I’ve just had one of those days. Have you ever had one of those? You know, the kind that does not go according to plan? That plan you made when you woke up in the morning and planned good things? Instead, the opposite happens and you have a no good, horrible day. Have you ever had that happen?

When things don’t go according to plan, it can seem like a waterfall of wrong. One thing goes wrong, and then another, and another. It takes you down a different road; a scary unknown path, a difficult even possibly painful rabbit hole where your faith becomes fragile and your trust is tested. That is what happened to me. That is what can happen to us all.

I suppose I should say it was more than one day for me. In fact it was more like three weeks when I found myself in the hospital and then rehab recently, with sudden and somewhat worrisome symptoms. It certainly was not what I planned.

When this kind of dark day comes, we can get caught up in the common question, “Why me?” Fear can overcome us. Doubts can double us over and the darkness can seem darker.

When I am in these dark moments, I do three things. Four, if you count remembering to breathe.

First, I try to become still so I can remember to pray. It is often in the stillness that I can rework my questions from “Why me?” to “Why not me?” In the stillness, I become alert to the rearranging that God provides for me, from pride to humility, from entitlement to selflessness. There is nothing like walking around in a hospital Johnny to take your pride away.

In these scary hours, the prayers are short for me. “Please, Lord, show me the way” or, “Help.” Sometimes I pray, “I’d rather not Lord” and then I remember that Jesus prayed that prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane. Then I pray that God will help me to model faith as I face this horrible day.

Second, I try to wait. That is the hardest thing to do. I try to wait for God to reveal the blessing, reveal the direction I could take, or the posture I might hold, or the lesson I could learn. There is always something I can learn.

Finally, I get myself to church. In church, I am surrounded by community and the prayers of others. In church, I am re-set to what is important. In church, I can listen to the music even if I cannot sing and let it raise me up. In church, I can give thanks to God for you and for all that God is doing and will do. I always leave church grateful.

So, when you have one of those days or one of those months remember to breathe. Remember to be still long enough to pray and notice God’s work, and don’t forget to come to church if you can, or invite your friends in church to come to you, so we can praise God together in this month of harvest and gratitude.

AMEN

Rev. Sue
Dear Congregation –

Thank you for your prayerful consideration of our annual stewardship campaign. This is an important time for our church as we line up our expected contributions with our aspirations. As the congregation reflects on our search for a pastor, the Transition Team/Search Committee, Cabinet and Trustees are working to understand the appropriate balance between church needs, fiscal sustainability and strategic growth. A few highlights:

- We have committed to living in a balanced budget, as well as continuing to stay within a maximum yearly withdrawal of 4% or less from our endowment fund as income;
- the pastoral search gives the congregation the need to re-evaluate the tasks and responsibilities that they believe will fulfill its identity and vision; and
- based on the needs of the congregation, the Transition/Search Team, Cabinet and Trustees believe we should continue to assess and evolve in how to meet these needs, maximizing the church budget while remaining sustainable.
- Participation in the stewardship campaign is critical to fulfilling our vision. If we don't reach the needed contributions in our campaign, we'll need to prioritize the programs/activities/events/missions based on what we can afford.

In order to properly plan for the congregation’s identity and vision, we are inviting the congregation to voice their opinions on what makes the church, and what we value as we move forward.

- Your input helps ensure we have a cohesive approach in satisfying our vision.
- Furthermore, it is important for the congregation to understand that maintaining a realistic budget in light of the new pastor may lead to tough decisions including staffing and prioritization of activities.

How will we do this?

- the Transition Team has continued to collect data and build on last year’s visioning work;
- the Cabinet will begin asking committees for specific feedback concerning: core values and priorities within the committee, potential scenarios (e.g. changes in priorities, vision, how to engage the congregation in its growth, breakdown between staff and volunteer time, etc.); and
- the Trustees have been evaluating different scenarios regarding expected church income, pastor salary ranges and impacts on the sustainability of the budget and future growth.

