

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WESTBOROUGH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
October 30, 2011 10:00 AM
Reformation Sunday

SERVICE OF PREPARATION

**The Congregation is invited to stand.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *Our Living Church*

PRELUDE But the Lord is Mindful of His Own Felix Mendelssohn

INTROIT Old Time Religion Yarmouth
(Parkman Bells dir. By Jen Keeler) arr. by M.L. Thompson

*CALL TO WORSHIP *(Jeremiah 31:7-9)* Rev. Dr. Dirkje F. Legerstee

One: Sing aloud with gladness.

Many: God is gathering the people!

One: From the farthest parts of the earth we come.

Many: All who struggle; all who labor with new life!

One: Those who are weeping, God will console;

Many: Those who get lost find a clear path home.

One: Let us worship the God who gathers us!

*HYMN # 65 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God EIN' FESTE BURG

*UNISON PRAYER

Ever-calling God, We give thanks that you have gathered us into your church and graced us with your faithful presence. We ponder our history, ancient and still developing, and marvel at the many expressions of your church. Grant us the vision to be a part of a new reformation for the Church that will bring ever more joy and justice to the world. Continue to gather us, the diverse lot of us, into Jesus' vision and dream that your faithful people may be one in you. Amen.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus said, Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your soul; for my yoke is easy and my burden is light. Let us rest in God's compassion as we pray the Prayer of Confession together...

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Still -Speaking God, we are grateful for our spiritual forbears who cared enough to speak up and to speak out for what they believed to be the best ways to return your love. Help us by your grace to let the best of the past live through us. Open our ears to discern your Word speaking to us this day. Forgive us when we do not use our voices to proclaim your good news, or to speak up for the poor. Empower us to protest against injustice and give us the wisdom to keep silence when that too serves your will. Inspire us to act rather than do nothing or wait for others to do what must be done. Creating God, come lay your holy hands upon us. Fashion and refashion us in your image to shine as your beacon of hope and light to the world, as the Body of Christ our Sovereign. Amen.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Debt)*

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, for ever. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Take heart, get up; Jesus is calling to us! We trust in the one who has guided the church for two millennia. Through Christ, God forgives us our failings, and continues to call us into a community of mutual love and forgiveness. Let us celebrate this mercy of God by greeting each other with a sign of Christ's peace.

*ACT OF PRAISE #35 *Glory Be to the Father*
**Glory be to the Father (God), and to the Son (Christ),
and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

ANTHEM I Could Sing Of Love Forever Martin Smith

CHILDREN'S WORD Rev. Elaine S. Gaetani

(As children leave, please greet those near you.)

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

It is our joy to welcome Maria DeCew, Andy Girard, David McLeod, Sara & Chad Chysna and sons Ryan, Evan and Aaron, as they join our church family this morning. Bud and Cathy Purcell, with their daughters, Sara and Rachael (joining in absentia)

You are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are equally citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus alone being the cornerstone in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in Christ, in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

Leaders: We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify.

People: You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

Leaders: You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin. You judge people and nations by your righteous will, declared through the prophets and apostles.

People: In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

Leaders: You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

People: You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil.

Leaders: To share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

People: You promise to all who trust you, forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Leaders: Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you.

All: Amen.

QUESTION OF PARTICIPATION

Pastor: Do you promise to participate in the life and mission of this family of God's people sharing regularly in the worship of God and enlisting in the mission of The Congregational Church of Westborough, UCC as it serves the community and the world? If so, say, "I do with the help of God."

Pastor: Let us, the friends and members of The Congregational Church in Westborough, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

*OWNING OF THE COVENANT

"We covenant with the Lord and one another, and do commit ourselves in the presence of God to walk together in the way of justice and love as it is revealed to us through Holy Scripture and God's continuing revelation. We will strive to be doers of the word, to be firm in faith, enlivened by hope, and constant in love."

CONGREGATION AFFIRMATION

We welcome you all with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the Church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP, THE GIFT OF BREAD

CONGREGATIONAL SUNG RESPONSE # 445 Go In Peace

Go in peace and the peace of God be with you this day.

Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.

Celebrate and share the joy! Celebrate new life!

Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Mark 10:46-52

(pew bible pg. 822)

MEDITATION

Reforming One's Perspective Rev. Dr. Dirkje F. Legerstee

SERVICE OF RESPONSE

HYMN # 490

Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant

THE SERVANT SONG

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pedro Silva

MUSICAL RESPONSE

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Stewardship Moment

Brad Ridley

Offertory

Romanza

Ludwig van Beethoven

*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

Creating God, you are the source and the giver of all good gifts. We thank you for the abundant blessings of your love, your forgiveness and your grace. Please accept our gifts of time, talent, and treasure as our cheerful response to your overflowing goodness in our lives. Amen.

DEACONS CALL

*HYMN # 461 (*verses 1&4*) Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service BEACH SPRING

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE Lead On, O King Eternal Greg Sewell

On this date in 1517, Martin Luther posted 95 Theses (propositions) on the door of the Wittenberg Castle Church as an invitation to debate the sale of indulgences for forgiveness. That event sparked a reform movement that eventually led to a Lutheran church and separate denominations. While there is much sorrow in the disunity which the Reformation caused, Luther did establish the idea that the Church is always in need of reform in the light of the gospel. Luther's primary principal that Christians are justified by God's grace through faith in Christ has also found universal acceptance among denominations. Today we pray for church unity, for the purity of God's word, and for a church that is always open to reform and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Worship Notes: The Call and Unison Prayer come from UCC Worship Ways
<http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/year-b/p/a-new-reformation-of-the.html>

Linda Borglund serves as liturgist.

Marlene Zabrecky greeted you this morning.

Carolyn Bent and Pam Faustine are Deacons of the week.

Brett Borglund is Trustee liaison.

Coffee hour is hosted by Marilyn Lyle.

Join us for refreshments and fellowship downstairs following worship

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS OCTOBER 30, 2011

New Prayers: Toni Stewart (Bonnie Rossi's sister).

Continued Prayers: Gordon and Verna Dwyer in VA (Tom Dwyer's parents); Ruth Burke and her children (friends of Kathy and Gabe Leblanc); Kyle Motta (age 1) facing heart surgery; Jose and Zoila Del Cid (friends of Carolyn Bent); 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); Christopher Doyle (Pam Faustine's brother-in-law); Joanne & Jim Gingras (friends of Kathy Todd); Joan Jacobs.

Hospice Care: Bob Gatley (friend of many in the congregation).

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. 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*
Bereavement: Betty Millard passed away this week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HERITAGE SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR – NOVEMBER 6TH

Next Sunday's worship is Heritage Sunday. As Christians, Holy Communion is the great sacrament of love from which we are fed and nurtured. The theme for worship next week is, "Celebrating Our Legacy and Moving into the Future". Several voices will speak from the past, as well as beckon into a promising future. Each of you is invited to participate in this celebration by bringing finger foods, cookies or snacks from your own heritage for coffee hour. This could be a family recipe, a country of origin, your favorite! Please contact Elaine Moore who is coordinating our offerings! At emoore77@juno.com.

PARISH LIFE – MOVIE NIGHT

Parish Life presents Family Movie Night – Friday, November 18th at 7pm in the Vestry. We will be featuring the movie **YOGI BEAR**. There will be refreshments and popcorn. Bring a blanket to sit on if you wish. Every one (all ages) is invited. Call **Cathie** 508-870-0521 with questions.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Our November meeting is going to be a touching and tasty one as we hear from service member about her time in the military. Afterwards we are hoping to have many wonderful fudge and chocolate covered pretzels to sample as we decide which recipes will be used for the Great Congregational Church Fudge and Chocolate Cooking Event in early November (it doesn't have to be chocolate fudge only) The choices made will depend upon taste and ease of recipe. The candy will be sold at the fair at our new fudge and candy section. Doesn't Jean Newton have some very excellent ideas? I am hoping for many participants to assure the success of this new fair addition!

- In Loving fellowship, Carolyn. Questions? Leave a message at my home 508-393-7809 or email me at ceb1217@gmail.com.

CHURCH SCHOOL

This week marks the culmination of our month long study of the stories of Moses and God's love. The 2nd and 3rd graders will have their long awaited turn in Divinity Diner (if you missed your class' turn let me know and we will let you in, too!). During Fellowship Hour be sure to check out the special space created by our 6th, 7th and 8th graders along with their leaders, Amber Bock and Ted Jaworski, last Sunday. It is a re-creation of Moses' "Meeting Tent," the spiritual meeting tent that he would set up on the outer edge of the Israelites' camp to talk with God. Next week is Communion Sunday. Grades 6 through 8 will attend the Communion Church Service with their families. Grades K through 5 will start in the Chapel. They will hear an introduction to our new curriculum unit and help to count the canned goods collected by the Missions Committee. Keep those food donations coming!!

