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Wilbraham United
Church
500 Main St.
Wilbraham, MA 01095

A note from
Pastor Chip

July 2022

Dear Church Family,

For the past several months, I have been engaged in the UCC Search and Call process. As a part of that process, I was chosen by the Pastoral Search Committee at Roslindale Congregational Church to be a candidate for their position of Senior Pastor. On July 10th, I led a worship service in their sanctuary, and following the service they held a congregational meeting, at which they voted to call me as their settled pastor. I accepted their call, and therefore, I am resigning my position as Senior Pastor at Wilbraham United Church following worship on October 16.

It has not been an easy season of discernment for me. I have tried to faithfully and prayerfully balance the needs of this congregation, the needs of my ministerial calling, and the needs of my family. My decision to seek and accept a call elsewhere should not be seen as a reflection of my love and care for WUC and all of you. Indeed, I think it is in the best interest of the congregation for me to move on so that WUC can begin to explore specifically where and how it is being called by God in this time and place.

I am sad to leave a church that has meant so much to me over the last four years. WUC has left a tremendous impact on my life and on my heart. This has been an incredibly rewarding and affirming part of my faith journey. I am grateful to so many people, and for so many things.

You welcomed and embraced me – and Alison, and our children – and made us feel at home among you. We will miss being a part of this community, but we will cherish the memories that we have made together. We have been truly blessed by the profound love and grace of this community and will never forget our time here with you.

I want to thank all of you for the support and the encouragement, through the challenges and the opportunities that we have faced together and the road that we have walked together. It has been a joy and blessing to serve with all of you, to be a part of this faith community. Whoever is called to serve as your next pastor will be blessed to have such gracious and faithful disciples alongside them.

I have much more to say, and I hope that I will have the time (and the ability) to more fully express how much you all have meant to me, and the great things that I believe God has in store for you in the future. We have walked in love as God loved us, and even as our paths will take us on different journeys in the future, we will still be walking together as long as we share in that same love.

Blessings,



This is the LAST CALL for HELP WANTED since TIME IS RUNNING OUT and WE NEED YOU
to help save the THRIFT SHOP!!

We need volunteers to step forward to take charge of the Thrift Shop. The shop has been closed since March 2020 due to COVID and needs new leadership. After several years of dedication, Donna Carlson and Nancy Krawczynski are stepping aside for new leaders.

Over the last 2.5 years, many have said they do not want the Thrift Shop to close as it is a great resource to our community and a wonderful mission for our church. Yet...no one has stepped up to take charge. The doors remain closed, the items are collecting dust...

We are at an impasse. We are at the point of an ultimatum.

The Thrift Shop will officially close if no one (or no group) steps up to take charge before August 31st. Donna and Nancy have offered to support and guide anyone who is willing. They have also provided the following information to help give more insight into what is needed to take on this task.

Thrift Shop FAQ: How many hours do I need to commit to each week?

With two co-managers, each of you would need to commit about 8-10 hours per week. The commitment would be less with more volunteers.

What do I do?

Clean and sort all dropped off donations

Ensure all donations are in working order

Price all items, Arrange and set up donations in shop

Restocking items on Fridays ahead of Saturday shop hours

Counting money, recording sales and providing profits/
records to bookkeeper

Do I have to do everything myself? No

Who will help me? Other volunteers!

You will need 2 adult volunteers each shop day

The more volunteers, the lighter the workload!



Do I have to do any paperwork? Only a little Quarterly: Since the Thrift Shop donates a portion of all proceeds to non-profit groups, one of the managers will need to send a letter, along with a check to the previously determined non-profit recipient.

Annually: A short annual report to the Church Council with a summary of profits, donation recipients and general updates. The managers and volunteers will elect the next year's donation recipients.

How much money does the church make from the Thrift Shop?

Wilbraham United Church received 50% of the proceeds

The remaining is split up as: 40% to the chosen non-profit groups, 10% is discretionary for use in the shop.

