



January 7,
2021

A weekly newsletter of the
Weston United Methodist Church
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**TO KNOW JESUS
CHRIST AND TO MAKE
JESUS CHRIST KNOWN**

**We're on the
web!**

Check it out

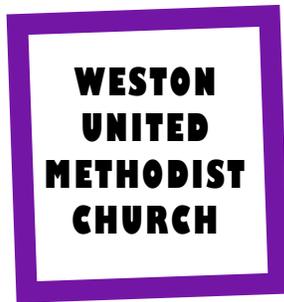
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Pat MacHugh
cell phone: 207-951-0529
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Office Hours:
2-5:30 pm - Tuesday/Thursday
8-11:30 am Wednesday/Friday
Music Director: Hyo Choon Lee
Custodian: Diane Olsen

Find a sermon or worship service to hear at your own leisure. Go to our website and look under the sermon tab.

website: www.westonunitedmethodist.org

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Facebook: [@westonunitedmethodistchurch](https://www.facebook.com/westonunitedmethodistchurch)



A Reconciling Congregation

January 7,
2021



A Word From the Pastor

This letter was written on Sunday, before the events of Wednesday, January 6, 2021. I am deeply saddened, and invite you to join me in prayer for our country, our leaders, our people, and our world.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ at the Weston United Methodist Church

Welcome to 2021. The year is wide open in front of us, the possibilities are vast and yet unknown. Be open, and be ready, and be wise. As always, there will be joys and there will be sorrows. Let us be ready to support one another in whatever happens.

Today I bring you some ponderings from the Rev. Cameron Trimble about New Year's Resolutions:

For the past 25 years during this time of year, I paused to create a "vision board." I thought about what I want to accomplish in the year ahead of me. What difference do I want to make? What is God calling me to engage? Who do I need to meet? What experiences would I like to have? Where do I want/need to travel? What book do I want to write? It's been a powerful practice that has proven to be incredibly productive.

This year I sat down to create my board but found myself strangely paralyzed. If we get to travel anywhere this year, it will be a privilege and blessing. I will likely get to meet wonderful people, but I don't need to force it. Whoever shows up, shows up...via Zoom.

My sense is that my job is to simply remain Open. In fact, as I think about this coming year, I don't want to apply any agenda to it at all except to say "yes" to every opportunity to express compassion and love to myself and other people. Whatever this year has in store for us, I will ride the waves. What I accomplish doesn't matter to me. *Who I am* in the midst of the journey is everything to me.

Perhaps this is true for you too?

The world is so unpredictable at the moment that setting grand goals seems ridiculous. But setting grand intentions of how we show up - how we offer love and vulnerability to one another in the face of uncertainty - seems to be the most important thing we've done with our lives to date.

Perhaps this is the year we don't make resolutions. Maybe we don't set out to accomplish eight million things. Maybe the point of this coming year is to deepen what we have learned instead of broadening what we can produce. Maybe the whole point of all of this is that we discover the height, width, breadth, and depth of unconditional, revolutionary love. Maybe this is the year that we deepen the lessons we learned from these past months, root them deeply in our bones so that we never forget the wisdom we have gained by coming this far.

My prayer for you is that if this is also your intuition, go deep instead of broad, slow instead of fast, gently instead of bullishly. Say "yes" to that call and "no" to the fevered demands already lining up to distract you from your own awakening.

We are in this together, Rev. Cameron Trimble

So let's go into this new year holding one another in our hearts, keeping our communities in deep prayer, paying attention to what is happening in the world around us, and responding to God's nudges to act in the ways we can to make a difference in each of these domains.

May God bless you and yours in this coming year!

With love, Your sister in Christ,
Pastor Pat

BIBLE



Scripture Thought for the Week....

“I will bless the Lord at all times; praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt the name of the Lord together.”

– Psalm 34:1-3

For your personal & family study, the Bible readings for this Sunday, January 10th, are:
Genesis 1:1-5 and Mark 1:4-11.



SCRIPTURE READER VOLUNTEERS WANTED

We are looking for readers for our worship services. Volunteer at:

<https://doodle.com/poll/48mpe5my8vsv3ue3>



Join Us For Worship

Sunday Worship 10:30 am

Connect with us on our YouTube channel – worship previews at 10:30 a.m., and is also available for watching later:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC36oV8PJGmChnOMeZlgFVVA?
disable_polymer=true](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC36oV8PJGmChnOMeZlgFVVA?disable_polymer=true)

The service will also be uploaded to our Facebook page on Sundays for you to access when possible:

[https://www.facebook.com/
groups/376964087914](https://www.facebook.com/groups/376964087914)

Online worship will continue to take place on Sundays at 10:30 am until further notice, as a “premiere” on YouTube. The worship recordings will also be saved on our Facebook page and our website “Sermons” page via YouTube so that you can participate at your own convenience.

PRAYER

Let Us Pray...

