
New Beginnings

SEPTEMBER 6, 2026





Wilbraham United Church

*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ
and the United Methodist Church*

500 Main Street

Wilbraham MA 01095

Phone: (413)596-2511

www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org

Facebook.com/WilbrahamUnitedChurch

September 6, 2026

15th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00AM

We ask that everyone wear nametags so that we can be welcoming to all. There are listening devices available for those that may need them. An usher will be happy to assist you. Following the service, everyone is invited to our time of refreshments and friendship in our Fellowship Hall. Please make a left out of our sanctuary, down the hall, and up the stairs. If you are unable to use the stairs, an elevator is available.

**All who are able to stand, may do so.*

UMH – The “red” United Methodist Hymnal

TFWS – The “small black” book Faith We Sing Hymnal

GATHERING MUSIC

Piano: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

arr. J.B. Taylor

Bells: Joyous Acclamation

M.W. Joy

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

WELCOME

Rev. Paul

***GATHERING HYMN #89 (UMH) verses 1, 2, 4**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

CALL TO WORSHIP

Joe Hegarty

Liturgist: God said, “Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

All: But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord.”

Liturgist: Jesus said, “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden,

All: And I will give you rest.”

Liturgist: We come in the name of the Spirit, resting from our labors,

All: Let us worship God this day!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liturgist: God of Grace, you call us to be different from the world,

All: but the world is seductive, and so we come here to be strengthened.

Liturgist: God of Vision, you hold before us an alternate way of life,

All: different priorities, different loyalties, different values.

Liturgist: But we know that the world is not only seductive but powerful,

All: and so we are drawn in to following its priorities, accepting its values, showing loyalty to its gods.

Liturgist: God who blesses the meek, the peacemakers, the merciful,

All: forgive us when we lose sight of these qualities, when we misunderstand their role in the world.

Liturgist: We ask this in the name of Jesus

All: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

SONG OF PRAISE # 2029 (TFWS)

*Praise to the Lord, all of you, God's servants.
Blessed be the name of our God now and ever.
From the rising of the sun may the Lord be praised.
Praise to the Name of the Lord!*

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 12:1-14

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, "This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it

on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn with fire. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand, and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the Lord. I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human to animal, and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

“This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sung Response

*Breath of God, Breath of Peace, Breath of love, Breath of life,
Breath of justice, Breath of passion,
Breath creating, Breath of healing, Breath of singing, Breath of praying,
Come upon us, come restore us, come inspire us, Breath of God.*

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 18: 15-20

“If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

One: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Rev. Paul

***HYMN – #617 (UMH) vs. 1-3**

I Come with Joy

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation to Give

Offertory

Sing Joy! Make A Beautiful Noise!
Chancel Choir

M. Barrett

***Doxology #94 (UMH)**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God the source of all our gifts. Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up lifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit, Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

***Prayer of Dedication**

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to Communion

Pastor: May God be with you

People: And also with you

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to God

Pastor: Let us give thanks to God Most High

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise

Words of Remembrance

Distribution of Elements

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving

O Lord, may we who eat this bread, become a people of living stones; may we who drink this cup become a people of salvation. Enrich our faith and trust as we gather together again at your table for this sacred remembrance.

In these moments of communion together, may we experience the confidence of those who know they are loved and accepted completely. Amen.

***PARTING HYMN #2238 (TFWS) vs. 1 - 3**

In the Midst of New Dimensions

***FOLLOWING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD**

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #665 (UMH):**

*Go now in peace, go now in peace,
May the love of God surround you everywhere, everywhere you may go.*

MUSIC FOR SENDING FORTH

Organ: Hymn to Joy

arr. A. L. Travis

Welcome Visitors! *Is this your first visit to Wilbraham United Church? If you wish to be contacted by a member of the church or our pastor, please leave your contact information with one of the ushers or place a visitor card in the collection plate.*

The Altar flowers this morning are given by Karen Gatchell in celebration of Rev. Paul's new ministry with Wilbraham United Church!

Please be aware that our services are livestreamed and recorded for our online community. While we focus the cameras primarily on the pulpit, chancel and lectern, wide shots of the sanctuary may include congregants. If you or your family prefer not to appear on camera, please ask an usher to direct you to our designated non-camera seating area. Thank you for helping us worship together both in person and online!

