

The Congregational Church of Westborough

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

57 West Main, Westborough, Massachusetts 01581

May 31, 2026



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: Tuesday – Friday 9am – 1pm
Monday - Closed
Church office phone 508/366-2000*

*General Church email - info@uccwestboro.org Church website- www.uccwestboro.org
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

May 31, 2026

Baccalaureate Sunday

Trinity Sunday

**The Congregation is invited to stand.*

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

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

CHURCH BELLS TO CALL US 10:00 AM

INVITING THE WORD

WELCOME Rev. Betsy Dorsi

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*OPENING MUSIC

*HYMN #53 "Morning Has Broken" BUNESSAN

*JoySpring Songbook #11 "How Great is Our God"
Composed by Chris Tomlin,
Jesse Reeves, and Ed Cash

*CALL TO WORSHIP Barbara Noeth

One: Come one come all, we hear the call.

Many: Let's go and see and hear.

One: Come find a place where you can see.

Many: The crowds are coming.

All: We come to Worship where there is a place for everyone.

*GATHERING PRAYER (unison) Barbara Noeth

Gather us in O Lord. Bring us to a quiet corner where we can listen to Your voice and know that it's really You. Help us to trust You to take care of our needs so we can be fully present to others. We ask this in Jesus' name, and we continue to pray using the words He taught us...

*THE LORD'S PRAYER Barbara Noeth

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)

Barbara Noeth

Lord Jesus, in a world full of egos and hot tempers, You call us to be peace makers. We are sorry for the times we didn't look to You first. For the times we let our own tempers flare and said things we later regretted. Have mercy on us for the opportunities to bring peace that we let pass by. Please forgive us for the times we were afraid to use the gifts of the Holy Spirit to diffuse a hot situation. Give us the grace to be humble and forgiving. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

RECEIVING THE WORD

TIME WITH THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

SCRIPTURE

I Samuel 25:14-28

(pew Bible page 235)

SERMON

“A Close Call”

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

*HYMN #61

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

ROYAL OAK

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Barbara Noeth

Invitation

At this time, let us all reflect on how much God has given us and on what we have chosen to give God back for God's ministry. The morning offering will now be received.

Bell Offertory

“What A Friend We Have In Jesus”

based on hymn tune

Festival Ringers

arr. S.E. Rogers

The Festival Ringers would like to thank Donna Blanchard and Deanna Wong for ringing with us in April and May.



“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)

Barbara Noeth

Lord, please accept the gifts we offer today. Bless them and multiply them for use in spreading Your love throughout our community. Amen.

BEING THE CHURCH

*CLOSING SONG

“Ev'ry Move I Make”
JoySpring Songbook #4

David Ruis

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

*POSTLUDE

Note: The Festival Ringers would like to thank Donna Blanchard and Deanna Wong for agreeing to ring with us in April and May.

Pam Faustine and **Elizabeth Kafig** are deacons of the day.

Barbara Noeth serves as liturgist today.

Prayers

Bereavement: The Aldrich and Barnes families on the passing of Suzanne Barnes.

New Prayers: Marie Murphy’s son – Craig Jernberg.

Continued Prayers: Meredith Morgan and her family; For Pete, his mom Betty and daughter Angelina; Ted Jaworski & Betty; Elaine Moore; Julia O’Neil-Welsh; Sue Menzel; Bev & Doug Hall’s son Jeremy; Jackie Smith; 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; Betty Gray’s niece Heather; Cathie Achorn’s sister-in-law, Lorie Mumby.

CALL TO ANNUAL BOARDS AND COMMITTEES MEETING

The Annual Boards and Committees Meeting of The Congregational Church of Westborough will be held Sunday, June 14, 2026, immediately following the 10:00 AM church service. The purpose of the meeting is as follows:

1. To hear and act upon the reports of the officers, staff and various Boards and Committees.
2. To elect officers and approve members of Boards and Committees for the period July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2028, and to fill any remaining vacancies nominated from the floor.
3. To hear a report from the Building Committee.
4. To transact such other business as may regularly come before the meeting.

Submitted by David R. Smith, Church Clerk

REPORTS NEEDED FOR ANNUAL MEETING – JUNE 14th

We will have our Annual Boards and Committees meeting on Sunday, June 14th at 11:30 am. If you are responsible for a report, please email it to the church office at lisa.coffey@uccwestboro.org no later than Monday, June 8th. If you'd like to get it to the office earlier – please do!

Staff & Officers: Church Clerk, Pastor, Moderator, Minister of Music, Director of Youth and Children's Ministries, Director of Bells, Librarian, Communications Coordinator.

