The Branchline

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

November 2026



It Is Right to Give God Thanks and Praise!

Of all the holidays, Thanksgiving is my favorite. You don't have to buy gifts, there are minimal decorations, and you get to eat most of my favorite foods. As I have grown older, though, I have been able to set aside some time in prayer to give thanks to God for all the wonderful things with which God has blessed me. I hope members and friends of Wilbraham United Church will take some time this month to reflect on how you, your family, and your church have all been blessed by God.

As I near the end of my second month as settled pastor, I give thanks to the Almighty for the numerous opportunities we have been given to answer the call of Jesus to spread the Gospel message here in the greater Wilbraham area. The Holy Spirit is truly at work in Wilbraham United and the members have been caught up in the enthusiasm as we journey together. We have held our "Trunk or Treat", sold over a ton of pumpkins, and have collected warm winter clothing in a cooperative effort with Blue Door Ministries in Springfield. We have worked with our neighbors "down the street" (Christ the King Epiphany Church) to hold the annual Pet Blessing and will join them for a Blue Christmas service in December. Our church also hosted the Hampden Association's Annual Meeting and put out a dinner for over thirty clergy members and lay delegates. In the weeks to come, we will celebrate with a Holiday Concert on November 29 and our Annual Holly Fair on December 12. Truly, we can give thanks for the many gifts in the one Spirit; imagine what can happen if we keep our eyes, ears, and hearts open to the call of the Holy Spirit?

It is in the thrill of this spirit that I continue to give thanks to God and encourage you to do the same. Amid the traditional celebration of Thanksgiving, according your traditions and culture, please set aside some time to offer prayers and songs of thanksgiving to the Creator.

Peace and love,

Paul





Prepare the Way of the Lord is a Song of Praise we've used during the season of Advent. It's something that we're all doing - that act of preparation. It's happening already now in early November. All of us are looking at our calendars trying to see what else we can squeeze into our schedules as the seasons of Advent and Christmas come closer. Are our preparations different than the lyrics of this brief hymn, UMH #207, suggest? "Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord, and all people will see the salvation of our God." We're preparing for the Christmas presents under the tree, the parties we can enjoy hosting or going to, the clothes we'll wear, preparing music or stage presentations, what has to be done yet on our multiple lists to make things go the way we want them to, followed by many etceteras.

I think today, in all our busy schedules and planning, we are doing just what that short song suggests. We are preparing to celebrate the coming of the season of light and wonder. Numerous events are in stages of preparation at WUC. Several of these are the WUP productions of A Christmas Carol; Charlie Brown Thanksgiving, the handbell choir's work for Handbells for the Holidays, the Holly Fair, Spaghetti Supper and Christmas Crafts/Karaoke, Christmas Pageant, Christmas Eve service, and more. We are preparing. It's what we do. We're getting ready. We're awake to the approaching season of Peace, Hope, Love and Joy.

Happy Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Bobbie


CONCERT
Handbells
for the
Holidays
3pm, Sunday,
November 29, 2026
Wilbraham United Church
500 Main Street
Wilbraham, Massachusetts
Ample Off-street Parking
Accessible for persons with Disabilities
FREE WILL OFFERING
FOR LOAVES AND FISHES











Pumpkin Patch













TRUNK -OR- TREAT









Boo!
