These activities aim to provide information for the congregation for the Nov. 24th budget so that the members of the congregation can make informed decisions on the pastoral and church direction. To maximize congregation participation, several events are scheduled to allow for discussion and guidance to the Transition/Search Team, Cabinet and Trustees:

- Oct. 27th – Celebration Luncheon for gratitude and reflection: thankful for the gifts we’ve received and reflect on the vision of the church
- Congregational input opportunities after worship – we invite you to join us at one or more dates
  - Nov. 3rd
  - Nov 10th
  - Nov. 17th – Additional if needed
- Nov. 24th – Budget meeting after church

We look forward to hearing your input about the priorities for you in this congregation. Rev. Sue discussed in the last Stewardship letter about how we look for a sense of home; a place and a way that ignites the spirit, comforts pain, and is a community who believes in extravagant welcome. How can we be bold and generous givers to best position our church as this place and way? How can we do this through our time, talents and treasures? We ask for your prayers along this path, and your joyous participation in the rich community of this church in discerning where we are called to go, and in creating this place for each other.

Respectfully,

Board of Trustees, Brenda Lord, Brett Borglund, Dave Smith, Jack Glennon, Nick Perron
PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS

Bereavement: Ann Matson and family on the death of her husband John on Oct. 6th.
New Prayers: Robert Aldrich; Megan Huber’s mother Fran Kelly; Marie Murphy’s son Craig Jernberg.
Continued Prayers: Nancy Uhlman; Marge Butcher’s grandnephew CJ Harris; Cathie Achorn’s friend Julie Noble and her preemie baby Kosmas Andrew Melitas; Diane Domeij; Judy Oliver; Nancy Reimann; Judy Kaprelian; Cathie Achorn’s mother Dee Mumby; Bob Brown; Gini & Tom Erwin; Tom Morgan’s brother, Dave; Wendy Reardon’s mother Sandy; Anna Gavel; Ron and Nancy Clark’s daughter Melissa Dickinson.
Kindred Health Care: Bea Ladner

You can place prayer concerns on the church’s email distribution list at eprayers@uccwestboro.org. To add or renew an ongoing concern, please call the church office 366-2000 or westboroucc@verizon.net

SAVE THESE DATES

The following meeting dates are meant to provide information for the congregation in preparation for the Nov. 24th budget meeting so that the members of the congregation can make informed decisions on the pastoral and church direction.

- Oct. 27 – Luncheon for gratitude and reflection: to be thankful for the gifts we’ve received and reflect on the vision of the church
- Nov. 3rd – Congregational discussion opportunity after worship – invite to join either the 3rd or the 10th
- Nov. 10th – Congregational discussion opportunity after worship — invite to join either the 3rd or the 10th
- Nov. 17th – Optional Congregational discussion opportunity after worship if needed
- Nov. 24th – Budget Meeting

STEWARSHIP

We would like to thank Janet Rivard and Joe Harrington for sharing their testimonials during our worship service on Oct. 6 and Oct. 20 respectively.

We are thankful for the gifts we’ve received thus far. We have 28 pledges totaling $53,772.00

VETERANS SUNDAY

CALLING ALL VETERANS AND ACTIVE MILITARY!

You are invited to a patriotic celebration for Military veterans as well as members of active Military on Veterans Sunday, November 10th at 10AM. We will save the front rows for you.

FROM THE BOARD OF DEACONS

The Deacons thank everyone who makes our worship services so special, from providing the lovely flowers that grace the altar and the delicious coffee hour treats to the talented musical participants and those who lead the spiritual children’s messages and thought-provoking reflections. The next Deacon’s meeting will be Wed. Nov. 6 @ 7:00 p.m. Kerygma Room if available. If not, nursery. The next Called to Care meeting will be Wed. Nov. 13 @ 9:30 a.m. Library

FLOWER COMMITTEE

THANKSGIVING DISPLAY

The Flower Committee is asking for donations of pumpkins, vegetables, gourds, apples etc. for the Thanksgiving table in the Sanctuary on Sunday, November 24th. There will be a box in the library to put your items in starting Sunday, November 17th.
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 in the vestry or speak to one of the flower committee members. There are instructions on a table near the flower chart.

