

CONNECTIONS

Mission Statement: To equip all to joyfully grow their faith, seek God's will and serve others within a welcoming community centered on Jesus Christ. Wethersfield United Methodist Church welcomes, into full participation in our community, all persons, regardless of sexual orientation, race, gender, age, ability, economic status, immigration status, or culture.

January 26, 2025

Wethersfield
United Methodist Church
150 Prospect Street
Wethersfield, CT 06109
860-529-2025
info@wethersfieldchurch.org
www.wethersfieldchurch.org



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10:30 AM

“Has the Scripture been fulfilled in us?”

Sermon by Rev. Marion Hubbard

Please join us for an in-person Worship Service, led by Rev. Marion Hubbard, in the Sanctuary at church and on Zoom!

For those who would prefer to stay at home and attend worship by Zoom, you will see our worship service in the Sanctuary! **The link for Zoom can be found on this page in the right column.**

Our worship slide show, which includes music lyrics, will be projected on our screen in the Sanctuary. *Mike Gowdy* will play piano, sing and lead music, *Beth Warweg* will lead the Children's Moment, *Martha Arnold* will read Scripture and *Jan Ironside* will lead Joys and Concerns.

Following the service, please join us for Fellowship Hour.

Holy Communion: Please know that everyone is welcome to participate in communion. Also, we use only gluten free bread and grape juice instead of wine.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83972112794?pwd=XmVNCu6YKlQfebNzEtnyGhl3iSHnVu.1>

Meeting ID: 839 7211 2794

Passcode: 150150

One tap mobile

+16469313860,,83972112794#,,,,*150150# US

+19292056099,,83972112794#,,,,*150150# US

(New York)

Dial by your location

• +1 646 931 3860 US

• +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

• +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

• +1 305 224 1968 US

• +1 309 205 3325 US

• +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

• +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/kcL9wQYL8i>

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Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Marion Ryan Hubbard

Older Adult Ministry: Jan Ironside

Music Ministry: Michael Gowdy

Office Administrator: Karen Rudewicz

Treasurer: Dawn Montenieri

Custodian: Ryan O’Connor

THE CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER

To give everyone enough time to read *Connections* before the weekend starts, we email it to you on Thursdays. The deadline for submitting articles for *Connections* is 9:00 a.m. on Tuesdays.

Tuesday, January 27 at 9:00 a.m. is the deadline for the next issue of *Connections*. Thank you.

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends in Christ,

Wishing you well this week. Praying the Holy Spirit is working within you. We now have 4 lessons left to our Work Study on Communion. Please feel free to join us. We meet at 12:15 every Sunday after Church, **except this Sunday, January 26, we will meet at 9:00 a.m.** We start off with a brief synopsis of what we covered so far. We would love to have you join us.

I am also excited to tell you about a new members class, starting February 23, 2024. If you are new to our church or have been a friend to our church and would like to learn more about us, please feel free to join us and learn more about our Wethersfield UMC family and the United Methodist Church as a whole. We would love to have you join us as a member of our church family. The Classes will be held after church at 12:15 in the Fireside room. Please let me know if you are interested in joining. There will be three classes in total. Each class will be for one hour. The first class will be a get acquainted with us. The second class will be a time to find out more about Methodism as a whole and about Rev. John Wesley. The third Class will be about our Wethersfield United Methodist church and what our beliefs are and how we operate as a loving church family. There will be a sign up sheet on the wall in the hall leading to the Family Life Center.

One final note for this week, our Scripture reading for this week is from Luke 4:14-21. I will be preaching on whether or not the scriptures are also fulfilled within us.

Remember God loves you and so do I, and there is nothing you can do about it.

God bless you all. - *Pastor Marion*

Contact information and office hours for Pastor Marion:

Cell: 203-241-9763

Email: pastormarion@wethersfieldchurch.org

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Days off: Friday, Saturday and Monday

Please call first before coming to see Pastor Marion, to make sure she is not on an emergency call someplace else.

