

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WESTBOROUGH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
October 16, 2011 10:00 AM  
The 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost/Baptism

“WE ARE LEAVES OF ONE BRANCH, THE DROPS OF ONE SEA, THE FLOWERS OF ONE GARDEN”  
Jean Baptiste Lacordaire, 19<sup>th</sup> century

SERVICE OF PREPARATION

*\*The Congregation is invited to stand.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *Our Living Church*

PRELUDE Jesus, Lover of My Soul arr. by Emma Lou Diemer

INTROIT

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Elaine S. Gaetani

*Leader:* We are drawn to worship by a Reality unseen. The One we call God is beyond human description.

**People:** God is more than we can ever imagine. We sense God's presence as we meditate.

*Leader:* We gather in awe to bring our songs of praise. The Creator of all things has given us life.

**People:** We are amazed by the wonders around us. We feel God's presence as we sing together.

*Leader:* We are summoned by name, by the One who is just and merciful. The Ruler of all worlds expects us to respond.

**All:** **How amazing that God chooses us as messengers. We know God is with us as we work for peace, to bring God's Realm, to proclaim justice. Amen.**

HYMN # 464 *God of Grace and God of Glory* CWM RHONDDA

\*GATHERING PRAYER

Appear to us here, God of all worlds, for we need your assurance and blessing. We seek the strength to do what is right and just, what will help to usher in Your Realm. We long to see you, even though we sense that a god we could see would be only a tiny part of You whose Spirit fills all time and all space. We so often want You to have a face like ours, so we find Your Face in Jesus, and occasionally in one another. We want to be certain that our decisions and actions are right, but often it is only long afterwards that we realize You were with us. O God, we want to be open to all you are revealing to us now. Amen.

\*CALL TO CONFESSION Dr. Dirkje F. Legerstee  
We are invited to reflect on the wrongs we have done, the good we have neglected and the motives that underlie our behavior. What are the idols that attract us, the responsibilities we seek to avoid, the schemes by which we pursue selfish advantages? God already knows, but we need to recognize and confess them.

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION  
Awesome and Amazing God, how small is our cleverness before the magnitude of Your Reality! How fleeting are our days measured against the far reaches of eternity! Yet we set our limited knowledge and restricted purposes against Your will for us and presume to direct our own affairs and those of the whole world. O God, we are trapped in our pretensions. Turn us, we pray, from our need for proof, to extravagant praise. Turn us inside out so our self-interest becomes concern for all Your neglected children. Suppress in us the sinful ways we find so difficult to mangle on our own, that we may joyously render to You all that is already Yours. Amen.

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON  
When we allow God to touch us, our malice is melted down, our fears are defeated, our failures are forgiven. God raises us from death to New life, from helplessness to hope, from arrogant self-seeking to humble service. Praise Be to the Living God! Enter now into the joy of True Worship!

SERVICE OF THE WORD

CHILDREN'S WORD *(As children leave, please greet those near you.)* Missions Committee

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*It is our joy to welcome Ashleigh and James Erickson  
as they bring their daughter to be baptized this morning.*

**Charlotte Deborah Erickson**  
*Born May 6, 2011*

Pastor: Members and Friends in Christ, we gather now around this font of living water to celebrate the gift of grace in the Sacrament of Baptism.

**People: We are called here as part of the Body of Christ. Just as the body is one and has many members, the many members are one body in Christ. For by one Spirit we are baptized into one body and all drink of one Spirit.**

Pastor: The sacrament of baptism is an outward and visible sign of an inward invisible grace of God which already dwells within us.

**People: Here we proclaim that all life is God's gift and the gift is good. In baptism we are united with Christ and affirm our part in Christ's ministry.**

Pastor: Baptism is the beginning of our growth into Christian faith and discipleship. We thank God for the life of this child and we praise God for the ever new possibilities which lie open to her as a child of God.