**MISSIONS**

**DISMAS HOUSE DINNER**

Dinner with the residents at Dismas House is on the first Thursday of every month. Our next dinner will be Thursday, Nov. 7th.

**How can you get involved?**
1. Help prepare a meal for 15 to 20 people.
2. Donate a grocery card that can be used to help shop for food.
3. Come along and join us as we share great food and fellowship with the residents!

For more information please contact Karen Hutchinson at 508-870-1782, millarhutch@aol.com or chat with her during fellowship hour!

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**FAITH FORMATION**

In September and October our scripture lessons came from Genesis and the Psalms. We learned about Creation and Adam and Eve. We discovered the Garden of Eden and the Tree of Knowledge of Good & Evil and “free will”.

This eventually led us to Noah and the ark! We learned about Job and his test of faith. In the Psalms, we learned about the beauty of creation and the connectedness of everything. We learned of God’s closeness and connection to all of creation. God’s covenant with Noah was with all of creation and how God’s promise of protection and love involves every living part of creation. We are discussing how as humans we have been given “dominion” over the earth, what does that mean, what have we done in the past, what will we do now? Most importantly, what changes, what actions will “I” take?

We will finish October and begin November with Exodus. We are going to be discovering how in the story of Moses, God literally speaks through creation…in the form of a burning bush! We are going to find the Exodus account has several pictures of God’s presence embodied in nature, for example bitter water becomes sweet and food appears on the ground each morning as signs of God’s love and care for the Israelites. Moses is able to bring water out of a rock at God's command and the angel of God appears to the Israelites as pillars of cloud and light as a visible guide and constant protector.

**MISSION TRIP TEAM - JUNE 2020**

**MISSION TRIP TEAM 2020** will embark upon a **14 day mission trip volunteering with the Sea Turtle Conservation Project in Costa Rica!**

While volunteering in Costa Rica on the Sea Turtle Conservation Project, we will be working alongside local biologists to assist with sea turtle studies, focus on marine conservation volunteer activities and support sustainable life protection programs.

Our Team, consisting of 21 youth and 7 adult volunteers, will be working on one of four beach locations around Costa Rica, including Ostional, Matapalo, Junquillal (based on the Pacific Coast), and Parismina (based on the Caribbean coast). Our service role on the project will vary. We will be working a variety of day and night shifts which will include beach patrols, building hatcheries to protect eggs from predators, beach cleaning, counting and tagging sea turtles, locating nesting females, collecting eggs and replanting mangroves. Our working week is 6 days out of 7 on this 14 day project. While volunteering, our
living conditions will be basic but we will be equipped with all the essentials.

You can pray for our team members. We will need prayers that God will prepare us for our trip and bless our efforts as we volunteer with local marine biologists and build relationships with local villagers. We will also need prayers that our financial needs will be met. We need to raise $2000 each to attend this trip, and that is quite a challenge! If you would like to make a donation, any amount would be greatly appreciated. Checks can be made out to: The Congregational Church of Westborough. Please put in the memo line: Mission Trip 2020 – SEA TURTLE


Mission Trip 2020 – Sea Turtle Conservation Project

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES IN OCTOBER

Thank you to everyone who participated in the October 13th carwash to benefit mission trip 2020–Sea Turtle Project! We had an awesome day! We were able to raise $802.00

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

October 26th – 5-8PM Don’t forget to join us for our totally terrifying...or mild & merry of the haunted house...the choice is yours!

We will give you the option at the door. Your donation of $10 will get you as many trips through the “house” as you can handle!!

All donations will go to the Mission Trip 2020 scholarship fund.

We promise you’ll never want to leave...

and maybe you won’t!

The annual Halloween Party will be happening at the same time in the vestry and....

It is sure to be spooktacular!

NOVEMBER EVENTS

It’s that time of year...

