

# *The Crossroads*

*January 2021*

## *Watertown United Methodist Church*

305 Main Street Watertown, CT 06795  
Church office 860-274-3785 Fax 860-274-6788

**Pastor: Reverend Michael D. Jenkins**  
**Pastor Jenkins Cell: (203) 522-3453**

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<b>Organist:</b>	<b>Michael Gardner</b>	<b>E-mail: <a href="mailto:magoo204@charter.net">magoo204@charter.net</a></b>
<b>Church Custodian:</b>	<b>David Perkins</b>	<b>E-mail: <a href="mailto:walkingperky@att.net">walkingperky@att.net</a></b>

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### **From the Desk of Pastor Jenkins:**

Dear brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Happy New Year!

As I write, my first letter for the New Year, we have ended another glorious season of Advent. God has entered our lives through the birth of a babe in the manger. Let the church say Amen!

Greetings! Last year has been incredibly challenging to us all, due to COVID-19, and the loss of friends and family members, who will always be remembered. That said, when trials and tribulations will take its course, let us never forget, who is the author, and finisher of our faith.

There are several lessons we can learn from 2020:

1. Trials come to all of us. They seem to be custom designed for each of us.
2. Every trial has a life cycle. COVID-19 is just one of the recent flu's that we had to endure recently, as other flus have come across our paths over the years.
3. The outcome of any issues may not be to our liking, but God is still in control.
4. The ultimate trials that we face will get us to turn to Christ. He will never forsake us or leave us.
5. God can do exceedingly and abundantly above all that we may ask or think.

Friends let us prepare for 2021, with the expectation and anticipation with the understanding that the spirit of discouragement and negativity is not who we are as children of God. I pray that you will trust God to see you through this New Year. The Bible tells us *"without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."* Hebrews 11:6. When things may seem to be

hopeless, God will always show up in the lives of our family members, as well as for you. Stay encouraged, God has not forgotten us.

Let me urge you to do the following:

- Pray that God will guard us against the enemy. Satan always has something up his sleeves.
- Resolve to know Christ better in 2021. Further resolve to lean upon Him and trust Him.
- Resolve to give your tithes and offerings to the Lord. He does not need it, but you do! Malachi 3:10 *“Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this,” Says the Lord of hosts, “If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it.*
- Remember to reach out to people with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Selah.

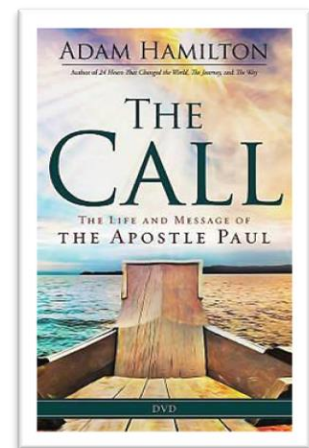
God’s Blessings!

Rev. Michael D. Jenkins

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## Bible Study Begins January 20<sup>th</sup>

Class will continue at 6:30 pm and this study will focus on *“The Call”*, the life and message of the Apostle Paul by *Adam Hamilton*. Books are \$5.99 each and copies will be ordered for purchase. A sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex. We hope you will join us for this study.



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*“It’s **NEVER** too late to thank someone for their volunteer efforts, and unfortunately with the holidays and busyness of the church during that time, the listing below was not printed in the December edition of the Crossroads as it got lost in the shuffle. Even though it’s a new year and new tasks will arise, we can’t forget those that constantly gave in 2020, asking for nothing in return.”*

**A Message from the Board of Trustees:**

It was a remarkably busy month of November with cleaning, scrubbing, and maintenance items around our property. Please be sure to thank the following volunteers that make all this happen:

**Raking the Fall Leaves:**

*Paula Labonte  
Joel Labonte  
Ivan Cyr  
Rick Brandt  
Laura Brandt  
Holly Norton*

**The holiday pot by the back door:**

*Laura McEvoy*

**Maintaining and adjusting the timers on the outside lighting:**

*Kevin Parkhurst*

**Painting the back plate of the stairs at church:**

*Bill Thompson*

**Cleaning the kitchen to make ready for “Tiny Cakes”:**

*Laura Brandt  
Donna Sullivan  
Jeff Greiner  
Holly Norton  
Marion Hubbard*

**Changing Asbury’s furnace filter & fixing the office light:**

*Kevin Parkhurst*

**Cleaning the parsonage basement:**

*Ivan Cyr  
Joel Labonte  
Rick Brandt  
Evelyn Russo  
Beverly Sklanka*

**Fixing the toilet in the Parsonage:**

*Tim McCaffrey*

Thank-you volunteers, for your time, hard work, and amazing dedication to our Church!