**People: Today we receive this child into the love and care of our Church, so as she grows and matures she may come to know God and offer her gifts to God in service to the world.**

#### THE VOW OF THE CONGREGATION

**We receive this child as a new person in Christ whose body we are as the Congregational Church of Westborough. We offer our understanding and support as Charlotte explores life, and enfold her in our lives, seeking together to grow in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and all people. We join with these parents in telling the Gospel in our midst so that this child may live with us for Christ, showing forth Christ's love for all humanity.**

#### GIVING OF THE NAME

#### ACT OF BAPTISM

#### CLOSING PRAYER

#### SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Exodus 33: 12-23

Isaiah 45: 1-8

1 Thessalonians 1: - 2: 1-8

ANTHEM                      The Lord Is the Strength of My Life                      Tina English

SERMON      OVERCOMING OBSTACLES: Recommitting Ourselves to God      Rev. Elaine s. Gaetani

#### SERVICE OF RESPONSE

HYMN # 337                      *Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult*                      GALILEE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE                      Pedro Silva

#### OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Invitation: *Count Yourself Blessed – In Luke 6:38, Jesus says, “Give and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, they pour into your lap. For by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you in return.” God has given us all that we have – food, shelter, family, friends and most importantly his own son. Giving back to God is a measure of our faith and trust in God. Let us give our morning offering with grateful and generous hearts.*

Offertory                      Sun of My Soul                      arr. by Albin C. Whitworth

#### \*DOXOLOGY (*Unison*)

**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

\*HYMN # 453                      *Called as Partners in Christ's Service*                      BEECHER

#### BENEDICTION: (*Responsive*)

Leader: We have gathered in community to worship God. Now our service of praise continues in the world.

**People: God has forgiven and blessed us in this gathering. Now we scatter to forgive and bless others.**

Leader: Here, the Holy Spirit has deepened our convictions. Now God calls us by name to let our faith be known in other places.

**People: We serve a true and living God, everywhere present. We are blessed to be God's own people.**

**All: We will spend ourselves this week for God's children. Then we will return to strengthen one another. Amen. Amen.**

\*POSTLUDE                      Jesus Shall Reign                      arr. by Raymond H. Haan

**Mary Ann Brayer** serves as liturgist

**Betty Barclay** greeted you this morning.

**Linda Borglund** and **Doug Hall** are Deacons of the week.

**Brett Borglund** is Trustee liaison.

Flowers are given today in loving memory of our brother and uncle, David John Foss, by the **Foss and Williamson families.**

Coffee Hour is hosted by **Wendy Roberts.**

**Join us for refreshments and fellowship downstairs following worship**

#### PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS OCTOBER 16, 2011

Bereaved: The family of Barbara Minardi who passed away Oct. 9th; The family of Shirley Gates whose service will be Monday at 4pm at the Pickering Funeral home.

New Prayers: Jose and Zoila Del Cid (friends of Carolyn Bent).

Continued Prayers: Jamie (Judy Ellis' son); Eileen Stewart (Bonnie Rossi's mother); Adam Bent and wife Amanda (Carolyn Bent's nephew); Amy (friend of Gen Benton); Jean Newton; Mike and Maranda Newton (Mike is being deployed to Afghanistan this month); Thalia Genes and Susan Tobias (friends of Phyllis Newton); Nettie Seavey (friend of Carolyn Bent); Bob Gatley (friend of many in the congregation); Rev. Cindy Frado, Christopher Doyle (Pam Faustine's brother-in-law); Joanne & Jim Gringas (friends of Kathy Todd); Joan Jacobs; Marie Murphy's daughter.

Visitation Request: If you have a prayer or visit request, please note it on the “A Note to the Pastors” card in the pews and put it in the offering plate or hand it to a Deacon. You can place prayer concerns on the church's email distribution list at [epayers@uccwestboro.org](mailto:epayers@uccwestboro.org). If you would like a prayer request included in today's service, please let a Deacon know prior to the start of worship. *This list is updated monthly. To add or renew an ongoing concern, please call the church office at 508-366-2000 or email [westboroucc@verizon.net](mailto:westboroucc@verizon.net).*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### STEWARDSHIP MOMENT – OCTOBER 16, 2011

#### **“Count Yourself Blessed”**

I am definitely blessed. I have a wonderful wife; three children that I love dearly. And I have an extended family (near and far), that are all truly a blessing to me and my life. I am also blessed with friends (also near and far) that are an important part of my life.

