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

Nov. 17, 2019
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 CURCH OF WESTBOROUGH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Nov 17, 2019 10:00 AM

*The Congregation is invited to stand.

INVITING THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*GREETING  (Please take the time to greet those around you)

* OPENING HYMN # 111  “Santo, Santo, Santo”

*CALL TO WORSHIP*

Leader:  In the name of God,
People:  Wondrous, mysterious, marvelous.
Leader:  In the name of Jesus,
People:  Among us, beyond us, with us.
Leader:  In the name of the Spirit,
People:  Strange, startling, shaking;
Leader:  I call you to worship.
People:  We come to lift our hearts and minds, to open our lips and our lives, to celebrate our God.
Leader:  God calls us to God's way in our time.
People:  We accept that call!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Please be seated.)  Nancy Hubbard

We are welcomed into Your presence this day by Your gracious hospitality, O God. Grant that we will lay aside our cares and anxieties to concentrate our thoughts on You alone. Open us to the teaching and guidance for living which we receive, that we will be strengthened to walk with You and follow wherever You lead us. Through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Savior, we pray in the words he taught us....... 

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.
It is our joy to welcome Todd and Jenna (Drisko) Minardi
As they bring their daughters to be baptized this morning.

Hilary Jane Minardi and Harper Jean Minardi

ADDRESS

PROMISES OF THE PARENTS

PROMISE OF THE CONGREGATION
We receive these children as new persons in Christ whose body we are as the Congregational Church of Westborough. We offer our understanding and support as Hilary and Harper explore life, and enfold them in our love, seeking to help them grow in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and all people. We join with their parents in living Christ’s ways so that they may live and learn, showing God’s love for all humanity.

CONSECRATION OF THE WATERS

GIVING OF THE NAME

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

INTRODUCTION TO THE CONGREGATION

BAPTISMAL SONG Tune #602 lyrics by Rev. Norman Helm

O God who calls, creates, and leads,
Whose plan provides for all our needs;
Speak to us through our children we pray,
And to all children every day.

(sung twice)
SERMON SCRIPTURE  
Matthew 14:22-33  
(Pew Bible page 796)  
Pete Graham

REFLECTION  
“Let it Go”  
Rev. Remick

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE  
Pete Graham

MUSIC RESPONSE  # 306  
“Hear Our Prayer, O Lord”

Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord  
Incline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace. Amen

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS  
Nancy Hubbard

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

Chancel Choir Anthem  
“Be Merciful Unto Me, O God”  
Mark Murphy

Be merciful unto me, O God, for my soul trusteth in Thee.  
Under the shadow of Thy wings shall be my refuge.  
My soul is ready, O God: my soul is ready.

*DOXOLOGY (Unison)

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)  
Nancy Hubbard

O God, we confess that we often come to this place with questions and uncertainties instead of faith and hope. But always we come with gratitude for the gift of life and the abundance that is ours. Grant us the grace to respond to our bounty and blessings with generosity, that others might know of Your love through us. Amen.

*CLOSING SONG  
“10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)”  
Jonas Myrin & Matt Redman
(JoySpring Folder #1)

*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.)

Join us for refreshments and fellowship after worship!
Our children and many adults are making pies again this morning as part of our Great Pie Challenge! We will be sharing these pies with needy families around Thanksgiving, as well as making them available after church on Sunday, Nov. 24th.

Nancy Hubbard greeted you this morning and served as liturgist. Liz Jaroski and Rhona Naddamba are Deacons of the day.

*The Call to Worship this morning is taken from-Thomas Harding, ed., Worship for All Seasons: Selections from Gathering for Pentecost, Summer, Autumn (Toronto: United Church Publishing House, 1994)

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS FOR NOV. 17, 2019

Continued Prayers: Robert Aldrich; Megan Huber’s mother Fran Kelly; Marie Murphy’s son Craig Jernberg; Nancy Uhlman; Cathie Achorn’s friend Julie Noble and her preemie baby Kosmas Andrew Melitas; CJ Harris (Marge Butcher’s grandnephew); Dianne Domeij; Nancy Reimann and Judy Kaprelian; Cathie Achorn’s mother Dee Mumby; Lauren Algelro undergoing cancer treatments; Bob Brown; Gini & Tom Erwin; Wendy Reardon’s mother, Sandy; Anna Gavel, granddaughter/cousin of Karen Gavel and the Oevermanns; Linda Polatka (Cathie Achorn’s sister); Ron and Nancy Clark’s daughter, Melissa Dickinson.

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

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING BASKETS
Thanksgiving is fast approaching and the number of families in need in Westborough is growing. We are asking for our congregation’s help. The Interfaith Thanksgiving program is seeking donations of $25 gift cards. These are used by families to supplement the two bags of ‘fixings’, by giving them the means to buy a fresh turkey for Thanksgiving dinner. You can purchase a grocery card from our church and donate to the cause thus helping our neighbors and our own church. Gift cards will be collected through November 17th for distribution to needy families. Thank you so much for your consideration of this worthy mission. Please contact Megan Huber at meganhuber@aol.com if you have any questions.