Thank you.

Congregational Covenant Wethersfield UMC 2022

We covenant together to create a community that supports one another, celebrates one another, and recognizes that each of us seeks to find in the body of Christ a place of safety, affirmation, and joy. Our communication will be guided by the biblical admonition to "speak the truth in love" (Ephesians 4:15), which means that we will express our convictions and feelings honestly, but also with sensitivity to the concerns of others.

We recognize that God calls us to different ministries and commitments. We will respect and support our church staff and all who accept office or commit themselves to the service of this church. When conflict or disagreement

arises, we will address each other directly. We will speak with people, not about people. If direct conversation does not resolve a conflict, we will seek God's guidance and appropriate help whenever we find our own wisdom inadequate. We may not always come to an agreement, but we will respect the decision of the majority and strive to maintain unity in the spirit of Christian Love.

We covenant to pray together to sustain and deepen our love relationship with God, whom we cannot love without loving one another (John 13:34-35, 1 John 4:20-21). We affirm this covenant, trusting in God's power to enable us to live it with courage, love, and compassion.

God be with you all,

Pastor Marion

NEW ARTICLES



UM ARMY Super Bowl Fundraiser! Sunday, February 9

Grab your Chili and Tortilla Chips or
Chicken Tortilla Soup and Tortilla Chips!

You can pre-order by calling or texting
Karen Lewis at 860-798-9927.

Pick up Saturday, February 8 at
Karen's house or
Sunday, February 9 at church
(before or after the service).

A free-will donation is welcomed.

Thank you.



Choir Rehearsal Schedule

January

Thursday, 1/23 - No Choir
Thursday, 1/30 - Rehearsal at 6:00 p.m.

February

Sunday, 2/2 - Choir Sings
Thursday, 2/6 - Rehearsal at 6:00 p.m.
Thursday, 2/13 - Rehearsal at 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, 2/16 - Choir Sings
Thursday, 2/20 - No Rehearsal
Thursday, 2/27 - Rehearsal at 6:00 p.m.

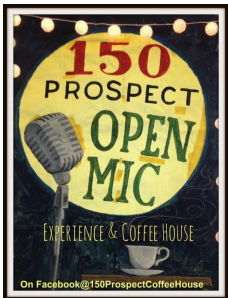
March

Sunday, 3/2 - Choir Sings
Wednesday, 3/5 - Ash Wednesday Service
Thursday, 3/6 - No rehearsal
Thursday, 3/13 - Rehearsal at 6:50 p.m.
Bell Choir rehearsals start (3/13). Time is 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, 3/16 - Choir Sings
Thursday, 3/20 - Rehearsal at 6:50 p.m.
Thursday, 3/27 - TBA

NEW ARTICLES

Sofia Nunzia to Anchor on February 8 at 150 Prospect Open Mic and Coffee House! Join us at 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

We are so excited to have Sofia Nunzia, an 18-year-old singer-songwriter as our anchor on Saturday, February 8! Sofia's music style is influenced by 1990s country music and Motown. She lived in North Carolina for most of her life before relocating to New England several years ago. She has participated in songwriting programs at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum in Nashville and Berklee College of Music in Boston, and she released her debut single at the age of 14. Sofia is currently recording an EP that will be released in the Spring of 2025. Come and enjoy a wonderful night of music with this talented young woman!



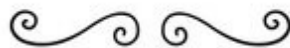
150 PROSPECT is substance-free, open to all. Musicians, singers, poets, dancers and comedians ages 14 and up may perform. Performers play two tunes, up to ten-minute sets. Microphones, amps and a keyboard (piano) are available. There are no restrictions on respectful content. Free homemade soups, chili, desserts, coffee and soft drinks are available.

Guests are asked to bring a non-perishable food item for neighbors in need. Please visit: www.150prospect.org.

