

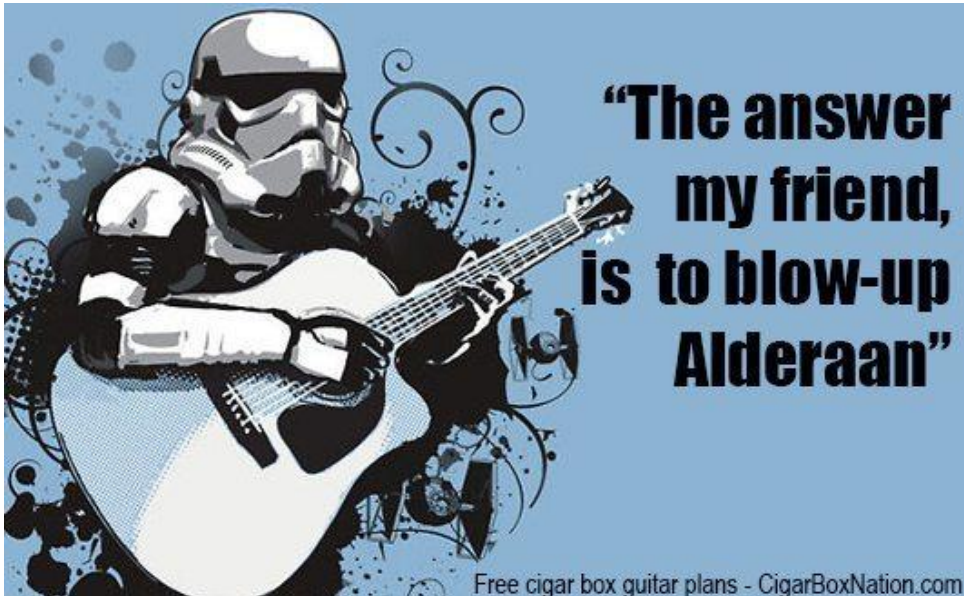
West Parish of Barnstable

Gathered in London 1616 - Present Meetinghouse Erected in 1717

A Church in the Congregational Tradition

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

West Barnstable, Massachusetts



THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

May 4, 2025

10:00 a.m.

*So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said,
"Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here,
has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."
And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he
got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.*

Acts 9:17-20

All are invited to stay for the full service today.
Saturday School is offered for our children and youth at our 4:30 Saturday service.

OUR STATEMENT OF WELCOME

As a congregation which covenants to walk together in Christian love,
believes that all persons are created equal before God,
and affirms the inclusive love of Jesus Christ,
we welcome to our work and worship all people
regardless of race, gender, age, ethnicity, sexual orientation,
ability, or economic circumstance.

Adopted at Annual Meeting, June 26, 2005

WELCOME

Pastor Christie Burns

*HYMN #500 (Green)

“O For A World”

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Christie Burns

One: O God, you have lifted us up,

Many: So empires of this galaxy will not enjoy our defeat.

One: In our most desperate hour we cried to you:

Many: “Help us, O God! You are our only hope!”

One: Hearing our cries for help, you healed us;

Many: Bringing us from Chaos, you restored our lives.

One: May we be as Jedi trained to feel emotions, understand them, and then let them go.

Many: For your anger, O God, lasts but a moment, while your graciousness lasts a lifetime.

One: Weeping lingers for a night,

Many: But joy comes with the morning.

One: We celebrate with joy the season of Easter

Many: Our spirits dance like Ewoks on Endor.

PRELUDE

Star Wars theme

John Williams

UNISON PRAYER (*John 21*)

Gracious God, creator of islands and oceans, continents and rivers, we gather today, remembering the fishers of Lake Galilee who, after a period of doubt and despair, were called back to your service by the Risen Christ. Like Peter, we too can feel the weight of our past, the emptiness of our efforts, and the distance from your presence. We confess our times of wandering and ask for your grace to see us back on the path of discipleship.

God, we pray for the courage to leave behind the nets of our old lives and to follow your call.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*John 21*)

Almighty God, we confess that we have strayed from your path and your ways. You invite us to cast our nets, but we fall short of the trust you expect of us. Do you find our lack of faith disturbing? We acknowledge our shortcomings, our doubts, and the times we have failed to love you and our neighbor as ourselves.