If you are interested: please reach out to **Pastor Chip or Kim Ryan (ModeratorWUC@gmail.com)**
If no one steps forward by August 31st, the items in the Thrift Shop will become part of a huge tag sale in the fall. The rooms will be cleaned and new plans for the space will be made.



Zachary Capen And Sara Garete have received scholarships from our church. Zachary will be a freshman at the University of Rhode Island, studying Supply Chain Management.

Sara will be finishing up her bachelor's degree this year in Business Management and Leadership with a minor in Human Resources. She is a student at Western New England University.

Thank you to the families of the Howes, Fountains, Cohns, Neelans and Dinnies for making these scholarships possible.

JUNE 2022 PLEDGE INCOME & FINANCE REPORT

Annual Pledge Income Budget: \$158,000

Pledge receipts through September: \$119,977

We thank you for your gifts.

Pledge income through June reflects an early influx of \$65,900 of full-year pledge donations. Amortizing for these pre-paid pledges, pledge giving through June is ahead of budget by \$8,000. But we are \$72,000 short of the amount needed to balance the budget deficit passed at annual meeting.

The value of invested funds is down 9.61% through June. Although the value is down, our conservative value focused portfolio fared better than others which include more growth stocks. However, the drop in value along with high inflation is concerning. Fortunately, no withdrawals from invested funds have been needed yet this year. This is due to a carryover of \$31,000 from 2021 along with the early influx of full-year pledge donations.

We are in the midst of summer when church attendance (and giving) often slows. Please help to keep our fellowship and mission active and healthy during the summer season.

Again, thank you for your gifts and continued support.

Finance Commission

Exciting Things are Coming!

For the first time in over a decade we are embarking on a Capital Campaign to support our church and invest in its future.

There is a lot of work to be done, but many hands make light work! There will be opportunities for everyone to come together and help.

First, we are looking for 5-6 members to volunteer for the Campaign Team. This team which will steer the campaign over the next 2 years. The time commitment will vary, but we plan to meet monthly beginning in. Please, if you feel called to participate in this way, please email the Campaign Team at WUCCapitalCampaign@gmail.com

In an equally important way suggestions Second, and equally important, we are looking for need input from everyone for our campaign goals. If you have ideas of projects or goals you would like to see as an outcome of the campaign, please email the Team at WUCCapitalCampaign@gmail.com

What is a Capital Campaign?

A Capital Campaign is an effort on the part of a non-profit to raise significant funds. These funds are raised to fund major projects, benefit our community, and fund our endowment to secure the future of our church. A Capital Campaign usually last from 1-3 years and have has many benefits. Boomerang defines some benefits of a Capital Campaign:

Raising the money to fund a one-time need for the organization—in most cases having a building that meets the needs of the community served by the organization.

Strengthening the organization's infrastructure—working on a campaign requires that the organization evaluate its readiness for a campaign, and subsequently build an infrastructure to run a campaign including staffing, board commitment, software to manage the campaign, gift acceptance policies, etc. This stronger infrastructure will leave the organization in a much better position to do ongoing fundraising.

Increased public awareness—during a campaign, there will be a great deal of publicity and cultivation efforts to help raise awareness of the organization in the community. These efforts, like the strengthened infrastructure, will help the organization's future fundraising efforts.

This campaign will be a true group effort, and we thank you in advance for your help during this important time in our church.

Blessings,

April Beston



WILBRAHAM
UNITED CHURCH

VACATION BIBLE CAMP

AUGUST 1ST-5TH
9am-12pm

REGISTER HERE!



**Join us for Music,
Crafts, Bible Stories,
Service Projects,
Snacks and More!
Open to Pre-K - Grade 5**



We are gearing up to decorate for Vacation Bible Camp. Here is your chance to help. We're looking for the following donations or loans.

Bright Beach Towels

Beach Umbrellas

Sand Buckets

Surf Boards

Nets

Pool noodles

Arm Floaties

Palm Trees

Adirondack Chairs

Boogie Boards

Flip Flops

Small Ring Tubes

Goggles

Beach Balls

Undecided or too busy to shop? Amazon gift cards welcome!