A free-will donation is welcomed. 150 Prospect is located at 150 Prospect Street, Wethersfield, CT.

150 Prospect runs from October to May and there is no charge for entry. This WUMC ministry began in 2015 and we've been blessed with many new friendships as we continue to offer a substance-free venue for performers and audiences alike.

For more information, contact Tanja Moriarty, [860-614-5158](tel:860-614-5158), or tanjam265@gmail.com



Listen to Sofia by clicking on the link below, then go to the "Songs" tab.
[Sofia Nunzia Music - Music, Musician, Songwriting, Singer-Songwriter](#)

Click on this link and scroll down to see her music videos:
[Gallery | Sofia Nunzia Music](#)

Click on this link to listen and watch her sing a Dolly Parton song:
[Working 9 to 5 - Dolly Parton karaoke live performance](#)

SENIOR LADIES OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH



From Jan Ironside: Here are the dates for the Senior Ladies Out to Lunch Bunch

No lunch bunch in January.
March 13 - Flynn's, South Glastonbury
April 10 - Wood-n-Tap, Rocky Hill
May 8 - Salute, Rocky Hill
June 12 - Maggie McFly's, Glastonbury

GIFTS FOR LOAVES AND FISHES IN HARTFORD



Gifts of Socks and Toiletries Are Being Collected for *Loaves and Fishes in Hartford*

The Creative Pastimes/Prayer Shawl knitters have been making hats and scarves all year to give to *Loaves and Fishes of Hartford*. This independent, non-profit, located near St. Francis Hospital, serves over 35,000 hot meals annually and provides take-home sandwiches and lunch bags. Related services such as job training and a sewing program move clients beyond the crisis intervention of food support. Single mothers and families are often served. WUMC first brought hats to Loaves and Fishes in 1992. For many years the congregation has partnered with the hat makers by donating warm weather socks and toiletries.



This year, the Christmas trees in the narthex and Family Life Center hallway have been left up to display the hats. There is a box near each tree for your socks and toiletries gifts. Sharon Richwine delivers everything in mid-February. Anyone interested in going with her to display the hats, socks, and toiletries at *Loaves and Fishes* is welcome to join her. The clients are grateful and enjoy interacting and selecting what they could use. Call Grace Hayes about learning to make our hats or for knitting supplies to make them independently.

“MEET FOR MAHJONG” TUESDAYS



The “Meet for Mahjong” group meets **every Tuesday morning, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon** in the Old Fellowship Hall. Those who have been playing for awhile, those who have just learned how to play and those who would like to learn how to play. . .All are welcome!!! Our goal is to enjoy each other’s company and have some fun.

DEHUMIDIFIER NEEDED

A Dehumidifier Is Needed

Does anyone have a spare dehumidifier that can be donated to the Parsonage? As you may have heard, Pastor Marion had a problem with mold in her basement last fall. Part of the problem was that the dehumidifier that was down there was not working. If you might have one available, either Pastor Marion, 203-241-9763, or Philip Munroe, 860-310-8721, can be contacted. Thank you!

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES

Gerry and I enjoy facilitating Red Cross Blood Drives. We would appreciate having a few other church members to serve as backup if we are unable to be present for any unexpected reason. It involves unlocking the room at 7:00 a.m. and setting up tables and chairs, and taking them down and securing the building at 2:00 p.m. Please contact us if you are willing.

A Blood Drive will be held on **January 25, 2025**. - *Gerry and Grace Hayes*

FROM COLIN ARMOUR, CHAIR OF SPPRC

January 22, 2025

From: Colin Armour, Sr.

Chairperson of the SPPRC (Staff Pastor Parish Relationship Committee).

To: The Church family of Wethersfield United Methodist Church

The 2024 Christmas holidays have passed and now we are into the new year. I want to stop and thank the Congregation for their generous support of the fund that allowed us to make monetary gifts to staff. I have heard for myself and through contact with others, that they are grateful for the thoughtfulness of the congregation.

