

Welcome to

Woodridge Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

*An Open & Affirming Congregation and
A Caring & Welcoming Community*



Worship at 10:00 AM

October 26, 2025

woodridgechurchri.org

facebook.com/woodridgecongregational



As a caring and welcoming community, using the Bible as a resource and the teachings of Jesus as our guide, we joyfully welcome everyone into our Christian community, regardless of race, ethnicity, class, age, mental status, family structure, physical or mental ability, religious background or theological perspective, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression. As Christian disciples, we invite all to share in the life, leadership, ministry, worship, sacraments, blessings and joys of our congregation.

** All who are able, please stand*

Gathering

How Great is Our God
with Praise to the Lord the Almighty

Carol Tornquist
Sandy Nolan - piano

Welcome & Church Life

Call to Worship

One: Rejoice in the Lord and be glad.

All: God is our hope and our salvation.

One: The Lord blesses the earth with rain.

All: God crowns the year with bounty.

One: The Lord makes old men dream dreams.

All: God makes young girls see visions.

One: Rejoice in the Lord and be glad.

All: God is our hope and our salvation.

Opening Prayer (unison)

Lord our God, you remind us through your holy people that all our religious practices, even our prayer, are not worth anything if we use them to bend you to our way. God, may we come to you in humility and repentance, ready to encounter you in love and to turn toward you. In this hour of worship, open our hearts to receive your Word and your grace. Accept us as your children, together with Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord for ever. Amen.

*Hymn:

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

NCH #12

*Psalter:

Psalms 65

NCH #661

Children's Message

Scripture: Luke 18:9-14^{NRSVUE}

Sermon Rev. Aidan Myers Kelley

Pastoral Prayer — Prayer Concerns and Celebrations

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.

African American Spiritual
Soon S. Lim – Soloist
Sandy Nolan - piano

Doxology NCH #779

God of overflowing abundance—you water the earth with life-giving rain; you clothe the meadows with glorious flowers; you deck the valleys with bountiful grain; you make the gateways of the evening and the morning shout for joy. With what can we come before you? Receive the fruit of our labor. Receive the gift of our humble thanks, and keep our hearts safe in your Spirit. Amen.

*Hymn: Lord, I Want To Be a Christian NCH #454

Benediction

*Benediction Response Blessed Be the Tie That Binds (1&4) NCH #393

Hosanna Loud Hosanna
Music taken from Gesangbuch der Herzogl
Sandy Nolan - organ



Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back. -- Luke 6:38

As shared in Luke 6:38 — “Give, and it will be given to you.” We invite you now to take a moment to reflect on the blessings you have received and how you might share those blessings with our Woodridge community in the year ahead.

Your generosity has had a profound impact, sustaining our ministries, supporting our missions, and nurturing our life together in faith. Over the next few weeks, we ask you to prayerfully consider how your financial commitment can continue to make a difference in 2026. Your pledge helps us plan responsibly for the year ahead — allowing us to support our ministries, maintain our facilities, and grow in fellowship, outreach, and faith formation.

You will be receiving a letter in the mail with a pledge card and information on proportional giving. We invite you to prayerfully and joyfully consider your pledge for 2026.

Announcements

Worshipping with children/youth or new to our church? Welcome! Scan this QR code to find our Child and Family Information page to learn about things like worship resources, Sunday School/nursery, and where to find bathrooms/changing tables.



Financial Stress to Financial Wellness and Peace Workshop - *Monday, Oct. 27th @ 6:30pm* *On Google Meet.* See the info on “The Word” for how to connect. Join Susan Culbert, a new member of Woodridge in an informative workshop to help plan your financial future.

Are you feeling stressed about your money situation? If you are, you're not alone. Transforming money stress into financial wellness is a powerful shift and achievable with the right mindset and strategies. Susan is a Financial Wellness Coach, who helps people build healthy money habits. Money isn't just numbers; it's a tool for freedom, security, and joy. She invites you to this workshop to learn more about how to move from money stress to financial wellness.

The Grief Support Group Meets Thursday afternoons, 2:00 – 3:30 pm in the Conference Room of the church. Access is via the Jackson Road entrance. This gathering is for those who have experienced the loss of a loved one. For more information, please contact the facilitator, Rev. Burton Bagby-Grose at bbagbygrose@vnacarenewengland.org

Quilty Pleasures Quilt Guild meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month 6-9PM. Cost is \$5.00 to attend applied to annual dues. All experiences WELCOME, New or Advanced. For questions contact: RPloettner@Gmail.com

The Holiday Bazaar is less than two weeks away. Bring your donations for the Woodridge Holiday Bazaar's *TIMELESS TREASURES* room! We are seeking new, like-new and clean very gently used articles. Your donations may be dropped off on the stage in Fellowship Hall beginning October 5. The deadline for drop-off is Sunday, Nov. 2. Thank you very much! Your wonderful donations are key to our success!! Any questions, please see Martha Ryan, marthajryan@verizon.net or Carmen Steinbrecher, crburney814.cs@gmail.com. Here is a list of suggestions:

- Jewelry
- Pocketbooks and wallets
- Shoes and boots in like new or gently used condition
- Warm winter accessories – gloves, mittens, scarves, hats
- Tablecloths, linens, sheets (washed, neatly bagged with a description, including size)
- Blankets, comforters
- Small appliances and working electronics
- Kitchen items
- Dishes
- Christmas and other holiday decorations
- Warm women's, men's and children's clothes
- Decorative pillows
- Art and other decorative items.
- Sports equipment - clothing and helmets etc
- Video accessories - old radios etc
- Vintage clothing
- Tools - small hand-held and electric or battery-run, toolboxes

Please see the sign-up sheets in the Narthex for all the ways in which you can help. For example:

Thrs.	11-06-25	Table Set UP
Fri.	11-07-25	Decorating
Sat.	11/08/25	Servers, Greeters, Bussers, Lunch Cashier, Pastry Table, Other Table Rotation, Clean Up, etc.

*More hands make for lighter work.
Your helping ensures the success of our biggest yearly Fund-Raising Event.*

Worship Ministers for Today's Service

Liturgist: Steven Pennell

Ushers: Grant Southard, Marsha Southard,
Bob Cole, Marianna Sarty

Stewards: Marsha Southard, Grant Southard,
Ellen Hunt, Bob Cole

The flowers on the altar are given by Lou Beneduce
in celebration of his mother's 90th birthday.

Beverage and Treats in Fellowship Hall
following worship are provided by
The Worship Team

Our Staff:

Rev. Aidan Myers Kelley, Pastor
aidan@woodridgechurchri.org

Sandy Nolan, Organist
sanolan00@gmail.com

Barbara Stifano, Administrative Assistant
Office hours 9am – 1pm M-F woodridgechurch@verizon.net
401-942-0662 or 401-942-0654