

Wilbraham United Church 500 Main St. Wilbraham, MA 01095 www.WilbrahamUnited Church.org

Grace and Peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ,

With this letter, we invite you to participate in our 2022 Stewardship campaign. Wilbraham United Church is blessed with many loving, faithful and generous friends like you, who support our mission and ministries. We are grateful for your past support, which has made our congregation into a place of extravagant hospitality, overflowing faith, and joyful hope. In your generous giving to God and to the church, you have demonstrated your commitment to building the beloved community at Wilbraham United Church: opening our doors and our hearts to one and all.

As we continue to respond to the challenging and changing times in which we find ourselves, we remember that God is with us and blesses us: with family and community, with worship and music, with mission and outreach, with fellowship and discipleship. It might seem that it would be hard to find blessings amidst such a difficult year: a plague, a flood, the loss of beloved members, the struggle of a divisive political environment, and the difficulties of adapting to new ways of living. Yet, there have been abundant blessings in our church this year!

We donated over a ton of food to the Survival Center in 2021, sharing our abundance and our love with those in need. We confirmed four young people and welcomed four new families into our church family. We offered Bible Studies and Christian Education over Zoom and returned to in-person Church School in September, enriching and invigorating faith at every age. We are worshipping in person, singing and praying together in community and communion, expressing our faith and practicing peace and love.

We rejoice in you and in your support for all these blessings, made possible by the faithful commitment of your time, talent, and treasure. Through all the challenges of the past 18 months, through all the changes we have experienced, through all the upheaval that we have endured, we have remained a community rooted in the love of God, witnessing to that love in our mission and ministry, and trusting in God's promises. You have helped us continue to shine a light in the darkness of our times.

We hope that you will take some time to prayerfully consider the best way you can live out your faith and shine your light in 2022, sharing your blessings, strengthening our church, and showing your love for God and neighbor. We invite you to fill out the pledge card included and join us for Stewardship Sunday on November 14th. May we continue to bless the world as we have been blessed by God!

In faith, hope, and love,

Pastor Chip, Rev. Paul, and the Fellowship Commission

OCTOBER 2021 PLEDGE INCOME & FINANCE REPORT

Annual Pledge Income Budget: \$196,000 Pledge receipts through September: \$172,604 We thank you for your gifts.

Amortizing for pre-paid pledges, pledge giving through October has fallen behind budget by \$3,000. And we are now \$71,000 short of the amount needed to balance the budget deficit passed at annual meeting. The invested funds have a paper gain of 10.93% through October, which is a bit of an uptick since the prior month.

Along with a \$29,000 carryover from 2020, total withdrawals from invested funds through October total \$83,000. This includes a withdrawal of \$39,000 during the month of October. About half of the total withdrawals were needed to cover the first two payments due on the new boiler.

We are in the process of applying for a low interest loan to cover the boiler cost of about \$60,000. If the loan is approved, the monies will go back into our invested funds to replenish the extra withdrawals needed to pay the boiler bills.

Again, thank you for your gifts and continued support.





Bobbie Morkin Interim Director of Music Ministries

Roberta (Bobbie) Morkin was born in Iowa and raised on a farm in a galaxy far, far away from anything or anyone. Bobbie began studying music at age 8 and has worked with keyboards and choirs ever since.

She lived in England for two years; one year working at a Lutheran Retreat Centre; and another year working with a University Study Abroad Program. Bobbie graduated from Luther College with degrees in Music (Organ Performance/ Choral) and Studio Art. She did advanced study at the University of Northern Iowa and the University of Iowa, in Music Performance and Art History. After moving to Massachusetts she attended Andover Newton Theological School and was then drawn back to music, her calling and life-center.

In 2015 she returned to musical study, and in 2018 earned her MA in Music (Organ Performance) from the City University of New York, Hunter College. Most recently Bobbie served as Organist/Choir Director for 12 years at the United Congregational Church, Holyoke; and as part of the pastoral team there with her husband, Chuck, for 14 years. She loves New England and feels at home in the hills and mountains of this beautiful place on the planet.











