

The Congregational Church of Westborough

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

57 West Main, Westborough, Massachusetts 01581

Veterans Sunday

November 12, 2023



Photo by Charles "Duck" Unitas on Unsplash

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
Joseph Stillitano, Director of Music – uccwestboromusic@gmail.com
Linda Borglund, Director of Faith Formation – lborglund53@gmail.com
Sue Menzel, Director of Bells – westcongmusic@gmail.com
Lisa Coffey, Administrator – westboroucc@verizon.net
Deb Boucher, Communications Coordinator – 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, Church website- www.uccwestboro.org
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

Nov. 12, 2023

Veterans Sunday

**The Congregation is invited to stand.*

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS (shown online and on the sanctuary screens)

9:45 AM

PRELUDE

INTROIT

“Oculi Nostri”
Chancel Choir

Taizé

CHURCH BELLS TO CALL US

10:00 AM

INVITING THE WORD

WELCOME

Steve Achorn

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Max Keeler

One: God our Creator, You are the maker of heaven and earth.

Many: Be our freedom, Lord.

One: God our Savior, You redeem us all.

Many: Be our freedom, Lord.

One: God the Holy Spirit, You sanctify our lives.

Many: Be our freedom, Lord.

All: Let us worship the God who sets us free.

*OPENING HYMN #721

“My Country, ‘Tis of Thee” (vs. 1,3,4)

AMERICA

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

Max Keeler

O Lord, we gather before You to listen, learn and give thanks. Bind us together in love as a community of Your disciples so we may grow together, learn together, serve together and praise You together. We ask this through the name of Jesus, and we continue to pray saying 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) Max Keeler

O God, You have set forth the way of life for us in Your beloved son. We confess with shame our slowness to learn of Him, our reluctance to follow Him. You have spoken and called, and we have not always given heed. Your beauty has shone forth and we have been blind. You have stretched out Your hands to us through each other and we have passed by. We have taken many gifts from You and offered little thanks. We are unworthy of Your unending love. Have mercy on us and continue to teach us Your way of love. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RECEIVING THE WORD

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE “Blessed Are the Peace Makers” Cathie Achorn
(based on Matthew 5:9)

VETERANS RECOGNITION Steve Achorn
(Children leave to make pies)

SCRIPTURES Genesis 32:22-32 *(The Message Translation)*
Ephesians 6:1-12

SERMON “Crossing the Ford at Jabbok” Rev. David Fountain

*HYMN #85 “Eternal Father, Strong to Save” (vs. 1,2,4) MELITA

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. David Fountain

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Invitation: *Let us bring our offerings before God with thanksgiving!* Max Keeler
The morning offering will now be received.

Offertory “Order My Steps” Composed by Glenn Burleigh
Chancel Choir Arranged by jack Schrader

*Order my steps in your Word, dear Lord,
Lead me, guide me, every day.
Send your anointing, Father, I pray.
Order my steps in your Word, please,
Order my steps in your Word.*

*Humbly I ask Thee, teach me your will,
While You are working, help me be still.
Tho' Satan is busy, God is real!
Order my steps in your Word, please,
Order my steps in your Word.*

*I want to walk worthy, my calling to fulfill.
Please order my steps, Lord, and I'll do your blessed will.
The world is ever changing, but You are still the same.
If You order my steps, I'll praise your name.*

*Order my steps in your Word, order my tongue in your Word;
Guide my feet in your Word, wash my heart, O Lord, in your Word.*

*Show me how to walk in your Word,
Show me how to talk in your Word,
When I need a brand new song to sing,
Show me how to let your praises ring, in your Word!
Order my steps in your Word, please,
Order my steps in your Word.*



“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)**

Max Keeler

Thank You God for all the good things You give us. Please accept our offering back to You as a sign of our gratitude and a symbol of our servanthood. Bless and multiply our gifts and efforts so Your will may be done in our community and beyond. Amen.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Diane Lindberg

***CLOSING HYMN #720**

“O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”

MATERNA

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. David Fountain

***POSTLUDE**

The flowers today are given in loving memory of **Charlie Gage**, from Nancy, their daughter Debbie and son Chris.

Max Keeler serves as liturgist today.

Linda Birch and **Darvin Kapitz** are deacons of the day.

We honor those who proudly served our country:



Adrianna Baltimore, Dexter P. Blois, Brett S. Borglund, Christopher Bramley, Jr., Daniel Byers, Harrison K. Cook, Kevin Davis, James F. Duncan, Douglas A. Hall, Ray Harrold, David V. Hero, Michael Lawton, Thomas Lawton, Steven Lindberg, Ronald MacKendrick, John C. MacLean, Robert H. Markert, Thomas C. Morgan, Judith C. Oliver, Richard D. Passler, Steven H. Rabidou, Arthur P. Smith, Darrell W. Simino, James J. Tepper, Douglas E. Uhlman, Douglas G. Wales, Edward C. Wong.

