



"I am the vine, you are the branches."

September 2026

**from the
Pastor's Desk**



*"Hey, its good to be back home again
Sometimes, this "old" church, feels like a long-lost friend
Yes, and hey, its good to be back home again."*

I am overjoyed to return to Wilbraham United Church and serve as your pastor. The John Denver lyrics (with my version) and tune have been a pleasant earworm ever since I started moving in my "stuff" in the past few weeks. I am looking forward to connecting, meeting, worshipping, planning, working, singing, and praying with you for the foreseeable future.

People have asked what they should call me. I think the name my parents gave me when I was born is a fine start. Feel free to simply call me, "Paul." If you must use a title, I am very comfortable with "Rev. Paul" but will answer to almost anything. I hope that you will tell me how you'd like to be addressed as well.

Cont...

My plan for the next year is to walk with you through your changes. I want to listen to what you have to say, tell me what you have been through, and how I can help you as we make yet another adjustment to who the minister is at Wilbraham United Church. It is my sincere hope that you will not have to endure any further changes for this position for years to come.

I invite you to come and see me. I will have office hours during the day, during the evening, and hopefully on Sunday afternoons. The coffee will be on (decaf after 3:00 pm for me) and I haven't missed a meal in ages. Let's reconnect as we get re-acquainted and get to know each other all over again.

Again, thank you for calling me to serve as your pastor. I truly believe the Holy Spirit was at work when this happened. Let's see what else She has in mind for us as we continue to work of spreading the Gospel message to the Greater Wilbraham area.

It truly IS good—great—to be back home again.

Peace and love,

Paul





Hello! from the Music Room

Our groups of musicians are glad to welcome Rev. Paul to Wilbraham United Church. He's settling in nicely – we look forward to his time here!!

Autumn is rushing in and choirs are jumping into full speed getting to work on music that will be shared in upcoming weeks. This brief but heartfelt message is about gratitude – the gratitude for volunteers who are willing to show up, from early September through early June, one night of almost every week to rehearse for each Sunday morning and other special occasions when music expands our horizons. I don't know the author of this quote: "where words fail music speaks," but I've experienced the phenomenon.... Often right here at WUC.

We've had a change up in our Thursday evening rehearsal schedule, and it seems like it will work out well.

6:00 – 7 PM----- Chancel Choir rehearsal, sanctuary

7:00 – 8:00----- Bell Choir rehearsal, sanctuary

Bells are gearing up to present a concert on November 29, the first Sunday in Advent – a little less than three months away. There will be other instruments involved as well, and voices too. It will provide an awesome start to this magical time of the year.

May this message find you looking forward to the weeks and months ahead.

Blessings, Soli Deo Gloria!
Bobbie



All are
invited!

WUC Mini Golf & Ice Cream
September 20 @ 2:00 PM

Fenway Golf
112 Allen St East Longmeadow

Join us for our annual WUC Mini Golf "Open" at Fenway Golf -112 Allen St in East Longmeadow. All are welcome. Golf and ice cream will be provided! Please join us for this fun family event! Email Discipleship@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org and let them know you're coming!

**Joint event with the Wilbraham United and
Christ the King Epiphany Congregations**

Blessing of the ANIMALS

Sunday
October 4 - 1 pm
Wilbraham United Church
500 Main St
Wilbraham, MA

We Invite you to

Bring your pet to be blessed.
Pets should be in carriers or on
non-retractable leashes please!



Stop by and
visit our pumpkin patch
with your pet!

Blessings will be given outside on the front
lawn of the church - weather permitting





It's time to sign up for our **Pumpkin Patch!**

Pumpkins get delivered on Saturday October 3. We will need many hands to help unload pumpkins - assume around 8:30 - 9:00 a.m. We will then have our "Patch" open every day in October through the 31st. Sign ups are now open to take a shift (or two or three!) See the link to sign up in our All Church Email. If you aren't able to sign up online but wish to take a shift please let Deb know during office hours and she'll sign you up!

You can access our signup sheet from our website by going to the WUC Community tab:
<https://www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org/wuc-community/>

WHAT'S INVOLVED: During your shift you will greet visitors to the patch and sell the pumpkins! Taking cash and using the credit card processor are part of the shift (if you're uneasy about the credit cards, signing up for a shift Monday - Thursday during office hours is a great time to learn as Deb is on hand to help!) You must also be able to measure the pumpkins to determine the cost (prices are already pre-determined) so moving some weight may be needed. Shifts are in 2 hour increments.

This can be a great family activity - kids are welcome to come help! An adult however must be on hand for all shifts.

This is a big fundraiser for the church and it takes all of us to help make it successful.



Wilbraham United Church now has **merchandise!** Did you ever wish you could wear a Wilbraham United Church T-shirt or hat, or carry a tote bag with a picture of the church on it? Well, now you can!

T-shirts for adults and kids, sweatshirts, mugs, tote bags, something for everyone. This is a fundraiser for our church sponsored by the Fellowship Commission. Everything is online (<https://www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org/wuc-merchandise/>) where you can purchase directly from the selling source and your item will be shipped directly to you!

