The Congregational Church of Westborough
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
57 West Main, Westborough, Massachusetts 01581

OPEN DOORS – GROWING FAITH!
No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here!

WE WELCOME VISITORS AND NEWCOMERS!
We are an “Open and Affirming” Church

January 19, 2020
Second Sunday after Epiphany
WELCOME!
Are you visiting with us today? We are glad you are here!
We celebrate “OPEN DOORS and GROWING FAITH”
“No matter who you are or where you are on your journey, you are welcome here.”

If you are here for a brief visit or are searching, let us be of help. Speak to an usher or the pastor and we will gladly be of service.

Our restrooms are located beyond the vestry on the first floor. There is a handicapped elevator located in the back of the sanctuary and a deacon will be glad to assist you. We have a handicapped bathroom next to the main office near the parking lot on the first floor.

Should there be a need to leave the service, there are exits to either side of the pulpit in front, or the stairs on either side in the back.

We celebrate open communion on the first Sunday of the month, where everyone is welcome to partake. Children are invited as well.

We welcome children to remain in worship today however we also offer a children’s program each Sunday in the nursery for children in grades 3 or younger and faith formation for older children most Sundays. We offer crayons and coloring pages for those who wish to keep their fingers moving during the service and we are comfortable with children being children! If your children need to move about, please feel free to stand in the back or go downstairs where the service can be heard over our speaker system.

WE HOPE YOU WILL BE INSPIRED AND PRAYERFULLY FILLED IN OUR SERVICE OF WORSHIP and that YOU WILL FEEL WELCOMED, AS ONE WHO BELONGS!

Statement of Inclusion
We, the people of The Congregational Church of Westborough, United Church of Christ, believe that all people are created equal, in God’s image. “We are all God’s children.” In our journey of faith, we strive for justice and equality for all.

We invite and welcome into our community and into the full life and Christian ministry of this church, persons of every race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, family structure, faith background, economic circumstance, mental and physical ability. We say, and mean, “No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.”

We declare ourselves an Open and Affirming Christian community, actively expressing our belief in diversity and inclusion. We seek to be a faith community centered in Christ, ready to proclaim the Gospel and seek to grow through the transformative power of the Holy Spirit. We offer to each person acceptance and the responsibilities and blessings of participation in this congregation.
January 19, 2020

*The Congregation is invited to stand.

INVITING THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*GREETING

OPENING HYMN # 357 (v.1, 4&5) “We Call Ourselves Disciples”

CALL TO WORSHIP (From Presbyterian Mission MLK resources)

Leader: We worship the God who inhabits our world
People: And who indwells our lives.
Leader: We need not look up to find God,
People: We need only look around: within ourselves, beyond ourselves, into the eyes of another.
Leader: We need not listen for a distant thunder to find God,
People: We need only listen to the music of life, the words of children, the questions of the curious, the rhythm of a heartbeat.
Leader: We worship the God who inhabits our world
People: And who indwells our lives.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Please be seated.)

We turn to You often, O God, as we seek through prayer to find the meaning of life. Sometimes it’s a fervent prayer in the midst of serious mediation, but more often it’s a fleeting prayer on the run. We pray for patience when there are too many things to be done. We pray that You will awaken us to hear the cries of the poor, the homeless, the broken-hearted. Help us to redirect more of our resources to clothe the naked and feed the hungry. Mold us, O God, and open our hearts and minds to be willing vessels of Your spirit. Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER (Debts)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.
RECEIVING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON
Psalm 19:1-4, 7-14
(Pew Bible page 433)  Pete Graham

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MESSAGE
(Kids and Youth will go to Faith Formation)  Rev. Remick

HYMN #477
“Pass It On”  PASS IT ON

SCRIPTURE LESSON
Micah 6:6-8  Pete Graham
(Pew Bible page 757)

REFLECTION
“Word of Mouth”  Rev. Remick

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE  Rev. Remick

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS  Rachel Graham

Invitation: Just as the waters of the earth are abundant and full of life, so are the blessings God pours upon us daily. Let us now joyfully offer our tithes, pledges, and offerings with the hope that they may enable others to feel immersed in God’s love.