I also count among my blessings “my church family”. I don't think in terms of “which programs do I find useful” or “which programs do my family members enjoy”. Rather, I appreciate the people, the other individuals of our church family who make these programs and events and meals and services and boards and committees meaningful. The people make the difference – the individuals are the blessing – the individuals make this our church.

I want to support my church family and all that it means for me and my family. I want to contribute financially to our church and its mission; and I also want to contribute by participating in the life of our church. I encourage my family members to contribute and participate in the activities of our church. Perhaps it's become trite; but when you contribute, in any way, you receive many times in return. So, as we enter into this time of reflection; let's all consider how truly blessed we are to have one another and to have this church family and all that it provides for us and those around us. And, let's all prayerfully consider all of the ways we will contribute to our church family.

Enjoy our blessings!

**Rich Lord**

### JOIN THE EMAIL PRAYER CHAIN

If you are not a recipient of Prayer Chain emails but would like to be, please send an email to the Prayer Chain Coordinator at: [epayers@uccwestborough.org](mailto:epayers@uccwestborough.org). We welcome new participants. It is a good way to be aware of the concerns and celebrations of the congregation for inclusion in your prayers. The Prayer Chain webmail site is password protected and accessible only to the Coordinator and the church Webmaster. Note: the Prayer Chain is different from the Prayer List which is managed by the church office and published in the weekly bulletins and monthly Evangel. Upon expressing your interest in joining the Prayer Chain, you will receive from the church's webmail provider, DreamHost, an email asking you to confirm that you want to “subscribe” to Eprayers. “Subscribe” simply means that you want to receive the Prayer Chain emailings. There is no cost, no form to complete, nor anything else to do except to click on the link provided in the email. The confirmation reply is required by DreamHost to prevent people from using DreamHost's webmail to send spam emails. Thank you. Jerry Lyle, Prayer Chain Coordinator.

### LAY VISITATION

Come join the Visitation Committee as we discuss “Visiting for Everyone” a workshop led by Rev. Dave Russo, Executive Director of the Assabet Valley Pastoral Counseling Center, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 11am in the Boardroom at Kirkside.

### NEW MEMBER SEMINARS

If you are interested in finding out more about our Church or would like to join the church, please plan on attending the New Member Seminars on October 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. New Members will be joining the Church on October 30<sup>th</sup>. For more information contact **Linda Borglund** at 870-5784 or the Church Office at 366-2000.

### WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Women's Fellowship is still collecting donations for the Church World Service Kits – Hygiene and School Bags, plus money donations for shipping the kits and for CWS to put together their Clean Up Buckets. In the November meeting we'll be hearing about Veterans and the programs that help them as they return home. You can go to the website to look at their Wish List [www.massveterans.org](http://www.massveterans.org). We will be collecting items at the November 7<sup>th</sup> Women's Fellowship Meeting and on Sundays in November, that will be delivered to a local program for Veterans. Some copies of the Wish List are on the Mission Table in the Vestry. Thank you, Marilyn Lyle.

### MUSIC COMMITTEE

The Music Committee invites you to our Musicale “MUSIC 'n MORE, TALENT GALORE!” – Saturday, October 22 at 7pm in the Sanctuary. A musical extravaganza featuring music ensembles, instrumentalists, vocal soloists, and comedy acts. A hilarious appearance will be made by “Goofus”, the Hillbilly band that's in dire need of soap and a dental plan. Also, don't miss the Off Church Street Players as they make their special World Premiere appearance because you may (or may not) see some Oscar worthy performances! Then join us in the Vestry afterwards for an Artist Reception with refreshments. Free-will donations will be gratefully accepted in support of the music programs of the church. The event is being produced by Jim and Linda Duncan, and the Masters of Ceremony are Charlie Flood and Ken Gilbert. It's open to the public so invite your friends!

### IHN – “A PLACE TO CALL HOME”

The Mission and Social Concerns Committee has recently made a \$1,000 donation to the Interfaith Hospitality Network of Worcester's “A Place To Call Home”, which will help make the dream of purchasing a permanent home become a reality! The IHN has the opportunity to purchase a two-family home in a safe, friendly neighborhood in Worcester with parking, a garage, a fenced yard for their guest families and enough space for their program to grow!