THANKSGIVING DISPLAY
The Flower Committee is asking for donations of pumpkins, vegetables, gourds, apples etc. for the Thanksgiving table in the Sanctuary on Sunday, November 24th. There is a box in the library to put your items in.

HALLMARK ORNAMENTS
Our church received a very generous donation of new, in-the-box Hallmark ornaments. We are selling after church. No set prices – make a donation. Thanks, Diane Lindberg
There are only 20 days until the fabulous Evergreen Christmas Fair on Dec. 7, 2019. Please sign up on the poster in the library to let us know what you can do to help with the fair. We are getting a little worried as we can’t do it all ourselves. PLEASE sign up after church today. Thank you, Linda Borglund, Cathie Achorn and Sandy Horton.

49th ANNUAL WESTBOROUGH COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER
The 49th Westborough 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; free transportation is available! To make your reservation or schedule a ride, please call the Westboro Senior Center at 508-366-3000. Last year, over 125 individuals and families volunteered their time to make the event successful. We need volunteers to serve on both the day before, Wed, Nov. 27 and Thurs, Nov. 28 Thanksgiving Day. If you can volunteer, please contact Annie Pucciarelli by Mon. Nov. 25th at 508-366-2852 or Thanksgiving01581@gmail.com. This event is what makes Westborough a special community!

GIVING TREE AND SANTA’S ELVES PROGRAMS
HO HO HO!!! Do we have your attention??? I know you haven’t even eaten your turkey yet, but tags for our 2019 Westborough Interfaith Giving Tree and Framingham Department of Children and Families’ Santa’s Elves programs will be available starting TODAY 11/17, and then again on 11/24, and 12/1. We are hanging 150 tags this year, but the need is greater than ever. Wouldn’t it be great if we could ask for more tags and match what we have done in the past...nearly 300 tags last year!!! Gifts of all types for children of all ages are available and are expected to be about $25 each.
Need a gift for the person who has everything? Donate a gift in their honor to a child in need this holiday season. Don’t like to shop? Make a donation and we will do the shopping for you.
Important details:

- ALL tags must be SIGNED OUT. Please see an adult or youth member of our Missions Team to sign out the tags at the tables after choosing a tag(s) off the trees.
- All WRAPPED gifts are due back to the church vestry by 11AM on Sunday December 8th.
If you have any questions please contact Kathy Reynolds (774-262-4326) kreyolds118@comcast.net. Thank you in advance for your generous support of these great missions!

DISMAS HOUSE
Our church goes on the first Thursday of the month to cook and serve a meal with the people of Dismas House, a home for ex-prisoners. If you would like to help, be in touch with Karen Hutchinson at millarhutch@aol.com. The next dinner will be Thursday, Dec. 5th. Donations of Stop & Shop cards are greatly appreciated to help with the shopping for the meals! Thank you.
GROCERY CARD PROJECT

2019 Goal: $8,000

2019 YTD: $5,097.30

We’re ready! We are stocked up with a variety of denominations of grocery gift cards. Great Pie Challenge? Be sure to purchase a grocery gift card donation here. Interfaith Thanksgiving Baskets? We’re ready for that too! We will be sure to get your donation to whichever project you wish to support. And don’t forget your own Thanksgiving shopping. 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.

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

Nov 17
10:00 AM Worship Service & FF
11:15 AM Kid’s bells & Chimes
11:30 AM Music Committee
11:30 AM Book Discussion/Chapel
2:30 PM GSA/vestry

Nov 18
11:00 & 1:30PM PCC/Fannie Forbes Rm.
7:00 PM Bow making/vestry
7:30 PM AA/Nursery

Nov 19
10:00 AM Staff Meeting
10AM - Noon W.F. craft workshop
11:00 AM PCC/Fannie Forbes Rm
2:00 PM Worship planning/nursery
7:00 PM Festival Ringers
7:00 PM Cabinet/Kerygma
7:45-8:45 PM JoySpring rehearsal

Nov 20
9:15 AM
6:30-7:45 PM
7:00 PM
7:45-8:45 PM

Nov 21
Noon–2:00PM
2-3:00 PM

Nov 22

Nov 23

Nov 24
9:00 AM
10:00 AM
11:15 AM

Wednesday
Playgroup/Nursery
Choir rehearsal
Cabinet/Kerygma
JoySpring rehearsal

Thursday
Interfaith Clergy/Kerygma Rm
PCC/Fannie Forbes

Friday (no events)

Saturday (no events)

Sunday
Faith Explorers/Kerygma Rm.
Worship Service & FF
Kid’s bells & Chimes

GREAT PIE SALE