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

Dec 8, 2019
WELCOME!
Are you visiting with us today? We are glad you are here!
We celebrate “OPEN DOORS and GROWING FAITH”
“No matter who you are or where you are on your journey, you are welcome here.”

If you are here for a brief visit or are searching, let us be of help. Speak to an usher or the pastor and we will gladly be of service.

Our restrooms are located beyond the vestry on the first floor. There is a handicapped elevator located in the back of the sanctuary and a deacon will be glad to assist you. We have a handicapped bathroom next to the main office near the parking lot on the first floor.

Should there be a need to leave the service, there are exits to either side of the pulpit in front, or the stairs on either side in the back.

We celebrate open communion on the first Sunday of the month, where everyone is welcome to partake. Children are invited as well.

We welcome children to remain in worship today however we also offer a children’s program each Sunday in the nursery for children in grades 3 or younger and faith formation for older children most Sundays. We offer crayons and coloring pages for those who wish to keep their fingers moving during the service and we are comfortable with children being children! If your children need to move about, please feel free to stand in the back or go downstairs where the service can be heard over our speaker system.

WE HOPE YOU WILL BE INSPIRED AND PRAYERFULLY FILLED IN OUR SERVICE OF WORSHIP and that YOU WILL FEEL WELCOMED, AS ONE WHO BELONGS!

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

Dec. 8, 2019  Second Sunday of Advent  10:00 AM

*The Congregation is invited to stand.

INVITING THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS  Rev. Sue O. Remick

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH - The candle of PEACE -The Earth’s Candle
Readers: Sue Menzel, Cameron & Amy Glennnon

People’s Prayer: Merciful God, we give thanks that You send messengers like John to call us to greater faith. We ask that in these days we prepare for You in prayer and acts of holy compassion. Forgive us and lead us to Your light or deep PEACE. Amen.

People (sing): (# 122 Comfort, Comfort You My People v. 2)
For the herald’s voice is calling in the desert far and near, bidding us to make repentance since the reign of God is here. O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God. away; let the alleys rise in meeting and the hills bow down in greeting.

*GREETING  (During flu season, remember to limit handshaking. Bows, Elbow bumps, or a wave are great)

*SONG #139  “All Earth Is Waiting”  TAULE

*CALL TO WORSHIP  Amy Glennon
Leader:  Listen. Deep in the darkest night is the sound of hope.
People:  Deep in the midst of despair is a message of new life.
Leader:  Listen. It is coming closer.
People:  A bell in the distance for peace,
Leader:  A sound of joy from the laughter of children,
People:  An echo of love from the Holy One,
Leader:  A note of promise from the Word,
People:  A melody of praise throughout.
Leader:  Listen.
PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Please be seated.)

Come, Lord Jesus, come. Come into our midst. Come into our hearts. Come into our homes and our community, into our schools and workplaces. May we welcome You everywhere, making room for You, preparing for You, anticipating Your arrival with joy and reverence. We commit this season of Advent to becoming ready. Shine Your light in those nooks and crannies we keep in the shadows. Sweep the cobwebs from our long-hidden doubt and fear. Repair our torn and wounded places. We long for Your arrival. Come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen.

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.

SCRIPTURE

John 1:6–8, 8–11

(Pew Bible page 862)

YOUTH’S MESSAGE

(The children and youth will bring forward the animals for the creche)
All children and youth will leave for Faith Formation at this time.

RECEIVING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Luke 10:38-42

(Pew Bible page 845)

JoySpring Anthem

“Hope Was Born This Night” Ben McDonald and Dave Frey

Tonight I can see a star shine and its splendor fills up the sky.
It’s the same that appeared and the wise men revered
When Hope was born this night
Out upon the snowy fields there’s a silent peace that heals.
And it echoes the grace of our Savior’s embrace
Because Hope was born this night.

Glory to God in the highest! Peace on earth, goodwill to men.
Let all of the world sing the chorus of joy
Because Hope was born this night.
I can hear the Christmas bells ring as softly a church choir sings.
It's the song used to praise the Ancient of Days
When Hope was born this night.
There are angels in this place and my heart resounds in the praise.
Like a shepherd, so scared, I'll rejoice and declare
That Hope was born this night.

SERMON
"Making A List"
Rev. Remick

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

MUSIC RESPONSE  # 122  "Comfort, Comfort You My People"
Comfort, comfort you my people, tell of peace, thus says or God; comfort those who sit in
darkness bowed beneath oppression’s load. Speak you to Jerusalem of the peace that waits
for them; tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over.

