

# 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.

August 11, 2024

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



**Please join us for an in-person Worship Service, led by Rev. Marion Hubbard, in the FLC 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 FLC! **The link for Zoom can be found in the right column.**

Our worship slide show, which includes music lyrics, will be projected on our screen in the FLC. *Theodora (Teddy) Niver* will be our guest musician, *Elishia McAllister* will lead the Children's Moment, *Bev Ryan* will read Scripture, *Suzanne Neafus* will perform a Bell Solo during the Offertory and *Jan Ironside* will lead Joys and Concerns.

Please join us for Fellowship Coffee Hour at 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the FLC and Kitchen.

## Summer Worship Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service at 9:30 a.m. in the FLC

**"Be Imitators of God, and Live in Love"  
Sermon by Rev. Marion Hubbard**



### 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  
**Director of Children and Youth Ministry:**  
Elishia McAllister

**Office Administrator:** Karen Rudewicz  
**Treasurer:** Dawn Montenieri  
**Custodian:** Ryan O'Connor

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## 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, August 13 at 9:00 a.m.** is the deadline for the next issue of *Connections*. Thank you.

## FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings in the Name of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,

I pray all of you have allowed the Bread of Life to guide your steps throughout this past week. Life can be very hard sometimes. However, if we let Christ be our guide, Christ will help us get through difficult situations. Our situations may not turn out the way we want, but God will get us through them. You are never alone with Christ at your side. Remember what Napoleon had said to his friend who couldn't see the stars. "The man who is earthbound is living half a life. It is the man with vision, who looks at the horizon and sees the stars, who is truly alive." Let us look to the horizon and beyond with Christ at our side.

This Sunday we are being called to be imitators of Christ (Ephesians 4:25-5:2). All we need to do is follow our well-thought-out and beautifully written covenant to help us move forward in Love.

Amen.

### **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



## WE PRAY FOR THESE FAMILIES



Please keep the family of Richard Brass in your prayers. Richard passed on August 1, 2024.

There will be a *Celebration of the Life of Richard Brass* on Saturday, August 17, at 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary, followed by a reception in the FLC or Old Fellowship Hall.

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Please keep the Appel family in your prayers.

Lindsay Appel's mother, Audrey McNulty, passed on July 3, 2024

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED

I will be collecting school supplies during the month of August for *Interval House*, a shelter for abused women and their children in Hartford and for the *Learning Center at Adelbrook in Cromwell*. These children are under the autism spectrum. School supplies needed are crayons, markers, erasers, rulers, binders, wide ruled paper, glue, index cards, pencils, pens, etc. Items can be placed in the box on the table outside of the church office.

Many thanks for your support.

*Betty Gaulton*



## SCARECROWS ON MAIN

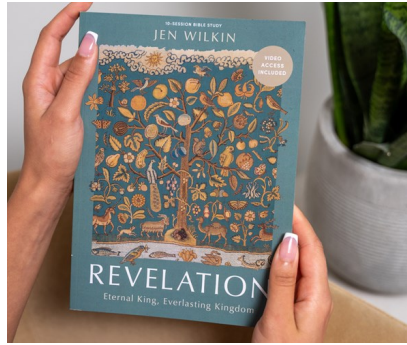
As part of the church's commemoration of 200 years as a "house of worship" in Wethersfield, we will participate in "Scarecrows on Main" this October. Please, contact Deb Draizen (860-593-7559 or [dsdraizen@gmail.com](mailto:dsdraizen@gmail.com)) if you would like to help create our entry.



## PUMPKIN PATCH

The arrival of our Pumpkins for the Pumpkin Patch will occur on Friday, September 27 at 4:00 p.m. Please make every effort to be there to help unload our supply and help set up our patch this season. More information will be forthcoming over the next few months. Thanks, Gary.