Sue Woodward



## Words from the United Methodist Women

Due to that nasty virus still prevailing, no future plans have been made. All of the UMW ladies are using this opportunity to wish everyone blessings, good health and happiness for this New Year. We pray we all stay clear of infection, and that the new cures now finally being used are effective.

Prayer = The world's greatest wireless connection

*Bernice Proe, Secretary*

### **A Few Messages from Pat Kurtz:**

**Outreach Opportunity:** This afghan was handmade by *Aurelia Woodbeck*. It is a single size white blanket/throw with many large cables. Beautiful, beautiful handwork. Washable. Aurelia is offering it for sale (minimum of \$50) to support UMW outreach efforts. If you are interested, please leave your name on the church office phone or contact pat at '[thisandthatfrompat@gmail.com](mailto:thisandthatfrompat@gmail.com).'



**Favorite Bible Verses Needed:** These verses will be used as a witness for all entering this church of our Lord and Savior. Please send your favorite verse -- even if you are unable to remember what book in the Bible it is in -- to Pat Kurtz at '[thisandthatfrompat@gmail.com](mailto:thisandthatfrompat@gmail.com)' or drop it off in the office. After your verse has been posted, you may redisplay the pages for others where you wish.



**Invitation Cards –** It is very important to our future that we become an inviting church!

Please take several of our Invitation Cards and pass them out! These are a great and easy way to invite others to come and experience the fellowship and activities of our church!

## **PRAYERS**

**Our World:** World peace; direction of our nation; the unsaved; USA leaders; parents and children; missionaries; the economy; teachers and students; veterans; jobs; firemen, policemen and others who serve; hurricane relief; addiction struggles; other community churches and members.

**Healing from Illness/Injury:** *Greg Chere, Christa Swanhall, Lois DeLisle, Melanie Milton, Diane Chere, Helen Collins, and Aurelia Woodbeck.*

*In order to keep our prayer list up-to-date, please share updates and corrections as part of the Worship Service, by calling the church office at 860-274-3785, or emailing the secretary at [wumcsec@wumcct.org](mailto:wumcsec@wumcct.org)*

**Sunday morning “in house” worship continues; however, we will not be meeting for coffee hour in the present time- please sign up to sponsor a coffee hour possibly starting in October.** This fellowship time we have after Sunday services is so very important in the life of a church and we need families or several individuals to band together and organize this for us each week. Please consider blessing us all in this way by signing up once every few weeks!

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January 2	Paetyn Woermer
January 6	Julie Burne
January 8	Holly Norton
January 15	Craig Czarsty
January 16	Karen VanDerlyn
January 17	Kristen VanDerlyn
January 27	Madelyn Burne
January 28	Patricia Quatrella
January 29	Anita Kalenauskas
January 31	John Yerger

**Your church family sends you birthday greetings and hugs from a distance!**

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**News from the Church Office:**

**Communication is the key** for all of us right now! At this time, some meetings are being scheduled on the church calendar. We did not attach the normal monthly calendar but will send it out once we hear about full openings with “no restrictions.” If you have a committee that will be meeting, please forward that information to the office so that it can be publicized for everyone’s interest. We publicize this newsletter for many people within our congregation and some not; so keeping everyone informed as to our ministries is vital to all.

If you need anything, please don’t hesitate to contact Pastor Jenkins directly at (203) 522-3453 or call the church office (860) 274-3785. Be safe, wash your hands and please practice social distancing for your safety and the safety of others too! Thank you for your patience and understanding at this crucial time for all.

Blessings,

**Kathy Craig**, Office Manager