

# The Congregational Church of Westborough

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

57 West Main, Westborough, Massachusetts 01581

October 15, 2023



Photo by Deb Boucher

**WE WELCOME VISITORS AND NEWCOMERS!**

We are an "Open and Affirming" Church



## **WELCOME!**

To our worshipping community, especially to parents: God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house! We welcome you and your child/ren. Children are a gift to the church and a reminder that the church is growing. May our church be a place where we give smiles of encouragement to parents!

Are you visiting with us today? We are glad you are here!  
WHETHER YOU HAVE JOINED US BY PHONE, IPAD, OR COMPUTER

We celebrate "OPEN DOORS and GROWING FAITH"  
"No matter who you are or where you are on your life's journey, you are welcome here."

## **CONTACTS AND INFORMATION**

*Rev. Betsy Dorsi, Pastor – [revbetsyccw@gmail.com](mailto:revbetsyccw@gmail.com)*  
*Joseph Stillitano, Director of Music – [uccwestboromusic@gmail.com](mailto:uccwestboromusic@gmail.com)*  
*Linda Borglund, Director of Faith Formation – [lborglund53@gmail.com](mailto:lborglund53@gmail.com)*  
*Sue Menzel, Director of Bells – [westcongmusic@gmail.com](mailto:westcongmusic@gmail.com)*  
*Lisa Coffey, Administrator – [westboroucc@verizon.net](mailto:westboroucc@verizon.net)*  
*Deb Boucher, Communications Coordinator – [deb.boucher.15@gmail.com](mailto:deb.boucher.15@gmail.com)*

## **Office Hours**

*Tuesday – Friday: 9am – 1pm*  
*Monday: Closed*  
*Church office phone 508/366-2000*

*General Church email – [westboroucc@verizon.net](mailto:westboroucc@verizon.net), Church website- [www.uccwestboro.org](http://www.uccwestboro.org)  
[www.facebook.com/TheCongregationalChurchofWestborough](https://www.facebook.com/TheCongregationalChurchofWestborough)*

## **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.

# THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WESTBOROUGH

## UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Oct. 15, 2023

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

*\*The Congregation is invited to stand.*

### GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS (shown online and on the sanctuary screens)

9:45 AM

PRELUDE

INTROIT

"Psalm 23"  
Chancel Choir

Composed by Isaac Watts

CHURCH BELLS TO CALL US

10:00 AM

### INVITING THE WORD

WELCOME

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Amy Glennon

One: O Lord, hear us when we pray.

**Many: O Lord come to our aid.**

One: We feel so alone in the crowded city.

**Many: Like the Israelites alone in the desert.**

One: Lead us out of fear and into trust.

**Many: We are your new chosen people.**

\*OPENING SONG

"The Heart of Worship"  
JoySpring Songbook #9

Composed by Matt Redman

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

Amy Glennon

**Almighty and ever-loving God, You call us to be Your children. We are so grateful for all that You have done for us. Help us remain faithful to You and to walk in Your ways. We ask this in the name of Your Son and our Savior, Jesus. We continue to pray using the words he taught us...**

\*THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

## MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Amy Glennon

**Jesus, You set a perfect example for us. You prayed often to Your Father, You had compassion for the poor and sick, You preached about God's Kingdom. We confess that we don't pray as faithfully as You did and our compassion for others runs dry. We don't trust our heavenly parent to listen and provide for us. Please forgive us for not following Your example more closely. Amen.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

### RECEIVING THE WORD

A MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

*(Children leave for Sunday School)*

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 32:1-14

*(pew Bible pages 69)*

SERMON

"Out of the Fire"

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

\*HYMN #73

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

WELLESLEY

### RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

## OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Invitation: *Let us bring our offerings before God with thanksgiving!*

Amy Glennon

The morning offering will now be received.

Offertory

"I Am His Child"

Comp. by Moses Hogan

Chancel Choir

*I may not be all that you are,*

*I may not be a shining star,*

*But what I am*

*I thank the Lord for making me His child.*

*Thank you Lord for hearing ev'ry prayer,*

*Thank you Lord for just being there,*

*Thank you Lord, for I am not worthy of your Love.*

*So don't use me or abuse me,*

*for I am His child.*

*Don't tease me, or mistreat me,*

*For I'm still His child,  
You can even talk about me.  
But I am still His child.*



"For online giving, scan QR code with your phone's camera"

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts: Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)**

Amy Glennon

**Lord, as we bring our offerings to You, we ask You to bless what we give and who we are for  
Your service. Amen.**

**BEING THE CHURCH**

**\*CLOSING HYMN #86**

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

FAITHFULNESS

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE**

Flowers are in memory of **Paul** and **Marion Blois** by their children, the Blois, Brown, Petersen, and Thayer families.