CAUTION








DEFGH
NOP Q









NOVEMBER 2026

Wilbraham United Church

Nov 2026 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship 1:30pm - WUP 5pm - Al- Anon -YR	2 10am - Pastor's 10am - Piece 5pm - WUP (FH)	3 11am - 2pm - Bible Study 7pm - Evening 7pm - WUP (FH)	4 11am - Staff 5pm - Pastor's 5pm - WUP (FH) 6pm - Scouts (TS) 7pm - Phys Ops	5 5pm - WUP (FH) 6pm - Broom 6pm - Chancel 6:30pm - AL-Anon 7pm - Bell Choir	6 7pm - WUP (FH)	7 9am - WUP (FH)
8 10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship 11:30am - Ushers 1:30pm - WUP 5pm - Al- Anon -YR	9 10am - Pastor's 10am - Piece 7pm - WUP Board	10 8:30am - Men's 11am - 2pm - Bible Study 7pm - Evening 7pm - WUP (FH)	11 11am - Staff 5pm - Pastor's 6pm - Scouts (TS)	12 6pm - Broom 6pm - Chancel 6:30pm - AL-Anon 7pm - Bell Choir 7pm - WUP (FH)	13 5pm - WUP (FH)	14 9am - WUP (FH)
15 10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship 11:30am - First Aid 1pm - WUP (FH) 5pm - Al- Anon -YR	16 10am - Pastor's 10am - Piece 5pm - WUP (FH) 7pm - Church	17 9am - Loaves and 11:30am - 5pm - Discipleship 5:30pm - WUP (FH)	18 11am - Staff 1pm - Called to 5pm - Pastor's 5:30pm - WUP (FH) 6pm - Scouts (TS)	19 9:20am - Loaves 5pm - WUP (FH) 6pm - Broom 6pm - Chancel 6:30pm - AL-Anon 7pm - Bell Choir	20 ~~WUP Show (FH)~~	21 ~~WUP SHOW (FH)~~ 4:30pm - Charlie
22 ~~WUP SHOW(FH)~~ 10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship 5pm - Al- Anon -YR	23 ~~Preschool in TS~~ 10am - Pastor's 10am - Piece 4pm - Hospitality 6pm - Finance (ZR)	24 ~~Preschool in TS~~ 8:30am - Men's 11am - 2pm - Bible Study 7pm - Evening 7pm - WUP (FH)	25 11am - Staff 4pm - Turkey Trot 5pm - Pastor's 6pm - Scouts (TS)	26 7am - Turkey Trot 6pm - Broom 6:30pm - AL-Anon	27 ~~WUP Show (FH)~~	28 ~~WUP SHOW (FH)~~
29 10am - Worship 11am - Fellowship 3pm - Handbell 5pm - Al- Anon -YR	30 10am - Pastor's 10am - Piece	1 11am - 2pm - Bible Study 7pm - Evening 7pm - WUP (FH)	2 11am - Staff 5pm - Pastor's 6pm - Scouts (TS) 7pm - Phys Ops	3 6pm - Broom 6pm - Chancel 6:30pm - AL-Anon 7pm - Bell Choir	4 ~~WUP Show (FH)~~	5 ~~WUP SHOW (FH)~~

THINGS OF NOTE:

STARTING NOVEMBER 9TH

THE OFFICE HOURS ARE CHANGING TO 9:30-2:30.

WE ARE PLEASED TO INTRODUCE HILLARY FUNK AS OUR NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT AND BOOKKEEPER.

PLEASE JOIN US IN WELCOMING HILLARY TO OUR STAFF.



Hillary Funk (Administrative Assistant) has enjoyed working in luxury hotels, wedding and events planning, and even managing an office for a collision repair shop but has never left western MA for long. She was born and raised in the hilltowns, raised 2 sons in Westfield, and resides there now with her many pets. In her spare time Hillary is an avid painter; working with many media, including watercolor and oil paint. When she isn't painting, she can be found working backstage for local community theater productions or hiking to a nearby swimming hole. She looks forward to bringing many smiles to the WUC community.

IMPORTANT DATES YOU NEED TO KNOW

HERE ARE SOME DATES YOU SHOULD ADD TO YOUR CALENDAR FOR EVENTS AT THE CHURCH:

- NOVEMBER 20 - DEC 6 - WUP SHOW "A CHRISTMAS CAROL"
- NOVEMBER 21 - CHARLIE BROWN THANKSGIVING EVENT
- NOVEMBER 29 - HANDBELL CONCERT
- DECEMBER 12 - HOLLY FAIR
- DECEMBER 19 - SPAGHETTI SUPPER AND CHRISTMAS CRAFTS/KARAOKE



THE SIGN-UP SHEET FOR ALTAR FLOWERS IN 2027 IS NOW ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE NARTHEX. A $35 DONATION WILL PAY TO SPONSOR THE FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP AND CAN BE DEDICATED TO A LOVED ONE'S MEMORY, OR IN CELEBRATION OF A SPECIAL DATE OR PERSON.





