

HIS HANDS AND FEET

A Monthly newsletter of the
Webster Federated Church

September 2026

From the Pastor

Where did the summer go? It seems that with a blink of an eye, June, July, and August whisked by, and planning for the new fall, church season began. It is hard to believe that I have been your Pastor for three years already...And what three years they have been! We have discerned, discussed, and implemented new ways of being church. And we have learned that despite our anxiousness about what will come next, several things have remained constant and true.

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Welcome back

Out with the Old, In with the New

Yes, the end of summer may seem like a sad time of the year. However, in Christianity, September represents the season of harvest and thanksgiving, a time to celebrate God's provision. We reflect on God's protection and give thanks for the physical and spiritual harvests. And we happily transition to crisp autumn, capturing the energy of a fresh start! Welcome colors in the trees, apple pies and crisps, warm cinnamon scents and final golden days of summer...

This Month

Sunday, 10am: Worship service followed by coffee hour

Monday, September 14, 6pm: Council Meeting

Tuesdays, 6pm, starting on September 15: "Bible 101" small group

Monday, September 21, 6pm: Outreach Meeting

September 27, after worship: Monthly Pancake Breakfast and Birthday Celebration



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From the Pastor *(continued)*

We have become a pillar in this community, touching the lives of people who have never set foot in our doors, as well as people and members who do so frequently. We continue to worship every Sunday, sing songs and hymns of praise, pray for our community and ourselves, and hear the Word of God read and proclaimed. We continue to celebrate our traditions—the Daffodil Tea, Golden Bees, Advent, Lent, as well as our sacraments of Baptism and The Lord's Supper. There is continuity even in the midst of change. Continuity and change are the two things we can and do count on in life.

Pauline Keezer, who served as the Secretary of the State of Connecticut wrote, “Continuity gives us roots; change gives us branches, letting us stretch and grow and reach new heights.” Being complacent and satisfied with doing things the way we always have is counter to what we believe as Christians. Before anyone accuses me of being a heretic, I am not suggesting that we discontinue engaging in our traditions that are edifying, worshipful, and glorifying to God. AND I wholeheartedly believe that God has given us this time to consider how or whether God is calling us to incorporate new ways of being the church. This is not a call to do more—but a call to prayerfully examine the way we do things, and to seek God's guidance on whether we continue to do what we have always done and the way we have always done things; or is it time for us to collectively seek grow our branches in new or different directions that exemplify the love of God? So, as we plan for the upcoming fall season and beyond, I want your input on how we might mutually shake things up.

We are a church with deep and wide roots, and the opportunity to change, and to move in different, and new directions will enable us to be relevant and speak to the world in ways that will be received. To move in truncated directions may result in deeper and expanded spiritual and numerical growth. Numerical growth is good, but it is not our ultimate goal. C.S. Lewis wrote, “Mere change is not growth. Growth is the synthesis of change and continuity, and where there is no continuity there is no growth.”

As counterintuitive as it may seem, shall we collectively and prayerfully discern how we might live more fully in continuity and change? Isaiah's good news continually wells up in my spirit, “God is doing a new thing, do you not perceive it?” Even God who is unchangeable does new things. Perhaps it is time for us to do the same!

In Christ,

Pastor Sabina

*“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”
Philippians 4:13*



“When God is ready for you to move, He will make your situation uncomfortable.” Germany Kent

WORSHIP

Gathered to praise. Sent to serve.



September 2026 Updates

Worship Schedule

9/6	Jeremiah 8:18-22	Mourning the Summer
9/13	Romans 12:9-21	Sandpaper People
9/20	Luke 18:1-8	Tenacious Faith
9/27	Matthew 14:22-33	Water-Walking Faith



Worship & Music

This fall will welcome the start of a new worship team. This team will include volunteers interested in anything worship-related, from music, to technology, decorating the space, preparing communion and more. Contact Pastor Sabina if interested.

Verse OF THE MONTH

And I will do whatever you ask in my name,
so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
John 14:13



DailyVerses.net



REMINDERS & HIGHLIGHTS



Upcoming Services

Blessing of the Animals,
Sunday, October 4, 12pm



Prayer Focus

Join us in praying for our church family and our community.