Thank you for your generosity.

Colin Sr

Colin Sr.

SUPPORT CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE SURVIVORS



Altadena United Methodist Church in Altadena, CA, is reduced to rubble after the Palisades and Eaton fires swept through Southern California. Experts warn that Los Angeles is not yet out of danger as the fires remain uncontained. Photo by the Rev. Garth Gilliam, district superintendent, California-Pacific Annual Conference.

Give Now - Support California Wildfire Survivors

Join us in supporting communities devastated by wildfires. As wildfires continue to devastate communities in Southern California, thousands of families are left without homes, belongings or even basic necessities. Entire neighborhoods have been reduced to ashes.

UMCOR is meeting urgent needs through support of the California-Pacific Annual Conference's immediate relief efforts. Initially, we've provided emergency relief funding for food, water and essential supplies for evacuees and to bolster local volunteer efforts. And we'll continue to offer support through long-term recovery.

Join us in supporting the people of Los Angeles. Together, we can be a beacon of hope for families who have lost so much in this disaster.

To give by check, please send checks payable to Advance GCFA to:

Global Ministries | UMCOR
GPO
P.O. BOX 9068
NEW YORK, NY 10087-9068

To give online, please click on the link below:

[Global Ministries - UMCOR US Disaster Response and Recovery](#)

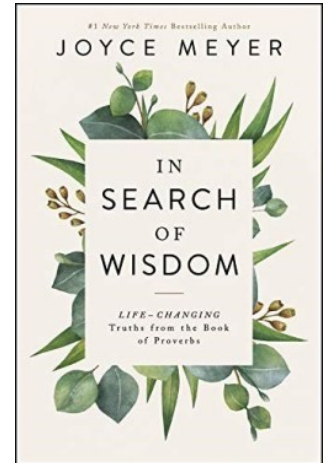
WORDLY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Wordly Women's Next Bible Study:

In Search of Wisdom: Life Changing Truths in the Book of Proverbs, by Joyce Meyer

#1 New York Times bestselling author Joyce Meyer takes us on a journey through the wisdom of Proverbs that leaves us transformed and prepared to face daily choices and challenges.

The book of Proverbs is a treasure trove of spiritual and practical wisdom that equips us to live our best lives. Knowledge is important, but if it isn't converted into action, it fails to create transformational change in our lives. It is important to gain a thoughtful and practical understanding of the seven foundational principles in the book of Proverbs: Wisdom, Understanding, Prudence, Knowledge, Discretion, Discernment, and Fear of the Lord.



All women of the church are invited to join the 'Word'ly Women's next Bible Study. This is a four-week book study. Each week we will gather to discuss a section of the book. We will meet on four Mondays, starting on February 3, 2025 through February 24, 2025. There is a Morning Class from 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. and an Evening Class from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. The classes are held in the Fireside Room. The sign-up sheet is posted on the Community Connections Board. Please, purchase the book for this study and read the introduction and the first 8 chapters before the first class (the book is available on Amazon.com). Whether you are new to Bible study or a longtime student of the Word come join us to study the Book of Proverbs!

FELLOWSHIP COFFEE HOUR

Please, will you provide some goodies for Fellowship Coffee Hour?

From Betty: I am asking for goodies as follows:

First Sunday Last names starting with A-C
Second Sunday Last names starting with D-I
Third Sunday Last names starting with J-Q
Fourth Sunday Last names starting with R-W

Fifth Sunday Anyone on a Committee

Many thanks to all who contribute goodies for Coffee Hour.

UM ARMY 2025

Summer 2025 will be here before you know it...

For anyone interested in participating in UM Army 2025 — youth who have completed 6th grade and the young at heart — we need you to be part of the WUMC team! We need participants of all ages - for every 5 youth we bring, we need 2 adults. Our team is registered for the week of Sunday, July 13 to Saturday, July 19 and we will be somewhere in Connecticut. The cost is \$325 per person and scholarships will be available for those that need it. Please consider coming — you won't regret it. If you have any questions or want to secure a spot, please reach out to Judy Dowd.





