

NIANTIC COMMUNITY CHURCH

An Open, Affirming, and Reconciling congregation of the
United Church of Christ and the United Methodist Church

A Heritage of Faith since 1719 • Each Member a Minister

“Whoever you are;
wherever you are on life’s journey:
you are welcome here.”

June 6, 2010 • 9:00 & 11:15AM

The Second Sunday after Pentecost

Heritage Sunday



This morning’s worship service is based on “An Order for Worship with Communion” from the Pilgrim Hymnal, representing the tradition in which our church was first gathered in 1719.

ORGAN PRELUDE

“Prelude in E flat”

Lemmens

RECEIVING GOD’S WORD AND CHRIST’S LIGHT IN OUR WORSHIP

SHARING OF PARISH ACTIVITIES & RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

Those in each pew closest to the center aisle will please begin passing the Friendship Pads so that everyone has an opportunity to indicate their presence here today and make a note of any messages. After the sharing of parish concerns, all will be invited to greet one another in Christian fellowship and love. Prayer requests will be collected during the second hymn.

PROCLAMATION OF GOD’S LOVE IN CHRIST

INTROIT

“Zion”
Gospel Choir (9:00AM)

J. McAllister

INVITATION OF CHRIST

COMMUNION COLLECT

GENERAL CONFESSION

Almighty and most merciful Creator, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent; according to thy promises declared unto humankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for Jesus' sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CALL TO PRAISE

One: O Lord, open thou our lips.

Many: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

✠ ACT OF PRAISE (*sung*)

GREATOREX

Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ,

And to the Holy Ghost:

As it was in the beginning,

Is now, and ever shall be,

World without end. Amen; Amen.

RESPONSIVE SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 107:1-9, 33-43

p. 830

Reader: Let us prepare ourselves for the Word of God as it comes to us in the reading of Holy Scripture.

People: Our hearts and minds are open.

A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS

✠ HYMN #60

“I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath”

OLD 113TH

Prayer requests will be collected; Children attending *Divine Activity Time* (for PreK-4th grade) may leave during the singing of the hymn.

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

Leader: Freely you have received; now freely give. Let your light so shine before all humanity that they may see your good works and humble faith, and glorify your God which is in heaven.

Let us gather our gifts with grateful praise, and offer them to God's purposes.

RECEIVING TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE MUSICAL OFFERING

(9:00AM)	"Chorale Prelude"	<i>Brahms</i>
(11:15AM)	"Here I Am, Lord" (Adult Choir)	<i>Schutte</i>

✠ DOXOLOGY

OLD 100TH

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit, comforter:
One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.**

✠ UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Accept, O Lord, these offerings which thy people make unto thee; and grant that the cause to which they are devoted may prosper under thy guidance, to the glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

SERMON

"Thankful Then, Thankful Now"

John A. Nelson
Elizabeth Kuchta

THE INVITATION

SURSUM CORDA AND SANCTUS

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places give thanks unto thee, O Lord, great Creator, almighty, everlasting God.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name; evermore praising thee, and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory:
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high. Amen**

WELCOME TO NIANTIC COMMUNITY CHURCH!

A Heritage of Faith since 1719, and an Open, Affirming, and Reconciling congregation, Niantic Community Church is a federated congregation of the United Methodist Church and the United Church of Christ. It is also a welcoming home to people from a great variety of church backgrounds and life experiences. Your presence here today is a gift to us! We hope you will feel God's Spirit here today through our worship and fellowship.

If you are a visitor, we invite you to sign our guest register by the rear entrance to the sanctuary. "Welcome" information packets, children's bulletins, and toys are also available. Our services are recorded each week. You may listen to sermons online: from the home page of our website, click on the "Sermon Archive" link. Audio tapes are available in the church library or by calling the church office (739-6208).

**Please set cell phones and pagers to silent mode
(unless you're expecting a call from Jesus)**

**Assistive Listening Devices, Large Print Bulletins, and Hymnals
are available. Please ask an usher for assistance!**

Today's Worship Leaders

9:00AM

Ushers: Sue Anglim, Bob Castronova,
Sue Smith and John Graham
Worship Leader: Carol Donovan

11:15AM

Ushers: Nancy Burkhardt, Edna Gilstad,
Paul Helvig, Betty Jones
Worship Leader: Ned Ruete

Preacher: The Rev. John A. Nelson

Parish Host: Georgie Granger

Flowers have been placed on the altar to the Glory of God,
and in Celebration of the wedding today of
Annette Silvia and Lisa Aschenbrenner.

✘ All who are able may stand at these times

OUR MINISTRY TEAM

Ministers: All Participants in the Life of the Congregation

Worship & Music

Organist and Music Director: Paul Althouse
Director of Handbell Choirs: Judy Barnard
Directors of Children's and Gospel Choirs:
Lee Wilkerson & Nikki Rollins
Sound Engineers: Dick Robinson & Ron Deziel
Seashore Praise Team: Ellen Ashburn; Diane Blair; John Parker; Ocean Pellett; Ned Ruete

Education & Youth

Director of Religious Education & Youth Ministries: Jessica Bunger
Children's Center Director: Kathy Tiller

Pastor and Teacher: The Rev. John A. Nelson

Caring & Community

Community Minister: Patty Chaffee
Parish Nurse: Marie LaTourette

Holding the Parts Together!

