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

February 16, 2020
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
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)
Rev. Remick

*OPENING HYMN # 719 “Come, Sing a Song of Harvest” CHRISTUS, DER IST MEIN LEBEN

*CALL TO WORSHIP Wendy Reardon

Leader: Why are we here?

People: We are here to receive God’s Spirit, to see visions with the eagerness of youth, to dream dreams with the confidence of age, to hear the word of the Lord through all the people of God.

Leader: Come, then, expecting the wind of the Spirit to open closed windows, to make fresh breezes blow. Seek, and you will find. Listen, and you will hear.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Please be seated.) Wendy Reardon

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. Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER (Debts) Wendy Reardon

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.
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

It is our joy to welcome Michael and Kathryn Rinaldo As they bring their son to be baptized this morning.

Evan Michael Rinaldo

ADDRESS

PROMISES OF THE PARENTS

PROMISE OF THE CONGREGATION

We receive this child as a new person in Christ whose body we are as The Congregational Church of Westborough. We offer our understanding and support as Evan explores life, and enfold him in our love, seeking to help him grow in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and all people. We join with his parents in living Christ’s ways so that he 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)

(Children and Youth will go to Faith Formation)

RECEIVING THE WORD

CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM

“Hush! Somebody’s Callin’ My Name” Spiritual, arr. Brazeal W. Dennard

Hush! Somebody's callin' my name.
Oh, my Lord, oh, my Lord, what shall I do?
I'm so glad that trouble don't last always.
Oh, my Lord, oh, my Lord, what shall I do?
I'm so glad I got my 'ligion in time.
Oh, my Lord, oh, my Lord, what shall I do?

Soon one mornin' death come creepin' in my room.
Oh, my Lord, oh, my Lord, what shall I do?

SCRIPTURE LESSON
Matthew 6:1-8, 16-21
(Rev. Remick)

SERMON
“What’s In Your Wallet?”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS
Invitation: Just as the waters of the earth are abundant and full of life, so are the blessings God pours upon us daily. Let us now joyfully offer our tithes, pledges, and offerings with the hope that they may enable others to feel immersed in God’s love.

Bell Choir Anthem “In the Bleak Midwinter” (vs. 1&4)

v. 1 In the bleak mid-winter
Frosty wind made moan;
Earth stood hard as iron,
Water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
Snow on snow,
In the bleak mid-winter
Long ago.

v. 4 Angels and Archangels
May have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim
Thronged the air;
But only His Mother
In her maiden bliss
Worshipped the Beloved
With a kiss.

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

*Prayer of Dedication (Unison)*

Source of life, may the words of our mouths bring You joy. May the works of our hands bring You honor. May the life we live reflect the risen Word of life and may the service and gifts we offer be blessed by the Breath of life. Amen.

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*CLOSING SONG  “Word of God Speak”
(JoySpring Praise and Worship Songbook, #21)

*BENEDICTION

*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.)

Brad Ridley greeted you this morning and served as liturgists.
Deacons of the day are Linda Birch and Marketa Rosecka.

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS FOR FEBRUARY 16, 2020

New Prayers: Jennifer Hossack and family on the recent passing of her Dad, George.
Continued Prayers: Dorothy Collins; 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; Nancy Reimann; Cathie Achorn’s mother Dee Mumby; Bob Brown; Gini & Tom Erwin; Anna Gavel, granddaughter/cousin of Karen Gavel and the Oevermanns; Linda Polatka (Cathie Achorn’s sister).

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

Let’s Get Ready for Lent…
“Congregational Cook & Bake Off”
NEXT SUNDAY, FEB. 23RD DURING COFFEE HOUR!

Now is YOUR time to shine! Share your family’s secret recipe:
chili, fried chicken, ribs... AND your favorite desserts!

The Mission Trip Team will be hosting & the Faith Formation will be making our famous gumbo! Of course it’s not Mardi Gras without a King’s Cake!
So please, come bring your favorite dish to share and let’s party...Mardi Gras style!

Everyone will take part in “blind-judging” all dishes and desserts and PRIZES will be awarded to our favorites in each category!
LOOKING AHEAD

February 19th - Evangel Deadline
February 26th - Ash Wednesday Service, 7PM in the Chapel
February 29th - Parish Life Leap Year Potluck Supper, 6PM in the vestry
March 2nd – Women’s Fellowship Program, open to everyone, details to come.

FLOWER COMMITTEE

It’s always nice to have special flowers on the chancel! If you would like to dedicate flowers in honor or in memory of another individual, please put your name next to the Sunday you want on the flower chart hanging in the vestry or speak to Nancy Gage@ 508-366-9266. There are instructions on a table near the flower chart.

NEW DATE FOR DISMAS HOUSE DINNERS!

Our church goes once a 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 this Tuesday, Feb 25th Donations of Stop & Shop cards are greatly appreciated to help with the shopping for the meals! Thank you.

GROCERY CARD PROJECT

2020 Goal $7,000
YTD: $ 617.75

Great Start! Thanks shoppers. We’re 1/12th through our budget year and almost 1/12 to our goal. Don’t stop now. It would be just fine to surpass our goal. If your travels take you past a Stop and Shop with a gas station, you can fill up using your Stop and Shop gift card. Try it. 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
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Baptism</td>
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<td>Worship Service &amp; FF</td>
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<td>Feb 17</td>
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<td>Festival Ringers</td>
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<td>Feb 19</td>
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<td>Evangel Deadline</td>
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<td>Playgroup/Nursery</td>
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<td>Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>Cabinet/Kerygma</td>
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<td>JoySpring Rehearsal</td>
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<td>Mardi Gras Lunch</td>
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