

# The Congregational Church of Westborough

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
57 West Main Street, Westborough, MA 01581

1724 – 2026



Photo: Unsplash by Lars\_Eberhardt

*The Evangel*  
February 2026

Rev. Betsy Dorsi, Pastor  
Joseph Stillitano, Director of Music  
Linda Borglund, Director of Faith Formation

## *A Message from Rev. Betsy...*

*"...They set out; and there ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage." (MT 2:9-11)*

This year we celebrated Epiphany during Worship by sharing some of the lessons and blessings we had received over the past year from focusing some of our prayer time on the star word we had been given. It was very interesting to hear what various people had learned from their word. Someone had the word patience, and it turns out they had extra need of it during 2025. Another shared how they came to appreciate anew the meaning of *hope*. The word *Epiphany* itself means God's self-revelation or God-sighting for short. The bright shining star was the way God revealed himself to the Magi who came to pay homage to the newborn divine king.

Everyday God seeks to let himself be known to us in many different ways. Often, we are so busy that we hurry along with our appointment schedule and our "to do" list and we don't even notice God's attempts to get our attention. These days though, with our country in such chaos, I more often find myself actively searching for God sightings. I want hope. I want proof that God not only exists but also that God is present and cares and will help us end this terrible time of strife. Then I have a God hearing. I am helped to realize that I need to look no further. All of you and all our fellow neighbors across this vast land of ours are the sign that I have been looking for; the sign that God is here. God is present. All of us working together provide the hope that we can and will, with the help of God, create a just, fair and peaceful world for all to enjoy!

However, if you didn't get one and would like one, I have a few stars left!

Keep Shining Bright!

Rev. Betsy





Office Hours:

Monday - Closed

Tuesday - Friday

9am - 1pm

**PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS**

New Prayers: Ted Jaworski and Betty Gray; Elaine Moore; Sandy Williams’ Aunt, Karen Smith.

Continued Prayers: Julia O’Neil-Welsh; Sue Menzel; Bev Hall; Jackie Smith; Adam Beckloff, Linda Birch’s nephew; Betty Gray’s niece Heather; Diane Travers; Judy Ellis’ 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

Prayer requests: You can place prayer concerns on the church’s email distribution list by emailing [lisa.coffey@uccwestboro.org](mailto:lisa.coffey@uccwestboro.org).

**ANNUAL FISCAL MEETING**

The Annual Fiscal Meeting was held on Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, and the Congregation voted to approve the 2026 budget developed by Janet Rivard and the Trustees as well as approving the expenditure of up to \$88,000 to update the bathrooms.

**MISSIONS**

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](mailto:pfaustine@princeton-ma.us)

**UPCOMING MISSION PROJECT**

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.

**WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP**

We gather in joy and in celebration of Christian Fellowship and Service. All Women are invited to join us for these evenings of fellowship. Bring a friend or neighbor.

March 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting

Social Time at 6:30 PM      Meeting at 7 PM  
Program at 7:30 PM

Melinda Mackendrick, Animal Control Officer, will educate us about the animals that live alongside us here in Westborough.

Mission of the Month Wildlife Refuge

**300<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE NEWS**

Stay tuned to your Enews/Sunday Bulletin/Evangel as we will announce when the 300th Anniversary Time Capsule will be sealed. Please let us know if you have any ideas of something you think we should enclose in the Time Capsule. Contact Cathie Achorn by text 508-380-8671 or email [camachorn@aol.com](mailto:camachorn@aol.com)

**KITCHEN RENOVATION FUNDRAISER  
EXTENDED DEADLINE!!**



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.



Join us Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary for our Ash Wednesday Service.

