

Collect:

O Almighty God who builds your church upon the foundation of the prophets and apostles, Jesus Christ himself being the corner stone, grant us a unity of Spirit that we may be your dwelling place, and a beacon of light and love to the world. Amen

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH of WESTBOROUGH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

November 6, 2011

10:00 am

Heritage Sunday

SERVICE OF PREPARATION

**The Congregation is invited to stand.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *Our Living Church*
Pedro Silva is praying with the children in the Parkman Chapel and will join us late.

PRELUDE *Andantino* Todd Kendall

INTROIT

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP *Rev. Dr. Dirkje F. Legerstee*

One: Gather us in the lost and the lonely, the broken and breaking, the tired and aching who long for the nourishment found at your feast.

All: **Gather us in the done and the doubting, the wishing and wondering, the puzzled and pondering, who long for the company found at your feast.**

One: Gather us in the Proud and pretentious, the sure and superior, the ever inferior, who long for the leveling found at your feast.

All: **Gather us in the bright and the busting, the stirrers and shakers, the kind laughter makers who long for the deeper joys found at your feast.**

One: Gather us in from corner or limelight, from mansion or campsite, from fears and obsession, from tears and depression, from untold excesses, from treasured successes, to meet, to eat, to be given a seat, to be joined to the vine, to be offered new wine, become like the least, be found at the feast

All: **GATHER US IN!**

HYMN # 284 (vs 1-3)

Gather Us In

GATHER US IN

*UNISON PRAYER

Rev. Elaine S. Gaetani

Almighty God, we give you thanks for the works that you empower through this church and for all the saints who have moved this community to be what it is today. We give you thanks for your steadfast love and faithfulness. When we call on your name, you always make your presence known. When we pray, you hear us. When we preach your Word and share your Sacraments, you are in our midst ever renewing us with your Spirit of grace. Bless our mission and ministries; show us new ways of loving one another and our neighbors. Send your Spirit, to guide us as we move from the past into a promising future beyond all our imaginings. Amen.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. [1 John 1:9]

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, your church has sinned against you in thought, word and deed: we have not loved you with our whole heart, or loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us and strengthen us as the Body of Christ, to love and follow you in the new life that you offer us through the glory and power of your love shown to us in Jesus, who taught us to pray saying...

*THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Debts)*

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.

*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

One: Friends, we can indeed all be saints of God. And because it is not about whether we deserve glory, but of giving God the glory, all we need to begin the journey is faith and a willing heart. With God's help, we can all be saints!

All: **Thanks be to God!**

*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

SCRIPTURE READING

Rev. Dirkje F. Legerstee

REFLECTION *Celebrating Our Legacy and Moving Into Our Future*

Ebenezer Parkman (written by Helena Enberg)...*Charlie Flood*

Rev. Robert Brown Remembers

Faith Newark.....*by Sue Menzel*

Curtis Richardson...*by Sue Menzel*

Assabet Valley Counseling...*Mary Taber for Dave Russo*

Associate Ministers...*Rev. Elaine S. Gaetani*

Ministry of Paul Thomas.....*Betty Gray*

Dreams for Tomorrow...*Serena Leiser, Chair of the Search Committee*

Voices from our Church School Youth

ANTHEM

It Is Well with My Soul

arr. by Sonja Poorman

SERVICE OF RESPONSE

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

It is our joy to welcome Andy Girard and Bud and Cathy Purcell, with their daughters, Sara and Rachael.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Elaine S. Gaetani

MUSICAL RESPONSE

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Invitation

Stewardship Moment

Melanie Borglund

Offertory

Trust and Obey

Daniel B. Towner

*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

O Giver of good gifts and Giver of grace, we give back but a portion of all we have. Gladden our hearts in the giving, that we might be free from thinking our life is found in our possessions. O Provider and Sustainer, who sees us through times of plenty and times of want, that we know you alone are God. Break us free from the illusions of consumerism and let our trust be found in you and you alone. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

(Note: The crackers in the round container on each communion plate are gluten-free for those who cannot eat bread that contains gluten.)