Boards: Trustees, Deacons, Christian Ed

Standing Committees: Personnel Committee; Stewardship, Memorial Gifts, Music, Missions & Social Concerns, Flower, Properties, Parish Life, PPRC

Ad Hoc Committees: Hospitality, Called to Care/Visitation

Fellowship Groups: Women's Fellowship, Men's Fellowship; Parish Life

Other: PCC of MA, Scouts BSA, Treasurer

NOMINATING 2026 – SHOW YOUR LOVE FOR OUR CHURCH

It's that time of the year again when the Nominating Committee works to fill open positions on the church Officiary's listing of Boards and Committees. If you read the latest "The Spire" publication, it had a page showing all the current openings. Perhaps the key need for volunteers is the Board of Deacons. The Deacons are responsible for opening the church on Sunday mornings and for making sure the sanctuary is set up properly. Since it requires two Deacons for this and other related tasks, a full Board spreads out the work among more people. Besides preparing and serving Communion, the Deacons also participate in funerals and weddings. WE encourage anyone interested in supporting this important Board to contact Betty Gray at 508-277-9008 or Dave Smith at 508-366-8174.

MISSIONS

Save the Date! We are planning a Habitat for Humanity workday on Saturday, June 20th (location TBD). Whether you have carpentry skills or not, there is work for everyone. Age 16 and up. Sign-up sheet will be in the Fellowship Hall next week. Missions Team

Westboro Food Pantry - For the month of **June**, the Westborough Food Pantry needs the following: *Dinty Moore Beef Stew*, *Beets (can)*, *Potatoes (can)*, *Body wash*. The Westborough Food Pantry has thanked us for our continued support in helping to feed local families in need. Please continue to consider donating additional (non-perishable) food of all sorts to the white box. Thank you. The Mission Team

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN THE BELL CHOIR

Looking ahead to September there are opportunities opening for more people to join the Festival Ringers. Please see Sue Menzel after the service or text at 508-341-8239 if you're interested or have any questions.



PARISH LIFE EVENT

Come enjoy an evening of fellowship and fun Friday, June 5th at 6:00 PM for Game Night in the Fellowship Hall. All ages are invited. Bring your friends and neighbors. We will have pizza and chicken from The Coop. There will be BINGO, cribbage, dominoes, and other games to play. You can even bring a favorite game of yours to teach everyone. The signup sheet is in Fellowship Hall on the table outside the choir room. If you don't sign up and decide to come, that is OK as we just need an approximate number to order the food for the evening. For information contact Cathie Achorn call/text 508-380-8671.

MAY 31st – JUNE 7th

May 31

10:00AM

6:00 – 8:00 PM

Jun 1

7:30 PM

Jun 2

6:30 PM

Jun 3

3:30 – 4:30 PM

Jun 4

6:30 – 7:30 PM

Jun 5

6:00 PM

Jun 6

Jun 7

10:00 AM

Baccalaureate Sunday

Worship Service & Faith Formation

Cub Scouts/Fellowship Hall (rain only)

Monday – Office Closed

Missions/Zoom

Tuesday

Building Committee/Board Room

Wednesday

Journey Home Singers

Thursday

Choir Rehearsal

Friday

Parish Life Game Night

Saturday

Communion Sunday

Worship Service & Faith Formation

Congratulations Class of 2026

Westborough High School

Logan Carter Bramley

The Citadel Military School, SC
Parents: Curtis and Emily Bramley
Grandmother: Charlotte Bramley

Paul Regnier

University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Isenberg School of Management
Parents: Roland and Sarah Regnier

Karissa Kocou

University of Vermont
Parents: Francis and Kristy Kocou
Grandparents: Doug and Bev Hall
Aunt: Justine Lovely

Westford Academy

Ella Jacqueline Trethaway

Syracuse University
Parents: James and Stephanie Trethaway
Grandparents: David and Jackie Smith

Shrewsbury High School

Jonathan W. Blattner

University of New Hampshire
Parents: David and Amy (Simino) Blattner
Grandparents: Darrell and Betty Simino

Franklin High School

Isabelle H. Simino

University of Hartford
Parents: Andrew and Cathy Simino
Grandparents: Darrell and Betty Simino

Golden High School, Colorado

Braeden Monte

Elon University
Grandmother: Celeste Chenet-Monte

COLLEGE

Boston University

Katherine Rose Bramley Simmons

BS in Communication
Parents: Craig and Kimberly Bramley
Grandmother: Charlotte Bramley

Central Connecticut State University

Jessica Boucher

MS in Data Science
Parents: Rich and Deb Boucher

Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI)

Brandon R. Belmonte

Working for General Dynamics
Parents: Roger Belmonte and Amy Roberts
Grandmother: Wendy Roberts