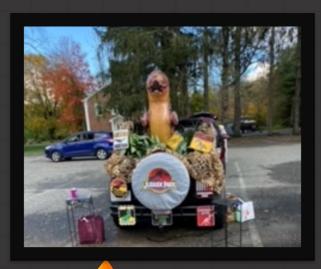




MUC Trunk or Treat 2021





































We are now in the midst of our Thanksgiving Food Drive in cooperation with the Springfield Community Survival Center.

This food drive will also help complete dinner baskets for Thanksgiving.

We seek the following items:

- instant potatoes
- gravy mix /jars of turkey gravy
- stuffing for turkeys
- cranberry sauce
- canned vegetables such as beans, corns and peas
- can openers
- butternut squash
- canned pumpkin
- autumnal/thanksgiving paper

tablecloths and napkins

- BIG Y GIFT CARDS FROM OUR PROGRAM ARE ACCEPTED!!
- Monetary donations are also accepted (we will buy gift cards!)
- bags of carrots *
- five pounds bags of potatoes*

*Any perishables please bring 11/20.

DROP OFF TIMES

- Tuesday from 3:30-4:30 with Rev. Paul
- Thursday from 10:00-2:00 with Pastor Chip
- Thursday from 5:30-7:30pm with Rev. Paul
 - Sunday November 7
 - Sunday November 14
- Saturday November 20 from 9:30-Noon (in FRONT of the Church!)



Family Night
Saturday, November 20, 2021
Wilbraham United Church
4:30pm-6:30pm
Join Us!
Activities include:

- Watch "A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving" on the Big Screen/Smart TV
- Arts n Crafts
- Games
- Kid-friendly dinner (that looks a like the video, with some "real" food as well, probably cheese pizza and carrot sticks)

Everyone is welcome
FREE ADMISSION but please RSVP at
christianed@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org or call Paul Nesbit at
413-596-2511, ext. 105 by noon on Saturday November 20





Many thanks to everyone who has and continues to help with Discipleship's mission to begin updating our classrooms, lobby, and nursery through out the next couple months.

We are updating our church school library to include newer and relevant books (especially on themes such as kindness, friendship, peace, diversity) as well as toys for the pre-k to 1 rm.

If you feel so moved to help with this project, please reach out to Aurora at aapierangelo@gmail.com.



We would also be grateful for donations of Home Depot gift cards or for items off our Church School wish list.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1NEBN3K98J4OH?ref =wl share

A celebration of Mark Jacobson's 25 years of Musical Ministry.





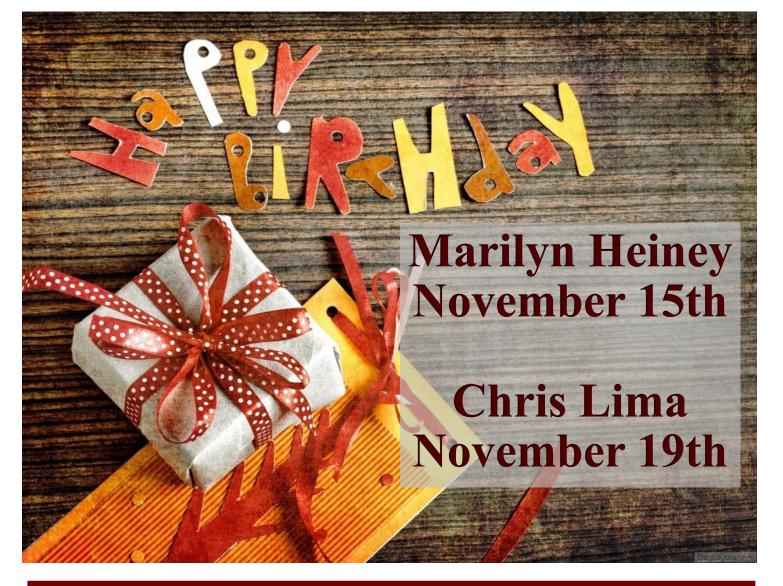












Do you love Shopping and are looking for ways to help WUC?