# WORDLY WOMEN FALL STUDY



## Wordly Women Fall Study: *Revelation - Eternal King, Everlasting Kingdom, by Jen Wilkin*

*Perhaps no other book of the Bible feels as inaccessible and as intimidating to us as the very last one. The book of Revelation overflows with images and ideas that confound our modern ears. But if all Scripture is God-breathed and profitable, we should assume Revelation is as accessible and helpful as any other book of the Bible. Why don't we see it that way?*

*Two thousand years ago, John's Revelation was circulated and read aloud among seven churches in Asia Minor. Those who heard the letter understood it and drew encouragement from its message. The same can be true for you today. Over 10 sessions of verse-by-verse Bible study, Jen Wilkin helps you discover how the last book of the Bible—the culmination of God's great story—speaks both a steady word of assurance and a strong call to endure to the church in every age.*

All women of the church are invited to join the “Word”ly Women Fall Bible Study. The sessions will consist of a video teaching and time for discussion. Each week there are 5 days of independent homework. We meet on Mondays for 10 sessions. (starting on September 16, 2024 through November 18, 2024). There is a Morning Class from 9:15 -10:45 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 work book for this study before the first class (available on Amazon.com and Lifeway.com). Whether you are new to Bible study or a longtime student of the Word come join us in this study of the Book of Revelation!

## ITEMS NEEDED FOR OUR CRAFT TABLE

### Wanted: Items for Craft Table

Our annual “Arts and Craft Festival” will take place on Saturday, October 12, 2024 around the “Pumpkin Patch.” Besides the 20-30 Outside Craft vendors we would like to feature a WUMC Craft Booth. All crafted items are welcomed, but, we would like to encourage any type of “Holiday” crafts. . .anything “Pumpkin”. . .but also, anything for Halloween, Thanksgiving or the Christmas season. Use your imaginations: think ornaments, home décor, knit items, jams and jellies for entertaining and gift giving, hostess gifts. . .etc. Please, contact Deb Draizen (dsdraizen@gmail.com) with any questions. And crafters we can't wait to see what you create! Start crafting!



## SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS



**Our new worship time  
for the summer: 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.**

August 11 - September 8:

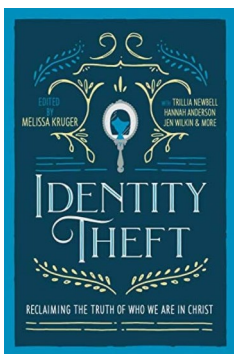
The service will be in the Family Life Center

All services are in-person and,  
also, broadcasted on Zoom.

## WORDLY WOMEN SUMMER STUDY

### Wordly Women Summer Study:

### [Identity Theft: Reclaiming the Truth of our Identity in Christ](#)

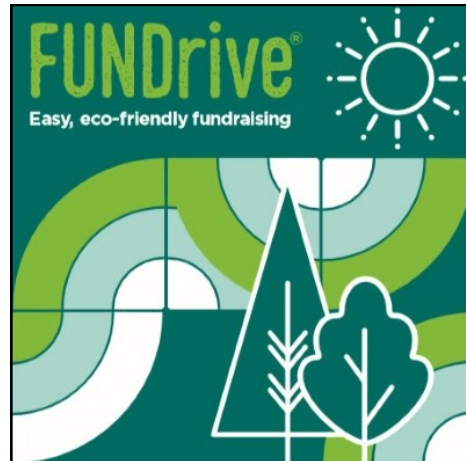


Who am I? It's a question we all ask ourselves at some point. Depending on the season we focus our identity on our job performance, marital status, personality type, or social network, among other options. However, there's a larger question to consider. Who does the Bible tell me I am in Christ? From the wisdom and perspective of insightful authors—including Jen Wilkin, Hannah Anderson, and Jen Pollock Michel—we'll seek to answer this question by: Exposing our false notions of identity; Understanding the biblical truth of our identity in Christ; and Reflecting on what it looks like to live in our new (and true) identity. In 10 chapters we'll cover everything from our identity as children of God to citizens of heaven. At the end of each chapter, study questions will facilitate group discussion as you consider this glorious truth with your friends. Join us as we explore how knowing who we are in Christ changes every aspect of our lives.

All women of the church are invited to join the Wordly Women's Summer Study: We will meet three times on Monday mornings and evenings during the summer. The exact Mondays will be determined by the availability of the participants. Please, let Deb Draizen know that you would like to join the study and which Mondays you CANNOT make. ([dsdraizen@gmail.com](mailto:dsdraizen@gmail.com) or 860-593-7559). We will try to accommodate as many as we can! All are welcome.

The book is available to purchase for a sale price on Amazon.

## FUNDRIVE EVENT



### FUNDrive Event

From now until August 31, the Wethersfield United Methodist Church will participate in its 3<sup>rd</sup> FUNDrive event.

During this event, the church will collect clothing, household items, books, toys, sheets, towels and other linens. These items will be donated to Savers and the church will be paid a few per pound for the various items.

All household goods in good and reusable condition will be donated to *Journey Home*, a mission of our church.