<https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/>



WILBRAHAM UNITED CHURCH
Vacation Bible Camp

Make Waves

August 1st - 5th, 2022
Ages 4-11

9am - 12pm



CHILD'S NAME _____ AGE: _____ BIRTHDATE: _____

LAST GRADE COMPLETED: _____ FRIEND/SIBLING OF: _____

MEDICAL/HEALTH INFORMATION (Food allergy, plant or insect allergy, medical condition, etc.)

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S NAMES: _____

ADDRESS: _____ TOWN/STATE: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE(S): _____

PARENTS' PREFERRED E-MAIL(S): _____

HOME CHURCH (if any): _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION (other than parent/guardian)

NAME: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

PEDIATRICIAN: _____ PHONE: _____

Person(s) authorized to pick up child (in addition to parent/guardians):

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Phone: _____

I give my child permission to go on the Water Slide YES NO

IN CASE of EMERGENCY, I understand that every effort will be made to contact a child's parent/guardian. I give the staff at Wilbraham United Church permission to authorize medical treatment for my child named above.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

****COST FOR VBC IS \$40 PER CHILD. MAX OF \$100 PER FAMILY.**

PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING We Need YOU!	Please return this form for each child with checks payable to:				
Volunteer at least 3 days & have 1 child attend VBC for free! If you are able to volunteer, please circle the days you are available and what you are interested in below.	Wilbraham United Church 500 Main Street Wilbraham, MA 01095 Attn: VBC				
I am interested in helping with the following:	GROUP LEADER	GAMES	SNACKS	NURSE	TEEN HELPER (AGES 12+)
I am available to volunteer on the following day(s):	M	T	W	TH	F ALL

PHOTO NOTICE: Wilbraham United Church is a picture-friendly place. During Vacation Bible Camp, we may photograph small and large groups of children. Names and personal information are NEVER written or displayed in our slideshows or online. Please notify us if you have any concerns. Call us today at 413-596-2511 or email churchinfo@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org for more information.



Loaves and Fishes - August 18th

We have begun preparing meals the Sunday before the third Thursday when casseroles are delivered.

**Preparing meals on Sunday will make it all much easier.
Thank you Pastor Chip for this idea!**

Currently, meals are still being heated in Springfield and sent home in containers. Larry and Ed have been loading and delivering the casseroles on the third Thursday of the month.

**Food must be ready (including cookies) before 9am. Right now Cookies are still needed and can be dropped off anytime.
Eventually we hope that cakes will return.**

Interested volunteers should speak to Sandy Harris or Edna Colcord. We are looking for volunteers to learn the process to we can eventually do three months at a time. So far it is working out well. We hear only raves about the church's wonderful meal.

The Piecemakers are continuing to meet on Mondays, August 1, 15, and 22nd, 10 to noon.

They are excited to have recently received a generous donation of children's print fabric by a Wilbraham quilter. New members are always welcome. Just come to a meeting or contact Nancy at ncpeck10@gmail.com.



Looking for ways to help?

Regular coffee hour will return in September. Hopefully former teams will continue although some would love additional helpers. One doesn't have to actually serve but the team point person could expect table donation help and many make the service easier.

We could use more teams. Consider forming one. The more teams the fewer obligatory weeks to prepare. The spread doesn't have to be fancy. Coffee materials are on hand and enough people are willing to teach the "coffee machine". A team just to provides snacks for kids and a few delights for adults. They can be store made. They set up the Friendship room and clean up afterwards.