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Invitation: Gracious God, we thank You for this season of carols and gifts, and for Your
most precious gift of Jesus. We offer You our lives and these gifts: our hopes and our hearts
as the morning offering is given and received.

CHANCEL CHOIR & STRING ENSEMBLE “Ave Verum Corpus” Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Ave verum Corpus natum de Maria Virgine;
Vere passum immolatum in cruce pro homine.
Cujus latus perforatum unda fluxit et sanguine;
Esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine.

Hail, true Body, truly born of the Virgin Mary;
Really suffered on the cross for man.
Whose side water and blood;
Be a foretaste of death.

String Ensemble: Malika Das, Marie-Anna Das, Katherine O’Toole, Alison Regnier, Sarah Regnier

*DOXOLOGY (Unison)
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)  
Amy Glennon

God of great gifts and great love, as we await the birth of Your son in hope and peace and joy and love, may our gratitude be reflected in the gifts we give. Because of our generosity, might others know of the babe, born in a manger — and in our hearts anew. Amen.

*CLOSING SONG #125  “Come, O Long Expected Jesus”  
HYFRYDOL

*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 fellowship and refreshments downstairs after worship!

Member of the Bells, Sue Menzel, Amy & Cameron Glennon are Advent readers and liturgists this morning.  
Steve Achorn and Elaine Moore are Deacons of the day.

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PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS FOR DEC 8, 2019

Continued Prayers: For Betty and Ted’s family in the unexpected death of a nephew Scott and for families as they travel to Delaware; for their niece Heather and her family; continued prayers for Mike and Stephanie; Kristy Kocou; Cheryl Toole’s mother Patricia (GiGi) Brand 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.
**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**
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. 22\(^{nd}\) at 5 pm. Spread the word!

**ANNUAL COOKIE WALK – DEC 22\(^{ND}\)**
The Annual Cookie Walk fundraiser for the music program will take place immediately following the Children's Pageant on Sunday, December 22\(^{nd}\). If you need last minute cookies for your guests, the cookie walk is a great time to stock up. Anyone willing to bake a couple dozen cookies or bars (i.e. brownies, cranberry bars, turtles) should leave them in the kitchen before the morning service. Thank you. The Music Committee
- Arranged on a plate, ready to serve
- Labeled what kind of treat
- Nuts/no nuts, gluten free

**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, Jan 2\(^{nd}\). 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: $ 5,701.55
We’re ready! We’ve stocked up on Grocery Cards so that you can do all of your Christmas grocery shopping at Stop and Shop, Roche Bros. or Price Chopper. Every dollar we earn supports the Operation Budget of our Church. Please help us help the Church by having a grocery card in your wallet. Bring your checkbook to church and we’ll be waiting for you in the vestry. 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dec 8</th>
<th>Advent II - Sunday</th>
<th>Dec 12</th>
<th>December (no scheduled events)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Worship Service &amp; FF</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Worshop Service &amp; FF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 AM</td>
<td>Kid’s bells &amp; Chimes</td>
<td>11:15 AM</td>
<td>Kid’s bells &amp; Chimes</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>GSA/Vestry</td>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>GSA/Vestry</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>GSA/Kerygma Rm</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>GSA/Kerygma Rm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 9</td>
<td>Monday (office closed)</td>
<td>Dec 13</td>
<td><strong>Friday</strong> Set up for House Tour/Vestry</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>PCC Board/Kerygma Room</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 &amp; 1:30PM</td>
<td>PCC/Fannie Forbes</td>
<td>11AM-5PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>AA/Nursery</td>
<td>1PM-4PM</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>BSA/Kerygma Rm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 10</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Dec 14</td>
<td><strong>Saturday</strong> Women’s Club Holiday House Tour.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>PCC/Fannie Forbes</td>
<td>9AM-Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Trustees/Kerygma Rm</td>
<td>11AM-5PM</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1PM-4PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 11</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Dec 15</td>
<td><strong>Advent III</strong> Worship Service &amp; FF</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15 AM</td>
<td>Playgroup/Nursery</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Kid’s bells &amp; Chimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 AM</td>
<td>Called to Care/office</td>
<td>11:15 AM</td>
<td>GSA/Vestry</td>
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<td>2:30 PM</td>
<td>Parish Life Caroling &amp; Pizza</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4:30 PM</td>
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### 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

![Poinsettia icon](image)

**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:**

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

__________________________________________