Happy Thanksgiving

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. 24, 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 Congregation is invited to stand.

INVITING THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Sue O. Remick

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

* OPENING HYMN # 276 “We Gather Together” KREMSER
acc. by Parkman Bells & Jubilant Chimes

*CALL TO WORSHIP  Pete Graham
Leader:  Stars spin across the sky and the dawn slides into day.
People:  God the Creator calls us to new awareness.
Leader:  The ocean pulses with life and even starfish seem to dance.
People:  God the Maker calls us to thankfulness.
Leader:  Babies crawl, friends call and the older teaches the younger how to wink.
People:  God the Friend calls us to share a smile and tend the wounds.
Leader:  A sudden stillness, a quiet moment, a deep prayer, a persistent yearning.
People:  God, the End of our longing, calls us to worship with hearts filled with deep quiet and contagious joy.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Please be seated.)  Pete Graham
O God, our Creator, You are truly worthy of praise. We thank You for Your great faithfulness every day of our lives, and for the many blessings we have received. We are glad to gather here this day so that we might show You our thankfulness. Move us towards an even greater gratitude of Your goodness and hospitality towards others as You continue to show us how to be Your faithful disciples. In Jesus' name we pray, using the words he taught us to say.....

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.
JOYSPRING ANTHEM
“Indescribable” Laura Story and Jesse Reeves

From the highest of heights to the depths of the sea,
Creation's revealing Your majesty.
From the colors of Fall to the fragrance of Spring,
Ev'ry creature unique in the song that it sings, All exclaiming:

Indescribable, uncontainable; You placed the stars in the sky,
And You know them by name. You are amazing God;
All powerful, untamable; Awestruck, we fall to our knees
As we humbly proclaim: You are amazing, God.

Who has told ev'ry lightning bolt where it should go,
Or seen heavenly storehouses laden with snow?
Who imagined the sun and gives source to its light,
Yet conceals it to bring us the coolness of night? None can fathom.

Indescribable, uncontainable; You placed the stars in the sky,
And You know them by name. You are amazing God;
Incomp'rable, unchangeable; You see the depths of my heart
And You love me the same. You are amazing, God.

SERMON SCRIPTURE Philippians 4:4-9 Pete Graham
(Pew Bible page 955)

REFLECTION “You Don’t Know What You’ve Got” Rev. Remick

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Pete Graham

A THANKSGIVING LITANY #716

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS Karen Gavel
Invitation: Let us bring our offerings before God with thanksgiving!

Chancel Choir Anthem “Song of Thanksgiving and Praise” Tom Fettke

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies;
Lord of all, to Thee we raise our hymn of gratitude and praise.
For the wonder of each hour, and the wonder of the night,
Sun and moon and stars of light;
Lord of all, to Thee we raise our hymn of praise.

This is my Father's world, and to my list'ning ears
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world: O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the Ruler yet.

For Thyself, best gift divine, to the world so freely given;
For that great, great love of Thine;
God of all, to Thee we raise our hymn of praise.
Our hymn of grateful praise. Alleluia!

*DOXOLOGY (Unison)
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison) Karen Gavel
We bring our gifts with gratitude for the opportunity to give. We thank You, O Lord, for the bounty that is ours and for the freedom we have to worship as we choose. We are grateful for the endless choices that are ours to ponder and partake of. We bring our gifts with hearts full of thanksgiving for all the many blessings before us. Help us to walk with an attitude of gratitude. Amen.

*CLOSING SONG #715 “Now Thank We All Our God” NUN DANKET

*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 THE GREAT PIE SALE downstairs after worship!

Karen Gavel greeted you this morning and served as liturgist.
Steve Achorn and Elaine Moore are Deacons of the day.
**PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS FOR NOV. 24, 2019**

**New Prayers:** Kristy Kocou; Cheryl Toole’s mother Patricia (GiGi) Brand.  
**Continued Prayers:** Robert Aldrich; 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; 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**

**LOOKING AHEAD**

Please be advised that on Christmas Eve, we will have only one service of Lessons and Carols at 7:00 pm. The family service will be the Pageant which will be on Sunday, Dec. 22nd at 5 pm. Spread the word!

**INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE**

Please join us this Tuesday, Nov. 26th at 7:30 PM for the Interfaith Thanksgiving service. This year it will be at St. Luke’s Church, 70 West Main St, Westboro.

**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!

**CHRISTMAS FAIR NEWS**

Please sign up on the poster in the library today. Many hands make light work and we need more hands. If you can bake, donate jewelry, donate grandma’s attic white elephant items, donate silent auction items or you can work on the wreaths the week before, starting Dec.2 please let us know. Several people donated stop and shop cards last week. Thank you so much. We could use another one. Just stop in between Dec. 1-6 and we can put you to work on a variety of projects. Thank you in advance you Fair Chairs, Linda, Sandy and Cathie 508-380-8671
UPDATE - GIVING TREE AND SANTA’S ELVES PROGRAMS

HO HO HO!!! Do we have your attention??? We 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 again TODAY 11/24 and then again on 12/1. Last week we put out 78 tags and only 4 were left at the end of the morning! We have 75 more tags hanging this today and there are more needy families awaiting our generosity should we run out! 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 have time 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) kreynolds118@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: $5,311.30

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
CALENDAR

**Nov 24**  
**Sunday**  
9:00 AM  Faith Explorers/Kerygma Rm.  
10:00 AM  Worship Service & FF  
11:15 AM  Kid’s bells & Chimes

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**GREAT PIE SALE**

**Nov 25**  
**Monday** (office closed)  
11:00 & 1:30PM  PCC/Fannie Forbes Rm.  
6:30 PM  BSA Pack/Vestry  
6:30 PM  BSA Leader Mtg/Kerygma  
7:30 PM  AA/Nursery

**Nov 26**  
**Tuesday**  
11:00 AM  PCC/Fannie Forbes Rm  
7:30 PM  Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at St. Luke’s

**Nov 27**  
**Wednesday**  
9:15 AM  Playgroup/Nursery

**Nov 28**  
**Thursday**

**Nov 29**  
**Friday** (no events)

**Nov 30**  
**Saturday** (no events)

**Dec 1**  
**Advent I Communion Sunday**  
10:00 AM  Worship Service & FF  
11:15 AM  Kid’s bells & Chimes  
2:30 PM  GSA/Vestry
POINSETTIAS

The Flower Committee is taking orders for poinsettias for display in the Sanctuary on Sunday, December 22nd. Plants will be delivered to octogenarians and shut-ins. Send your order and check (made out to "The Congregational Church of Westborough" noting Flower Committee on memo section) to the church office by Friday, Dec. 13th.

BY FRIDAY, DEC. 13TH

#________ of plants at $12 each. $__________ total

Plants are given (please note which) in memory of or in honor of:
(Please print clearly)

FOR: __________________________ FROM: __________________________
______________________________
______________________________
______________________________