Coffee hour has encouraged a chance to meet and greet. Kids have fun which supports Sunday School and younger members to come to WUC. Please give this some thought. Contact Edna (596-6666)

ednajcolcord@gmail.com if you are interested in starting a team or want to join one. A schedule will be made in late August with point-leader and posted. Thanks

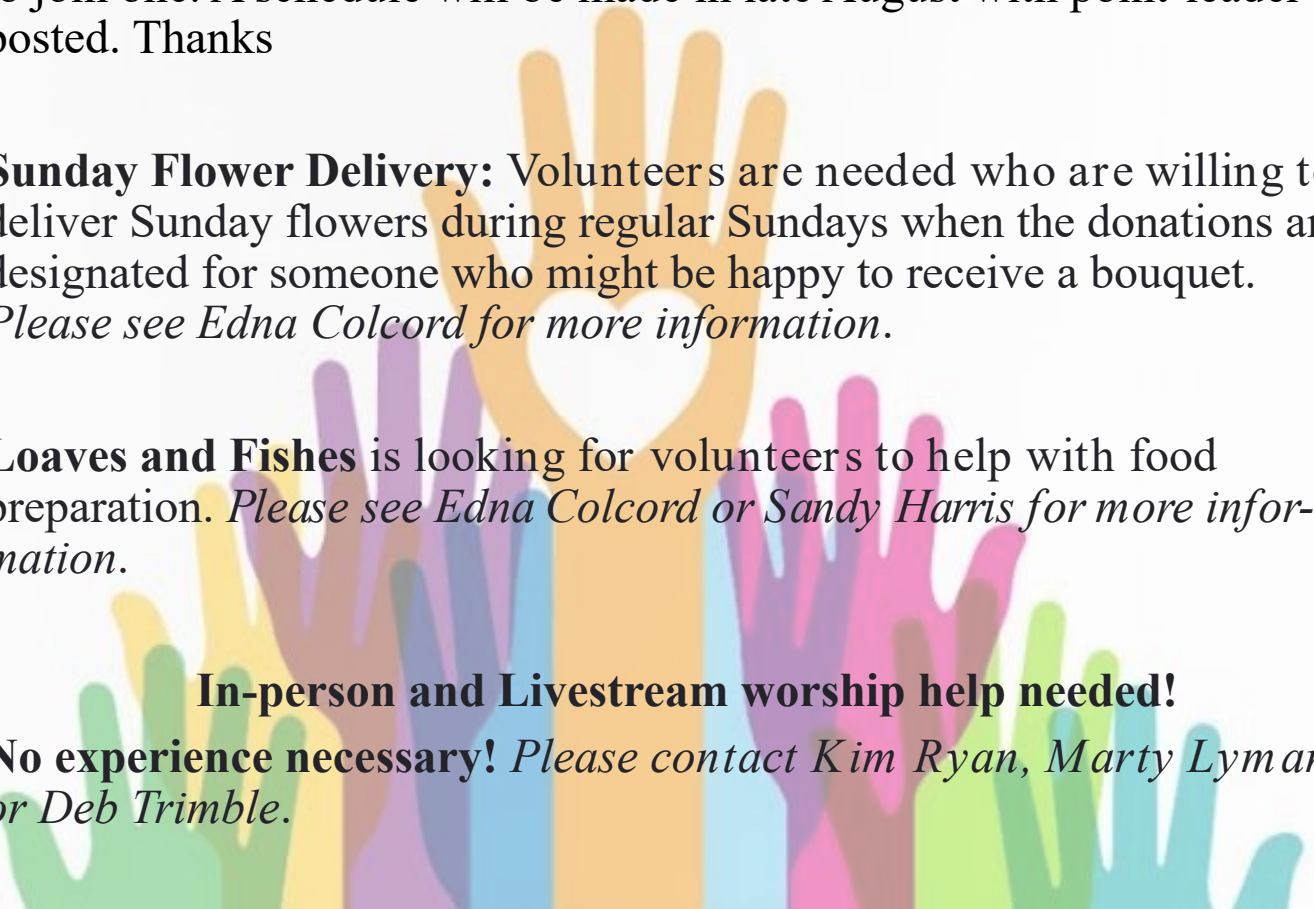
Sunday Flower Delivery: Volunteers are needed who are willing to deliver Sunday flowers during regular Sundays when the donations are designated for someone who might be happy to receive a bouquet.

Please see Edna Colcord for more information.

Loaves and Fishes is looking for volunteers to help with food preparation. *Please see Edna Colcord or Sandy Harris for more information.*

In-person and Livestream worship help needed!

