

The Congregational Church of Westborough

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

57 West Main, Westborough, Massachusetts 01581

February 15, 2026



Photo: 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**

February 15, 2026

Transfiguration 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

*OPENING MUSIC

*HYMN #249 "Spirit" (vs 1,2 and 3) SPIRIT

*JoySpring Songbook #19 "Trading My Sorrows" Darrell Evans

*CALL TO WORSHIP Sally Petersen

One: Jesus, we come together to be transformed by Your grace.

Many: We come to confess our failures and to be reminded of the Good News that we are already forgiven by Your sacrifice for us.

One: We come together to hear Your Word for us.

Many: We come to learn how to respond to Your Word and Your Sacrifice.

All: We come to Worship You, our Redeemer.

*GATHERING PRAYER (Unison) Sally Petersen

Most Holy God, on this day when we celebrate Your Transfiguration, help us to understand how we too are being changed by the Holy Spirit. Help us to yearn for Your Kin-dom and to work to bring Your rule of love to every corner of the earth. We ask this in Your name, Jesus our Redeemer and we continue to pray using the words You 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)

Jesus, we confess that many times we have not loved as You would. There were times we waited for someone else to do a chore, times we stayed away when we knew helpers were needed. There were also times we treated others with harsh words, let our own grumpiness extend to others, and even times we were mean to someone else. Forgive us our sins and help us become more loving like You. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RECEIVING THE WORD

TIME WITH THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

SCRIPTURES

Matthew 17:1-9

(pew Bible pgs. 798)

SERMON

“Is God First?”

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

*HYMN #2

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” (vs 1,2 and 4)

HYMN TO JOY

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Betsy Dorsi

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Invitation

Sally Petersen

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

“Revelation Song”

Jennie Lee Riddle

Nicole Halbert and Joseph Stillitano

*Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, Holy, holy is He;
Sing a new song to Him who sits on heaven’s mercy seat.*

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord, God Almighty.

Who was and is and is to come.

With all creation I sing, praise to the King of Kings

You are my everything and I will adore You.

Clothed in rainbows of living color, flashes of lighting, rolls of thunder.

Blessing and honor, strength and glory and power be to You, the only wise King.

*Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder, at the mention of Your name.
Jesus, Your name is power, breath and living water; such a marvelous mystery.*



“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

Jesus, we come with our offering for the work of Your Church. Please bless it and use it in the work of Your Kin-dom. Amen.

BEING THE CHURCH

***CLOSING SONG**

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”
JoySpring Songbook #33

Graham Kendrick

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Sally Petersen serves as liturgist today.

Ron and **Melinda MacKendrick** are deacons of the day.

Prayers

New Prayers: Ted Jaworski & Betty.

Continued Prayers: Sandy Williams’ Aunt, Karen Smith; 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.

EXTENDED DEADLINE!! - KITCHEN RENOVATION FUNDRAISER

The Savers fundraiser deadline has been extended to February 17, giving everyone more time to gather donations such as books, household goods, small appliances, clothing, linens, DVDs, VCR tapes, and cassettes. Items may be dropped off in the chapel, or you can call or text Cathie at (508) 380-8671 to arrange a drop-off at her home. This effort has grown into a wider mission project, already providing children's clothing and winter gear to Hastings Elementary, new clothing to Abby's House, and several bags of men's winter coats, clothing, and boots to Worcester homeless ministries. Thank you for your continued generosity.

MISSIONS

Soup Bowl of Caring - Thank you to everyone who made soups, breads and treats for the Soup Bowl of Caring and for all the soups and jams we received. Polly Thayer collected everything on Monday and indicated that 121 lbs. of food was donated to the Westborough Food Pantry! Woohoo!!

Meal Packing Event - Save the Date! On Sunday March 22, 2026, we will roll up our sleeves and don our masks to pack 20,000 meals. Some meals will go to our Westborough Food pantry to feed our hungry neighbors, and the rest will go to food pantries around New England. The need is great. There will be a lunch/refreshments room. Bring a friend and share the joy of helping others.

Westboro Food Pantry - For the month of **February**, the Westborough Food Pantry is in need the following: *microwave popcorn, mustard, and black beans (dry)*. 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)

FEBRUARY

Feb 15 10:00 AM Noon	Sunday Worship & Sunday School Book Club Discussion & Potluck Lunch
Feb 16 Noon 7:00 PM	Monday - Office Closed PCCM/Board Room Church Board/Board Rm
Feb 17 6:30 PM 7:00-8:00 PM	Tuesday Building Comm./Board Rm Bell Rehearsal
Feb 18 7:00 PM	Ash Wednesday Ash Wednesday Service/Sanctuary
Feb 19 6:00 PM	Thursday Pride Connections
Feb 20	Friday
Feb 21	Saturday
Feb 22 10:00 AM	Sunday Worship & Sunday School

