

THE EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WESTBOROUGH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
August 21, 2011

SERVICE OF PREPARATION

*\*The congregation is invited to stand.*

HYMN SING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS - *Our Living Church*

PRELUDE - *A Time for Centering*      *Heart of Worship*

arr. by Teresa Wilhelmi

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Dirkje F. Legerstee

One: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**All: who made heaven and earth.**

One: Our joy comes from the heart of God,

**All: who transforms us into open-handed givers of hope.**

One: Our grace comes from God's compassion,

**All: who breaks the bonds which tie us to sin and death.**

One: Blessed be the Lord our God!

**All: who reveals to us the One who brings us new life!**

\*HYMN #15

*Rejoice, You Pure in Heart*

MARION

\* UNISON PRAYER (*from Romans 12: 1-8*)

**Holy God, take our everyday, ordinary lives—our sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around lives—and accept them as an offering to you. Enable us to be formed and informed by your holy image of Divine Love and Justice. Give us a capacity to critique our cultural context so that we are mindful about what fits with the values of right relationship with you, our neighbors and our best selves. Focus our distracted attention on Christ so that changes come from the inside out rather than from enculturation. You call forth our best and increase our wisdom by the renewal of our minds as we open to you.**

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

*While we may yearn to be like Jesus, we know that in our frantic lives, and our impetuous words, that we are too often like Peter. But like him, we can confess Christ as our Sovereign professing our need for God's saving presence in our lives.*

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**We look for you in all the wrong places, God of the lost, and wonder why we cannot find you. We wander the corridors of power, while you are on the sidewalks, beside the homeless. We sit at the head tables of the world, while you are handing out soup to the hungry at the kitchen's backdoor. We applaud those who win the race, while you are cheering on those in last place. In forgiving us, God of new life, you would transform our cold hearts into those melted in service to others. In granting us mercy, you challenge us to think of all those we have ignored. In gifting us with grace, you enable us to proclaim Christ, as our hope and joy.**

\*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."**

#### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

It's not money, but our generosity with it; it is not power, but our willingness to humble ourselves; it is not our effort but Christ's gift, which transforms us into God's children.

**All: It is more than just how we think. In mercy and grace, our hearts, our lives, our spirits are transfigured and made new. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\*ACT OF PRAISE #49

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**From all that dwell below the skies Let the Creator's praise arise: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Let the Redeemer's name be sung. Through every land, by every tongue!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

#### SERVICE OF THE WORD

CHILDREN MOVE TO SUNDAE SCHOOL

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

GOSPEL LESSON - Matthew 16:13-20 (pew Bible p. 798)

SPECIAL MUSIC Jere Shea - vocalist

SERMON

*Who Do You Say That I AM?*

Rev. Dirkje Legerstee

#### SERVICE OF RESPONSE

\*HYMN # 609

*Take My Life and Let it Be*

HENDON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Invitation (*Matthew 16:13-20*)

*The Gospel of Matthew tells us whatever we bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever we loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. May we be as generous in God's reign on Earth as we pray that God will be in heaven; Let us set loose the many gifts we have received and use them for God's purposes. We will now receive this morning's offering*

Offertory

\*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

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DISMISSAL

\*HYMN # 450

*God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian*

*HYFRYDOL*

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

*Glorious Faith in God*

Rachel Sawyer

Worship notes: The call to worship, confession and assurance were written by Thom M. Shuman.

**Lisa Ruberti** serves as Liturgist

**Bev Hall** is Deacon of the week

**Brett Borglund** is Trustee liaison

We are grateful to **Jere Shea** for sharing his gift of music with us today.

In last week's Bulletin, we were remiss in not thanking **Patrice Richardson** for sharing her glorious voice with us, often done in beautiful harmony with her husband **Curtis**

**Join us for refreshments and fellowship downstairs in the Vestry following worship.**

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS AUGUST 21, 2011

Bereaved: Family of Kevin Phillips (friend of Clif Newton)

New Prayers: Nancy Dellaire (friend of Betty Barclay); Bob Gately (friend of many in the congregation);

Rev. Cindy Frado

In Transition: Jack Hero at Beaumont; Richard Smith at Beaumont; Robin Tammik (Heidi Tammik Synnott's sister).