No experience necessary! *Please contact Kim Ryan, Marty Lyman, or Deb Trimble.*



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

We have the perfect idea for you!

Gift cards continue to be on sale on Sundays after worship in the Narthax. Along with Big Y and Stop and Shop, we offer Amazon, Lowes, Home Depot, Dunkin Donuts and Barnes and Nobles. Most of us will be shopping at Lowes and Home Depot for our gardening needs this spring. Think ahead, and pick up a gift card this Sunday for a Birthday, a Wedding or any occasion. .

All cards you buy, help to support our church. An average of 8% is returned to us. If you have a favorite restaurant or store you frequent, stop by the gift card table and we can order it for you.

Currently we have:

Home Depot \$25-\$100

Lowes \$25

Barnes & Noble \$25

Stop & Shop: \$25-\$100

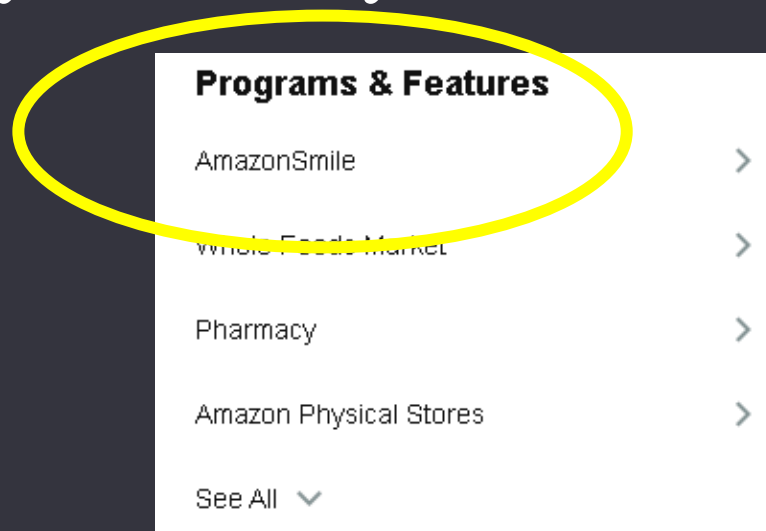
Big Y: \$50-\$100

Amazon: \$25 and \$100

Did you know that you can donate to Wilbraham United Church while you shop on Amazon?



- 1. When on the shopping page—click “ALL” (on the Left side)
and click on Amazon Smile under the
“Programs and Features”.**
- 2. From here you can select “Amazon Smile”
and then your charity of choice.**



- 3. Just be sure that you are using Amazon Smile when making your future purchases.**



Southern New England Conference
United Church of Christ
Living the Love & Justice of Jesus

Daily Lectionary Scripture References - August 2022 (Year C)

Mon., Aug. 1

Psalm 60
Hosea 11:12-12:14
Colossians 3:18-4:1

Tues., Aug. 2

Psalm 60
Hosea 13:1-16
Colossians 4:2-6

Wed., Aug. 3

Psalm 60
Hosea 14:1-9
Luke 12:22-31

Thurs., Aug. 4

Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23
Isaiah 9:8-17
Romans 9:1-9

Fri., Aug. 5

Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23
Isaiah 9:18-10:4
Acts 7:1-8

Sat., Aug. 6

Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23
Isaiah 1:2-9, 21-23
Matthew 6:19-24

Sun., Aug. 7

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 1:1, 10-20
Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16
Luke 12:32-40

Mon., Aug. 8

Psalm 11
Isaiah 2:1-4
Hebrews 11:1-7

Tues., Aug. 9

Psalm 11
Isaiah 24:1-13
Hebrews 11:17-28

Wed., Aug. 10

Psalm 11
Isaiah 24:14-23
Luke 12:41-48

Thurs., Aug. 11

Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19
Isaiah 2:5-11
Hebrews 10:26-31

Fri., Aug. 12

Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19
Isaiah 3:1-17
Hebrews 10:32-39

Sat., Aug. 13

Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19
Isaiah 3:18-4:6
Matthew 24:15-27