Please contact Gary Schaffrick at [bristolgary1@gmail.com](mailto:bristolgary1@gmail.com) or call 860-806-0609 with any questions.

If you're Spring Cleaning and want to discard some of your older items or clean up a cluttered area of your home, or if you know someone who is moving, please think of the church. We can make arrangements to pick up any items you may have.

Wethersfield United Methodist Church has received close to \$1,000 this year in our FUNDrive events. Please consider helping us out over the summer.

## 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 FLC 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 **Saturday, August 17.** - Gerry and Grace Hayes

## 200th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION CORNER

### UMARMY/United in Missions

United in Missions, originally known as United Methodist Action Reach-out Mission by Youth (UMARMY), was founded in Texas in 1979 by Houston Methodist Churches. When Texans Bill, Sherri and Stacey Brown lived in Connecticut and were part of our church, they took a team of 12 of us to participate in a UMARMY camp in Paris, Texas, in 2002. In the summer of 2003, our mission committee coordinated and attended the first Northeast Regional Camp at the Nichols Church in Trumbull, Connecticut. WUMC is proud to have introduced UMARMY to the East Coast. Today, the organization is active in all New England states, as far south as West Virginia, and from Texas to Louisiana and Mississippi. There are four regional offices.



The purpose of this growing Christian outreach is “to provide Christ centered missions that serve people in need and promote spiritual growth and leadership development in youth and young adults.” Low income, elderly or disabled clients are found by the host church, and pre-site visits are made to assess supplies and labor needed to do home repairs, painting, yard cleanup, and wheel chair ramp construction, free of cost to the homeowner. Relationships are fostered with clients through on-site visitation and lunch devotions, and a dinner-night end-of-week worship with campers and clients.

Multiple leadership opportunities for youth include managing a devotional team, overseeing safety concerns, tools and materials, food and recreation activities, and navigating to worksites. Teams are formed, blending people from several churches and towns. The national organization provides detailed guidelines to adult leaders, drawing on the experience of over 40 years of camps. A yearly camp theme, with materials for worship, is provided. The days are structured with morning and evening devotion, prayer and reflection time, meaningful messages, and heartfelt music. Days are spent working at your team project site, and evenings bring organized recreation and team fun competitions.

Nationwide, over 100,000 participants have repaired 50,000 homes. Funding is from participants’ fees, individual donations, fundraising – such as our regional golf tournament this summer – corporate donations, and gifts of materials and food to each camp. Campers depend on the hospitality of the host church, and WUMC has been able to provide the always appreciated air conditioned space, ample sanctuary and kitchen many times. The congregation assists with providing, preparing and serving the first night’s dinner, and has been welcomed to camp worship and client night programs. The walls of our Cool Jude Youth Room showcase many group photos of campers. Take a look to see how our youth has grown; some have become the adult camp leaders and join the others who consistently serve in this exceptional Christian outreach. My thanks to Judy Dowd and the UMARMY website for the information shared here. We look forward to this year’s campers sharing their experience with us at worship soon.

## “BUCK A BOOK” BOOK NOOK FUNDRAISER

The books will be located in the foyer of the FLC in bookcases. Just stop by, browse through the shelves, and leave a “Buck-a-Book” in the donation box. The books that we have in storage will be added to the shelves gradually. . .so stop by often to see what is new!

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If you would like to make an electronic offering to WUMC, please click on this link:

[Donate \(paypal.com\)](https://www.paypal.com)



# "COOL JUDE" MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

We're in the home stretch for Cool Jude 2024 registration. . .we also need commitments for auction items. Please go to the website to register and pay.

We have about 25 openings for golf.

[www.cooljudegolftournament.com](http://www.cooljudegolftournament.com)

One month and counting !!!

Pay by Venmo \$160 adults \$110 youth

Cool Jude

@Jeff-Sabourin-1



Goodwin Park GC – 1130 Maple Ave., Hartford, CT

Golfer Check-in 10:30 – 11:30 am **Tee time is 12 noon.**

Magic Yard, Putting Contest and Hole-in-1 challenge.

After Golf - Open bar, prizes, 6 pm dinner & auction



**Very important ... wear your most colorful golf attire!**

Please see the next page for more details.