Like Peter, who denied you, we have also fallen short of your expectations, and we are deeply sorry for our sins. We ask for your forgiveness, your grace, and your healing, to become “fishers of people”. May we, like Peter, be restored to a place of purpose and service, not just for ourselves, but for the sake of others. Help us to embrace your forgiveness and to be instruments of your love and healing in this world.

THE 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE

Acts 9:1-20

MESSAGE

May the Fourth Be with You!

Pastor Christie

THE CONGREGATION RESPONDS

*HYMN # 481(Green)

“Lift Every Voice and Sing”

ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS, AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO PRAYER

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us pray.

PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO OFFERING OUR GIFTS

*In thanksgiving to God and giving witness to generous hearts,
our financial gifts support our ministries here and in the wider community.
We now accept Venmo, the qr code and instructions are on the back page.*

OFFERTORY

Interlude in G Major

L. Mourian

*SONG OF PRAISE

O God, may we who bear your name
By gentle love your grace proclaim,
Christ's gift of peace on earth declare
And your anointing Spirit share. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE BREAD AND CUP ARE SHARED

Our service of communion is open to all seeking Christ's presence.
We will celebrate communion by intinction; come forward, take a piece of the bread,
dip it into the cup, and consume it on the way back to your seat.

If you would prefer to be served where you sit,
raise your hand and the deacons will come to you.

For those who prefer, please take the covid-safe communion cup and wafer system.
(We offer a gluten-free, wheat-free alternative – in the plastic bags – for those whose diet so
requires. We serve cranberry juice out of respect for those who cannot consume alcohol.)

INVITATION

*At the Master's Table in this season of resurrection, we look not to Luke Skywalker, but to
Luke, the Evangelist, who wrote of our Savior, not only the night of the first Communion, but
later wrote of the Risen Christ who appeared to the disciples on the road to Emmaus, but they
didn't recognize him. Later, at the table, with two of the disciples, he broke the bread and
blessed it, and then their eyes were opened. That was when they recognized the Risen Christ in
the breaking of the bread. So, now, we come to this table, in company with all believers, not
just a long time ago, but also today, and a long time from now: this ritual serves as witness to
our unity with all believers in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, to the ends of the earth and
galaxies far, far away.*

HYMN #311 (Green)

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

THE COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: May the Force be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Force.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

Just as many grains of wheat are gathered to make one loaf of bread

People: And many grapes are gathered to make one cup of wine,

Pastor: And just as billions of stars populate each galaxy

People: we, the many people of God, are made one in the body of Christ.

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious God, we come before you in the name of Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Savior, the one who walks with us, talks with us, eats with us. We thank you for this holy meal which we have shared among humble and grateful hearts: we have broken bread together; we have shared the same pot of rice; one taro root has fed us all. Sustain us also with your Holy Spirit. Amen.

*HYMN #593 (Green)

"Here I Am, Lord"

GOD SENDS US FORTH

WORDS OF SENDING

POSTLUDE

The Heavens are Telling (Psalm 19)

Benedetto Marcello

(It is our custom to remain seated in silence during the Postlude)

* All who wish, please stand.

All are invited to join together for fellowship and refreshments following the service.

OUR PRAYER LIST

*May the presence of Jesus Christ be with those on our prayer list and with those who care for them.
The prayers of the congregation are asked for:*

Lexis Allen (lifelong friend of Sandy Clark)
Karolina Atsalis (friend of the Abrahams)
Reed Baer
Bill and Dottie Brower
Bunny and Bart Chase (friends of Rik Clark)
Ginny Dolan (friend of the Haven Family)
Betsy Eidem (friend of Carol Allen)
Susan Emery (Jane Ketchen's sister)
Emy and Yessica (friends of Christie Burns)
Ned Flynn (Ted's father)
Jay Griffin (Peggie Bretz' brother)
Sharon Griffin (Peggie Bretz' sister-in-law)
Keith Heard (friend of the Naylor's)
Sally Haven (Brad Haven's mother)
Steve Howland
Deidre Hunt (daughter-in-law of Sharon and John Hunt)
Gina Jacinto (friend of Joanna Wallace)
David Kuehn (friend of Robin Miller and Kim Baker)
Gary Komosky (Chris Haven's brother)
Martha Lant (sister-in-law of Peggie Bretz)
Lauren (friend of Christie Burns)
Meredith Leonard (Debbie Barrette's mother)
Cheryl Lickteig (friend of Jeanne Douglass)