**WORDS OF APPRECIATION**

*The following organization has acknowledged donations/contributions from our church:*

<i>Westboro Food Pantry</i>	<i>\$1,189.50</i>
<i>Pastoral Counseling Centers of MA</i>	<i>\$709.50</i>

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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[www.facebook.com/TheCongregationalChurchofWestborough](https://www.facebook.com/TheCongregationalChurchofWestborough)

~ February 2026 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 10am Worship Service COMMUNION	<b>2</b> 6:00 pm WF Meeting/Vestry Church Office Closed	<b>3</b> 6:30 pm – Building Committee/ Kerygma Rm 7:00-8:00 pm - Bell Rehearsal	<b>4</b> 3:30 - 4:30 pm - Journey Home Singers/Choir Rm 6:30 - 8:00 - Choir Rehearsal EVANGEL DEADLINE	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 10am Worship Service 11:15 am – ANNUAL MEETING SOUPER BOWL	<b>9</b> 7:00 pm- Trustees/Kerygma Rm Church Office Closed	<b>10</b> 7:00-8:00 pm - Bell Rehearsal	<b>11</b> 9:30 am Called to Care 11:00 am – Staff Meeting 3:30 - 4:30 pm - Journey Home Singers/Choir Rm 6:30-8:00 – Choir Rehearsal	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 4-5:30 - Scouts/Fellowship Hall	<b>14</b> 9:00 am – Men’s Breakfast 
<b>15</b> 10am Worship Service Noon -Book Club Discussion & Potluck lunch	<b>16</b> Noon-2:pm – PCCM/ Board Rm 7:00 - pm Church Board/Board Rm Church Office Closed	<b>17</b> 6:30 pm – Building Committee/ Board Rm 7:00-8:00 pm - Bell Rehearsal	<b>18</b> 7:00 pm – Ash Wednesday Service/ Sanctuary	<b>19</b> 6:00 pm – Pride Connections	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 10am Worship Service	<b>23</b> 7:30 pm – Missions/Zoom Church Office Closed	<b>24</b> 10:30 am – Whitney Place Service 7:00-8:00 pm - Bell Rehearsal Dinner/Dismas House	<b>25</b> 11:00 am – Staff Meeting 3:30 - 4:30 pm - Journey Home Singers/Choir Rm 6:30-8:00 – Choir Rehearsal	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 5:00-8:00 pm – Bahais of Westborough/Fellowship Hall
						

~ March 2026 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> COMMUNION 10am Worship Service Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast	<b>2</b> 6:00 pm WF Meeting/Fell. Hall 6-8 pm Scouts/Board Rm Church Office Closed	<b>3</b> 6:30 pm – Building Committee/ Board Rm 7:00-8:00 pm - Bell Rehearsal	<b>4</b> 3:30 - 4:30 pm - Journey Home Singers/Choir Rm 6:30 - 8:00 - Choir Rehearsal <b>EVANGEL DEADLINE</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 2-3:30 pm Scouts/Fellowship Hall
<b>8</b> 10am Worship Service 11:15 am – Deacons Meeting	<b>9</b> 7:00 pm- Trustees/Board Rm Church Office Closed	<b>10</b> 10:30 am – Whitney Place Service 7:00-8:00 pm - Bell Rehearsal	<b>11</b> 9 am – Weavers/Fellowship Hall 9:30 am Called to Care 11:00 am – Staff Meeting 6:30-8:00 – Choir Rehearsal	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 9 am – 5 pm Weavers Workshop Fellowship Hall	<b>14</b> 9 am – 5 pm Weavers Workshop Fellowship Hall
<b>15</b> 10am Worship Service	<b>16</b> Noon-2pm -PCCM/Board Rm 7:00 - pm Cabinet/Board Rm Church Office Closed	<b>17</b> 6:30 pm – Building Committee/ Board Rm 7:00-8:00 pm - Bell Rehearsal 	<b>18</b> 6:30-8:00 – Choir Rehearsal	<b>19</b> 6:00 pm – Pride Connections	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9:00 am – Men's Breakfast Noon – Set up for meal packing
<b>22</b> 10am Worship Service MEAL PACKING EVENT	<b>23</b> 7:30 pm – Missions/Zoom Church Office Closed	<b>24</b> 7:00-8:00 pm - Bell Rehearsal Dinner/Dismas House	<b>25</b> 11:00 am – Staff Meeting 3:30 - 4:30 pm - Journey Home Singers/Choir Rm 6:30-8:00 – Choir Rehearsal	<b>26</b> 6:30 pm - Christian Seder Meal	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 10am Worship Service	<b>30</b> Church Office Closed	<b>31</b> 7:00-8:00 pm - Bell Rehearsal	