*HYMN # 518

This is a Day of New Beginnings

BEGINNINGS

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Pedro Silva

INVOCATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

O God thank you for uniting us at your welcome table and for this meal filled with joy and hope. Grant that in the days ahead our lips which have sung your praises may speak in truth, that our eyes that have seen your love, may look with compassion on the needs of the world, our hands which have held this bread and cup may be active in the service of your love. We ask in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*HYMN # 714

For Fruit of All Creation

AR HYD Y NOS

*BENEDICTION

PASSING OF THE PEACE

BLESSING: Peace of Christ

RESPONSE: Go ye now in peace

*SUNG BENEDICTION *Go Ye Now in Peace* Joyce Elaine Eilers

Go ye now in peace, and know that the love of God will guide you. Feel his presence here beside you showing you the way. In your time of trouble, when hurt and despair are there to grieve you, know that the Lord will never leave you. He will bring you courage. Know that the God who sent his Son to die that you might live will never leave you lost and alone in His beloved world. Go ye now in peace. Go ye now in peace.

*POSTLUDE Toccata in E Minor Tom Birchwood

Worship Notes: Parts of the Communion Litany are adapted from Worship Ways, from the UCC.

Lynne Caldwell serves as liturgist
The communion servers are **Ed Newton III, Melanie Borglund, Lynne Caldwell, Serena Leiser, Beverly Hall and Betty Gray.**
Jean Hall greeted you this morning.
Carolyn Bent and Linda Birch are Deacons of the week.
Peyton and Campbell Brown are Acolytes.
Brett Borglund is Trustee liaison.
Coffee hour is hosted by **the Lords.**

**The deacons request that beverages, other than water bottles, not be brought into the Sanctuary. Please turn off cell phones during Worship. Thank you.

Join us for refreshments and fellowship downstairs following worship

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS NOVEMBER 6, 2011

Bereavement: Toni Stewart (Bonnie Rossi's sister); Bob Gatley (friend of many in the congregation).
New Prayers: Dave Russo.
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); 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; Thalia Genes and Susan Tobias (friends of Phyllis Newton); Joanne & Jim Gingras (friends of Kathy Todd); Joan Jacobs.

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

ALL SAINTS SERVICE

There will be an All Saints Service at the First Methodist Church of Westborough on Sunday, November 6th at 5:30 pm. This is a time for any who have lost a loved one to be together in community with each other, to remember, pray and heal. Music will be offered by Journey Home Singers, and the community is welcome.

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 a 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 the 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

Congo Kids (grades 4th - 5th) & Junior High Youth Group (grades 6th – 8th) – We will be having our first meeting of the year on Sunday November 13th from 5 to 7 PM. Pizza and drinks will be provided, and you may bring a snack or dessert to share. Besides eating, we will be planning future events and helping to package items for Santa's Workshop. Hope to see you all there and bring a friend along, too! Contact Kristi Allen (kristinallen@comcast.net) Kathy Reynolds (kreynolds118@comcast.net) or Nancy Cavanaugh (nriccav@verizon.net).

Church School Update – This is Communion Sunday. Grades 6th-8th will be attending the service with their families. There is no "Children's Word" this morning. Instead, children in Kindergarten through 5th Grade should meet in the Chapel where they will be hearing the story "Ready to Shine" based upon Matthew 25:1-13. November 13th and 20th all children will continue to learn more about a few Parables that give us a glimpse at how we might be more awake to and ready for the Kingdom of Heaven here on Earth. We owe a special thank you to Rev. Gaetani for leading this month's teachers in the study of these Parables last week so that they, too, may be "ready to shine" as they lead our precious children through these lessons each week.

CHURCH CLEAN UP 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

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.

GROCERY CARD SALES

As of October 31st, we have earned \$8,459.00 on our way to \$12,000. That leaves us \$3,541.00 to raise in 2 months - a lofty, but achievable goal! Thanksgiving is upon us; and we at Church have much to be thankful for. Our goal of \$12,000 is actually a commitment to the Church budget. While we realize that this is a stretch goal, together we can make this a success. So bring your checkbook or cash to Church or to Kirkside or call one of us and we will have cards ready for you as you make your many trips to the grocery store this Thanksgiving season. So keep eating, keep shopping, and keep using your cards. And give us a call. Happy Thanksgiving. 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.

