

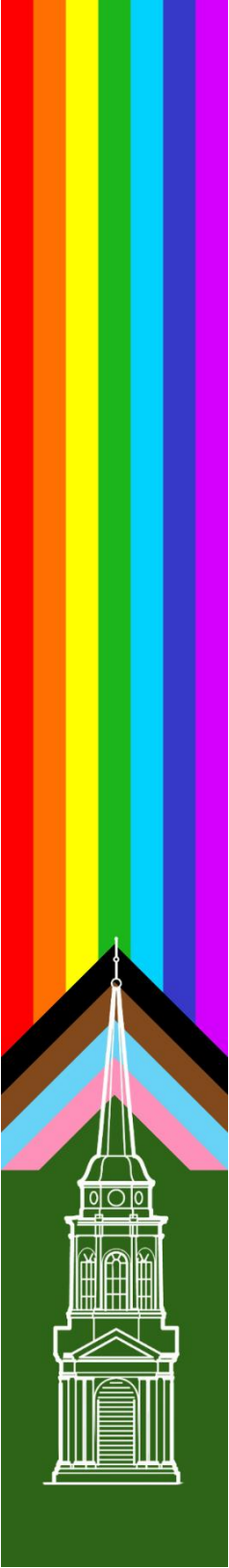
STORRS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ (UCC)



We are an Open and Affirming congregation of the UCC: Believing that each of us is unique and blessed with special talents from God, each a creation of God's love, alike and yet different, we open our doors and our ministry to all. We accept into full participation in the life of this Church: people of any age, economic status, gender, marital status, race, sexual orientation, and physical, emotional and mental capability. As a community, we will work to put aside all prejudices and to affirm and promote the worth and dignity of each person. Whoever you are, wherever you are on the journey of life and faith, you are welcome here! We envision our community as a welcoming, historic, and progressive Christian community.

SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 2026
PROPER 8



Please stand as you are able “*”.

Please remember to **silence cell phones** and other devices and be mindful of those who wish to use the prelude as a time of prayer, meditation, and preparation for worship.

Accessibility: See an usher for **large-print** bulletins and **wheelchair** or **accessible seating**.
Devices necessary to access worship fully are welcome.

The restroom in this building is at the front of the church behind the doors to the right of the chancel. A **PRAYGROUND** is also located in the northeast corner of the building and available for children and families.

Our services are recorded on Zoom and live-streamed on YouTube.

GATHERING

Whatever your faith tradition, doubts or questions about God; whatever your color skin, gender identity or expression, wherever you find yourself on life’s journey, you are welcome here. You matter to God, and you matter to us. Welcome!

Prelude – “Fantasia” by Johann Pachelbel

Janice Castle

Welcome

Rev Diane Peterson Seaborn

Call to Worship (*responsive*)

Richard Cowles

One: Come one, come all! God gathers us in.

Many: We come as we are, **empathetic or entitled, certain or searching.**

One: We are proud or humble, trusting or cynical. God flings open the doors, saying:

Many: **“Come as you are.” Here we come, God! Let us worship. Amen.**

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: Friends, we invite you to rise in body or in spirit and offer one another a sign of God’s peace. May the peace of Christ be with you.

Many: **And also with you!**

***Hymn** – “Christ is Made the Sure Foundation”

*New Century Hymnal [black] p. 400
this bulletin p. 9*

Call to Confession

Rev. Diane Peterson Seaborn

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

God of all seasons, we aspire to travel as children of your light, yet we confess that we can be as fickle as the changing weather. Let us travel each season with you by our side. May your bright Spirit guide us through the shadowed places, recognizing that even shadows offer learning. Be they parched days or humid nights, be they emotions of hurricane-strength or a gentle breeze, may we move through the changing weather of our lives knowing that you are with us. Holy Creator, be our companion in every stage and season of this tender thing we call life. (*time of silent confession*)

Words of Assurance

One: Hear this good news, Beloved. Whatever the weather of life, God accompanies us.
Ours is a God for all seasons.