MINISTERING TO YOU TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Paul Nesbit

Music Director: Roberta Morkin

Technical: Deb Trimble

Ushers: Tom Toman & Bill Lynch

Liturgist: Joe Hegarty

Communion: Sandy Harris, Joyce Pierangelo

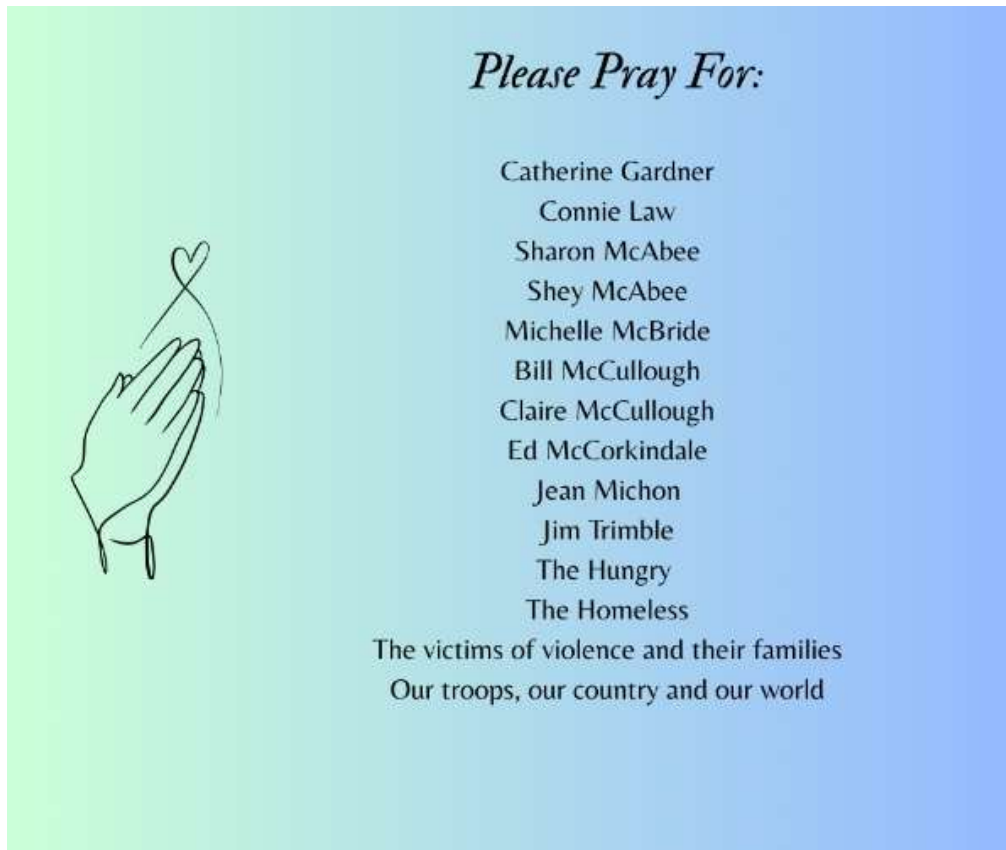
Greeter: Sandy Harris



Rev. Paul Nesbit:	Pastor (pastor@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x 103
Bobbie Morkin:	Music Director (musicdirector@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x106
Deb Trimble:	Administrator (admin@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x100
David Wapner:	Sexton (wucbuilding@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x107

If you are in need of Pastoral Care, please contact Rev. Paul or the Church Office.

After office hours, Rev. Paul can be reached at revpaulnesbit@gmail.com



“News for the Pews” for the Week of September 6, 2026

Next Sunday, September 13th is our **Homecoming Sunday**! Our Church School will be back in session. Students should come to the worship service through the Moments for Children and then will proceed upstairs to our classrooms. Looking forward to another great Church School Year!

Our **Loaves and Fishes** ministry is still in need of packaged cookies. If you are able to provide them they can be left in the kitchen in the storage bin marked Loaves and Fishes or left in the church office.

Getting ready for Back to school? Don't forget our **Shopping Card** program to help with your shopping! We've got more than just Big Y cards! Current inventory includes Amazon, Apple, Kohl's, LL Bean and Target! We've also got cards for popular fast food locations including Dominos, Subway, Jersey Mikes, Starbucks and Dunkin Donuts. Shopping cards make great additions to college care packages!

This Week at Wilbraham United Church

Sunday, September 6, 2026

10:00 a.m. –Worship

11:00 a.m. – Fellowship (FH)

5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)

Monday, September 7, 2026

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Church Office 8:30 – 1:30

11:00 a.m. – Pastor/Moderator Mtg

5:30 p.m. – Discipleship (ZR)

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Church Office 8:30 – 1:30

11:30 a.m. – Staff Meeting

Thursday, September 10, 2026

Church Office 8:30 – 1:30

6:00 p.m. – Chancel Choir (Sanc)

6:30 p.m. – Al Anon (YR)

7:00 p.m. – Bell Choir (Sanc)

Friday, September 11, 2026

Church Office closed

Saturday, September 12, 2026

Church Office closed

Sunday, September 13, 2026

10:00 a.m. –Worship

11:00 a.m. – Fellowship (FH)

5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)