Well... we have the perfect idea for you!

Gift Cards!!

You can conveniently pick them up during office hours or right after Church!



Currently we have:

Stop&Shop: \$25-\$100 Big Y: \$50-\$100

Amazon: \$25 and \$100





Bits of news, needs and announcements

I have accumulated a large pile of brush at the church and in need of someone with a recycle center sticker and a truck or trailer to transport the brush to the center at their convenience.

Should you be able to do this contact Bill Sanderson linwood36@yahoo.com

If anyone has an interest in a breakfast club,
Chris Lima would like to start a Breakfast Club,
ROMEO(retired old men eating out).
ROMEO group would be for men in the congregation.
We would go out for breakfast once or twice a month.
Please touch base with Chris Lima, 603-966-0324

In addition, I have a 43 inch toshiba tv that is in excellent condition for free if anyone would like it.

Call Chris Lima at 603-966-0324.



Thrift Store Updates

It has been determined that it is not feasible to open the Thrift Shop at this time.

With that in mind, we have made the decision to postpone the opening until at least next year. We will reassess the health situation and make a decision based on the current information available at that time.

Unfortunately, we cannot accept any donations.

Thank you for your continued support.

Donna and Nancy

Worship with us!

In the Sanctuary or Facebook Live

Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

Visit with Us!

Pastor Chip's Office hours:
Wed. and Thurs:
10 a.m. -2 p.m.

Rev. Paul's Office hours at Church

Tues: 3:30-5 p.m.

Thurs: 5:30-7:30 p.m.

* please check our weekly email for the most updated schedules!

Assist Us!

- Help with our monthly drives
- * Purchase gift cards
- Reach out to a church member by phone, email or snail mail
- Loaves and Fishes
- Outreach missions
- * Meal train
- * Join a committee
- Liturgists, greeters and ushers are needed

Connect with Us!

*Facebook Live
Facebook updates
*Branchline newsletters
*WUC website
*Email or phone



A few Holly Fair Lawn Signs are available. These are the usual size for a lawn advertising the fair and/or cookie walk along with the date of December 11. If you can host a sign on your front lawn contact Bill Sanderson linwood36@yahoo.com.



Do you love reading the Branchline?

Would you, a family member or friend like to receive this newsletter by mail? If so, please contact admin@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org or call Aimee Walat at 413-596-2511 ext. 100.

We would be happy to send along a copy of the Branchline and share all the great happenings here at Wilbraham United Church!

THE WILBRAHAM UNITED PLAYERS ARE BACK!!!



The Wilbraham United Tayers the John To Announce an Up of the order oduce in Music Theatre International

All To the New: A Global Figure celebrating Local Theatre

Perform Lake place at Wilbraham United Church Fellowship Hall Stage November 12 & 13 at 7:30pm and November 14 at 2:30pm

A fantastic selection of songs are featured in this brand new musical revue from shows including Newsies, Les Misérables, Into the Woods, Waitress, Hairspray, Guys and Dolls, Disney's Beauty and the Beast, Sister Act, Fiddler on the Roof, James and the Giant Peach, and many more!

The Wilbraham United Players will be joining thousands of theatrical organizations around the globe by producing our own local production of Music Theatre International's *All Together Now!*: A Global Event Celebrating Local Theatre.

Directed by Deb Trimble Choreography by Dina Lynn Del Buono Music Direction by Benjamin Kaine Maniscalchi

The Wilbraham United Players are incredibly excited to celebrate the return of live theatre with performances of MTI's *All Together Now!* The revue features songs from the world's most iconic musicals, so there is definitely something for everyone to enjoy. The past year has been a challenging time for everyone, particularly arts organizations. We look forward to welcoming our patrons back with this truly wonderful revue.