The Interfaith Hospitality Network is an organization that unites people of faith to serve homeless families with shelter, meals, and assistance with housing and employment search. Our Church makes a commitment every summer to help the IHN with hosting responsibilities. Many of our Church members have signed up over the years to prepare meals, serve dinner, and stay overnight with these guests, many of which are young children. These families move to a different “host” location as often as every two weeks. Other Church members have helped raise money recently by participating in the IHN Ride for a Reason Bikeathon!

What an amazing gift from God to help provide a home so that they are not being displaced every two weeks! “To make the long-sought goal of a static site a reality; to promote the well-being of our IHN families; to abide by state codes and keep our guests and volunteers safe, we need to all come together!”

Anyone who would like to contribute may send their donation to: “A Place To Call Home”, BayState Savings Bank, 628 Main St., Holden, MA 01520, Attn: Veronika Tovanyan

### HELP FEED THE HUNGRY (1/1/11 – 11/11/11)

Please join the Missions Committee and help support our local Food Pantry! For the first 11 Days of November we are hoping to collect 1,111 food and household items for the Westborough Food Pantry. Donate a Stop & Shop or Roche Bros. card (purchased at Church of course!) or write a check to the Food Pantry for \$11 or \$111! Did you know that a donation of \$1,000 from our Church can provide meat, eggs and bread for 85 families for a week! The Food Pantry is in desperate need of these items: canned fruit, tuna fish, rice, ramen noodles, canned pasta (raviolis, spaghettiios, etc), baked beans, cake mixes and brownie mixes. (They do not need soup at this time).

Bring your items to Church and place them under the Missions table located in the Vestry. If you would like your donation picked up, call **Karen Hutchinson** at 508-870-1782.

### THANKSGIVING DINNER FOR WESTBOROUGH RESIDENTS

Once again, the Knights of Columbus, in conjunction with several civic organizations and religious communities in Westborough, will be sponsoring a Thanksgiving Day dinner. Reservations must be made by Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, at the Senior Center. Home deliveries will be made at noontime on Thanksgiving Day and will only be available for those folks who receive *Meals on Wheels*. The dinner itself will begin at 1pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall. There are some openings available for volunteers in a variety of capacities. Sign-up sheets will be forthcoming.

### CARE FOR CAREGIVERS

Care for Caregivers will be held Saturday, Oct 22, 9:30am – 3:30 pm at Glastonbury Abbey in Hingham, MA just south of Boston. The day will include unique worship, gentle yoga and stretching, large and small group spiritual exercises, a presentation on practical caregiver resources and more. The retreat cost \$50 per person. If you have any questions or want more information, contact Lindsay McGrath at 781-385-9401 or visit [www.spiritedmovements.org](http://www.spiritedmovements.org).

### GROCERY CARD SALES

**Goal for 2011 Budget:** \$12,000      **Year to Date Sales:** \$8020.75      **Left to sell** \$3,979.25

**Financial Update:** Our goal to raise \$12,000 for the operation budget of our Church is an ambitious one. At the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter in September, grocery cards had raised \$7,636.00. That's pretty impressive but **15% below** where we need to be at this time. And we realize that some of our shoppers will be curious about the opening of the new Wegman's. Who isn't? We think we can still reach our goal if we use grocery cards to buy Halloween candy, gift cards to restaurants, stores, movies and more. Together we can do this! Contact us if you need cards. Thank you, **Sue Menzel:** 366-1268; **Sally Petersen:** 366-5169 or sbpetersen4@gmail.com; **Nancy Quimby:** 898-3463 or nquimby11@charter.net.

**THE EVANGEL** – deadline OCTOBER 19, published OCTOBER 26

**BULLETIN** – deadline WEDNESDAY

**HOSTING COFFEE HOUR** – call **Linda Borglund** 870-5784.

**BAPTISM** – Call the church office 366-2000 or speak to a Deacon.

**SUNDAY GREETERS** – Contact **Linda Birch** 870-9911.

**LITURGIST** – Contact **Lynne Caldwell** 366-7635.

**CHANCEL FLOWERS** – Sign chart in the Vestry or call **Chris Mosher** 366-2250 or **Nancy Gage** 366-9266.

**HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE** – For a member or friend who needs meals, call **Betty Gray** 366-1039.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE** – Call **Rich Lord** 366-3835 to serve on church boards or committees.

