

The Congregational Church of Westborough

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

57 West Main, Westborough, Massachusetts 01581

May 3, 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 3, 2026

Communion Sunday

Fifth Sunday of Easter

**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

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*OPENING MUSIC

*JoySpring Songbook #10 "Here I Am to Worship" Composed by Tim Hughes

*JoySpring Songbook #1 "10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)" Jonas Myrin and
Matt Redman

*CALL TO WORSHIP Barbara Noeth

One: So much is going on in our busy world.

Many: Jesus calls us to look and listen even when it's hard.

One: Voices of victims of injustice cry out for help.

Many: Jesus tells us they are His sheep.

All: Come let us worship the God who hears the cry of the poor.

*GATHERING PRAYER (unison) Barbara Noeth

Jesus, our Lord, as we gather with You today, we each come with our own concerns.

Help us to trust in Your care for us so our hearts may be open to hear the cries of others.

Teach us how to be like You and to have courage to stand up against people and systems that cause suffering. We ask this in Your name Jesus and continue in prayer using the words You 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)

Almighty God, we are Your children. We confess that we don't always act like it. There are times we have forgotten to check in with our heavenly parent through prayer. There have been times we did not treat each other with love and respect. Teach us how to love one another above self. We confess that we often overlook the needy amongst us. There have been times we ignore the news of the world and let ourselves forget people in our own and other lands who are suffering. Please forgive us and help us grow more like Jesus. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

RECEIVING THE WORD

TIME WITH THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

SCRIPTURES

Acts 6:8-15 and 7:55-60

(pew Bible page 890)

SERMON

“You Will Be Ready!”

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

*HYMN #272

“The Church's One Foundation” (vs. 1,2,5)

AURELIA

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

BEING THE CHURCH

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.

Offertory

“Paz y Libertad”
Chancel Choir

José Luis Orozco

*Peace. We want peace and liberty in this world.
For all the children of this world, we want peace and liberty.*



“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

O God, we offer You gifts we have received from Your bounty. Please bless them and us to Your service. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Communion at our church is open to all. All bread is gluten free)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (as found on the inside cover of your hymn book)

Barbara Noeth

INVITATION

PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Unison)

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

Jesus we thank You for welcoming us to Your table. May the divine food we have eaten strengthen our bond with You and prepare us to be ready for whatever You call us to do. Amen.

*CLOSING SONG

“My Lighthouse”
JoySpring Songbook #16

Written by Rend Collective

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

*SUNG BENEDICTION

“Go Ye Now in Peace”
JoySpring Songbook #25

Composed by Joyce Elaine Eilers

*POSTLUDE

Today's flowers are given by Tom Erwin in loving memory and in honor of his late wife **Gini**.

Barbara Noeth serves as liturgist today.

Linda Borglund and **Pam Faustine** are deacons of the day.

Prayers

New Prayers: For Pete, his mom Betty and daughter Angelina.

Continued Prayers: 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; Debbie Grega – Amy Glennon's mother; Betty Gray's niece Heather; Cathie Achorn's sister-in-law, Lorie Mumby.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL MAY DINNER

Women's Fellowship May Dinner is Monday, May 4, 2026, at The Post Office Pub (1 Ray Street & Route 140, North Grafton). Appetizers and the raffle table begin at 5:30 PM, followed by the meeting and election at 6:00 PM, and dinner at 6:30 PM. The cost is \$25 and can be paid at the door if you haven't already done so. Women's Fellowship focuses on fellowship, education, and service—there is no formal membership or dues. If you forgot to sign up or need to cancel, please contact Cathie Achorn by call or text at 508-380-8671.

BOOK CLUB

This is the last call for anyone who would like to join Rev. Betsy's second small group book club. The discussion will be based on Richard Rohr's The Tears of Things: Prophetic Wisdom for an Age of Outrage. The book is available online at Amazon or Target. You can sign up in the Fellowship Hall or contact Rev. Betsy for more information.

SECOND SATURDAY SERVICE

On Saturday April 11th, we held our first "Second Saturday Worship Service". About 30 people gathered in our Fellowship Hall to delve into God's Word. Working in small groups they had a guided discussion about the day's Scripture reading. Wonderful music was provided by Joe and Roberta, and prayer completed the Worship part of the Service. Then

participants worked on phase 2 of a Congregational Mission Project: assembling bags of the toiletry items we all brought to church. These will be given to the homeless people in our area. The “Second Saturday Worship Services” is an initiative of the Church Board which came out of our planning meeting held in the Fall. We will have another one on May 9th and a third on June 13th. Join us to Worship at an alternative time and experience a new style of Worship!

BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY

On Sunday, May 31st, we will recognize our graduates in the bulletin. If you have any member in your family who is graduating High School or College, please send the information to Lisa at lisa.coffey@uccwestboro.org.

MISSIONS

Westboro Food Pantry - For the month of **May**, the Westborough Food Pantry needs the following: *Jello, Salad dressing, Pickles, Ketchup*. 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

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)

MAY 3rd – MAY 10th

May 3

10:00AM
1PM-6PM

Communion Sunday

Worship Service & Faith Formation
Eagle Court of Honor

May 4

5:30 PM

Monday – office closed

WF May Dinner/Post Office Pub

May 5

10:00 AM
7:00 - 8:00 PM

Tuesday

Staff Meeting
Bell Rehearsal

May 6

9:00 AM
9:30 AM
3:30 – 4:30 PM
6:30-8:00 PM

Wednesday – The Spire Deadline

Weavers Guild
Called to Care
Journey Home Singers
Choir Rehearsal

May 7

Thursday

May 8

Friday

May 9

9:00 AM
5:00 PM

Saturday

Men's Breakfast
Second Saturday Service

May 10

10:00 AM

Sunday - Mother's Day

Worship Service & Faith Formation