It’s The Great Pie Challenge!

2019 is our 6th year supporting The Curtis Family Thanksgiving. Over the years we have donated over 900 apple and pumpkin pies!

Every pie made from scratch, both crust and filling. All 900+ pies were made with donated ingredients. All 900+ pies were made by volunteers ranging in ages from 3 years to 80+ years! All done within 2 Sunday mornings by 1 congregation (8 friends), 1 congregation moved by the Holy Spirit and the desire to serve. This annual challenge is something that we can all look forward to achieving together! Please join us in any way that you feel moved to. If you would like to donate ingredients, we will be collecting APPLES, FLOUR, BUTTER, SUGAR & CANNED PUMPKIN PIE FILLING. You can also donate a STOP&SHOP GROCERY CARD.

Purhcase your grocery cards at coffee hour from our Missions table - double your giving - and we can pick up exactly what we need! If you would like to volunteer your time & talents with pie making, join us on November 10th and 17th from 10-noon. You can also support this mission by purchasing pies at The Great Pie Sale on Thanksgiving Sunday during coffee hour. Plan on getting your homemade holiday pies from us!

This year’s Great Pie Sale proceeds will benefit Mission Trip 2020 – Costa Rica Sea Turtle Conservation Project. Let’s come together this Thanksgiving, as a congregation and remember...

“What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.”

- Jane Goodall

LOOKING AHEAD TO DECEMBER...

We will once again have an intergenerational Christmas Pageant! If you are interested please see Wendy or email: wendysreardon@yahoo.com

We have parts for all ages!
GROCERY CARD SALES

Are You New to our Grocery Card Project?
The Grocery Card Fundraising Project supports the Operation Budget of our Church. We purchase grocery gift cards from Stop & Shop, Roche Bros., and Price Chopper in bulk at a discounted rate. These gift cards can be purchased each Sunday after worship or in the Church Office. Thanks! If you can’t make it to church 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. They’d be happy to deliver them.
2019 Goal: $ 8,000 2019 YTD: $ 4,506.80

PARISH LIFE EVENTS

Saturday, Nov. 16, 2019
Parish Life Game Night at 6:30PM
Sandwiches, salad and dessert

GAME NIGHT

Last time, fun was had by all. Some people played cribbage, some played dominoes. Hope you can come. For info call Cathie at 508-380-8671

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019
Christmas Caroling and Pizza
Pizza at 4:30PM
Dessert and Hot Cocoa following

Sunday, Jan. 26, 2020
Pancake Brunch after church
Pancakes and toppings, sausage, bacon, eggs, fruit, juice, coffee, tea

Saturday, Feb. 29, 2020
Leap Year Pot Luck Party
6PM – Bring a dish

Saturday, March 21, 2020
Progressive Dinner(adults only)
6PM- Appetizers

WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP

Monday, November 4, 2019
Community Policing
Open to the Public

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Women’s Fellowship November Program
6:30 – Social Time and Refreshments in Vestry
7:00 – Meeting (to make plans for the Fair)
7:30-Program
Join us on Monday, Nov. 4th and listen to Sgt. Michael Daniels of the Westborough Police Community Policing Supervisor speak on fraud, identity theft and scams.

Mission: Massachusetts Veterans Inc. of Worcester – gift cards of all types, men & women’s personal care items (no alcohol in items). See their website for more details.

Women’s Fellowship Looking Ahead:
Dec. 1st-6th – Prepare for the Annual Christmas Fair
Dec. 7th – Annual Christmas Fair
Dec. 9th – Yankee Swap
Mission: Westborough Senior Center
Jan. 6th – Fair Wrap-up and Supper
Feb. 3rd – Potluck Dinner – Annie Wales/origami
Mission: Valentine Boxes for college students
Mar. 2nd – Hymn program with Nancy Gage
Mission: Westboro Food Pantry
Apr. 6th – Adriana Baltimore – program of songs
Mission: IHN
May 4th – May dinner at Arturo’s Ristorante.