For tickets or more information please visit www.wilbrahamunitedplayers.org

Daily Lectionary Scripture References - November 2021 (Year B & C)

Mon., Nov. 1

Psalm 18:20-30 Ruth 2:15-23 Romans 12:17-21; 13:8-10

Tues., Nov. 2

Psalm 18:20-30 Ruth 3:1-7 Acts 7:17-29

Wed., Nov. 3

Psalm 18:20-30 Ruth 3:8-18 John 13:31-35

Thurs., Nov. 4

Psalm 127 Ruth 4:1-10 Romans 5:6-11

Fri., Nov. 5

Psalm 127 Ruth 4:11-17 Hebrews 9:15-24

Sat., Nov. 6

Psalm 127 Ruth 4:18-22 Mark 11:12-14, 20-24

Sun., Nov. 7

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17 Psalm 127 Hebrews 9:24-28 Mark 12:38-44

Mon., Nov. 8

Psalm 113 Genesis 24:1-10 1 Timothy 5:1-8

Tues., Nov. 9

Psalm 113 Genesis 24:11-27 1 Timothy 5:9-16

Wed., Nov. 10

Psalm 113 Genesis 24:28-42 Luke 4:16-30

Thurs., Nov. 11

1 Samuel 2:1-10 1 Samuel 1:21-28 1 Timothy 6:11-21

Fri., Nov. 12

1 Samuel 2:1-10 1 Samuel 2:18-21 Colossians 2:6-15

Sat. Nov. 13

1 Samuel 2:1-10 1 Samuel 3:1-18 Mark 12:1-12

Sun., Nov. 14

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost 1 Samuel 1:4-20 1 Samuel 2:1-10 Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25 Mark 13:1-8

Mon., Nov. 15

Psalm 3 1 Samuel 3:19-4:2 Hebrews 10:26-31

Tues., Nov. 16

Psalm 3 Deuteronomy 26:5-10 Hebrews 10:32-39

Wed., Nov. 17

Psalm 3 1 Kings 8:22-30 Mark 13:9-23

Thurs., Nov. 18

Psalm 132:1-12 [13-18] 2 Kings 22:1-10 Acts 7:54-8:1a

Fri., Nov. 19

Psalm 132:1-12 [13-18] 2 Kings 22:11-20 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

Sat., Nov. 20

Psalm 132:1-12 [13-18] 2 Kings 23:1-14 John 3:31-36

Sun., Nov. 21

Reign of Christ 2 Samuel 23:1-7 Psalm 132:1-12 [13-18] Revelation 1:4b-8 John 18:33-37

Mon., Nov. 22

Psalm 63 2 Kings 23:15-25 Revelation 11:1-14

Tues., Nov. 23

Psalm 63 1 Samuel 17:55-18:5 Revelation 11:15-19

Wed., Nov. 24

Psalm 63 2 Samuel 2:1-7 John 16:25-33

Thurs., Nov. 25 (Year C)

Thanksgiving
Psalm 25:1-10
Nehemiah 9:6-15
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Fri., Nov. 26

Psalm 25:1-10 Nehemiah 9:16-25 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22

Sat., Nov. 27

Psalm 25:1-10 Nehemiah 9:26-31 Luke 21:20-24

Sun., Nov. 28 First

Sunday of Advent Jeremiah 33:14-16 Psalm 25:1-10 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 21:25-36