Sun., Aug. 14

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 5:1-7
Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19
Hebrews 11:29-12:2
Luke 12:49-56

Mon., Aug. 15

Psalm 74
Isaiah 5:8-23
1 John 4:1-6

Tues., Aug. 16

Psalm 74
Isaiah 5:24-30
Acts 7:44-53

Wed., Aug. 17

Psalm 74
Isaiah 27:1-13
Luke 19:45-48

Thurs., Aug. 18

Psalm 71:1-6
Jeremiah 6:1-19
Hebrews 12:3-17

Fri., Aug. 19

Psalm 71:1-6
Jeremiah 6:20-30
Acts 17:1-9

Sat., Aug. 20

Psalm 71:1-6
Jeremiah 1:1-3, 11-19
Luke 6:1-5

Sun., Aug. 21

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalm 71:1-6
Hebrews 12:18-29
Luke 13:10-17

Mon., Aug. 22

Psalm 10
Jeremiah 7:1-15
Hebrews 3:7-4:11

Tues., Aug. 23

Psalm 10
Jeremiah 7:16-26
Revelation 3:7-13

Wed., Aug. 24

Psalm 10
Jeremiah 7:27-34
Luke 6:6-11

Thurs., Aug. 25

Psalm 81:1, 10-16
Jeremiah 11:1-17
1 Peter 3:8-12

Fri., Aug. 26

Psalm 81:1, 10-16
Jeremiah 12:1-13
1 Peter 4:7-11

Sat., Aug. 27

Psalm 81:1, 10-16
Jeremiah 2:1-3, 14-22
Matthew 20:20-28

Sun., Aug. 28

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Jeremiah 2:4-13
Psalm 81:1, 10-16
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
Luke 14:1, 7-14

Mon., Aug. 29

Psalm 58
Jeremiah 2:23-37
Hebrews 13:7-21

Tues., Aug. 30

Psalm 58
Jeremiah 3:1-14
Titus 1:1-9

Wed., Aug. 31

Psalm 58
Jeremiah 3:15-25
Luke 14:15-24

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9 am - Worship 10 am – Fellowship - FH 5 pm – AI-Anon – YR	1 VBC 10 am – Piece Makers	2 VBC	3 VBC 6:00 pm AI-Anon – YR 6:30 pm – Boy Scouts – SS Rooms	4 VBC 10 am – Office Hours with Pastor Chip 6:30 pm AI-Anon - YR	5 VBC	6 11 am - Donovan Memorial Service - Sanctuary
7 9 am - Worship 10 am – Fellowship - FH 5 pm – AI-Anon – YR	8	9	10 6:00 pm AI-Anon - YR 6:30 pm – Boy Scouts – SS Rooms 7 pm – Deacons Mtg – ZR	11 10 am – Office Hours with Pastor Chip 6:30 pm AI-Anon - YR	12	13
14 9 am – Worship 10 am - Fellowship 5 pm – AI-Anon – YR	15 10 am – Piece Makers	16	17 6:00 pm AI-Anon - YR 6:30 pm – Boy Scouts – SS Rooms 7 pm – Discipleship Meeting	18 9:15 am – Loaves and Fishes 10:00 am – Office Hours with Pastor Chip 6:30 pm AI-Anon - YR	19	20
21 9 am - Worship 10 am – Fellowship - FH 11 pm – Church without Walls 5 pm – AI-Anon – YR	22 10 am – Piece Makers 7pm – Church Council Mtg	23	24 6:00 pm AI-Anon - YR 6:30 pm – Boy Scouts – SS Rooms	25 10 am – Office Hours with Pastor Chip 6:30 pm AI-Anon - YR	26	27
28 9 am - Worship 10 am – Fellowship - FH 5 pm – AI-Anon – YR	29	30 7 pm –WUP – Fellowship Hall	31 6:00 pm – AI-Anon – YR 6:30 pm – Boy Scouts – SS Rooms	1 10:00 am – Office Hours with Pastor Chip 6:30 pm – AI-Anon - YR 7:45 pm – Choir	2	3



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