SANTA'S WORKSHOP

TODAY after church we will have an "elf brigade" to help bring all the baskets, gift items, wrapping supplies, etc. for Santa's Workshop down from the attic and into the Kerygma Room. Many hands make light work and ALL help is appreciated!!! THANK YOU!!! Kathy Reynolds

MUSICALE A HUGE SUCCESS

The Music Committee would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to all those that participated and helped to make last week's MUSICALE "Music 'n More, Talent Galore" so successful. It turned out to be a fantastic evening full of fun and entertainment and we brought in many new faces to our church. Some parts were hilarious. Several parts were just awesome displays of musical talent. We finally learned who the Off-Church Street players were. I'm sure I was sober but I recall seeing a clown, a reindeer, and Victorian Ladies among other things. Who knew we had such theatrical talent in our congregation? And who could forget "Goofus". When all the Fay Mountain Ramblers came together on stage you could almost see a full set of teeth... which I'm sure put a smile on everyone's face. It's impossible to adequately thank all those that performed and all those that donated so much of their time to help behind the scenes except to just keep repeating it over and over...THANK YOU...THANK YOU! You know who you are so give yourselves a much appreciated pat on the back.

CHURCH TLC – CONTINUES

Saturday, November 12 is our next opportunity to continue the work we started within our church facilities. Previously, we put forth a lot of effort on cleaning up different areas inside and outside. The next step is some sanding and painting in the Vestry, Music Room and hallways. We will again put together a list of tasks to accomplish, and go after those tasks based on the number of people that join our team effort. So if you have time to give and would like to join our TLC team, please stop by from 9 am to 2 pm. We will provide the supplies and tools needed for the tasks at hand. There is no sign up, no sign in, no sign out and no apologies when you have to leave. Any questions, let me know. **Art Sharkey**

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 (11/1/11 – 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, spaghettios, 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 16th, 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.

GROCERY CARD SALES

Goal for 2011 Budget: \$12,000 **Year to Date Sales:** \$8,360.75 **Left to sell** \$3,639.25

Financial Update: Our goal to raise \$12,000 for the operation budget of our Church is an ambitious one. At the end of the 3rd 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 Rev. Dr. Dirkje F.Legerstee, Interim Pastor - dlegerstee@comcast.net

The Rev. Elaine S. Gaetani, Associate Pastor - revelaineg@aol.com

Mr. Pedro Silva, Student Minister - 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

Church web site 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)

THE EVANGEL – deadline NOVEMBER 16, published NOVEMBER 23.

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.

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.



The Congregational Church

CALENDAR

Today	Sunday (New Members Join)
10:00 AM	Worship & Church School
4:00-8:00 PM	GSA/Vestry
6:30 PM	Search Committee/Board Room
Oct. 31	Monday
4:00 PM	BSA/Vestry
7:30 PM	AA/3 rd Floor Kirkside
Nov. 1	Tuesday
9:00 AM	Called to Care/Board Room
9:00 AM	AVPCC/Board Room
2:00-5:00 PM	Weaver's Guild/3 rd Floor Kirkside
7:00 PM	BSA/Vestry
7:00 PM	Missions/Board Room
7:30 PM	Festival Ringers/Bell Loft
Nov. 2	Wednesday
1:00 PM	Staff Meeting/Board Room
4:00 PM	GSA/Vestry
4:00 PM	"Journey Home"/Choir Room
6:00 PM	Confirmation Class/3 rd Floor Kirkside
6:30 PM	Adult Study/Historical Room
7:00 PM	Trustees/Board Room
7:30 PM	BSA/Thou Art
Nov. 3	Thursday
4:15-5:00 PM	Youth Choir
5:00-5:45 PM	Parkman Bells
6:30 PM	BSA/Board Room, Historical Room
7:30 PM	Chancel Choir
Nov. 4	Friday
No Events Scheduled	
Nov. 5	Saturday (Fall Back 1 hour)
9:30 AM	GSA/Vestry
12:00-6:00 PM	Private Event/Vestry
Nov. 6	Heritage Sunday/COMMUNION
10:00 AM	Worship & Church School
Confirmants/Mentors commissioned	
4:00-8:00 PM	GSA/Vestry
7:00 PM	Sr. High Youth Group/3 rd Floor
	BSA/Playground/Kirkside