

Dates to Remember

Sunday School for Youth begins
September 8th.

SPRC Meeting

Wednesday, September 4 @ 6:30 PM

Admin Council Meeting

Wednesday, September 10 @ 7:00 PM

September 11th Prayer Vigil

Wednesday, September 11 @ 1:00 PM to
3:00 PM

UMC Informational Session

Sunday, September 22 @ 10:30 AM

St. Francis' Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, September 29 @ 9:30 AM

SAVE THE DATE

Church Conference

Wednesday, October 23 @ 7 PM



Announcements

Special Offering Music. Anyone wishing to provide special music during the offering should sign up on the calendar in Fellowship Hall or speak with Sharon Keith, our organist.

Coffee Hour Hosts. Coffee Hour is a perfect time to catch up with friends and make new ones, and we're so grateful to all who have hosted us with coffee and refreshments. The host list is posted through December; if

something comes up and you're not able to host, please see if you can swap with someone. Thank you!

Pastor Christy's Office Hours. Pastor Christy will be available at the Merriam-Gilbert Library here in town each week on Mondays from 1 PM to 3 PM. She will also have evening hours on Wednesdays from 5 PM to 7 PM at the Dunkin' Donuts on Main Street in West Brookfield. Feel free to join her! Note that these hours will shift on Monday Holiday Weeks and Meeting Weeks, but if you would like to schedule a different time to get together, please email or call Pastor Christy to set up an appointment.

Gifts of Flowers. Altar flowers are a wonderful way to honor or remember loved ones. If you'd like to provide flowers on any given Sunday, please sign up on the bulletin board heading into the Fellowship Hall so we can plan ahead. Thank you!

Nominations Committee

We are thrilled that so many of you have chosen to serve the church in a myriad of important ways! The Nominations Committee will be surveying the gifts of our congregation and making nominations for service on our committees in the church. We have the following committees: Staff-Parish Relations Committee, Trustees, Finance, and Administrative Council. We are hoping to add two other teams: Worship and Youth. If you are interested in serving, please contact us. This is an important ministry opportunity, and we are so thankful for your service!

Liturgist Sign Up. Do you feel called to share God's Word with us on Sunday mornings? Would you like to be a part of the

worship service? There is an opportunity each week to share your voice with us by reading the scripture passage during Church. Sign up on the bulletin board heading into the Fellowship Hall, and Pastor Christy will give you a call on Monday with the coming week's scripture passage.



Technology Request.

We are pleased to be able to bring back the PowerPoint presentation on Sunday mornings to aid the Pastor with visuals throughout the sermon.

We are currently using the church's projector and Sharon Collins' personal laptop from home. She would prefer not to use her own computer, so if you feel led to donate toward a new laptop for the church or if you currently have one that could be used weekly, it would be greatly appreciated. We can probably get one for around \$300 or less. Please pray on this and let the Holy Spirit guide you in the process. Many thanks from Sharon Collins.

September 11th Prayer Vigil. As we come to the 18th anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attacks, the sanctuary will be open for prayer and reflection on Wednesday, September 11th from 1 PM to 3 PM. Stop in to light a candle and pray for our country and all those affected by mass violence and terrorism.



Church Fair – This year’s Church Fair will be November 9th from 9 am to 2 pm. Be thinking about how you can support the various tables – Gramma’s Attic, handiwork, Jams & Pickles, Fudge and Baked Goods. Watch for more info.

New Grief Support Group is forming at the Congregational Church, West Brookfield for anyone experiencing grief and loss. The program will begin after Labor Day and will run for six weeks. More details to come. Speak to Pastor Christy if interested.

Prayer Chain – Please call Jane Dolan at 508-867-5571 to activate the Prayer Chain for any prayer requests. She will notify Pastor Christy and start the chain in motion. Anyone wishing to be added to the Prayer Chain list should speak to Jane Dolan.

Food Share Ministry



Communion Sunday Dedication. In response to the needs of our local community, the first Sunday of the month will be dedicated to food donations for the Sharing

Cupboard here in town. For September’s offering, the Sharing Pantry has asked we provide bags of ground coffee, both caffeinated and decaf. Thank you for sharing!

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARYS

Paul & Ross Chicoine	9/2
Tom & Geraldine McKeon	9/3
Jerry & Brenda Zichl	9/18
Lindsey & Barbara Smith	9/25

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

R.J. Ducharme	9/2
Kelly Mundell	9/3
Betty Hubbard	9/5
Neata Campbell	9/13
Elsa Bates	9/14

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Doug & Carry Alley	01
Peg Hannigan & Kelly Rice	08
Karen Farrell & Pam Andrews	15
Diane Mundell & Tommy McKeon	22
Crystal & Evelyn Armitage	29

(the list is now posted through December. Please check and if the dates are not good for you, swap with someone. Thank you).

Contact Information

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 Like us on **Facebook** to see weekly pictures and updates.

Submissions to the monthly newsletter editions are encouraged, welcomed and appreciated. Please send them to: Sharon.nelson21@gmail.com by the 20th of the month or by mail to Sharon Collins at 35 Highland Street, West Brookfield, MA 01585 or by phone at 508-335-2181.

THE ROCK

George Whitefield
United Methodist Church
West Brookfield, Massachusetts
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Pastoral Letter

Dear Beloved Community,

As we close our summer together, we come into a new season of learning, whether it's as students in school or as students of life. As such, I will be offering a new sermon series beginning September 1st focusing on the Methodist tradition. We will start by learning about John Wesley's life, how his heart was strangely warmed toward God's love and how this love has driven the history and mission of our faith. In our second week, we'll explore the theological pillars of the Methodist movement as we learn about John Wesley's understanding of grace. Then we'll move into social movements within our global Church in the third week, and we will finish off by seeking to understand the current events of the United Methodist Church. At the conclusion of the series on Sunday, September 22nd, there will be an informational session following church as we dream together what our future could look like. It is my hope and prayer that as we build on the foundation of the Methodist tradition, we may see hope arise in new ways. Many blessings for a wholesome harvest season. Know that you are all in my prayers.

- Pastor Christy Wright