Many: Amen!

Children's Moment

Our Family Room is not staffed during summer months. It is open and available to interested families as desired/needed. Children of all ages are, naturally, always welcome to remain in worship.

WORD

God Speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

Prayer of Illumination

Richard Cowles

First Scripture Reading -

Genesis 22:I-I4

pew Bibles p. 15

Refrain — "Spirit of the Living God"

IVERSON

The image shows a musical score for a refrain in 4/4 time, written in a key with one flat (B-flat). It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me." The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system repeats the melody and accompaniment.

Second Scripture Reading -

Rev. Diane Peterson Seaborn

Matthew 10:40-42

pew Bibles p. 791

Sermon — "God Who Sees"

Rev. Diane Peterson Seaborn

*Hymn — "Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?"

*New Century Hymnal [black] p. 539
this bulletin p. 10*

RESPONSE

We begin our lives of responding to the gospel in prayer and offering

Responding with our Gifts

As the offering is collected, prayers of either joy or concern may be written on the purple prayer request cards found in the pew rack and placed in the offering plates as they are passed. Offerings may be made electronically through our online 'Give Now' option. Scan the QR code for easy access.



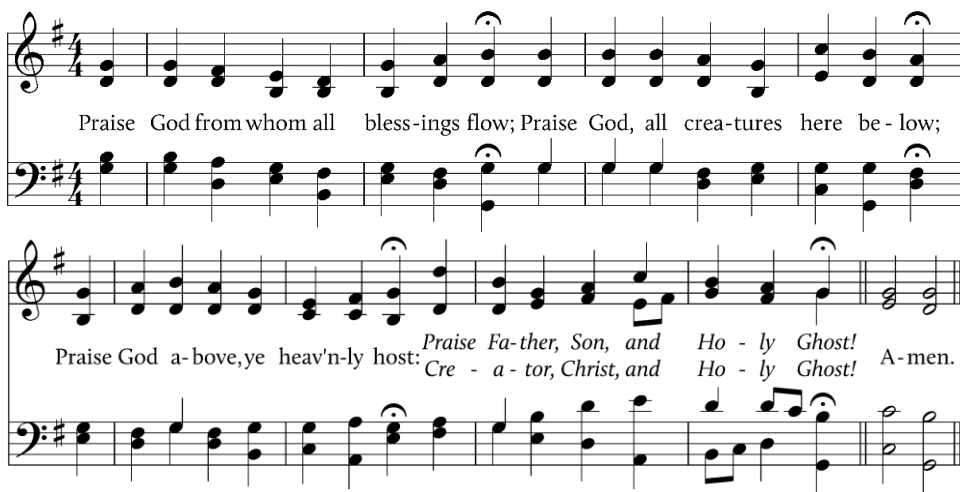
Call to Offering

OFFERTORY – “Ain't Goin' to Study War No Mo” by Harry T. Burleigh

*Janice Castle
Rich Cowles, Soloist*

***PRESENTING OUR GIFTS: The Doxology**

OLD HUNDRETH



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God, all crea-tures here be - low;
Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n-ly host: Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost! A - men.
Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost!

***Prayer of Dedication** (*unison*)

God of Love,

What can we truly offer you but ourselves? May these gifts of time, talent, and treasure allow us to practice a generosity of spirit. And may your generous Spirit shine forth in our life together. Amen.

Prayers of the People, ending with The Lord's Prayer

Many: Creator/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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into

temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and glory forever. Amen.

SENDING

God Blesses us and sends us forth in mission for the world

News from our Life Together

*Hymn – “God Our Author and Creator”

*New Century Hymnal [black] p. 530
this bulletin p. 11*

*Benediction

Postlude – “Triumphal March” by G. F. Handel

Janice Castle

Be Our Guest for Potluck Fellowship!

Come on over to the Parish House Lounge and share a beverage, a bite to eat, and a chat! The Parish House is located in the buildings to the west of the Meeting House. Follow the others on over, or ask an usher to guide you... We look forward to seeing you! Remember to wear your Name Tag!