JoySpring Anthem  "Rescue Story"  by Williams, Andrew, Smith and Hulse

There I was empty-handed, crying out from the pit of my despair.
And there You were in the shadows, holding out Your hand. You met me there.

And now where would I be without You? Where would I be, Jesus?
You were the voice in the desert, calling me out in the dead of night,
Fighting my battles for me, You are my rescue story.
Lifted me up from the ashes, You carried my soul from death to life,
Bringing me from glory to glory. You are my rescue story.
You are, You are. You are my rescue story. You are, You are.

You were writing the pages before I had a name, before I needed grace, oh.
You’re singing songs of redemption.
’Cause every time I ran away, You were louder than my shame.

You never gave up on me. You never gave up on me. Oh, this is my testimony.
*DOXOLOGY (Unison)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison) 

Rachel Graham

Source of life, may the words of our mouths bring You joy. May the works of our hands bring You honor. May the life we live reflect the risen Word of life and may the service and gifts we offer be blessed by the Breath of life. Amen.

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*CLOSING HYMN #631 (v. 1 & 3) “Lift Every Voice and Sing”

LIFT EVERY VOICE

*BENEDICTION 

Rev. Remick

*POSTLUDE (You are invited to sit for the Postlude if you wish. Let the worship service settle in your heart. If you wish to exit, please do so quietly.)

Rachel Graham greeted you this morning and served as liturgists. Linda Birch and Theresa DiMeo are Deacons of the day.

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS FOR JANUARY 19, 2020

Continued Prayers: Dorothy Collins; Kristy Kocou; Megan Huber’s mother Fran Kelly; Marie Murphy’s son Craig Jernberg and her daughter Lisa Jernberg; Cathie Achorn’s friend Julie Noble and her preemie baby Kosmas Andrew Melitas; Nancy Reimann; Cathie Achorn’s mother Dee Mumby; Bob Brown; Gini & Tom Erwin; Anna Gavel, granddaughter/cousin of Karen Gavel and the Oevermanns; Linda Polatka (Cathie Achorn’s sister).

Prayer requests: You can place prayer concerns on the church’s email distribution list at eprayers@uccwestboro.org. If you would like a prayer request included in today’s service, please let a Deacon know prior to the start of worship. Prayers will remain listed for 8 weeks. If you would like a prayer renewed, please call the church office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARISH LIFE PANCAKE BRUNCH – JAN 26TH

Join us Sunday, Jan 26th after church for our annual Pancake Brunch where you will enjoy pancakes, sausage, bacon, eggs, fruit salad, juice, coffee and pastries. For more information, call Cathie Achorn at 508-380-8671.

THE G.I.F.T. PROGRAM POSTPONED

The G.I.F.T. program that was to be held on Wednesday evenings has been postponed until the Lenten Season.
NEW DATE FOR DISMAS HOUSE DINNERS!

Our church goes once a month to cook and serve a meal with the people of Dismas House, a home for ex-prisoners. Beginning in January we will now be going on the 4th TUESDAY of each month. If you would like to help, be in touch with Karen Hutchinson at millarhutch@aol.com. The next dinner will be Tuesday, Jan 28th. Donations of Stop & Shop cards are greatly appreciated to help with the shopping for the meals! Thank you.

GROCERY CARD PROJECT

2020 Goal $7,000 YTD: $182.50

NEW YEAR, NEW GOAL! We are stocked up and ready to go. Please help us to start strong and always keep a grocery card in your pocket for all your shopping, or those quick stops. We are thankful for your support. If you need cards delivered contact Karen Hutchinson at 508.870.1782 or millarhutch@aol.com or Nancy Quimby at 774.249.4431 or nquimby11@gmail.com or Sally Petersen at sbpetersen4@gmail.com and 366.5169.

