

George Whitefield UMC Ministries

Music Ministries. We have a special opportunity to work with our Music Director, Sharon Keith, to provide special music during the offering. If you are interested in sharing your gifts and talents, please sign up on the calendar in the Fellowship Hall or speak with Sharon. We also have the opportunity to join in our choir! We welcome all voices. Under the direction of Sharon, the choir meets at 9:00 AM every other Sunday morning to rehearse for their piece during the service.

Sunday School. All youth are invited to join in Sunday School during church services. We're thankful for Crystal Armitage's leadership in creating disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!

Bible Study. We are pleased to bring back a Bible Study Small Group led by Sharon and Nancy Collins. This small group meets weekly on Thursdays at 4 PM in the Church Fellowship Hall. Throughout the fall and winter season, the location will shift, but we will keep everyone updated!

Prayer Shawl Ministry. We are so delighted by the response of our prayer shawl ministry, where we crochet and knit small pocket-sized prayer shawls and include a prayer card with each gift. Feel free to pick a few up to take to friends who are ill, neighbors who may have just moved in, or to family members. These prayer shawls have traveled near and far, and we're so thankful to witness God's love in this way!

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 November's offering, the Sharing Cupboard has asked we provide toiletry items such as travel-sized soap, shampoo, conditioner, wash cloths, deodorant, hand sanitizer, small packs of tissues, socks, women's hygiene products, and infant diapers and toddler pull-ups. So far this fall, we have donated 49.4 pounds of food and goods. Thank you for sharing!

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! If you would like to schedule a different time to get together, please email or call Pastor Christy to set up an appointment.

Contact Information.

Church/Parsonage Phone	(508) 867-3667
Pastor Christy's Cell Phone	(860) 908-7531
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George Whitefield United Methodist Church

West Brookfield, MA || 9:30 AM

Even Silence is Praise

October 27, 2019

George Whitefield United Methodist Church

West Brookfield, MA || 9:30 AM

Christy Wright, Pastor || Sharon Keith, Music Director
Heidi Jeldres, Lay Leader & Liturgist

October 27, 2019

PRELUDE *Just As I Am* Weems

*LIGHT OF CHRIST

*PROCESSIONAL *Shout to the Lord (x2)* FWS #2074

GREETING/ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SONG OF PRAISE *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms* UMH #133
Fuel Fund for those wishing to contribute

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Here is your invitation.

All: Unplug in this moment from daily life:

One: From daily stresses and overload, from the noise and isolation.

All: Reconnect to visions and dreams:

One: Meadows and pastures, hills and valleys, mountains and streams.

All: Reconnect to the bounty of God.

One: And in the midst of reconnecting, may we see God's visions, and dream God's dreams.

All: People everywhere on earth, join creation and shout for joy. All praise is due to You, O God. Through Christ our Lord, Amen. ∞

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERATORY *I Saw the Light*
An offering from Doug Alley & Sharon Keith

*DOXOLOGY UMH #95

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*GLORIA PATRI UMH #70

SCRIPTURE READING Heidi Jeldres
Psalm 65

SERMON *Even Silence is Praise* Pastor Christy

*HYMN *Jesus, Lover of My Soul* UMH #479

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Kyrie* Talbot

*Please stand as you are able.

∞ Adapted from *Ministry Matters: Worship Elements, October 27, 2019.*

◇ Today's altar flowers are given by Jane Dolan.

Ways to Serve

Technology Fund. As we continue to be blessed with a laptop and projector for Sunday morning worship services, we are recognizing the need for a technology fund. These funds will be directed toward covering the cost of projector bulbs, cables, and other technological needs, and donations are being accepted. Thank you!

Community Acts of Kindness. If you would like to donate gift cards in \$20 denominations for CVS, Hannaford, or gas cards for folks in our community who are requesting financial assistance, we would gladly receive your donations and pass them onto folks who need them most while also providing ways to engage in more sustainable solutions. A locking mailbox is hanging in the hallway to the fellowship hall to receive your gifts. Thank you.

Operation Christmas Child. Many thanks to the Reims for their Operation Christmas Child ministry! Boxes are available now to be picked up at the altar along with the list of items to be included in each box. The last day of collection will be November 17th. If you'd like to donate items toward a box rather than completing an entire box, your donations of pencils, paper, and small toys make all the difference. Thank you for your support!

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!

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 in the Fellowship Hall so we can plan ahead. Thank you!

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 in the Fellowship Hall, and Pastor Christy will give you a call on Monday with the coming week's scripture passage.

In Our Prayers. Thanksgiving for: weddings, family, health, Edacia and Nori. Holding in our hearts: Al, the Armitage family, Arnold, Betty, Bob, Chris, Dean and Jamie, Dell, Ed, Elsie, the family of Evelyn, the family of Greg, Gus, John, Judy, the Keith family, Lee, Linda, Lisa's Dad, Nicole, Paul D., Priscilla, the Reim family, Richard, Rose, Russ & Joy, Sage, Sandy, Shirley, Tomassa, those who are experiencing homelessness and food insecurity, mass violence victims, those who are in recovery from natural disasters, our natural world, our nation and world, our political leaders. **Note that this list will renew each month. Please contact Pastor Christy if there are names that you would like on the list on a continual basis.**

Special Events

Stewardship Campaign. This season, we are looking back at the ways in which we've been blessed by God and our church community and the ways in which we can respond. Beginning Sunday, November 3rd, we will be embarking on a four-week journey to discover the *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*, which include radical hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission and service, and extravagant generosity. You will soon be receiving more material about our campaign in the mail, and we're very excited to discover God's call and will for our church.

Church Fair. We're excited to bring back the Fall Fair on Saturday, November 9th from 9 AM to 2 PM. Setup will occur on Friday, November 8th, and collections for Grandma's Attic will take place now through November 8th.

Turkey Soup Luncheon. Save the date! We are excited to announce a new fundraiser – a turkey soup luncheon on Sunday, December 1st following church, which utilizes your leftover turkey carcasses from Thanksgiving. Pastor Christy will be collecting leftover turkey carcasses in an ice-packed cooler outside of the Fellowship Hall from Friday, November 29th until Saturday, November 30th. She'll make a stock and soup from the turkeys and add plenty of vegetables for a hearty fall soup. Sign-up sheets are available today after church to share gifts of bread, salad, and desserts for this fundraiser as well as for help setting and cleaning up. Thank you for your service!

Advent Coffee Series. Be sure to join us for four weeks in December for an Advent Coffee Series with Pastor Christy at the parsonage on Mondays from 4 PM to 5 PM starting December 2nd where we will be celebrating Advent and the arrival of Christ.

White Christmas. We're very excited to open our church to the community on Sunday, December 8th from 12 noon until 3 PM, where we will share in crafts, goodies, and fun with kids and adults alike.

Pastor's Christmas Open House. Be sure to join us at the parsonage on Sunday, December 15th from 4 PM to 6 PM for hot cocoa, cookies, and carols with Pastor Christy.

Next Week's Worship Leaders, 11/3

Thank you so much for your service!

Communion Elements. Jackie Wood

Special Music. Choir, meeting at 9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall

Liturgist. Rev. Nancy Collins. Pastor Christy will contact Liturgists on Monday each week with the scripture reading and will have it printed out for you for Sunday.

Flowers. Crystal Armitage, in memory of Charlie Greenwood

Coffee Hour Hosts. Ray and Pam Andrews