

The Congregational Church of Westborough

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

57 West Main, Westborough, Massachusetts 01581

May 17, 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 17, 2026

Ascension 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 #631 "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing" LIFT EVERY VOICE

*JoySpring Songbook #13 "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" Rick Founds

*CALL TO WORSHIP (I Chronicles 16:29) Sally Petersen

One: Ascribe to the Lord the Glory due His name.

Many: Bring an offering and come before Him.

All: Let us worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.

*GATHERING PRAYER (unison) Sally Petersen

We come before You, our Redeemer with joyful hearts, ready to offer You praise. Your great love for us fills our hearts with joy and thanksgiving. Teach us the proper way to thank You. Send us into the world to share our joy. We ask this through the power of Your holy name Jesus, and we continue in prayer using the words You taught us...

*THE LORD'S PRAYER Sally Petersen

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)

Forgive us God for turning from Your ways and disobeying Your commandments. We are sorry for the times we lied when truth was needed. We are sorry for the opportunities to share our faith that we let pass by us. Have mercy on us for our selfish ways and strengthen our faith and our resolve to be better disciples for You. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

RECEIVING THE WORD

TIME WITH THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

SCRIPTURES

Luke 24:44-53. Ephesians 1:15-23 *(pew Bible page 861 & 949)*

SERMON

“The Immeasurable Greatness of His Power”

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

*HYMN #233

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Sally Petersen

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

“Elijah Rock”

Spiritual /arr. by Neil Ginsberg

Chancel Choir

Elijah Rock, shout, Elijah Rock, comin' up, Lord.

Satan's a liar and a conjur' too. If you don't watch out he'll conjure you.

If I could I surely would just stand on the rock where Moses stood.



“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)

Sally Petersen

We present our gifts to You Lord with thanksgiving for all You give us. May our use of them in Your service be pleasing to You. Amen.

BEING THE CHURCH

*CLOSING SONG

“You Are Holy (Prince of Peace)”
JoySpring Songbook #22

Comp. by Marc Imboden &
Tammi Rhoton

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

*POSTLUDE

Today’s flowers are given by Rev. Betsy in memory of her mother.

Ron and Melinda MacKendrick are deacons of the day.

Sally Petersen serves as liturgist today.

Prayers

New Prayers: Meredith Morgan and her family.

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

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 on Amazon or Target. You can sign up in the Fellowship Hall or contact Rev. Betsy for more information.

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 by Wednesday, May 26th.

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 **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

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.

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 17th – MAY 24th

May 17
10:00AM

Sunday
Worship Service & Faith Formation

May 18
7:00 PM

Monday – office closed
Church Board/Board Room

May 19
6:30 PM
7:00 - 8:00 PM

Tuesday
Building Committee/Board Room
Bell Rehearsal

May 20
3:30 – 4:30 PM
5:00 – 9:00 PM
6:30-8:00 PM

Wednesday
Journey Home Singers
Troop Court of Honor
Choir Rehearsal

May 21
6:00 – 8:00 PM

Thursday
Pride Connections

May 22

Friday

May 23

Saturday

May 24
10:00 AM
Noon-2PM

Sunday
Worship Service & Faith Formation
Private Gathering in Fellowship Hall