If you need help with a purchase you can also see Deb in the church office or Victoria on Sunday mornings.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
		11am - Pastor/Moderator 4pm - Hospitality Comm	12pm - Staff Meeting 7pm - Phys Ops (ZR)	6pm - Chancel Choir 6:30pm - AL-Anon (YR) 7pm - Bell Choir (Sanc)		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship (ZR) 5pm - AL-Anon -YR	LABOR DAY	11am - Pastor/Moderator 5:30pm - Discipleship (ZR)	11am - Staff Meeting	6pm - Chancel Choir 6:30pm - AL-Anon (YR) 7pm - Bell Choir (Sanc)		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
10am - Worship - 11am - Fellowship (FH) 5pm - AL-Anon -YR	7pm - WUP (FH)	9am - Loaves and Fishes 11:30am - Woman's 7pm - WUP (FH)	11am - Staff Meeting 6pm - Scouts (TS)	9:20am - Loaves and 6pm - Chancel Choir 6:30pm - AL-Anon (YR) 7pm - Bell Choir (Sanc)		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship (FH) 5pm - AL-Anon -YR	6pm - Finance (Lib) 6:30pm - Deacons (ZR) 7pm - Church Council (ZR)	11am - Pastor/Moderator	11am - Staff Meeting 6pm - Scouts (TS)	10:30am - Fellowship 6pm - Chancel Choir 6:30pm - AL-Anon (YR) 7pm - Bell Choir (Sanc)		
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship (FH) 5pm - AL-Anon -YR	5pm - Hampden	11am - Pastor/Moderator 5:30pm - Discipleship	11am - Staff Meeting 6pm - Scouts (TS)			



Southern New England Conference

United Church of Christ

Living the Love & Justice of Jesus

Daily Lectionary Scripture References – September 2026 (Year A)

Tues., Sept. 1

Psalm 83:1-4, 13-18
Exodus 5:1-6:13
Revelation 3:7-13

Wed., Sept. 2

Psalm 83:1-4, 13-18
Exodus 7:14-25
Matthew 12:22-32

Thurs., Sept. 3

Psalm 149
Exodus 9:1-7
2 Corinthians 12:11-21

Fri., Sept. 4

Psalm 149
Exodus 10:21-29
Romans 10:15b-21

Sat., Sept. 5

Psalm 149
Exodus 11:1-10
Matthew 23:29-36

Sun., Sept. 6

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 12:1-14
Psalm 149
Romans 13:8-14
Matthew 18:15-20

Mon., Sept. 7

Psalm 121
Exodus 12:14-28
1 Peter 2:11-17

Tues., Sept. 8

Psalm 121
Exodus 12:29-42
Romans 13:1-7

Wed., Sept. 9

Psalm 121
Exodus 13:1-10
Matthew 21:18-22

Thurs., Sept. 10

Psalm 114
Exodus 13:17-22
1 John 3:11-16

Fri., Sept. 11

Psalm 114
Exodus 14:1-18
Acts 7:9-16

Sat., Sept. 12

Psalm 114
Exodus 15:19-21
Matthew 6:7-15

Sun., Sept. 13

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 14:19-31
Psalm 114 or Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21
Romans 14:1-12
Matthew 18:21-35

Mon., Sept. 14

Psalm 77
Joshua 3:1-17
Hebrews 11:23-29

Tues., Sept. 15

Psalm 77
Nehemiah 9:9-15
Romans 14:13-15:2

Wed., Sept. 16

Psalm 77
2 Kings 2:1-18
Mark 11:20-25

Thurs., Sept. 17

Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45
Exodus 15:22-27
2 Corinthians 13:1-4

Fri., Sept. 18

Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45
Exodus 16:1-21
2 Corinthians 13:5-10

Sat., Sept. 19

Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45
Exodus 16:22-30
Matthew 19:23-30

Sun., Sept. 20

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 16:2-15
Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45
Philippians 1:21-30
Matthew 20:1-16

Mon., Sept. 21

Psalm 119:97-104
Exodus 16:31-35
Romans 16:1-16

Tues., Sept. 22

Psalm 119:97-104
Numbers 11:1-9
Romans 16:17-20

Wed., Sept. 23

Psalm 119:97-104
Numbers 11:18-23, 31-32
Matthew 18:1-5

Thurs., Sept. 24

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
Isaiah 48:17-21
James 4:11-16

Fri., Sept. 25

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
Numbers 20:1-13
Acts 13:32-41

Sat., Sept. 26

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
Numbers 27:12-14
Mark 11:27-33

Sun., Sept. 27

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32

Mon., Sept. 28

Psalm 42
Exodus 18:1-12
Philippians 1:3-14

Tues., Sept. 29

Psalm 42
Exodus 18:13-27
Philippians 1:15-21

Wed., Sept. 30

Psalm 42
Exodus 19:9b-25
Matthew 9:2-8