Worship

Every Sunday, 10:00 am, in the Meeting House and on Zoom & YouTube. Expressive, participatory liturgy; thoughtful preaching; and a soul-stirring blend of new and traditional music are some of the elements you can expect to encounter each Sunday.

Thank You Sunday Morning Servers for Assisting in today's service ...

Liturgist: Rich Cowles; **Greeter:** Malta Bailey; **Ushers:** Wes Lang-Rodean, Nancy Rucker; **Welcome Table:** Mary Lake; **Tech Team:** Andy McCabe, Erin Scholes, Jan & Don Castle, Susan Irvine.

Sunday Morning Server Reminder for Next Week: **Liturgist:** Erin Scholes; **Greeter:** Donna Latincsics; **Head Usher:** Jamie Lang-Rodean; **Usher:** Wes Lang-Rodean; **Welcome Table:** Ariana Codr.

Call to Congregational Meeting

Sunday, June 28, 2026 following 10:00 am Worship in the Meeting House and on Zoom Pursuant to Section 47 (Article XI) of the Bylaws of our congregation...

The Members of the Storrs Congregational Church are called to a special meeting of the congregation to be held on Sunday, June 28, 2026 following the Sunday morning worship service. The meeting will be held in the same format as worship, in-person and/or online via Zoom Meetings. The business of said meeting shall be to vote on the use of \$11,865 from major projects to complete exterior painting.

Motion 1: That \$11,865 be allocated from the major projects fund to cover the cost for exterior painting of the church. This cost will cover:

Painting of the Church front peak and upper front rake eaves, Parish House front and back eyebrow peaks, back eave and Educational Building back columns.

- Washing to remove surface contaminants, as necessary.
- Scraping, secure any loose wood.
- Apply one full coat of Mad Dog stabilizing bonding primer
- Caulking of any cracks in woodwork.
- Apply two full coats of California 2010 finish paint.
- Man-lift rental.

Note: The By-Laws require that any expenditure in excess of \$10,000 be approved by a vote of the congregation.

Rationale: At its meeting on June 16, 2026, the Governing Board reviewed the proposal from John K. Leacock that had been presented by Duffy Brookes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, Sunday June 28, 2026

10:00-11:00am	Worship Special Congregational Meeting
11:00-12pm	Fellowship
11:00-11:30 am	Library Open
7:30-8:30 pm	<i>Speaker Meeting</i>

Our Food Pantry will be open from 11:30 - 12:30 on Sundays beginning on July 12. Monday noon to 2, and Thursday 2:30 - 5 will remain the same.

Comings and Goings

Trisha will be out until June 30th.

SCC offices will be closed on 7/3 for the 4th of July.

Our Food Pantry does more than feed families—we support them through life's biggest moments. Two of our pantry clients are expecting babies this summer and fall! We want to surround these families with our community's love and generosity. One mother is expecting a baby girl in July, and the other is expecting a baby boy in September.

News and Notes

Audio Project: scheduled to begin July 13, 2026. Donations may be made through SCC online giving. Select "MH Audio Initiative" when making your gift. Thank you!



How You Can Help: We are collecting both **new and gently used** items to help them prepare. If you have any of the following

items to pass along, your donation will make a world of difference: gently used bassinet/crib, stroller, high chair, carrier, dresser, baby bath tub, diapers, infant clothes for girl and boy.

Drop-Off Locations located in the Narthex, right or outside the main office door. Thank you for always opening your hearts to meet the needs of our neighbors!

CWS has updated their list of items needed for Health Kits. Our service sewing group is assembling Health Kits this summer and they need help filling their handmade bags with items from the updated list. Please stop by the lounge or the Narthex to pick up the new list, and instructions. Please see Laurie Brookes if you have any questions. As always, thank you for your continued generosity in helping us provide basic necessities to those in need.

