

The Crossroads

September 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

Office Manager:

Kathy Craig

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Church Custodian:

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From the Desk of Pastor Jenkins:

“Hope Is Here”

Dear Friends,

I greet you in the Name of Our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ! I pray that it is well with you and your family's health. Our summer is ending, long vacations, hanging out at the beach, visiting friends and family members, or maybe just taking long naps. However, your time of leisure is so worth it. It is very important that we get some rest and relaxation. Now it is time to go back to school, work, and in some cases college. That said, it is time to refocus, and to trust God for another season of joys, and blessings. I invite you to church (or back to church) So, I am reaching out to you now-today. I hope it is not too late.

I want to give you 5 good reasons why you should even consider coming or coming back. I Invite you to church because you were created to worship God corporately and publicly. There is something that God puts deep within our souls; the NEED to be around other believers. Worshiping Jesus together may be the single most important thing we do. I Invite you to church because, you need support & accountability. We were Not made to work through this Christian life all by ourselves. In essence, come to church for support and strength of the team. I Invite you to church because, we need you and your gifts. When you met Jesus as Savior, He specially gifted you with a gift. In essence, come to Church because God has gifted you in a precise way, and we need you. I invite you to church because, your family and friends need your testimony. You are the pivotal piece in someone else's spiritual journey.

In essence, get up and come to Church, because you want to be the “light to those around you.” I invite you to church because, the Bible instructs us to gather together in groups to worship. I am sure you know this reason, but I could not leave it out. “Not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” Hebrews 10:25.

Come to Church because God wants you to; He instructs you to come. That is IT! That is why I invite you to Church. I am finished with my plea for you to come back and join Us. I know it is hard sometimes to regularly attend church. I know you may have been deeply hurt by the

church or some of the people in the church. Do not let that keep you away from all of the good things!

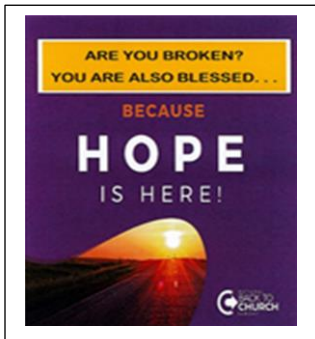
Church attendance is worthwhile and a beneficial endeavor. “There has never been a more important year for a unified effort to invite people back to church. Most of us closed our doors last spring for the sake of our communities. Since then, church re-openings have been staggered and people unsure. In all the places that we can, let’s declare on Sept. 19th that our churches are ready to share good news with our world. This could be the most significant Back TO Church Sunday Ever! Executive Director, Wheaton College Billy Graham Center



God’s Blessings!

Rev. Michael D. Jenkins
Matthew 6:33

YOU’RE INVITED! Looking for hope and community? We are just the place at the Watertown UMC! Whether you are familiar with church or this whole thing is new, we want to invite YOU to come back to church. Here you will find a community to help share your struggles, encourage you, and help you find HOPE that is unchanging. We can’t wait to see you this fall! COME JOIN US FOR NATIONAL BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 19, 2021 @ 11:00 am



4 Week Video Series – Back to Church

- Week 1 – Hope for the Weary
- Week 2 – Hope for the Broken**
- Week 3 – Hope for the Underdog
- Week 4 – Hope for the Doubter

**National Back to Church Sunday is
Sunday, September 19th**

We hope you are in church that day!

Reminder - Apportionments

In part of Pastor Jenkin's announcements recently, he spoke about apportionments. He mentioned there would be special offering envelope in your Sunday bulletin every month, and it will be inserted in the bulletin for September 5th. Each month there will be a special designated area noted by the New York Annual Conference as to where these funds are applied.

This month's offerings will be applied to the apportionments fund in general and we hope you will give as you are able.

<i>Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Matt. 6:21</i>	My Offering
	Name _____
	Address _____
	Amount _____



CALENDAR DATES FOR WATERTOWN UMC

September 5, 2021 Communion Sunday/ Apportionment Giving

September 12, 2021 Grandparent Day

September 19, 201 Back To Church Sunday

September 25th 2021 Calling All Men! Breakfast at
Gayle's Depot Square Farm 8:30-10:00 am - Save the Date.

This Is A Christian Men's Fellowship.

Bible study dates during the summer TBA

All committee meetings will resume in September.
However, if there is a reason to meet, we will meet accordingly,
please continue to check in by email or with the pastor.

Thoughts from the Choir Loft

I feel blessed. It's been two years since we have had a church choir rehearsal. After service on July 25, we had a rehearsal! There were 5 singers present and we started working on a song for Back to Church Sunday. While we learned the song (Pastor Jenkins was there too), everybody was smiling and comfortable with our successes and our mistakes. It was definitely a God moment for me. I could feel his presence and his guidance as we sang His Words and His Music and gave Him the praise. I left the rehearsal so uplifted and hopeful that the WUMC Chancel Choir will do some great things soon. We had 5 singers. I have a goal of 10 singers so if you want to feel closer to God through His words and music, if you are willing to smile a lot, if you are willing to step out of your comfort zone in a safe place, join us at the piano after Sunday service during August!