SEARCH COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The Pastoral Search Committee needs your help! Over the next few weeks, we will be seeking your response to some questions as we create our local church profile used in the search. We want accurately to capture the thoughts and feelings from the church members and friends about the near term (3-5 years) future for our church. We will be using several means of communication (Weekly Bulletin, eNews, and index cards on the Mission table, etc.) to reach as many folks as we can. Please forward your answer in 7 days. You may mail your answer to the church office at 57 Church Street, or reply by emailing your answer to attention Linda Borglund (lborglund53@gmail.com) and Kathy Todd (lightsong60@gmail.com)

Thanks, and here's this week's question: Please provide a one word to brief paragraph.

If you were to describe this church to a total stranger, what would you say who we are?
SOUPER BOWL OF CARING – FEB. 2ND

The Souper Bowl of Caring began in 1990 with a simple prayer said by Reverend Brad Smith of Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia, South Carolina:

“Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat.” 22 churches raised $5,700 in the first year.

The Souper Bowl of Caring utilizes Super Bowl weekend in America to mobilize young people to fight hunger and poverty in their local communities. Its vision is to transform Super Bowl weekend into America's largest youth-led weekend of giving and serving.

Young people collect monetary and food donations during the week leading up to Super Bowl Sunday. 100% of the money and food is then given directly to local charities of the group's choice.

Started at Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia, South Carolina, the Souper Bowl of Caring has branched out to include schools, businesses and congregations of all faiths. The Souper Bowl of Caring has gained national attention, securing partnerships with nine different NFL Teams, in addition to finding National Advocates in former President and Mrs. George H.W. Bush and former President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter.

Souper Bowl 2019 STATS

$9,715,368 4,883 3,542
cash and food items collected Participating Groups Charities Helped

YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR 8TH ANNUAL TAILGATE PARTY - FEBRUARY 2ND, donate a non-perishable food item or make a monetary donation. Enjoy the party and know that you are helping us to...TACKLE HUNGER! ~ Thank you!

CONTACTS AND INFORMATION

Rev. Sue Remick, Interim Minister – revsuerem@gmail.com
Peter Graham, Student Minister – petegrahamiam@icloud.com
Wendy Reardon, Director of Children’s and Youth Ministries - wendysreardon@yahoo.com
Joseph Stillitano, Interim Minister of Music – josephmstillitano@gmail.com
Sue Menzel, Director of Bells – westcongmusic@gmail.com
Office hours: closed Mon; Tues & Wed 9am-2pm, Thurs 10am-2pm, Fri 9am-1pm
Church office phone 508/366-2000
General Church email – westboroucc@verizon.net, Church website www.uccwestboro.org
www.facebook.com/TheCongregationalChurchofWestborough
# CALENDAR  Jan 19th - Jan 26th

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 19</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>10:00 AM Worship Service &amp; FF</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>11:15 AM Music Committee</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11:30 AM Mission Team/Kerygma Rm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 20</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>(office closed)</td>
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<td>10AM-4PM Vestry in use</td>
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<td>11AM &amp; 1:30PM PCC/Fannie Forbes</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:00-8:00 PM Search Committee/Kerygma Rm</td>
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<td>7:30 PM AA/Nursery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 21</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>11:00 AM PCC/Fannie Forbes</td>
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<td>7:00 PM Festival Ringers</td>
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<td>Jan 22</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>9:15 AM Playgroup/Nursery</td>
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<td>10:00 AM Staff Meeting/Library</td>
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<td>6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>7:45 PM JoySpring Rehearsal</td>
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<td>Jan 23</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>4:30-6PM GSA/Kerygma Rm</td>
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<td>Jan 24</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>(no events)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 25</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>(no events)</td>
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<td>5PM Set up for pancake brunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 26</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>10:00 AM Worship Service &amp; FF</td>
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<td>Pancake Brunch after church</td>
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<td>2:30 PM GSA/Vestry</td>
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