In Treatment: Olympia Fournarakis (friend of Jen Todd); Peggy McCaleb (Mary Ann Brayer's friend)

Continued prayers: Christopher Doyle (Pam Faustine's brother-in-law); Bob Rider (Nancy Reimann's Son);

Fran Kelly (Megan Huber's Mom); Donna and Tony Marge (friends of Serena Leiser); Betty Millard at

Beaumont; Joanne & Jim Gringas (friends of Kathy Todd); Monica Osborn; Debbie Weber (Richard Nichols' daughter); Joan Jacobs; Marie Murphy's daughter; Cindy (Kathy Todd's co-worker); Key Wentzell.

Celebrations: David McLeod's surgery was successful and the infection is gone; Jerry and Marilyn Lyle's 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary; Ruthie (Annie Mason's co-worker) had successful heart surgery.

Prayer or 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. *To add or renew an ongoing concern, please call the church office 366-2000 or [westboroucc@verizon.net](mailto:westboroucc@verizon.net).*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- CHURCH OFFICE HOURS FOR AUGUST are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 AM to 1 PM.

- FARMERS MARKET HERE THURSDAYS - We are hosting Dismas House Farmer's Market on *Thursday afternoons from 1-6 PM during the summer* on our church's front lawn. The market will be run by and for the benefit of Dismas House. .
- AUGUST PASTORAL COVERAGE **Rev. Dr. Legerstee.**

UPCOMING SUMMER WORSHIP MUSIC

**August 28**     *"Thee Six"* – Three-part harmony by the women's sextet

STOP & SHOP – ROCHE BROTHERS GROCERY CARD SALES

Goal 2011: \$12,000.00     Year to Date: \$6554.00

Thanks to all our loyal, and new, grocery card purchasers we are 8.74% ahead of last year's pace so far this year. If we stay at this rate for all of 2011, then we will raise \$11,252 00 vs. the \$10,348 we raised in 2010, but still behind our goal of \$12,000. Although the Farmer's Market is boosting our revenue this summer, we will need to kick into high gear in the fall and winter to reach our goal. So keep eating and be sure to have a grocery card in your pocket before heading off to Stop & Shop or Roche Brothers.

**Summer Hours:** After worship each Sunday and at Kirkside Tuesday and Thursday, 10am-1pm.

**Farmer's Market:** From lawn of our Church each Thursday 1-6 PM

**Delivery to your home:** Any time, every day!! Just call us. We need strong sales throughout the summer. It's never an imposition to call us.. Thanks! **Sue Menzel** 366-1268; **Sally Petersen** 366-5169 [sbpetersen4@gmail.com](mailto:sbpetersen4@gmail.com); **Nancy Quimby** 774-249-4431, [nquimby11@charter.net](mailto:nquimby11@charter.net)

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

Pretend for a minute that you are the Queen of England attending a celebration ceremony for the national soccer champions. It is a happy event and each player, coach, and trainer has brought their spouse or a friend to the event. Although you have never met them you must greet each guest warmly, by name. How do you do it?? Wait - someone has given each person a name tag! Problem solved. We may not be the Queen of England but each week we have guests at our church and our Ministers face the same dilemma. Or we want to introduce a new person but we can't quite remember their name. If we each wear our name tags and encourage guests to do the same, it will be much easier to be a welcoming church. Don't have a name tag? Let the office or one of the Deacons know. **Pam Faustine**

**THE EVANGEL** – *will be published AUG. 24.* Next Evangel Deadline is September 21.

**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** at 870-9011.

**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 **Carrie Brown** 366-1231 to serve on church boards or committees.

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

**CALENDAR August 21 – August 28**

**Today Sunday**  
9:30 AM Worship/Church School program

**Aug. 22 Monday**  
6:30 PM Pastoral Search Committee/Board Room  
6:30 PM Rev. Legerstee's PPRC / post luck at Knutrud's home  
7:30 PM AA/3<sup>rd</sup> floor Kirkside

**Aug. 23 Tuesday**  
6:45 PM BSA/Board Room and Historical Room  
7:00 PM Stewardship Committee/Kerygma Room

**Aug. 24 Wednesday**  
4:00 PM Journey Home/Choir Room  
6:30 PM GSA Leaders/Vestry

**Aug. 25 Thursday**  
1:00 PM FARMERS MARKET/Church yard  
7:00 PM Bosom Buddies/Study

**Aug. 26 Friday**  
No Events

**Aug. 27 Saturday**  
No Events

**Aug. 28 Sunday**  
9:30 AM Worship/Church School Program  
6:00 PM St. High Youth & Parents "Gathering meeting"/ Vestry

**REMEMBER – ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> THE WORSHIP SERVICE MOVES TO THE NEW TIME OF 10:00 AM.**

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

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

Church Office Phone 508/366-2000

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)

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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.

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