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.

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.

CALENDAR

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Today | Heritage Sunday - Communion |
| 10:00 AM | Worship & Church School |
| 4:00-8:00 PM | GSA/Vestry |
| 7:00 PM | Sr. High Youth Group/3 rd Floor |
| | BSA Playground/Kirkside |
| Nov. 7 | Monday |
| 6:30 PM | Search Committee/Board Room |
| 6:30 PM | Women’s Fellowship Social Time |
| 7:00 PM | Women’s Fellowship Meeting/Vestry |
| 7:30 PM | AA/3 rd Floor Kirkside |
| Nov. 8 | Tuesday |
| 9:00 AM | Called to Care/Board Room |
| 11:00 AM | Westborough Woman’s Club/Vestry |
| 2:00-5:00 PM | Weaver’s Guild/3 rd Floor Kirkside |
| 7:00 PM | BSA/Vestry |
| 7:00 PM | Financial Oversight/Board Room |
| 7:30 PM | Festival Ringers/Bell Loft |
| Nov. 9 | Wednesday |
| 9:00 AM-3:00 PM | Weaver’s Guild of Boston/Vestry & Classrooms |
| 4:00 PM | “Journey Home”/Choir Room |
| 4:00 PM | Worship Planning/Board Room |
| 6:00 PM | Confirmation Class/3 rd Floor Kirkside |
| 6:30 PM | Adult Study/Historical Room |
| Nov. 10 | Thursday |
| 2:30 PM | GSA/Vestry |
| 4:15-5:00 PM | Youth Choir |
| 5:00-5:45 PM | Parkman Bells |
| 6:30 PM | Christian Ed/Thou Art |
| 7:30 PM | Chancel Choir |
| Nov. 11 | Friday |
| | No Events Scheduled |
| Nov. 12 | Saturday |
| 9:00-2:00 PM | Clean up/Vestry |
| Nov. 13 | Stewardship Sunday (please remember your pledge cards) |
| 10:00 AM | Worship & Church School |
| 11:30 AM | Deacons/Kerygma Room |
| 11:45 AM | Music Committee/Thou Art |
| 3:00 PM | Interfaith Choir rehearsal |

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT FROM THE PATORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

Thank you very much to the 131 people who took the time to complete the all-church survey. It is obvious that people put a lot of time and deep thought into the survey. We will be publishing a synopsis of the results of the survey in the next Evangel and beginning December 1, there will be a full copy of the results at the Church office for anyone who would like to look at it.

The results of the survey have painted a very clear picture of the type of Pastor the church is looking for and will enable us to put together a detailed profile to provide to prospective candidates. A part of this profile will be a proposed compensation package the church is able to offer. This package consists of salary, housing allowance and benefits. The Search Committee, with the help of David Grey, has submitted a proposed package to the Trustees. This package was developed by using the UCC guidelines, information we gathered from what some comparable churches in the area are providing to their pastor and information from the survey regarding experience and qualities desired.

Whether or not the church can provide the compensation package that will attract the type of pastor the church is looking for, is now in your hands. The pastor's compensation package, as with all church expenses, is paid from the pledges received. If the church does not receive enough in pledges to cover the expenses of the church, we may be forced to reduce the package we are able to offer. This will make it more challenging for us to find the pastor who meets the church's needs.

The Pastoral Search Committee is asking the congregation to prayerfully consider the amount they are able to pledge. We are all too well aware of the financial challenges everyone is facing and many are having to do more with less. But we are praying that you will be generous with God's piece of your pie.

Thank you,

The Pastoral Search Committee

Linda Borglund, Jim Brown, Steve Fox, Barry Hackett, Serena Leiser (chair), Brenda Lord, Sue Menzel, Ed Newton III, Ed Wong

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.