**AUDIO VISUAL REQUESTS** – Let **Tom & Donna Morgan** know at least one week in advance 366-0358.

Ministry: By the whole congregation

The Rev. Dr. Dirkje F.Legerstee, Interim Pastor - [dlegerstee@comcast.net](mailto:dlegerstee@comcast.net)

The Rev. Elaine S. Gaetani, Associate Pastor - [revelaineg@aol.com](mailto:revelaineg@aol.com)

Mr. Pedro Silva, Student Minister – [Psilva@ants.edu](mailto:Psilva@ants.edu)

Curtis Richardson, Director of Music

Church Office Phone 508/366-2000

Office hours: Mon. Tue. Thur. 9am-2pm; Wed. Fri. 9am-1pm

General Church email – [WestboroUCC@Verizon.net](mailto:WestboroUCC@Verizon.net)

Church web site [www.UCCwestboro.org](http://www.UCCwestboro.org)

U.C.C. web sites - <http://www.macucc.org> (Mass Conference) & <http://www.ucc.org> (National)

Our vision: *Embodying Compassion, Embracing  
Change, Growing Together in Faith and Love*  
(ECC vision in process as of May 2011)

### CALENDAR

<b>Today</b>	<b>Sunday/Baptism</b>
10:00 AM	Worship & Church School
11:30 AM	New member class Part I/Kirkside
11:30 AM	Search Open Meeting/Kerygma Room
1:00 PM	<b>CROP WALK</b>
3:30 pm	BSA/Playground/Kirkside
4:00 PM	GSA/Vestry
<b>Oct. 17</b>	<b>Monday</b>
4:00 PM	GSA/Kerygma Room
6:30 PM	Search Committee/Kerygma Room
7:00 PM	AVPCC/Board Room
7:00 PM	Rev. Legerstee's PPRC/Study
7:30 PM	AA/3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Kirkside
<b>Oct. 18</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>
9:00 AM	AVPCC/Board Room
11:00 AM	Called to Care Training/Board Room
2:00-5:00 PM	Weaver's Guild/3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Kirkside
6:30 PM	BSA/Board Room, Historical Room
7:00 PM	BSA/Vestry
7:30 PM	Festival Ringers/Bell Loft
<b>Oct. 19</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
<b>EVANGEL DEADLINE</b>	
4:00 PM	GSA/Vestry
4:00 PM	"Journey Home"/Choir Room
6:00 PM	Confirmation Class/3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Kirkside
6:00 PM	Adult Study/Historical Room
6:30 PM	GSA Leaders/Vestry
7:00 PM	Cabinet/Board Room
<b>Oct. 20</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
1:00 PM	Staff meeting/Board Room
4:15-5:00 PM	Youth Choir
5:00-5:45 PM	Parkman Bells
6:00 PM	Rev. Gaetani's PPRC/Board Room
7:30 PM	Chancel Choir
<b>Oct 21</b>	<b>Friday</b>
9:30 AM	Playgroup/Vestry
12:00-9:00 PM	Rehearsal for musicale/Sanctuary
<b>Oct. 22</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
10:00 AM	Musicale Rehearsal/Sanctuary & Vestry
7:00 PM	"Music 'n More – Talent Galore" (refreshments to follow)
<b>Oct. 23</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
10:00 AM	Worship & Church School
11:30 AM	New Member Class Part II/Kirkside
2:30 PM	Beaumont Nursing Home

# The Congregational Church of Westborough

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
West Main & Church Streets, Westborough, Massachusetts



WE WELCOME VISITORS AND NEWCOMERS!

Our mission is to create a safe place to worship God, and to honor  
and explore God's promises, fulfilled in Jesus Christ;  
where Christ calls us to transforming relationships;  
and where we embrace gifts of the Spirit and build them  
into a ministry of love, care, acceptance, diversity, grace and hope  
within our church, our community and beyond.