Worship Preview

Next month: A series on "Why God?"



SERVICE NOTES

Worship services begin at 10:00 AM every Sunday. Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month.

MINISTRY NEWS

Updates from around our outreach ministries



Threads of Hope

Hello Threads Supporters!

During the summer, the Worcester County Sheriff's Office stopped by to generously donate six cases of baby food. See photo of Gloria Bannister as well as Eric and Joel from the Sheriff's Office. Fall is now in the air, and fall clothing is on our shelves and racks here at the Closet. Please stop by to visit, shop, donate, or volunteer.

You can stop by at any of those times to donate clothing. Please note: Children's back-to-school clothing is especially needed at this time.

We appreciate your continued support as we help to clothe local families in need. Thank you!

Threads Hours for autumn are as follows:

Tuesday 9-11am (Shopping)

Wednesday 10am-2pm (Sorting)

Thursday 9-11am/4-7pm (Shopping)



Knit, Pray, Love

Here is our Semi-Annual Knit, Pray, Love report!

We are a team of 3 (Gloria Bannister, Regina Kontoes, and Linda Kruzewski). Our meetings are scheduled to be held on ever other Monday from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon as inventory is required. Currently, we have 10 shawls – 1 size fits most, along with 4 small, 1 shoulder and 2 large shawls and 4 lap robes on hand for those in need of comfort and support. We also have 2 christening blankets on hand.

From January we have distributed 5 shawls and 4 lap robes to those in need of comfort from an illness, or loss of a loved one. One christening blanket was given to Adam. Please contact Pastor Sabina for your requests for a shawl or lap robe for a friend, acquaintance or loved one in need of comfort.

We have been blessed with yard donations from member of our congregation that has helped us with the expense of materials for shawls and lap robes. Our shawls take approximately 21-24 oz. of worsted weight yard. Material runs us between \$12-\$18 for each item (if we are lucky enough to find it on sale), which the 3 of us have been covering.

With all other bags of yarn donated to our church that are not sufficient ounces to produce the shawls and lap robes, we are using these gifts to make hats, scarves, and mittens for the Golden Bees to add to the sleeping bags. No donations are going to waste. For additional information regarding this ministry, please do not hesitate to contact any member of the team.

COMING SOON

Selah
Internet Cafe

On September 17, our church will open the Selah Internet Cafe every Thursday from 1 to 7. It will become a place for people of all ages to do research, access classes and other educational resources, write résumés, search for jobs, apply for SNAP and disability services, the RMV, etc., and do homework.

The Webster Sheriff's Office donated 5 laptops with this very purpose in mind. We are very grateful to them for giving us the opportunity to extend these services to the community.

We are also grateful to our Administrative Assistant, Lynn Sackman-Aper who volunteered to "man" the Cafe from 1 to 4, as well as the other volunteers who will step up. More to follow.

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Mark 10:45

DISCIPLESHIP

Updates, Stories, Prayers, and Opportunities to help us grow



Discipleship Groups

Fall is off to a great start! Bible 101 is back starting September 15! Every Tuesday at 6pm. You do not have to sign up, there is no commitment, no fees to purchase materials, no knowledge required. Just a thirst to learn more about our faith! Talk to Pastor Sabina for more information.

No Bible study this summer but field trip to the Museum of Russian Icons in Clinton! Wonderful fellowship and an opportunity to learn and enjoy art!



Prayer Focus

Let's continue to pray for our church family, our community, and the mission God has called us to. Submit prayer requests on our website or to the office.

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

God of all creation, you made this wondrous planet to be our home. Today, we look around and see the balance of life strained by a changing climate, rising temperatures, wildfires, hurricanes, mudslides and the scars of pollution. Lord, we pray for mercy. Forgive our carelessness, our heavy footprints, and our indifference to the future of the earth. Make our hands and feet your instruments of care for generations to come

Better Together

Let's encourage one another and grow in faith—together.



Event Date:
09/26/2026



Location:
Polar Park
,Worcester, MA

Why Walk?