CALENDAR

Please note: The information in this calendar is based on the online calendar as of January 23.

SUNDAY, January 26 - Worship Time is 10:30 a.m.

- Sunday School at 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. in various classrooms
- Third Sunday after the Epiphany Worship Service, in the Sanctuary and by Zoom at 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
- Fellowship Hour at 11:30 - 12:30 p.m., FLC

Rental at 2:30 - 6:30 p.m. in the Music Room

MONDAY, January 27

Wordly Women Bible Study at 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room

Rental at 4:00 - 6:30 p.m. in the FLC and Kitchen

Rental at 5:00 - 6:30 p.m., Old Fellowship Hall

Wordly Women Bible Study at 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room

Rental at 7:00 - 9:30 p.m. in the FLC

TUESDAY, January 28

Morning Prayer at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room

Rental at 4:00 - 8:00 in the FLC and Kitchen

Worship Meeting at 6:30 p.m. by Zoom

Rental at 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. in Old Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, January 29

Rental at 6:30 - 9:00 a.m. in the FLC

Rental at 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the FLC and Kitchen

SPPRC Meeting at 6:30 p.m., Fireside Room

THURSDAY, January 30

Rental at 4:00 - 8:00 p.m., FLC and Kitchen

Choir Rehearsal at 6:00 p.m. in the Music Room

FRIDAY, January 31

Rental at 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in Old Fellowship Hall

Rental at 4:00 - 8:00 p.m., FLC and Kitchen

Rental at 7:00 - 11:00 p.m., Music Room

SUNDAY, February 2 - Worship Time is 10:30 a.m.

- Sunday School at 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. in various classrooms
- Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany Worship Service, with Communion, in the Sanctuary and by Zoom at 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
- Fellowship Hour at 11:30 - 12:30 p.m., FLC

CELEBRATIONS!

Birthdays (January 26 - February 2)

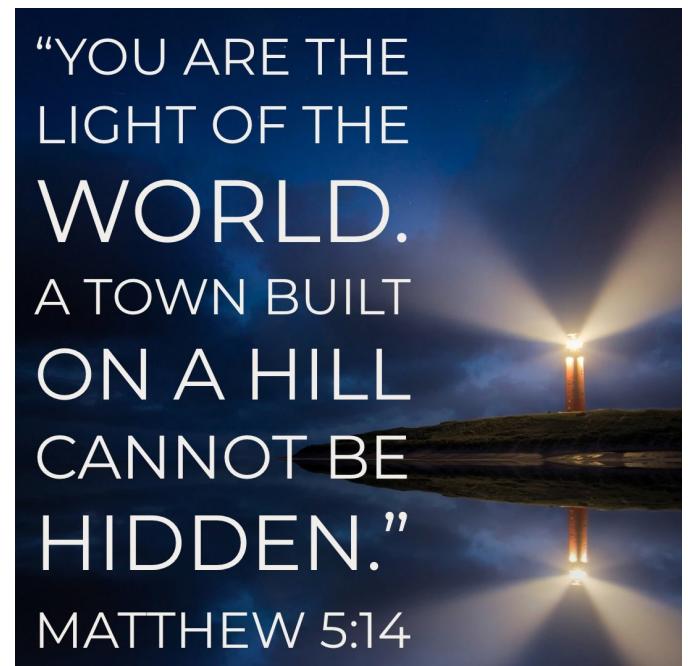
1/26 Samuel Pedneault

1/28 Greg Wilderman

Anniversary

1/29 Bruce and Carol Bockstael

Please contact Karen, Office Administrator, if your birthday or anniversary is not included here or if you have any changes and/or corrections to these lists. Thank you.



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150 Prospect Street
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