Victoria Owen (left)
April Beston (right)



Wanted!!
DRUMMER

Looking for a drummer for our Praise Band. Rehearsals are flexible and fun. Hope to play once a month or every other month for our 10:00 church service. If you are interested, you can contact Bobbie Morkin (musicdirector@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) or Patti Colkos (tricia30@charter.net)

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

Daily Lectionary Scripture References– November 2026 (Years A & B)

Sun.,Nov.1
Twenty-Third Day after Pentecost
Joshua 3:7-17
Psalm107:1-7,33-37
1 Thessalonians2:9-13
Matthew 23:1-12

Mon.,Nov.2
Psalm 128
Joshua 4:1-24
1Thessalonians2:13-20

Tues.,Nov. 3
Psalm 128
Joshua 6:1-16,20
Acts 13:1-12

Wed.,Nov.4
Psalm 128
Joshua 10:12-14
Matthew 15:1-9

Thurs., Nov.5
Psalm 78:1-7
Joshua 5:10-12
Revelation 8:6—9:12

Fri., Nov. 6
Psalm 78:1-7
Joshua 8:30-35
Revelation 9:13-21

Sat., Nov.7
Psalm 78:1-7
Joshua 20:1-9
Matthew 24:1-14

Sun.,Nov.8
Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Joshua24:1-3a, 14-25
Psalm78:1-7
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew25:1-13

Mon.,Nov.9
Psalm 78
Joshua 24:25-33
1 Corinthians 14:20-25

Tues.,Nov. 10
Psalm 78
Nehemiah 8:1-12
1Thessalonians3:6-13

Wed., Nov. 11
Psalm 78
Jeremiah 31:31-34
Matthew 24:29-35

Thurs., Nov. 12
Psalm 123
Judges 2:6-15
Revelation 16:1-7

Fri., Nov. 13
Psalm 123
Judges 2:16-23
Revelation 16:8-21

Sat., Nov. 14
Psalm 123
Judges 5:1-12
Matthew 12:43-45

Sun.,Nov.15
Twenty-FifthSunday after Pentec os t
Judges 4:1-7
Psalm 123
1Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew25:14-30

Mon.,Nov.16
Psalm 83:1-4,9-10, 17-18
Judges 4:8-24
Romans 2:1-11

Tues.,Nov. 17
Psalm 83:1-4,9-10, 17-18
Exodus 2:1-10
1Thessalonians5:12-18

Wed., Nov. 18
Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18
Esther 7:1-10
Matthew 24:45-51

Thurs., Nov. 19
Psalm 100
Genesis 48:15-22
Revelation 14:1-11

Fri., Nov. 20
Psalm 100
Isaiah 40:1-11
Revelation 22:1-9

Sat., Nov. 21
Psalm 100
Ezekiel 34:25-31
Matthew 12:46-50

Sun.,Nov.22
Reign of Christ/Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalm 100
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46

Mon.,Nov.23
Psalm 28
Numbers 27:15-23
2Timothy 2:8-13

Tues.,Nov. 24
Psalm 28
Zechariah 11:4-17
Revelation 19:1-9

Wed., Nov. 25
Psalm 28
Jeremiah 31:10-14
John 5:19-40

Thurs.,Nov.26 (Year B)
Thanksgiving
Psalm80:1-7, 17-19
Zechariah 13:1-9
Revelation 14:6-13 or
Daniel 7:1-3 and Psalm 149
Ephesians 1:11-23
Like 6:20-31

Fri., Nov. 27
Psalm 80:1-7,17-19
Zechariah 14:1-9
1 Thessalonians4:1-18

Sat., Nov. 28
Psalm 80:1-7,17-19
Micah 2:1-13
Matthew 24:15-31

Sun.,Nov.29
First Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
1Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37

Mon.,Nov.30
Psalm 79
Micah 4:1-5
Revelation 15:1-8

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