O God who was in the Beginning and whose life and light are in every beginning, we thank you for blessing all of your creation with the beginning of the New Year.

Awaken us on every morning to open ourselves to receive the life of your boundless love so that we never waste your new day with yesterday's fear.

Enlighten the deepest place of our hearts at every night with the light of your hope so that we never end each new day with the darkness of despair and apathy.

Cleanse the mirrors of our lives and let them reflect the light of your compassion into the dark places of hatred, your peace into those of violence, your liberation into those of oppression, and your justice into those of injustice.

O God who has become one of us and moved into our neighborhoods, we thank you for being our neighbor. Help us reach out to find and welcome you in each of our neighbors near and far, regardless of who they are, where they are from, and whom they love.

O God whose fullness covers all the earth with grace and truth, grant us daily wisdom to trust that your daily grace is more than sufficient for what we truly need. Nudge us each day to seek little deeper your truth that humbles our egos and enlivens your spirit in us.

O God whose face no one has ever seen yet whose heart is fully known in Christ Jesus, let each day of this New Year bring us closer to your heart as you walk along with us on our daily journey to follow Jesus. Amen.

By: Rev. We Hyun Chang, Commonwealth East District Superintendent

Please Keep in Your Prayers

Bill B., Gail M. Taj M, Louise R., Janet M., Isabel B., Trisha M., Gavin, Joan S., the families of Karen Barry, Kathryn Lenington Silva, David B. McKnight Jr., and all families who have lost loved ones.

Commonwealth East District Churches:

Brighton Community UMC, Brighton: Harris Hwang
Central UMC, Brockton: Abraham Waya
Pearl Street UMC, Brockton: Timothy Southern

Local churches:

St. Anne's in--the-Fields Episcopal, Lincoln: Garrett Yates
St. Paul's Episcopal, Natick: Becky Gettel
Christ Episcopal, Waltham: Kapyka Kaoma

- ♦ **Praying** – Share your prayer requests with Pastor Pat, Carol Knell or Bob Hout. There is a group of dedicated prayer partners who are eager to pray for your needs, and who gather for prayer on the phone on Wednesdays. We have a Prayer box on Rte. 117 in the front of the church, where we offer books (including Bibles), and receive prayer requests. We also have a Prayer Line at (781) 894-5858 where you may leave a voice mail message with your prayer requests. Wouldn't it be great to be known as "the church that prays for the people in our communities"? Thank you to Bob Hout who serves as Prayer Coordinator and will gather the prayer group to be in prayer for all your concerns. Let us pray for you!

COMMUNITY

Thought for the week...

“Forget past mistakes. Forget failures. Forget everything except what you’re going to do now and do it.”
– Will Durant, historian

Attention Everyone.... WUMC is putting together a "2020 Year in Review" as a Power Point series of photos with background music, to be posted on YouTube for everyone to enjoy. Please email your best 10 or less (happy and/or sad) WUMC 2020 photos from church events/activities from this past year, (2020) to Bob Duane (rjduane@gmail.com) and he will create a Powerpoint of the photos and post it for all to see. Please send your submissions by 1/15/2021. Thank you.

Join Us For Fellowship

Sunday Coffee Fellowship 11:30 am

Bring your own coffee (and/or refreshments) and join others in a time to chat, to visit, to connect on Zoom, the online link:

<https://zoom.us/j/357306785?pwd=bGl6Yyt0ajlaODdEWFU4WXVYMIF2QT09>
or you can call in on your phone to : 1-929-205-6099 and, if asked, put in the Meeting ID: 357 306 785 # and/or password: 286701

You will also find the links on our Facebook page and on our website to join us in worship.

Bible Study

The **Tuesday evening Bible Study** is doing a short-term study of the *Parable of the Lost Son*. The study, which began on Tuesday, January 5, meets at **7pm on Zoom**. We will look at the parable in moderate detail which has been compiled from various sources. Carole Kerr will facilitate the study.

We will use the regular Zoom link we have been using for Tuesday studies:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/295613660?pwd=dVkyV2h1QVZzaJlVWkllOFrS0dNdz09>

Dial by phone: +1 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 295 613 660

Passcode: 056902

**Bristol Lodge Soup Kitchen
Monday, January 11, 2021**

The help of many **PRAYERFUL AND GENEROUS FOLKS LIKE YOU** is needed to care for Jesus' flock! Each and every day, the folks at Bristol Lodge Soup Kitchen in Waltham serve a meal to people who are desperate for nutritious food and refreshing water. The second Monday of every month, our Weston UMC church family provide the food and water needed for that day's meal, which are then packaged by staff and given to people as hot takeout meals-to-go. In this time when food insecurity is growing ever worse, dare to share YOUR love and compassion as part of this ministry, now!

1) These folks working in the frontlines risk it all day after day to serve meals to the hungry in Waltham, in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic which rages ever worse in Waltham. Please shower these courageous folks with words of love and encouragement...