64th EVERGREEN FAIR

Our 64th annual Evergreen Fair will take place on Saturday, Dec. 7th from 9AM-3PM. We are looking for many elves to help in many areas. No experience necessary! Please see the attached wish list at the back of the newsletter to see how you can help.
Christmas Fair Workshop Schedule

Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2019  **10AM-12 in VESTRY**
Work on craft items with Kathy Leblanc
Refreshments served

Monday, Nov. 18, 2019  **7PM VESTRY**
**For Men, Women, Teens**
Bow Making Workshop with Craig McCoskery
(Also some simple crafts with be available to put together)
Birthday cake for refreshments

Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2019  **10AM-12 in VESTRY**
Work on Craft items with Kathy Leblanc
Refreshments served

Nov. 24, 25, 26, Dec. 1,2,3( in the chapel)
Dec.4,5,6(upstairs)
Work on Santa’s Workshop items & baskets
For hours and info call Cathie Achorn 508-380-8671

Sunday, Dec.1 –Set up after church of wreath making tables, etc.
**Unload wreaths in the afternoon** (Time TBA)
Grandma’s Attic and Upper Attic **Donations drop** off Dec. 1-5
(For pick-up of items call Cathie Achorn 508-380-8671)

Monday, Dec. 2- **Start decorating vestry/ Set up Santa’s Photos/ Set up crafts room**
Cookie decorating room/ set up Santa’s workshop room
For Hours to Help or Information call: Sandy Horton (508-410-9000), Linda Borglund (774-245-1425), Cathie Achorn (508-380-8671) Watch the Enews, Sunday Bulletins for more events to be announced.

**GRAMMA’S ATTIC**

We are looking for brown paper grocery bags to be used in Gramma’s Attic at the church fair. You can bring them into church or call or text us... Diane and Steve Lindberg 508-981-3712 or 508-981-3713..or by email walkfit@townisp.com.

**WORDS OF APPRECIATION**

Many thanks for your caring cards, flowers and expressions of sympathy in the recent death of my brother, Don Gray. We have been praying for him for a long time; he is now at peace and for that, I am grateful.

Blessings, Betty

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

Corby and Kim Caldwell
9 Cortland Dr.
Westborough, MA 01581

Sandy Williams
26 Harris Ave.
Northborough, MA 01532

Dave & Sharon Giblin
250 1st Ave., Unit 809
Charlestown, MA 02129

New email: Dan Byers danbyers31@charter.net

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Rev. Sue Remick, Interim Minister
revsuerem@gmail.com