**Amy Glennon** serves as liturgist today.

**Linda Birch** and **Elizabeth Kafir** are deacons of the day.

<p><i>Prayers</i></p>
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Continued Prayers: Nancy Reimann; Deb Boucher recovering from wrist surgery; Tom Erwin's son-in-law, Mike Grundmann; Marketa's friend – Paula; The Lord family; Carrie Halbert (wife of Nikki Halbert's cousin); Cathie Achorn's mom, Dee Mumby; Marge Butcher's granddaughter Meghan Donovan; Betty Grays's niece Heather and her family; Ilda & Jim Engle; Betty Simino; Roberta Di Terlizzi's mother Donata; Dennis in hospice (friend of Deb and Rich Boucher).

Prayer requests: You can place prayer concerns on the church's email distribution list at [epayers@uccwestboro.org](mailto:epayers@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

"A note from Betty Barclay and family - mom & family would like to thank you for all the birthday wishes, balloons, flowers and the many, so many, cards. It was a fabulous birthday celebration." A picture of Betty is in the vestry.

### ENEWS & EPRAZER CHANGES

We are in the process of getting things set up so we can email you directly from your contacts stored in the church database. In the interim, you can expect to see "eNews" or "Prayer" emails either from Lisa (westboroucc@verizon.net) or Deb (deb.boucher.15@gmail.com). Once I have all the kinks worked out, you will receive emails from "comms@uccwestboro.org". The sender name will be "The Congregational Church of Westborough". Thank you, Deb Boucher, Communications Coordinator

### FOOD PANTRY – OCTOBER WISH LIST

Thank you for all those packets of oatmeal, pasta and sauce! For October we will be collecting Nutri-grain bars, jars of mayonnaise, and boxes of tissues for the cold and flu season. We will continue to collect oatmeal packets as they are in high demand. Donations can be placed in the white box at the side entrance to the church or in the basket at the front entrance. Thank you again for caring about your neighbors in need. The Mission Team

### GREAT PIE CHALLENGE



We are excited to continue our tradition of the Great Pie Challenge! We will be making pies in the vestry on November 5th, 12th, and 19th. Last year we donated more than 150 pies to the Curtis Family for their Thanksgiving Feast, and we hope to do it again! We would be grateful for your donations of: apples, canned pumpkin, and pie tins! Please leave donations in the box in the kitchen.

### MAIN STREET TRICK OR TREAT EVENT – OCT 24<sup>th</sup>

We will be participating in the town trick or treat stroll this year on Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2023, from 4-7pm. Please donate bags of Halloween candy. (We already have the bags and toys). Bring donations to the church on or before Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>. There will be a box in the library. We will assemble bags after church in the library. If you need information on how you can help on Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> or you have candy that needs to be picked up, call Cathie at 508-380-8671.

### SAVE THE DATE!

We are scheduled for a Habitat for Humanity work day on Saturday, October 28th from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The homes will be built on two lots at 521 and 523 Sunderland Road in Worcester. Construction is just getting started so we are getting in on the ground floor! Skills, no skills - all are welcome (ages 16 and up). Tools and instruction are provided. Sign-up sheet is in the vestry. Questions - contact the Mission Team.

### 300<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY PLANNING MEETINGS FOR OCTOBER

There will be two meetings coming up in October for the planning of the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our church. One will be in the evening and one in the morning to allow more people to come. The first meeting is **Monday, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7 pm** and the second will be **Wednesday, Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> at 9 am**. Please stop by if you would like to help out.

### A CONCERT: MEMORIES

If you would like to buy tickets for the concert on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm in our sanctuary, you can stop by the church office during regular hours. The concert entitled “Memories” stars our very own Adrianna Baltimore. Tickets are \$10 and the proceeds will benefit the church kitchen renovation fund.

### FLOWER COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED!

The Nominating Committee is seeking new members for the Flower Committee as its ranks have shrunk to 4 from a full cadre of 9. If you can help out and want more information, please contact Betty Gray or Dave Smith.

### KIRKSIDE POOL TABLE

Ten years ago, the Church held an indoor yard sale on items from our Kirkside Building as we were preparing this building for sale. Coincidentally, this sale was held on Scout Sunday. A Boy Scout spotted the pool table in the basement of Kirkside where youth groups often hung out. He convinced his Dad that this is what their family needed. Now the family is downsizing and looking to pass this pool table onto to the next stewards!! This table is a 9-foot Brunswick table with a 3-piece slate bed, bearing a plaque from Joseph and Winifred Quick in 1967. Being able to relocate the pool table is the only charge. Spread the word! Contact Sally Petersen for pictures or more info. [sbpetersen4@gmail.com](mailto:sbpetersen4@gmail.com).

## October 15<sup>th</sup> – October 22<sup>nd</sup>

<b>Oct 15</b> 10:00 AM	<b>Sunday</b> Worship & Sunday School
<b>Oct 16</b>	<b>Monday – closed</b>
<b>Oct 17</b> 7-8 PM	<b>Tuesday</b> Bells Rehearse
<b>Oct 18</b> 6:30 -7:30 PM 7:00 PM	<b>Wednesday</b> Choir Rehearsal Cabinet/Kerygma RM
<b>Oct 19</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
<b>Oct 20</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>Oct 21</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<b>Oct 22</b> 10:00 AM	<b>Sunday</b> Worship & Sunday School

