

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
Email
Website

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George Whitefield United Methodist Church

West Brookfield, MA || 9:30 AM



Generous Hospitality

November 3, 2019

George Whitefield United Methodist Church

West Brookfield, MA || 9:30 AM

Christy Wright, Pastor || Sharon Keith, Music Director
Rev. Nancy Collins, Liturgist || Heidi Jeldres, Lay Leader

November 3, 2019

PRELUDE *The Beatitudes* Mills

*LIGHT OF CHRIST

*PROCESSIONAL *Faith Of Our Fathers* UMH #710

GREETING/ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SONG OF PRAISE *Lift Every Voice* UMH #519
Fuel Fund for those wishing to contribute

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Sometimes we feel too small and insignificant to be of any notice to Jesus.

All: Yet the Lord provides ways for us to see Jesus, and for Jesus to see us.

One: Sometimes our contributions feel too small and insignificant to be of any notice to Jesus.

All: Yet the Lord blesses our offerings and multiplies our gifts.

One: God, teach us how to show gratitude through generous responses to Your love.

All: No matter how small our gift, it is a gift to give.

One: And in giving, we receive and are forever changed.

All: With all gratitude, we give thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. ∞

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

REMEMBRANCE OF THE SAINTS

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 *As We Gather* Daw
An offering from our choir

*DOXOLOGY UMH #95

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*GLORIA PATRI UMH #70

SCRIPTURE READING Rev. Nancy Collins
Luke 19:1-10

SERMON *Generous Hospitality* Pastor Christy

SERVICE OF THE WORD & TABLE

Please follow along in the printed litany in your pew.

*HYMN *God Be With You* UMH #672

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *For All the Saints* Williams/How

*Please stand as you are able.

∞ Adapted from *Ministry Matters: Worship Connection, November 3, 2019.*

◇ Today's altar flowers are given by Crystal Armitage in memory of Charlie Greenwood.

Ways to Serve

Technology Fund. THANK YOU! We are so thankful for the generous donations we received last Sunday because we are now able to purchase a laptop for our church! Thank you so much!! 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: new employment opportunities, family birthdays, health, and new babies. Holding in our hearts: Al, the Armitage family, Cameron Jeanne, Judy, the Reim family, Sage, our natural world. **Note that this list will renew at the beginning of each month. Please contact Pastor Christy if there are names that you would like to remain on the list.**

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 today, 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. Please remember to bring your *Heart Cards* with you each Sunday morning!

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.

Christmas Season Decorating. Be sure to join us on Saturday, November 30th at 10 AM at the church to begin decorating for Advent and Christmas! We'll have coffee and goodies to ring in the season.

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!

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, 11/10

Thank you so much for your service!

Special Music. Open opportunity! Please contact Sharon Keith if you would like to share your gifts.

Liturgist. Sharon 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. Jane Dolan

Coffee Hour Hosts. Diane Mundell & Cheryl McKeon