- Call and leave a message to be shared with these folks, on the **Weston UMC Prayer Line (781-894-5858)**.

- Drop-off a card or note with your message for these folks, in the **Prayer Request Box** out in front of Weston UMC.

We'll pass YOUR well-wishes on to these heroes when they unload the food and water we provide. And of course, please lift up in YOUR own daily prayers ALL folks working in the frontlines!



2) YOUR food and water are urgently needed to feed the hungry and give drink to the thirsty.

Please sign up to contribute one or more item(s) for Monday, January 11, using this link:

https://doodle.com/poll/mzpbhcaxe6p7zp96?utm_source=poll&utm_medium=link



Either bring the item(s) to Weston UMC by Sunday, January 10 (use our dedicated fridge in the pantry of Parish Hall for items that need to stay cold), or indicate you'd like to have the item(s) picked up from you.

Items Needed: Sloppy Joes, Hamburger Buns, Fruit Cups, and LOTS AND LOTS of Bottled Water.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Bob Hout at (781)647-3117.

Thank YOU to everyone who contributed to the December meal. YOUR prayerfulness and generosity are very much appreciated!

A Sad Note from Diane Olsen...

My brother David McKnight passed away unexpectedly on Saturday. Public wake: Thursday January 7th from 4pm to 7pm at the Concord Funeral Home. Burial will be private.

GIVING

A reminder that the budget to keep these ministries going needs your support.

Your gifts and offerings can be:

Mailed to the church at
377 North Ave., Weston, MA 02493

Sent via Bill Pay or ACH
on your online banking

Donated online via Paypal or
credit card on our website.
Go to westonunitedmethodist.org,
and click on the "Giving" tab,
where you will find the
[Donate](#) button at the
bottom of the page.

Dropped off in the mailbox
at the church.

Calendar

Saturday, January 9

10:00 am Saturday Fun Church School - **Room 3**

Sunday, January 10

10:30 am Worship - **Online**

11:30 am Coffee Fellowship - **Zoom**

Monday, January 11

Bristol Lodge Soup Kitchen (See page 6)

Tuesday, January 12

7:00 pm Bible Study: *Parable of the Lost Son* -
Zoom

Wednesday, January 13

10:00 am Knitting - **Contact Carole Kerr or Sally
Hicks for details**

CARING/HELPING/CONNECTING

There are volunteers who have offered to help persons who need assistance with getting groceries or running essential errands. In addition, we are doing what we can as individuals and as a church to meet the needs of those around us and among us. Please keep in touch with one another. Call, email, send a card. Those who most need to know that they are not alone are most at risk and generally unable to have visitors. Remember especially persons in nursing homes, rehab centers, hospitals. Keep them in mind, and let them know that they are not forgotten.

Please let us know if you are unable to **access the online services** (or if someone you know is unable to do so). We are **snail mailing** the bulletin and sermon, and the Beams by request to those who are not able to receive it via email. And if you are able to help someone to connect, please do so.

College Students and Young Adults:

The Harvard Epworth United Methodist Church invites you to join in their new ministry, the Circuit Online. Feel free to participate! Here is a link to their new university student and young adult online ministry - <https://www.thecircuitonline>

Office hours are continuing, with Carol working from home. She is glad to respond to your emails to westonunitedmethodist@gmail.com, **Regular hours** are Tuesdays and Thursdays 2-5:30 and Wednesdays and Fridays 8-11:30.

Christmas Notes From Churchfolk From Away...

December 19, 2020

Dear Rev. MacHugh and WUMCers,
Merry Christmas!

It has been six years since we left Weston for the Bay Area in California, but we always remember the great time we had with people in Weston.

After almost one year of "house hunting", we Masato and Kimiko settled in a condo in her in Vallejo, in a county next to Napa. Our son is living in Belmont, a town in silicon valley with his wife and our four yr old grandson. Our daughter has been working in Hiroshima, Japan teaching English conversation at Berlitz school for nine years. Due to the virus, we have not seen each other for over a year and a half except through Skype every week.

We hope the new year will bring us an opportunity to travel freely and visit places including New England.

We are sorry not writing you for such a long time.

While thanking God for our good health, we pray for the good health of all of you.

Best wishes,

Masato and Kimiko (Nakashima)

Wishing you all a Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year and I pray for you all.
Love, Judy (Foote)

Dear Pat & Friends at Weston United Methodist Church.

Prayers and blessings. I pray for you and your health. I know that God is in control.

May you all have a safe & healthy New Year.

Love you all,

John & Sharon (Magoon)

Miss everyone

Thank you everyone for all you've done and do for me and my Katherine. I am forever grateful. I am overwhelmed with all I still and always have to do to be ready w/ my property and w/ getting to Oregon to help Kate & my grandchildren. Your prayers are my/our greatest gift to carry us through all of this. May God bless all of you abundantly.
Maureen (Sheehan)