

# The Congregational Church of Westborough

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

57 West Main, Westborough, Massachusetts 01581

November 5, 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

Nov. 5, 2023

All Saints Day

*\*The Congregation is invited to stand.*

## GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS (shown online and on the sanctuary screens)

9:45 AM

PRELUDE

INTROIT

"Eat This Bread"  
Chancel Choir

Taizé

CHURCH BELLS TO CALL US

10:00 AM

## INVITING THE WORD

WELCOME

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Amber Bock

One: We have come to affirm our historic faith.

**Many: To worship the God of our mothers and fathers.**

One: We have come to remember God's benefits to us, the living.

**Many: To respond in Thanksgiving to the mighty works of God in our lives.**

\*OPENING HYMN #65

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

EIN' FESTE BURG

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

Amber Bock

**O Lord, we give You thanks for the joy of being part of the Communion of Saints who have gone before, and those scattered around the globe. Open us to Your Spirit, inspire us to continue being the saints You have called us to be. In Christ's name we pray and continue in prayer using the words He gave 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)

Amber Bock

**Beloved God, who was known to our mothers and fathers, and even to our spiritual forebears, have mercy on us. We do not always love as You would have us love. We do not always do as You would have us do. In our stubbornness, we turn from You when we should turn toward You. We praise You for the grace You shower upon us, constantly forgiving our errors. We are ready to try anew to live Your dream of love. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

**RECEIVING THE WORD**

A MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

*(Children leave to make pies)*

SCRIPTURES

Psalm 34:1-10,22

*(pew Bible pages 441 & 999)*

Revelation 7:9-17

SERMON

“Editing and Revising”

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

\*HYMN #637

“For All the Saints”

SINE NOMINE

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

PASTORAL PRAYER...Prayers for All Saints

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

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

Amber Bock

The morning offering will now be received.

Offertory

“Come to the Table”

Composed by Allen Pote

Chancel Choir

*Come, come, come to the table and bring your joy,  
Bring all your gladness and come, come, come to the table.  
Eat the bread, drink the wine, come rejoice in the Lord.*

*Bring all your sorrow, bring all your pain,  
Bring all the heartaches you bear:  
Bring who you are and hope to become,  
Come to the table to share.*

*Come, come, come to the table, remember Christ,  
Remember his love when you come, come, come to the table.*

*Come in faith, come to serve, come rejoice in the Lord.  
Share in the bread, share in the wine, share in the risen Lord.  
Share as a family, one in community, one in the name of the Lord.*

*Come, come, come to the table to follow Christ  
Forgiven and free, you must come, come, come to the table.  
Come in faith, come in love, come, rejoice in the Lord.*



“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)**

Amber Bock

**We lift up these offerings as a sign of our gratitude for Your love and care, O God. We pledge ourselves, time, talent, and treasure. We pray that we may follow in the spirit of the saints who gave their all to building up Your kingdom. We dedicate our lives to You and seek to grow in our faithfulness to Your word. Amen.**

**STEWARDSHIP MOMENT**

Amber Bock

**BEING THE CHURCH**

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

(Communion at our church is open to all. Gluten free wafers are in the prepackaged containers.)

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (as found on the inside cover of your hymn book)**

Amber Bock

**INVITATION**

**PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

**SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP**

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Unison)

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

**O Lord, we thank You for seating us at Your table with the whole Communion of Saints and for nourishing us with Your heavenly feast. Help us to look to the lives of the saints we've known throughout our lives for examples of Christian living. May our participation at Your table unite us more closely with all Your saints, those known to us and those with whom we share a mystical connection. Amen.**

\*CLOSING SONG

"My Lighthouse"  
JoySpring Songbook #16

Written by Rend Collective

\*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"Go Ye Now in Peace"  
JoySpring Songbook #25

Composed by Joyce Elaine Eilers

\*POSTLUDE

**Amber Bock** serves as liturgist today.

**Cathie** and **Steve Achorn** are deacons of the day.



Our children and adults are making pies this morning as part of our *Great Pie Challenge!*

## 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; Dennis in hospice (friend of Deb and Rich Boucher).

## Announcements

### STEWARDSHIP 2024

This year the church will be celebrating Stewardship Sunday on November 19. By the time this message is in print, the church's members and friends should have received the 2024 stewardship mailing, which includes letters from Reverend Betsy and the Mission Committee as well as the budget projections developed by the Board of Trustees. Many pledgers send in their pledges in advance of Stewardship Sunday, for which we are deeply grateful; however, people's in-person, Sunday service attendance is an opportunity for us to bring our pledges forward and celebrate our support as a congregation. Please join us if you are able. If you have any questions about the materials you received, please contact Dave Smith.



### GREAT PIE CHALLENGE

Please bring in your donations to help us reach our goal of 150 pies for the Curtis Family Thanksgiving Project! Donations can be left in the box in the church kitchen. We would be grateful for: ***Apples, Flour, Canned Pumpkin (NOT pumpkin pie mix), Canned Evaporated Milk (NOT sweetened condensed milk), Vanilla.***

On November 5, 12, and 19th, we will be making pies in the vestry. Bring a friend and join us for pie-making fun!

### 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.

### VETERAN'S DAY SERVICE

On Sunday, November 12, we will be honoring our veterans during our Sunday Worship. If you or a family member have served, please let us know so that we can prepare to share our thanks. Email Amy Glennon (amyjglennon@gmail.com) with any names to add to our list. Thank you!

### 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.

### 52<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL WESTBOROUGH COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

The 52<sup>nd</sup> 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. 17<sup>th</sup>. This event is what makes Westborough a special community!

### LEFT OVER HALLOWEEN CANDY

If you have left over Halloween candy or can purchase it at a discount now that Halloween is over, the women's fellowship can use it to fill mugs for the fair. Please leave the candy in a box in the church library. Thank you, your Christmas fair Tri- chairs, Cathie Achorn, Sandy Horton, Linda Borglund



Pie making

## November 5<sup>th</sup> – November 12<sup>th</sup>

**Nov 5**                      **Communion Sunday**  
10:00 AM                  Worship & Sunday School

**Nov 6**                      **Monday – closed**  
6:30 PM                    W.F. Meeting/vestry

**Nov 7**                      **Tuesday**  
10:00 AM                  Willows & Whitney Place  
7-8 PM                      Bells Rehearse

**Nov 8**                      **Wednesday**  
9:00 AM                    Weavers  
6:30-7:30 PM              Choir Rehearsal

**Nov 9**                      **Thursday**  
6:30 PM                    Trustees/Kerygma Rm

**Nov 10**                    **Friday**  
6-10 PM                    Vestry in use

**Nov 11**                    **Saturday**  
9:00 AM                    Men's breakfast

**Nov 12**                    **Veteran's Sunday**  
10:00 AM                  Worship & Sunday School

Pie making