The SCC Lunch Bunch, which meets the first Friday of each month, will be getting together on **Friday, July 3 at 1:00 pm** at Lakeview Restaurant, 50 Lake Street, Coventry.

Weather permitting, we will be sitting in the lovely outdoors under a roof that will safely and comfortably provide cover from the sun. We hope you can join us for this casual gathering that includes anyone who's interested and available for a meal and fellowship. Drop in whenever you can. All are welcome - - singles, couples, men, women, all ages! Please let me know by Thursday, July 2, if you can be there in order to save a seat. Nancy Tomastik, 860-420-9494 or etomastik@earthlink.net.

We are getting a new website!!! Our developer, Gustav, needs high-resolution, original photos of church life to feature on the main layout. If you carry a cell phone, you can help us showcase our vibrant community!

Please snap some clear, unedited photos during our worship services, meetings, and church events.

How to Share Your Photos:

- Upload Directly: Add your files to our Shared Upload Folder (Katie can send you direct access)
- Email Us: Send your pictures as attachments directly to Katie or Ellen.

Grab your phone and take some pictures!! We can't wait to see our new website come to life through your eyes! Thank you for helping us share the joy and heart of our community with the world.





TAKE FLAT JESUS ON YOUR SUMMER ADVENTURES!

Flat Jesus is ready to travel near or far with you this summer. Pick up yours from the Lounge or Narthex if you haven't gotten one yet and start snapping photos!

Email your adventure pictures to ellen@storrscongregation.org to help fill our Facebook page and bulletin board!

Plus, if you send in five photos before the end of the summer, you will win a delicious ice cream treat from the Dairy Bar!

Grab your Flat Jesus today and let the summer adventures begin!

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

*Eph. 2:20-22; 1 Pet. 2:4-7**Latin, 6th-8th century
Transl. John Mason Neale, 1851; alt.
St. 3 adapt. Thomas H. Troeger, 1992*

1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and cor - ner - stone,
2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O God of Hosts, to - day!
3 Here re - new your ser - vants' vis - ion, that by faith they may at - tain

chos - en of our God and pre - cious, bind - ing all the Church in one;
With your con - stant, lov - ing kind - ness hear your peo - ple as they pray.
peace and hope, re - newed com - pas - sion, strength to com - fort those in pain,

Ho - ly Zi - on's help for - ev - er, and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
Give your full - est ben - e - dic - tion: grace to fol - low Christ the Way.
Tears and grief trans - formed to glad - ness in your ev - er - last - ing reign.

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?

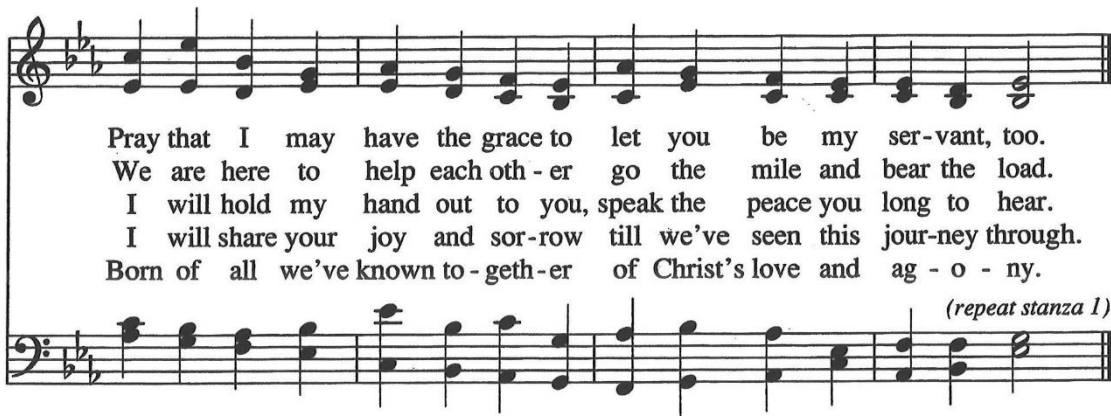
539

Richard Gillard, 1977; alt.