We honor the memory of Dean B. Arvidson, Richard A. Clapp, George Colwell, G. Gordon Dwyer, Edward C. Erickson, Howard K. Fay, Jr., Charles A. Flood, Donald R. Foss, Charles H. Gage, Charles R. Hillier, George Hoogasian, Ralph R. Keyes, Norris A. Lukey, Stanley R. Melin, Martin E. Newark, Russell H. Nordwell, James Michael Price, Milton H. Steen, and Thomas E. Walker, who served our country and are now safely home in the arms of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Prayers

Continued Prayers: Nancy Reimann; The Lord family; Cathie Achorn's mom, Dee Mumby; Betty Grays's niece Heather and her family; Ilda & Jim Engle; Betty Simino; Roberta Di Terlizzi's mother Donata.

GREAT PIE CHALLENGE

On November 5th, we succeeded in our mission of making 50 apple pies. Thank you to everyone for your donations and support! This church is incredibly generous, and we couldn't be more grateful.

On November 12, we will:

- * Make more apple pies.
- * Make more pumpkin pies.
- * Hand out pumpkin pie kits for you to bake at home and return.

On November 19th, we will:

- * Finish making pies.
- * Collect pumpkin pies from kits
- * Sell extra pies after church.
- * Deliver pies to the Curtis Family in Framingham.

STEWARDSHIP 2024

The Stewardship Committee wants to thank all those people who have been so very prompt in returning their pledge cards already! We want to invite those of you who are able to join us on Stewardship Sunday, November 19, to bring our pledges forward so we can all celebrate our commitment to the work and mission of our beloved church together. We strive to continue our outreach locally, throughout Massachusetts and the world as we continue to help those in need. Thank you for your kind consideration. The Stewardship Committee.

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The Interfaith Thanksgiving service will be on Tuesday, November 21st, 7 pm at the Sikh Temple. If anyone in the choir would like to participate, please arrive at 6 pm.

THANKSGIVING DISPLAY

Please consider donating gourds, pumpkins, squash etc. for our Thanksgiving table in the Sanctuary. Please bring in your items this week, during office hours if you can. There will be boxes downstairs in the library for all donations. The decorations will be used for the Thanksgiving Sunday service which is Nov. 19th so we would appreciate it if they were available for set up on Saturday, Nov. 18th. Thank you, the flower committee.

52nd ANNUAL WESTBOROUGH COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

The 52nd Westborough Community Thanksgiving Day dinner will begin at 1:00 pm (Thanksgiving Day) at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Westborough. All are warmly welcome to this free community event! To make your reservation, please call: 508-366-3000 by noon on Nov. 17th. This event is what makes Westborough a special community!

THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

The 300th Anniversary Committee Meeting will be tomorrow night, Nov. 13, 2023, at 7PM in the Kerygma Room. All are welcome to attend. Even if you are not on the committee you can stop by with ideas. There are lots of decisions to make for the coming year. This will be an exciting time in the life of our church. We will also be meeting in December. Hope to see you there. For information contact Cathie Achorn, cell# 508-380-8671 leave a text or voice mail. Check the Evangel for an article.

FOOD PANTRY - NOVEMBER

Thank you for your generous donations of breakfast bars, mayo, Kleenex, and oatmeal. The white box was quite full several times. This month, the Food Pantry needs beef stew, instant potatoes (bag), Jello and pudding mixes. Donations can be placed in the white box at the side entrance or the basket at the front entrance.


GIVING TREE

Our church will be participating in the Giving Tree program this year. Giving Tree tags will be available starting November 19, 2023. More information to come.

CHRISTMAS FAIR DONATIONS


Please drop off your fair donations in the bins in the Church Library. Grandma's attic items (yard sale items) will be accepted starting Nov. 19 through Nov. 30. They can be put in the back of the chapel (no big furniture, clothes, or car seats.) The Evangel will have a list of the items you can donate for 67th annual The Evergreen Christmas Fair. Donations of grocery cards, money or checks to cover the cost of the luncheon are also greatly appreciated if you cannot help with the fair or cannot donate any items. This is going to be a fun time for our church and for the town. For info contact: Tri-Chairs, Linda Borglund, Sandy Horton or Cathie Achorn.

November 12th – November 19th



Pie making

Nov 12 10:00 AM	Veterans Sunday Worship
Nov 13 6-8:00 PM	Monday – closed Cub Scouts/vestry
Nov 14 10:00 AM Walker 7-8 PM	Tuesday Celebration of Life, Nancy Bells Rehearse
Nov 15 10:00 AM 6:30-7:30 PM 7:00 PM	Wednesday Fair Meeting/Nursery Choir Rehearsal Cabinet/Kerygma Rm
Nov 16	Thursday
Nov 17	Friday Fair Prep Begins
Nov 18	Saturday
Nov 19 10:00 AM	Stewardship Sunday Worship



Pie making