Adrienne Locklear (family of Kelly and Macayla Washburn)
Sue Maki (friend of Joanna Wallace)
Greg Miller
Mike Morris (Liz Knox-Lupfer & Dan Lupfer's daughter-in-law's father)
Brian Murphy
Peggy Nelson
Paul (friend of Ellen and Tom Davis)
Carol Polidoro
John Pullen (friend of Dan Enos)
Savanna Ramotar (friend of Sharon Hunt)
Cyndi Rausch (Allison McNaughton's sister)
Pat Smith (Michael Smith's mother)
Joanne Stubbins
Nancy Sturgis (friend of Joanne Wallace)
Jim Sweeney (Randy Parker's brother-in-law)
Gary Toye (brother of Bobbie Jordan)
Mary-Ann Tu
Roy Urbach (friend of Karen Datlowe)
Linda Watson (friend of Barbara Rogers)
Bruce and Tom White
Nancy Woodman (friend of Marianne Williams)
Rev. Dr. Craig Yohn

Please notify the church office (508-362-4445) of any additions, deletions or changes you wish to make.

The Week May 4, 2025

Sunday	5/4/25	10:00 am 4:30 pm	Worship AA (J)
Monday	5/5/25	10:15 am 5:00 pm	FS Classes (J) AA (J)
Tuesday	5/6/25	9:15 am 11:00 am 11:00 am 4:30 pm 5:00 pm	FS Science (J) Christie's Coffee Hours at Nirvana Choir Rehearsal (M) Bell Choir (M) AA (J)
Wednesday	5//7/25	8:00 am-12:00 pm 12:00 pm 4:00 pm 5:00 pm	FS Picture Day (J) Bible Study (G & Z) FS Faculty (J) AA (M)
Thursday	5/8/25	8:00 am 8:00 am-12:00 pm 5:00 pm	Men's Breakfast at Jack's Out Back FS Picture Day (J) AA (J)
Friday	5/9/25	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Knitting Group (G) AA (M)
Saturday	5/10/25	4:30 pm	Worship
Sunday	5/11/25	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship AA (J)

Key: FS = Family School; G = Guild Room; J = Jenkins Hall; M = Meetinghouse; Z = Zoom

- ♦ **Please join us for Coffee Hour in Jenkins Hall after worship.** Our hosts today are Peggie Bretz, Karen Datlowe, and Jeanne Pelletier.
- ♦ **The Flowers gracing the Meetinghouse today were given by** Matt & Deb Lee in honor of Jackie & Al Mague. They were arranged by Chris Haven.
- ♦ **The 2025 Flower Calendar is up** on the kiosk. Please sign up for sponsoring the flowers along with a dedication. The cost is \$32 and can be paid by cash, check, or Venmo with "Flowers" in the memo. One of the members of the flower committee will contact you to about the arrangement.
- ♦ **The Coffee Hour sign up** is on the kiosk in Jenkins. If you can spare a little of your time to help at our Sunday *Coffee Hour* it would be greatly appreciated. It's a wonderful way to socialize with old friends and to make new ones. Thank you.

We ask your cooperation in protecting the 1717 Meetinghouse by not parking your vehicle in or alongside the circle closest to the Meetinghouse. Although it is not marked, it is a FIRE LANE and preserves clear access to the Meetinghouse for Emergency Vehicles.

Need to get connected? Wi-Fi: Meetinghouse **Password:** 1717Rooster

Venmo @WestParish or scan the QR code.



venmo

To make a donation, simply scan the QR code with your phone's camera or search "@WestParish" on the Venmo app.

Be sure you select "West Parish of Barnstable" under the charity profiles.

If you would like your donation to go toward something specific like "Deacons", just note that in the description.

Church Staff

Reed Baer, Pastor and Teacher
Paula King, Music Director
Susan Moeller, Council Chair
Alycia Williams, Family School Director

Christine Burns, Associate Pastor
Susan McEwen, Office Administrator
Roberta Jordan, Deacons Chair
Chris Haven, Sexton

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