

The Congregational Church of Westborough

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

57 West Main, Westborough, Massachusetts 01581

August 10, 2025



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 – Rev.Betsy.Dorsi@uccwestboro.org
Joseph Stillitano, Director of Music – Joseph.Stillitano@uccwestboro.org
Linda Borglund, Director of Christian Ed – Linda.Borglund@uccwestboro.org
Sue Menzel, Director of Bells – westcongmusic@gmail.com
Lisa Coffey, Administrator – Lisa.Coffey@uccwestboro.org
Ariana Dello Stritto, Communications Coordinator - Ariana.DelloStritto@uccwestboro.org

Office hours: Monday – Closed, Tuesday – Friday 9am – 1pm
Church office phone (508)366-2000

General Church email – info@uccwestboro.org Church website- www.uccwestboro.org
www.facebook.com/TheCongregationalChurchofWestborough
<https://www.instagram.com/uccwestboro/>

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**

Aug 10, 2025

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

**The Congregation is invited to stand.*

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS (SHOWN ONLINE AND ON THE CHAPEL SCREENS) 9:45 AM

PRELUDE "Bridge Over Troubled Water" Paul Simon
arr. Jon Michael Ogletree

CHURCH BELLS TO CALL US 10:00 AM

INVITING THE WORD

WELCOME Rev. Betsy Dorsi

*CALL TO WORSHIP Kathy Todd

One: The Lord told Abram to travel to a new country; He knew not how far or where.

Many: God calls us to serve his people, we know not how or how many.

One: God calls us to be bold and strong and ready for the race is long.

Many: We come to Worship the God who calls and to grow strong in community and to be guided by His Word.

All: Come, let us Worship the God who calls.

*OPENING HYMN #284 "Gather Us In" GATHER US IN

*GATHERING PRAYER (unison) Kathy Todd

Jesus, You gathered us as a church for a purpose. Guide us now by the hearing and pondering of Your Word so our hearts may be open and hear the details of Your call. Make us of one resolve and strengthen us to do the work that awaits us here in our community. We ask this through the name of Jesus and we continue in prayer using the words He taught 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.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Kathy Todd

Holy One, You called each of us into a holy relationship with You and with each other. You ask us to serve the poor around us. Have mercy on us when we care more about what You promised to us Your children than we care about your poor children in our midst. Forgive us for spending time worrying about our future and not enough concern and time making the lives of the poor easier. Help us put action first in our lives. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RECEIVING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 11:1-3,8-16

(pew bible pg. 977)

SERMON

“The Conviction of Things Not Seen”

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

*HYMN #535

“Faith, While Trees Are Still in Blossom”

KINGDOM

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Invitation Let us bring our offerings before God with thanksgiving!

The morning offering will now be received.

Kathy Todd

Offertory

“As the Deer”

Martin Nystrom
arr. Douglas E. Wagner



“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)

Kathy Todd

Almighty God, please accept our gifts of treasures and selves; all You ask of us and all we have to offer. Use these gifts for the good of Your people who lean on You for sustenance. Amen.

BEING THE CHURCH

*CLOSING HYMN #452

“Here I Am, Lord”

HERE I AM, LORD

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

“Come, Christians Join to Sing”

arr. Mark Hayes

Allyn Phelps is filling in for Joe Stillitano during the summer.

Kathy Todd serves as liturgist.

Pam Faustine and **Charlotte Bramley** are deacons of the day.

Prayers

New Prayers: Elaine Moore’s cousin’s daughter Vanessa Freiman.

Continued Prayers: Adam Beckloff, Linda Birch’s nephew; Carolyn Bent; Diane Travers; Judy Ellis’s daughter, Syreeta Peddlesden; Ron, brother-in-law to Betty & Ted; Betty Simino; Donna Morgan’s nephew, Peter Jacunski; The family of Grover Morgan, Jr., Tom’s brother; Paula Tashjian; Debbie Grega – Amy Glennon’s mother; Betty Gray’s niece Heather; Art Smith; Isley Skye Mackendrick; Bev & Doug Hall; Steve Achorn’s cousin, Gabriel DeRaps; Cathie Achorn’s sister-in-law, Lorie Mumby; Marge Butcher’s grandson David Butcher Jr. and her granddaughter Meghan Donovan

Beaumont: Marge Butcher

SUMMER COFFEE HOUR [BYO Keurig Cups]

For the summer, there will be a single-cup Keurig machine in the kitchen, for those who would like to bring their own K-cups.

MISSIONS - EARN-A-BIKE PROGRAM

Earn-a-Bike is a non-profit, community bicycle shop in Worcester teaching people bicycle maintenance while enabling them to earn a bike. Their mission is to promote education programs to facilitate bicycle use, repair and rehabilitation for improved health and well-

being in the community. They encourage bike riding as an empowering, economical and healthy alternative to cars. If anyone has an old bicycle that they would like to donate (any condition except no rust), please contact Doug Wales or Pam Faustine and we will get the bikes to Worcester.

MISSIONS

Westboro Food Pantry - For the month of **August**, the Westborough Food Pantry is in need the following items pasta, pasta sauce & beef stew. Let's fill the white box so it's overflowing! Your donations go directly to Westborough residents who are facing food insecurity. Thank you for your support. The Mission Team

Dismas House – Do you like to cook for people who really appreciate your efforts? If so, please consider making a meal for the men at Dismas House. The men are working towards re-assimilating back into a normal life with friends and family after time in prison. They really love home cooked meals. If you can cook a meal but can't deliver it, we can probably arrange to bring the meal. If you are a first-timer, one of our team can go with you. You can stay for dinner with the men or simply deliver the meal. Nothing fancy, just a tasty meal. If you can help, please contact Pam Faustine at 978-505-7031 or pfaustine@princeton-ma.us

WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICES ON WESTBOROUGH TV

Exciting news from our collaboration with Westborough TV! Our Sunday services will be replayed TWICE a week every week. You'll be able to watch us on **Mondays at 6:30PM** (please note, this is a half hour later than we have been), and again on **Thursdays at 6:30PM**. As a reminder, we're on Verizon channel 2124 (High Definition) and Verizon 24 & Charter 191 (regular definition)

Summer Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

9AM – 1PM

Monday & Friday: Closed



