we confess that we are often swept up in the tide of our generation. We have failed in our calling to be your holy people, a people set apart for your divine purpose. We live more in apathy born of fatalism than in passion born of hope. We are moved more by private ambition than by social justice. We dream more of privilege and benefits than of service and sacrifice. We try to speak in your name without relinquishing our glories, without nourishing our souls, without relying wholly on your grace. Help us to make room in our hearts and lives for you. Forgive us, revive us, and reshape us in your image. Amen.*

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

**WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD**

\*THE GOSPEL

Luke 14:25-35

\*HYMN OF PREPARATION *"Great is Thy Faithfulness"* UMH #140

THE SERMON

*"Family Values"*

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.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING AND OFFERING OUR GIFTS,  
including our gifts for the Woodbury Food Bank.

OFFERTORY

*"On Eagles Wings"* Michael Jocas/Mark Hayes  
(The Chancel Choir)

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

UMH #588

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

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION, including the dedication of offerings  
for the Woodbury Food Bank

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

\*HYMN

*"Let Us Break Bread Together"*

UMH #618, verses 1-3

\*SETTING A

UMH pp.17-18

*(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

*"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"*

UMH #297

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*"Fugue in G minor"*

JS Bach

+ + +

**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!

**FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS** are offered after worship in the Assembly Room by Andrew Styblo, EMT.

**CONFIRMATION AFTERNOON APART** begins at Noon in the Wesley Suite with a light lunch. We will adjourn on or before 4 p.m.

**VISION 2025 EMPHASIS TODAY** is "*Spiritual Wellness.*" 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 / Communion Assistant: Esther Lin

A.V. Tech: Meg Temple and Christine Shupenis

Fellowship Time Hosts: Michael Pinevich and Eileen Bennett

Ushers and Greeters: Carol Quinby and Catherine Mason

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

**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.

**CHOIR REHEARSALS HAVE BEGUN!** We meet on Wednesdays, Bell Choir, 6 p.m. and Chancel Choir, 7:15 p.m., in the sanctuary. Rehearsals are most Wednesdays. Interested? Please contact Minister of Music Chris Shay at 203.592.8659 or [2cshay@gmail.com](mailto:2cshay@gmail.com).

**A WOODBURY TOWN MEMORIAL SERVICE IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE 9/11 ATTACKS** will be held this Thursday, September 11, 8:45 a.m. in Hollow Park. The service is open to the public. Pastor Brian will offer the benediction. Our church will be open for prayer on that day from 10 a.m.-8:30 p.m.

### **OUR PRAYER INTENTIONS**

The Reverends David and Sandy Mantz, traveling to the Congo Sept. 10-17 for the installation of Bishop Nelson Ngoy of the Tanganyika Episcopal Area of the Mid-Africa Central Conference in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

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

The Rev. John Thomason, recovering from shoulder surgery this past Wednesday.

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 7**

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

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

**CONFIRMATION TIME APART**, Noon, Wesley Room

#### **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**

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

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

#### **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**

**WOODBURY TOWN 9/11 MEMORIAL**, 8:45 a.m., Hollow Park

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

**SANCTUARY OPEN FOR PRAYER**, 10 a.m.- 8:30 p.m.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES, 7 p.m., Wesley Room**  
**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, 7 p.m., Assembly Room**  
**COOPERATIVE PARISH COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Naugatuck UMC**

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**

**TRANSITION ACADEMY, 9:15-10:45 am, Church grounds**  
**WOODBURY FOOD BANK SERVING, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., LaBonne's**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 4 – 5:45 p.m.,** visit to Christ the Savior Russian Orthodox Church, 1070 Roxbury Road, Southbury, 4 – 5:45 p.m. Our Christian Education Committee invites you to learn about this Christian tradition. **If you plan to attend,** please let Bob Asman know at [asmanct@hotmail.com](mailto:asmanct@hotmail.com) or (860) 567-2557.

**NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**

***“FRIENDS AND FAMILY SUNDAY:”*** On this special day we encourage you to invite “friends and family” to experience in worship and fellowship what brings you here week after week, month after month, year after year. You may remember last year’s response, which is now pictured on our website! The sermon *“Who’d You Invite?”* will be based on Luke 15:1-10 with I Timothy 1:12-17 and Psalm 14. Our liturgist will be Joann King.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21:** Megan Houllihan-Aceto, Executive Director of the Community Services Council of Woodbury, will offer a 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, 8:30 a.m.: “FAITH AND FICTION: An open minds, open hearts book club”** led by Meg Temple and Christine Shupenis begins in Fellowship Hall. We will meet the last Sunday of each month. Our first book will be Ordinary Grace by William Kent Kruger.

**10:30 a.m.:** 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 ([cschupenis@gmail.com](mailto:cschupenis@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.

### **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.

**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 QR code 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.

Dear WUMC family,

For several months leaders have discussed opening our sanctuary during the week for prayer. Bishop Bickerton challenged our churches at Annual Conference in June to do this. St. Paul's Episcopal already does this. Our Evangelism Team, at the urging of Christian education, is developing a sustainable plan.

To "jump start" us, I will open the sanctuary one week from today, Thursday, September 11, from 10 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. for prayer on the 24th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. As you will note elsewhere in this bulletin, our town will have an observance at 8:45 a.m. in Hollow Park that should last about 45 minutes. My schedule will allow me to be present in the building the entire day.

What I need from our church is PEOPLE to be present in the sanctuary to greet those who come, especially visitors. I need eleven (11) people to agree to take one hour during this time to act as "host" on behalf of the church and to pray: 10 a.m., 11 a.m., Noon, 1 p.m., etc. Printed prayer guides will be provided. All you have to do is greet anyone who comes, provide them a prayer guide, and pray yourself.

If you are willing to commit to one hour of prayer, please contact me immediately at 203.747.1781 (text or call) or [pastor.woodburyumc@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.woodburyumc@gmail.com).

In Christ's love,  
Pastor Brian





United  
Women  
in Faith

# Save The Date UWF Annual Meeting

OCTOBER 4, 2025

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
1890 FOREST AVE  
STATEN ISLAND, NY 10303



# **FOOD DRIVE**

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**TO BENEFIT THE WOODBURY FOOD BANK**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup> 8AM -8PM**


**STOP & SHOP SOUTHBURY**



**SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP  
OR REACH OUT TO MEGAN  
at 203-263-3869**



The CSCW urgently needs volunteers to work at their food drive sponsored by Stop & Shop in Southbury on Saturday, September 13 from 8 AM to 8 PM. Specifically, they need help between 2 PM and 6 PM. I am asking that the Woodbury United Methodist Church help supply volunteers during this critical time. Do you have time between 2-4 or 4-6 PM? Let's make this a group effort and help our neighbors together! You may sign up through the QR code on the flyer or by contacting Meg Temple at 203-910-3711.



WOODBURY PARKS AND  
RECREATION INVITES YOU

— ★ ★ ★ ★ —

# 9/11 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

HOLLOW PARK  
THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 11TH, 8:45AM



WE WILL NEVER FORGET



HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR  
COMMUNITY SERVICES COUNCIL OF WOODBURY  
WOODBURY FOOD BANK

## SUBMIT YOUR RECEIPTS

IF YOU SHOP AT ANY  
LABONNE'S MARKETS,  
PLEASE CONSIDER  
SUBMITTING YOUR  
RECEIPTS MONTHLY TO  
ASSIST US IN RAISING  
FUNDS FOR OUR  
CRITICAL NEEDS.



*LaBonne's*  
MARKETS

REGISTER RECEIPTS



### HOW TO SUBMIT:

#### DROP OFF:

Woodbury Food Bank\*  
• Donation Box

Food Donation Boxes\*  
• Woodbury Post Office  
• Woodbury Library

\*Please place in a plastic  
baggie or sealed envelope

#### MAIL:

CSCW  
PO Box 585  
Woodbury, CT 06798

[community.services.council@gmail.com](mailto:community.services.council@gmail.com)