Rom. 12:9-18; Col. 1:24-29



1 & 6 Won't you let me be your ser- vant, let me be as Christ to you?
2 We are pil- grims on a jour-ney, we are trav- elers on the road;
3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shad- ow of your fear;
4 I will weep when you are weep- ing; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
5 When we sing to God in heav- en we shall find such har- mo- ny,



Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser- vant, too.
We are here to help each oth- er go the mile and bear the load.
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
I will share your joy and sor- row till we've seen this jour-ney through.
Born of all we've known to- geth- er of Christ's love and ag- o- ny.

(repeat stanza 1)

God Our Author and Creator

530

Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1985

Gen. 1:1-2:3; Acts 17:22-31; Rom. 12:2; John 3:16-17

Unison

1 God our Au - thor and Cre - a - tor, in whose life we find our own,
2 Like those first a - pos-tles, Sav-ior, give us strength to love and serve:
3 Keep us faith-ful, Ho-ly Spir-it, help us bear the mes-sage true,

make our dai - ly wit - ness great-er, by our lives make your love known.
when our faint-ing spir - its wa-ver, fire our hearts and steel our nerve.
that at last all lands may hear it: "God is love; Christ died for you."

Help us show how love em-brac-es those whom fear and greed down-trod;
Teach us wis - dom and com-pas-sion: bid our rest - less thoughts be still;
Join our lives in might-y cho-rus till we come from ev - ery place,

in all yearn-ing hearts and fac - es let us see a child of God.
by your guid-ance help us fash-ion lives con-formed un - to your will.
with all those who went be - fore us, to the full - ness of God's grace.

Notes and Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements:

- Scripture readings: The Scripture quotations contained herein are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright ©1989, by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches in the U.S.A. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
- Response – “Spirit of the Living God”. Refrain from New Century Hymnal #283. Text and Music by Daniel Iverson, 1926.
- Presentation of our gifts – Festival Doxology: Text: Thomas Ken, 1674; adapt. Gilbert H. Vieira, 1978. Adaptation ©1989 The United Methodist Publishing House. Music: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Cologne, 1623

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UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT:

WE WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN BY ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THE LAND ON WHICH WE GATHER IS THE TERRITORY OF THE MOHEGAN, MASHANTUCKET PEQUOT, EASTERN PEQUOT, SCHAGHTICOKE, GOLDEN HILL PAUGUSSETT, NIPMUC, AND LENAPE PEOPLES, WHO HAVE STEWARDED THIS LAND THROUGHOUT THE GENERATIONS. WE THANK THEM FOR THEIR STRENGTH AND RESILIENCE IN PROTECTING THIS LAND, AND ASPIRE TO UPHOLD OUR RESPONSIBILITIES ACCORDING TO THEIR EXAMPLE. FOR MORE INFORMATION: <https://nacp.uconn.edu/land-acknowledgement/>

We Welcome All!

We extend a welcome as broad as the outstretched arms of God.

Questions about our life together are always welcome. Ask any one of us!

If you are visiting, or looking for a church home, or simply wish to connect after worship, please introduce yourself to our pastor or any member.

We would love to meet you!

More information is also on our website, www.storrscongchurch.org.



STORRS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2 North Eagleville Rd., Storrs Mansfield, CT 06268 | 860.429.9382 | www.storrscongchurch.org

<i>Ministers</i>	All of the Congregation
<i>Senior Minister</i>	Rev. Diane Peterson Seaborn – diane@storrscongchurch.org Ext. 23
<i>Director of Music Ministries</i>	Dr. Patricia Snyder – trisha@storrscongchurch.org Ext. 26
<i>Communications & Digital Ministry Specialist</i>	Ellen Bradley – ellen@storrscongchurch.org Ext. 22
<i>Visitation Minister</i>	Pastor Mike Lake – mike@storrscongchurch.org 785-760-4983
<i>Office Administrator</i>	Katie Bienvenue – sccoffice@storrscongchurch.org Ext. 21
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