The Congregational Church of Westborough

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

57 West Main, Westborough, Massachusetts 01581

October 11, 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
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
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

Oct. 11, 2026 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

**The Congregation is invited to stand.*

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE Feel Free to Join Us and Sing Along!

INVITING THE WORD

WELCOME Rev. Betsy Dorsi

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*OPENING MUSIC

*Hymn #284 "Gather Us In" (vs. 1, 2, 3) GATHER US IN

*JoySpring Songbook #3 "Come, Now is the Time to Worship" BRIAN DOERKSEN

*CALL TO WORSHIP Barbara Noeth

One: O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name,
Many: Make known his deeds among the peoples.
One: Sing to Him, sing praises to Him.
Many: Tell of all His wonderful works.
One: Glory in His Holy name.
Many: Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

*GATHERING PRAYER (unison) Barbara Noeth

Almighty and ever present God, we come before you with open hearts, ready to hear your Word. Please stir up in us motivation to work together to follow Your will for our congregation. As we study Your Word together may our individual and corporate faith in You grow and our understanding of Your will for us become clear. We ask this in the name of our Redeemer, Jesus and continue in prayer using the words he 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) Barbara Noeth

Lord you have gifted us in so many ways, and we take delight in the many different wonderful things each of us can do that make us all unique. We know we were given these gifts for sharing. Please forgive us for our tendency to hoard our own unique gifts. Teach us to see opportunities to share them with others. Have mercy on us when we act as though we earned our gifts and they belong to us alone. Have mercy on us when we are jealous of another's unique gifts. Teach us to be Your one body on earth. Amen

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RECEIVING THE WORD

TIME WITH THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART Rev. Betsy Dorsi

SCRIPTURES Luke 19: 11-26 *(pew Bible page 854)*

SERMON "Dedicated Service" Rev. Betsy Dorsi

*HYMN #609 "Take My Life" HENDON

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Betsy Dorsi

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Invitation Barbara Noeth

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 "Try" Written by Dolly Parton

Chancel Choir

I've chased after rainbows, I've captured one or two
I've reached for the stars, I've even held a few
I've walked that lonesome valley, topped the mountains, saw the sky.
I've laughed and I have cried, but I have always tried.

I've always been a dreamer and dreams are special things
But dreams are of no value if they're not equipped with wings.
So secure yourself for climbing, make ready for the flight.
Don't let your chance go by, you'll make it if you try.

So try to be the first one up the mountain, and try to be the first to touch the sky.
And try to be the one who make a difference. Try to put your fear and doubt aside.
And try to make the most of every moment 'cause if you never try, you never win.
So try each day to try a little harder, and if you fall, get up and try again.

Nothing is impossible if you can just believe
Don't live your life in shackles when faith can be the key
The winner's one that keeps determination in his eyes
Who's not afraid to fly and not afraid to try

So try to be the first one up the mountain, and try to be the first to touch the sky
And try to count your blessings and keep counting, and try to soar where only eagles fly.
And if you fail at first, just keep on trying, for you are not a failure in God's eyes.
The first step is the one that's always hardest, but you won't amount to much if you don't try.

"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 Lord, we pray that our offerings are acceptable to You. Help us use them according to Your will. Amen

BEING THE CHURCH

*CLOSING SONG

*HYMN #371 "Wade in the Water" WADE IN THE WATER

*BENEDICTION Rev. Betsy Dorsi

*POSTLUDE Feel Free to Join Us and Sing Along!

Today's flowers were given by Justine, Alexis and Trevor in honor of Doug and Bev's 51st Wedding Anniversary.

Melinda and Ron MacKendrick are deacons of the day.
Barbara Noeth serves as liturgist today.

Prayers

New Prayers: Friends of Cathie Achorn (Rebecca, Florence F., Linda Palatka, and Pari)
Continued Prayers: Trevor Lovely; Jen Hossack; Marie Murphy's son – Craig Jernberg; Pete; Bev & Doug Hall's son Jeremy; Adam Beckloff, Linda Birch's nephew; Diane Travers; Judy Ellis's daughter, Syreeta Peddlesden; Betty Simino; Betty Gray's niece Heather; Cathie Achorn's sister-in-law, Lorie Mumby.

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR OPEN POSITION:

Lisa Coffey concluded her service with the church on October 2, 2026, as she moved on to a new professional opportunity. We wish her well in her new position and look forward to recognizing and celebrating her 15 years of dedicated service to our church during worship on Sunday, October 11.
The Personnel Committee, chaired by Janet Rivard, is overseeing the search for a new Office Administrator. If you or someone you know may be interested in the position, please contact Janet at Janet.Rivard@uccwestboro.org for a copy of the job description.

The position is 16 hours per week, with four mornings per week on-site in the church office. Key responsibilities include greeting visitors, answering phone calls, serving as a liaison among Rev. Betsy, church members, and community members, printing weekly bulletins, ordering office supplies, coordinating building-use requests, and maintaining church files.

PARISH LIFE

We are going to be collecting candy and treats for the Main Street Trick or Treat Event on October 27th. There will be a box in the kitchen for your donations.

FREE FIREWOOD

Dave Smith has some split and aged firewood which he is offering free of charge (no delivery provided). If interested, please call him at 508-366-8174 or email him at smithwestboro@cs.com

MISSIONS

Westboro Food Pantry **-** For the month of **October,** the Westborough Food Pantry needs the following: *Dinty Moore Beef Stew, chili, hash and instant potatoes.* Please no expired food or dented cans. 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 enjoy cooking for people who truly appreciate a home-cooked meal? Consider preparing a meal for the men at Dismas House as they work to rebuild their lives and reconnect with family, friends, and community after incarceration. If you can cook but cannot deliver, transportation can usually be arranged, and first-time volunteers are welcome. You're invited to stay and share the meal or simply drop it off. Nothing fancy, just a good meal prepared with care. To help, contact Pam Faustine at 978-505-7031 or pfaustine@princeton-ma.us.

OCT 11TH – OCT 18TH

Oct 11	**Sunday**
10:00 AM	Worship Service
Oct 12	**Monday –** Office Closed
7:00 PM	Trustees Meeting/Board Rm
Oct 13	**Tuesday**
7-8 PM	Bell Rehearsal
Oct 14	**Wednesday**
9:00 AM	Weavers Guild/Fellowship Hall
3:30 – 4:30 PM	Journey Home Singers
6:30-8:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Oct 15	**Thursday**
Oct 16	**Friday**
Oct 17	**Saturday**
11:00 AM	Memorial Service – Pat Muldoon
Oct 18	**Sunday**
10:00 AM	Worship Service