I wrote the above message last month and still feel the same way about the choir, however, due to the rise in COVID infections, we are pausing choir. It is disappointing, but I know it is all part of God's plan. I am reminded of the Passing of the Peace we have been praying during service, "not yet." We will sing, we will praise, we will laugh, we will pray, but not yet. Hopefully sooner not later.

Peace, Mike

Words from the United Methodist Women



Welcome back to our first Fall gathering. We have reserved the date of SEPTEMBER 16TH at 1:00 PM for a tour of the Watertown Historical Society, which is just a short distance down the road from our church. This special opportunity is open to all, so come, bring a friend, and hear the interesting history of Watertown. You will be surprised at the variety of items made right here in town. Unusual items will be explained and your questions will be answered. Please let us know you will spend some time with us that Thursday afternoon. Contact Pat Kurtz to save your place(s) for this special tour. Phone 203-266-5152 or email her at thisandthatfrompat@gmail.com.

Save the date of October 9, 2021 for a 10:00 AM Fall Edible Landscaping Walk! Come and sample the sweetness of the land! We will walk the garden and orchard, all while discussing and sampling the bounty of an edible landscape. Registration is required. Let either Pat Kurtz or Bernice Proe know if you are interested in attending.

Please keep in mind that we would still like to receive your favorite bible verses to be displayed in the church showcase on the lower level. Please share them with Pat so she can put them up.

Our next regular meeting at church will be in October.

Bernice Proe, Secretary



Operation Christmas Child - Shoebox Project 2021



Reminder: Items donated must be able to fit into a shoebox

Dollar General and the Dollar Tree are great places to shop!
As you shopping to pack your own, grab another to help pack some more.

Shoppers are available!

There's still time to donate if you want!

Month of September:

Bring in toys to enjoy!

Coloring books, crayons, dolls, trucks, cars, balls,
plastic musical instruments, marbles, play doh and more!

Questions? Contact Wendy at wcronk@waterbury.k12.ct.us

A Message from Bev Sklanka:

We are bringing back 2 programs that have worked for our church in the past.



We are in search of *LaBonne's Markets* register receipts. They have a register rebate program. Our church just received a check for \$70.60 through this program. Please save your register receipts, ask your family, friends and relatives. Put them in the collection plate or see *Beverly Sklanka*.

We are also collecting coins, your loose change, pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters all mount up. Put them in the collection plate.



Thank you for participating in these 2 programs. They make a difference financially, every little bit helps. Thank you.



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!

PRAYER LISTING

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, Barbara Hopper, Stewart Hopper, David and Joyce Perkins, Marion Hubbard, Wendy Cronk, Bill Stinson (neighbor of Pat Kurtz), Steve Cohen, Jane Sandulli, Jake Hoadley, Jeff Grenier, Corrine Garner, 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

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!



Sept. 2	Kelly Swanhall	Sept. 5	Cathy Hughes
Sept. 6	Sarah Martineau	Sept. 7	Barbara Hopper, David Zeigler
Sept. 9	Helen Collins, James Koachman	Sept. 12	Jennifer Zeigler
Sept. 13	Rachel Martineau, Richard Brandt	Sept. 21	Amber Perry
Sept. 26	Ryan Johnstone	Sept. 29	Paula Labonte

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

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. 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 know of events happening around the Watertown area that might be of interest to our members, please pass it along to be shared.

News has it that we will have **USHERS** in church again; so if anyone would like to step up and help out on a Sunday morning, please let *Dan Sadulli* know. Slowly but surely, we're getting back to normal...

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

News from the Community:

Looking for something to do next weekend? Want to give to a great cause? Did you know that it only takes “3 seconds and 3 shakes to destroy a child’s life forever?”

Come look for the Exchange Club of Waterbury under the big white tent at the Bethlehem Fair, Friday thru Sunday, Sept.10-12. We’ve been in the same spot for over 50 years as we serve up our famous fried dough and raising funds for programs on child abuse prevention efforts.

The fair is one of the largest around and like many others, did not happen last year due to the pandemic. We’re excited to be outdoors, doing our important mission work and hope we get the opportunity to see you there.

If you want to learn more about our programs of service or even about becoming a member of Exchange, talk to *Kathy Craig*, your Office Manager.



Watertown United Methodist Church Mission & Vision Statement

The mission of the Watertown United Methodist Church is to glorify God by bringing people to Jesus and into fellowship with His family.

The vision of the Watertown United Methodist Church is to nurture individuals and families in Christian living, to equip them for ministry in the church and for service beyond the church.



Matthew 6:33

“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”



Learning to live our lives, God's Way!
305 Main Street, Watertown, CT 06795
Church Website: www.wumcct.org



Rev. Michael Jenkins, Pastor

Email: Michael.Jenkins@nyac-umc.com

Urgent – (203) 522-3453 Personal Cell Phone



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Note: Pastor is off on Tuesday & at Ansonia UMC on Friday