

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

**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 October’s offering, the Sharing Pantry has asked we provide healthy shelf-stable snacks (gluten-free and/or nut-free and/or low-sodium and/or low/sugar-free, if possible, but they could use anything – think applesauce, dried fruit, GF crackers, GF granola/trail mix, etc.). So far this fall, we have donated 24.7 pounds of food and goods. Thank you for sharing!

#### **Operation Christmas Child**

Many thanks to the Reims for their “Operation Christmas Child” ministry. Boxes are available at the church and can be picked up. Please wait to fill them until we hear from the organization with a list. Thank you.

### OCTOBER ANNIVERSARYS

Diane & Kenneth Mundell 10/31

### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Richard Buzzell 10/03  
 Rebecca Chicoine 10/03  
 Lucy Wilcox 10/05  
 Karen Gutowski 10/14  
 Kaylee Armitage 10/18

### COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Jane Dolan & Gail Sledziewski 06  
 Jackie Wood & Vicki Chisholm 13  
 Mike & Betsy Cox 20  
 Barbara Smith & Betty Sue L. 27

(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

Pastor Christy Wright  
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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](mailto:Sharon.nelson21@gmail.com) by the 20<sup>th</sup> 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  
 October 2019 Issue

### **Message from the Pastor**

Dear Beloved Congregation,

The leaves are changing, the air is crisp, and the nights are growing longer. As I reflect on our first summer together, I am so thankful for our community and the support system we have been and are becoming for one another. During the month of September, we learned about the Methodist movement and the ways in which we can become more involved in the life of the United Methodist Church in all its iterations. In the coming months, we will be having more conversations about our future and our vision for George Whitefield UMC. Know that you can always reach out if you have any questions or concerns. I'd like to close by offering a portion of a poem by the late John O'Donohue, an Irish priest whose work has inspired great peace in the midst of great turmoil.

*Take refuge in your senses, open up  
 To all the small miracles you rushed  
 through.  
 Become inclined to watch the way of rain  
 When it falls slow and free.  
 Imitate the habit of twilight,  
 Taking time to open the well of color  
 That fostered the brightness of day.*

(continued on page 4)

*(Message from the Pastor continued)*

*Draw alongside the silence of stone  
Until its calmness can claim you.*

*Be excessively gentle with yourself.*

*Stay clear of those vexed in spirit.*

*Learn to linger around someone of ease  
who feels they have all the time in the world.*

- Pastor Christy Wright

## **Dates to Remember**

**Sunday School** for Youth has begun.  
Please see Chrystal Armitage for details.

### **SPRC Meeting**

Wednesday, October 2 @ 6:30 PM

### **Admin Council Meeting**

Wednesday, October 9 @ 7:00 PM

### **SAVE THE DATE**

#### **Church Conference**

Wednesday, October 23 @ 7 PM



## **Announcements**

### **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.

### **Bible Study Opportunity**

We are pleased to bring back a Small Group Bible Study led by Sharon & Rev. Nancy Collins. This group will meet weekly beginning Thursday October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00 pm in the church Fellowship Hall. Throughout the fall and winter the location may shift due to heat concerns. We will keep you posted.



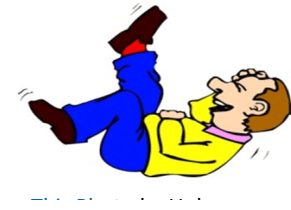
### **Technology Request.**

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 costs of projector bulbs, cables, and other technological needs. Donations are being accepted. 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!

## **CHURCH HUMOR**



### **From the Mouths of Babes**

A woman invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to her six-year-old daughter and said, "Would you like to say the blessing?"

"I wouldn't know what to say," the little girl replied.

"Just say what you hear Mommy say," the mother said.

The little girl bowed her head and said:

"Dear Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?"

— via Charles Laine  
Franklin, TN

A pastor was speaking to a group of second graders about the resurrection of Jesus when one student asked, "What did Jesus say right after He came out of the grave?" The pastor explained that the Gospels do not tell us what He said.

The hand of one little girl shot up. "I know what He said: He said, 'Tah-dah!'"

— via Andy Fisher  
Denville, NJ