Mon., Nov. 29

Psalm 90 Numbers 17:1-11 2 Peter 3:1-18

Tues., Nov. 30

Psalm 90 2 Samuel 7:18-29 Revelation 22:12-16

Wilbraham United Church

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Saturday	9	9 am – WUP-FH 9:30 am - Thrift Shop – Closed	13	9:30 am - Thrift Shop – Closed 5 pm – WUP - FH & SS Rooms	20	9:30 am – Food Drive – Front Area 9:30 am - Thrift Shop – Closed 4:30 pm – Charlie Brown Thanksgiving – ZR and Narthex	27	9:30 am - Thrift Shop – Closed	4	9:30 am - Thrift Shop – Closed
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Friday		WUP – FH 9:30 am - Thrift Shop – Closed		9:30 am - Thrift Shop - Closed 4 pm - WUP - FH & SS Rooms		9:30 am - Thriff Shop -Closed		9:30 am - Thriff Shop – Closed		9:30 am - Thrift Shop – Closed
Thursday	4	10:00 am – Office hours w/ Pastor Chip 5 pm – WUP - FH 5:30 am – Office Hours with Rev Paul -Church 6:30 pm – Al-Anon – FH	11	Office Closed 4 pm - WUP - FH 6:30 pm - Al-Anon - FH	18	9:15 am - Loaves and Fishes 10:00 am - Office Hours with Pastor Chip 5:30 pm - Office Hours w/ Rev Paul - Church 6:30 pm - Al-Anon - FH	25	Thanksgiving Turkey Trot – FH/ Parking Lot	2	10:00 am – Office Hours with Pastor Chip 5:30 pm – Office Hours w/ Rev Paul - Church
Wednesday	3	10:00 am – Office hours w/ Pastor Chip 6:30 pm Al-Anon - ZR 7 pm – WUP-FH	10	10:00 am – Office hours w/ Pastor Chip 4 pm – WUP - FH & SS Rooms 6:30 pm Al-Anon - ZR 7 pm – Trustees/Deacons Meeting – Zoom	17	10:00 am – Office hours w/ Pastor Chip 6:30 pm Al-Anon - ZR	24	10:00 am – Office hours w/ Pastor Chip 6:30 pm Al-Anon - ZR	_	10:00 am – Office Hours with Pastor Chip 6:30 pm Al-Anon - ZR
Tuesday	2	3:30 pm – Office Hours w/ Rev Paul - Church 5 pm – WUP - FH	6	3:30 pm – Office Hours w/ Rev Paul - Church 4 pm – WUP - FH	16	9:30 am – Yoga – Youth Room 3:30 pm – Office Hours w/ Rev Paul - Church	23	9:30 am – Yoga – Youth Room 10:30 am – Preshchool Event - FH 3:30 pm – Office Hours w/ Rev Paul - Church	30	9:30 am – Yoga – Youth Room 3:30 pm – Office Hours w/
Monday	1	10 am – Piecemakers – Bliss Rm 6:30 pm – Al-Anon - ZR 7 pm – WUP - FH	8	WUP – Fellowship Hall 10 am – Piecemakers – Bliss Rm 6:30 pm – Al-Anon - ZR	15	10 am – Piecemakers – Bliss Rm 12 pm – WUP - FH 6:30 pm – Al-Anon - ZR	22	10 am – Piecemakers – Bliss Rm 10:30 am – Preshchool Event - FH 6:30 pm – Al-Anon - ZR	29	10 am – Piecemakers – Bliss Rm 6:30 pm – Al-Anon - ZR
Sunday	31	10 am – Worship –Sanctuary and FB Live 1 pm – Trunk or Treat – Parking Lot 2 pm – WUP - FH 5 pm – Al-Anon – FH	7	10 am – Worship –Sanctuary and FB Live 1 pm – WUP – FH 5 pm – Al-Anon - FH	14	10 am – Worship –Sanctuary and FB Live 12 pm – WUP – FH & SS Rooms 5 pm – Al-Anon - FH	21	10 am – Worship –Sanctuary and FB Live 12 pm – Church without Walls 5 pm – Al-Anon - FH	28	10 am – Worship –Sanctuary and FB Live 5 pm – Al-Anon - FH



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