Suicide is the 11th leading cause of death in the United States. To prevent suicide, we need to understand it first. Funds raised at the Out of the Darkness Central Massachusetts Walk directly support research, advocacy efforts, and educational programs in schools, workplaces, and communities across MA.

The Walks are an opportunity to find a supportive community of people who get it, to know you're not alone, and to make a difference together.

Walks are between 1 to 3 miles and non-competitive.

Talk to Pastor Sabina.

"If you continue in my word, you really are my disciples. You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (John 8:31-32)

EVENTS

Upcoming Opportunities to Connect with our Community



UPCOMING EVENTS

SEP
15

Bible Study Kickoff

6:00 PM • Church Office
Find community and grow in faith together. All are welcome!

Past Events



Happy 1st Birthday,
Adam!



Webster Police Department Summer-Send-Off at
Memorial Beach
Thanks to all our volunteers!!



Stay Connected

Make sure we have your current email and information so you don't miss important church updates and news.



Online Giving

Giving online is quick, secure, and helps support the mission of our church. Visit our website to give today.

Coming Up
Soon!



DUDLEY GRANGE ANNUAL APPLE FESTIVAL

Saturday
October 3
10-3

The church will have an
information booth with
games for the kids.
We need volunteers!

Mark
your calendar

Oct. 4
Blessing of the Animals

Oct. 24
Halloween Community Party
Oct. 30
Webster Trunk or Treat

"Christian community is a gift from God that grows as we thankfully receive fellowship day by day." Dietrich Bonhoeffer

MISCELLANEOUS

Short updates, reminders, and thank-yous from around our church



Building & Grounds

Check out the new color in the kitchen. The walls and cabinets have been painted. More changes are coming soon. Thank you, Carol for overseeing this project.

Have you noticed that the Book of Remembrance is back in the Narthex? Moving it into the entrance to the worship center makes it more visible. Thank you, Regina for adding names from the Book of Remembrance to our weekly prayers of thanks and joys. The Building and Grounds Team welcomes Jill Beckwith. Jill and her husband Art were tremendous helpers this spring in cleaning up and beautifying the grounds while Cindy was recovering from a badly sprained ankle. They helped plant the two raised beds where we are growing vegetables for the Feed My Sheep ministry to use in preparing the free evening meal every Thursday. Art also repaired the steps leading to the front door. A heart filled THANKS to both of them.

A big THANK YOU to Alan Martin for cleaning out the window well on the far side of Fellowship Hall.

He filled and removed approximately 19 extra- large trash bags of trash, soaking wet sleeping bags and garbage. It was a dirty, smelly job. Alan saw that it needed to be done so he did it. He is now laying the new floor and thresholds in the basement.

There are many other projects around the church grounds that need attention. There are windows that need to be scraped, primed and painted. There are windows that have dry rot where the old wood needs to be removed and new wood put in place. All of the window wells need to be cleaned out to prevent weeds and trees from damaging the foundation. The gutters need to be cleaned to prevent ice-dams from causing the roof to leak. The roof over the Threads of Hope closet is coated with moss. If the moss continues to grow, it will lift the roofing tiles causing that roof to leak. There are many other small jobs that need attention. Please pray that helpful hands will be provided as the needs arise.



Welcome!

If you happen to see him around the church, please give Mike, our new sexton, a warm welcome! Mike has experience in construction, handyman work, and landscaping, which makes him a great asset to the church!



Our newly refurbished kitchen cabinets and countertops!!

"I used to love September, but now it just rhymes with remember."

Dominic Riccitello

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." Matthew 6:33

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Welcome back



Website



Facebook



OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday through Friday, 9:30-1, or by appointment

WORSHIP:

Sundays at 10, in person and live on Facebook

BIBLE STUDY:

Tuesdays at 6pm

THREADS OF HOPE CLOTHING MINISTRY:

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9-11, and Thursdays 4-7, 1

FEED MY SHEEP FREE MEAL MINISTRY:

Thursdays, 5

GOLDEN BEES SLEEPING BAG MINISTRY:

Mondays, 9-12

KNIT PRAY LOVE MINISTRY:

Mondays, 10-12, Ladies' Parlor

OUTDOOR FOOD PANTRY: Ongoing