# "COOL JUDE" MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



## 4TH ANNUAL "COOL JUDE"

MEMORIAL GOLF &  
AUCTION FUNDRAISER

**SATURDAY AUG. 24, 2024**

Goodwin Park GC - Hartford, CT



IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
**JUDE EXANTUS**

Resident of Wethersfield and father of 3 children who attend school in town. Jude grew up in Haiti and moved to the U.S. after surviving the 2010 Earthquake. He and his wife, Claudia (Dadou), worked tirelessly to provide a beautiful home and life for TJ, Layla, and Jayden.

Jude was a man of many talents: A Youth Leader at the Wethersfield United Methodist Church and served as a translator for groups traveling to Haiti for missionary work. He was a wonderful singer & drummer who led the Union Brothers a cappella group. He enjoyed playing indoor soccer, hockey, and of course, golf. His children followed suit and play competitive athletics.

We knew him affectionately as "COOL JUDE," because he brought a smile and faithful energy to everything he did. Jude was passionate about his involvement in the community, and his relentless service to others. If you had the chance to meet him, you instantly gained a trusted and loyal friend!

Jude passed away from Lung Cancer in March 2021 at the age of 43, and is greatly missed by all.

### REGISTER NOW

[CoolJudeGolfTournament.com](http://CoolJudeGolfTournament.com)

**\$160**

ADULTS

**\$110**

YOUTH

Includes Golf, Prizes, Snack & Dinner

OR

**\$50**

Dinner & Raffles Only

### DONATE TO THE FAMILY

All proceeds go directly to the Exantus family to support education for TJ, Layla, and Jayden.



[CoolJudeMemorialFund@gmail.com](mailto:CoolJudeMemorialFund@gmail.com)

## 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.

## LEARN TO PLAY MAHJONG

Summer is a great time to learn a new game! We may meet twice in August to learn the “exotic” game of American Mahjong. . .Tuesday, July 16 from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. and Tuesday, July 23 from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Contact Deb Draizen ([dsdraizen@gmail.com](mailto:dsdraizen@gmail.com)) if you have any questions. Men and women. . .high schoolers to seniors . . .all are welcome!

## CREATIVE PASTIMES

### CREATIVE PASTIMES/PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

We continue to meet on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. at WUMC in the Fireside Room. You are welcome to bring your portable handcraft any week you are able. Most of us knit or crochet. Prayer shawls are always available. Call Grace Hayes for information at 860-970-3108.

## COUNTERS NEEDED

### Subject: Counters Needed

Gerry Hayes has generously served as our primary Counter (to count our Sunday church offerings after church), and a few others have helped count for a particular month. In fairness to Gerry and to have more people with this expertise, I'm asking for volunteers to contact me (either by email or phone) to sign up to do a month or two of counting during

2024. Gerry will provide the needed training to all new volunteers.

Thank you.

Doug Weed  
[weedd721@aol.com](mailto:weedd721@aol.com)  
(860)-707-6636

# CALENDAR

Please note: The information in this calendar is based on the online calendar as of August 8.

## SUNDAY, August 11 - Worship Time is 9:30 a.m.

- Summer Worship Service in the FLC and by Zoom at 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
- Fellowship Coffee Hour at 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the FLC and Kitchen

## MONDAY, August 12

Primary Election Machines dropped off and set up

## TUESDAY, August 13

Rental (Primary Election) at 5:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. in the FLC and Kitchen

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

Trustees Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room

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

## WEDNESDAY, August 14

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

Finance Meeting at 6:45 p.m. in the Fireside Room

## THURSDAY, August 15

Creative Pastimes at 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room

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

Bell Choir Practice at 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in Old Fellowship Hall

## FRIDAY, August 16

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

## SATURDAY, August 17

Red Cross Blood Drive, 7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. in the FLC

The Celebration of the Life of Richard Brass, 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Reception for the Celebration of Life at 3:00 p.m. in the FLC or Old Fellowship Hall

## SUNDAY, August 18 - Worship Time is 9:30 a.m.

- Summer Worship Service in the FLC and by Zoom at 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
- Fellowship Coffee Hour at 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the FLC and Kitchen

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# CELEBRATIONS!

## Birthdays (August 11 - 18)

8/11 Cora Tinker

8/17 Amy Lewis

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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**Covid Policy - Effective September 4, 2022:** WUMC returned to a "mask optional" policy for worship services, Congregants are encouraged to continue with masking and social distancing as they feel comfortable. WUMC will continue to follow state guidelines as they become available. -WUMC Church Council

**Wethersfield United Methodist Church**  
150 Prospect Street  
Wethersfield, CT 06109