Peter Graham, Student Minister
petegrahamiam@icloud.com

Wendy Reardon, Director of Children’s and Youth Ministry
wendysreardon@yahoo.com

Joseph Stillitano, Interim Minister of Music
Josephmstillitano@gmail.com

Sue Menzel, Handbell Director
westcongmusic@gmail.com

Church Office Phone 508/366-2000
General Church email WestboroUCC@Verizon.net
Church web site www.UCCwestboro.org
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Church Office Hours**  
Monday - Closed  
Tuesday - Thursday 9am-2pm  
Friday 9am-1pm |     | **Turn clocks back**  
one hour |     |     |     |     |
| **3 COMMUNION**  
10- Worship & Faith Formation  
"No Fuss All Faith" Book Club/Library  
2:30 GSA/Vestry  
5- GSA/Vestry  
7- GSA/Kerygma | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** |     |     |
| 10- Worship & Faith Formation  
"No Fuss All Faith" Book Club/Library  
2:30 GSA/Vestry  
5- GSA/Vestry  
7- GSA/Kerygma |     | **CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**  
11-Noon PCC/FF  
1:30 PCC/F.F.  
6:30 Women's Fellow/Vestry  
7:30 AA/Nursery | **10- Whitney Place Service**  
10-12 W.F. Craft Workshop  
10:30 Beaumont Service  
11-Noon PCC/FF  
11:15 Willow's Communion | **9.15 Playgroup/Nursery**  
10- Staff Meeting  
7- Deacons/Kerygma  
4-6 GSA/Kerygma |     |     |
| **10 Veteran's Service**  
9- Faith Explorers/Kerygma  
10- Worship Service & Faith Formation  
5- GSA/Vestry | **11** | **12** | **13** | **14** | **15** | **16** |
| 10- Worship Service & Faith Formation  
9- Faith Explorers/Kerygma  
10- Worship Service & Faith Formation  
5- GSA/Vestry |     | **CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**  
11-Noon PCC/FF  
1:30 PCC/F.F.  
7:30 AA/Nursery | **10:30 Westminster Health Care Service**  
11-Noon PCC/FF  
7- Trustees/Kerygma | **9am Weaver's Guild/Vestry, Kerygma, classrooms, Chapel**  
9.15 Playgroup/Nursery | **2-3 PCC/Fannie Forbes**  
**6- BSA Pot Luck & Court of Honor/Vestry, Sanctuary** | **6:30 Parish Life/Vestry**  
**FLower Committee/Sanctuary** |
| **17** | **18** | **19** | **20** | **21** | **22** | **23** |
| **18** | **19** | **20** | **21** | **22** | **23** | **24** |
| **24** | **25** | **26** | **27** | **28** | **29** | **30** |
| **24** | **25** | **26** | **27** | **28** | **29** | **30** |

**Choir Rehearsals:**  
Sunday 11:15 K-8th Bells & Chimes  
Tuesdays: 7:00 Festival Ringers  
Wednesdays: 6:30 Chancel Choir & 7:45 JoySpring

**Chapel in Use for Fair Preparations**
The Evergreen Fair will be Saturday, Dec. 7th from 9AM-3PM

What can you do to help out the Evergreen Fair?

NOW: Make craft items, come to the craft workshops and or the bow making workshop, donate jewelry, clean out your attic or garage and save items until Dec. 1 before the fair.

1. Sign up to help on the big poster in the library.
2. Sign up to bake for the bake table. Pies, bread, cookies, bars, candy, fudge, etc.
3. Donate items that can be put in gift baskets. Gifts for men are needed (auto items, flashlights, etc.), for pets (toys, bones, treats), toiletry items, kitchen items, candles, candy, coffee mugs, notepads, baby toys, children’s toys, etc. If you have a question ask Cathie Achorn or Julie McCoskery.
4. Come to the church between 10 AM and 9PM on Dec. 2-Dec.6 and we will have plenty of things for you to do. Especially need people to help put up tables, help with food prep, and to help with the greens.
5. Come decorate wreaths, put hangers on wreaths, make green arrangements, set up rooms
6. Help make bows at the Bow Making workshop on Nov.18 7 pm
7. Donate handmade ornaments, crocheted, knitted, sewn items for us to sell
8. Donate used jewelry or slightly used items for sale at the Jewelry Table
9. Donate items for Grandma’s Elite or Upper Attic. Nice items, new items, antique items, paintings, etc. Drop off after Dec. 1 in the chapel
10. Help needed on Sunday, December 1st
   - Bring items over from the garage and down from the attic
   - Set up tables in the Vestry for the wreath decorating
   - Help unload the wreaths from the truck after church on Sunday and spray them before taking them down to the cellar of the church. Many hands are needed this day...
11. Help by putting posters up at libraries, business etc.
12. Play a musical instrument or sing carols in the hall while the fair is going on.
13. Tell your friends about the fair.
14. Be a greeter and welcome everyone as they come in the door with a chart of the fair tables
15. Pray that we will have much fellowship, a successful fair and fun fair.
16. Help set up the kids craft room and/or be there to help the kids on Dec. 7th Fair. (Unfortunately the person who always does it cannot do it this year. Please let Cathie know if you can help. Thanks
17. Come to the Fair
18. For information contact by call or text: Cathie Achorn- (508) 380-8671, Sandy Horton (508) 410-9000 or Linda Borglund -774-245-1425