Church Secretary: Judy Snitkin
Church Officers: Kim Kalajainen, *president*;
John Whritner, *vice-president*; Avery Morgan, *clerk*; Linda Leavens, *treasurer*, Liz Kuchta, *historian*
Financial Secretary: Judy Layden
Bookkeeper: Maureen Godin
Librarian, Newsletter Editor: Jennifer Datum

OCCASIONS FOR SERVICE, WITNESS, AND PRAYER

In Our Prayers (offered by worshipers during previous weeks):

We gladly list joys and concerns, and typically print them for four weeks after they are offered in worship. (Prayer requests may be renewed at any time.)

New Concerns:

Teachers, parents, students, administrators, and communities affected by school budget cuts and layoffs • Doug & Paula Bosman & family, as they deal with Doug's terminal cancer diagnosis • For foster grandchild of Marie & Bob Pierce, in Manila, and for other orphans.

Continuing concerns:

Ken Johnson, pneumonia • Jeff DeMatto, surgery • Joe Lamastro, heart surgery • Ben, recovering from extensive ankle surgery • Healing among family members • Ray Herzberg, hospitalized • Maria, preparing for cancer surgery • Jim Burkhardt • Christine, in need of healing • Russell, suffering from mental illness • Rich Harper • Claudia Spencer-Belanger, staph infection • Kailey • Carol, recovering from surgery • Julian Richardson and grandmother Agatha • Greg

Saxum • Bob, tests for melanoma • Paula Mayo, recovering from surgery • Nancy Gwin, sentenced to 6-months in prison for protesting against violence and human rights abuses • Rachel Ayer • Terry Desmond • Paul Swann • Those suffering from depression and anxiety.

In treatment for cancer:

Stephania's mother, breast cancer • Doris Curtis • Fr. Emmett Jarrett, metastasized cancer • Missy Gardner • Nancy Jacobson, brain cancer • Ray Herzberg • Davida Crabtree and David Hindinger • Clara Ball — and their families, friends, and caregivers.

The peoples of Haiti, Chile, and Turkey amidst the devastation of the earthquakes, those who seek to aid them, and the families and friends anxiously awaiting news or grieving for their losses • People of Honduras, especially our mission partners in Omoa and Chachaguala

Those suffering due to the ongoing financial woes of the nation, whether struggling to meet an unaffordable mortgage, confronting the loss of a job, or working to find just resolutions to the crisis.

Friends and family now serving our country in the armed forces: Scott Basham; Greg Balsmeier; Alyson Barrett; Brian Donovan; Josh Earnhart; Matt Fergione; Tony Fergione; Matt Liebal; Nathaniel Lowe; Brian Perchal; Zachary Peters; Peter Rondeau; Caitlin Strauhal; Stephen Weiss.

All those serving or living in war or conflict zones around the world, particularly in Iraq, Afghanistan, Colombia, Gaza, Georgia, India, Pakistan, and the Sudan.

**Family & Friends
who have passed away:**

Christian (Frank) Olsson • Sgt. Ed Rivera
Aunt Jean • Baby Roween
Susan Caruso • Stephan Schady
Barbara Youngstrom

Servicemen and service women who have lost their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan

We thank God for their lives, and offer prayers of comfort and support for family and friends who mourn their passing.

Praise and Thanksgiving:

Earl, Jon, and Mike, all recovered from life-threatening infections • Marriage of Pat and Jim Doran • Bob & Mary Wassung's granddaughter Alyson has finished her 3rd tour in Baghdad • Birth of MaKenna to Chad and Holly Buhler • for prayers and support until getting a job • All Graduates!

IF YOU HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST OR WOULD LIKE A PASTORAL VISIT, be sure to let us know by calling the church office (860-739-6208) or emailing Pastor John at jnelson@nianticcommunitychurch.org. Sometimes we don't find out about an injury or illness or other need until long after – so please call!

WE ALSO HAVE AN ON-GOING PRAYER CHAIN. To add a prayer request to the Prayer Chain please send an email to prayers@nianticcommunitychurch.org, or call the church office (860-739-6208).

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP, Sundays at 5pm. Come for casual worship, uplifting music. All ages welcome, refreshments served.

CONSIDER NAMING THE CHURCH AS A BENEFICIARY of your life insurance or retirement plan. If you have named other beneficiaries, consider naming the Church as a secondary or backup beneficiary in case the first beneficiary is deceased at the time of your death.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS PARENTS AND CARETAKERS – June 13th is Children's Sunday! The summer schedule will begin on this Sunday so please note that there will be a Christian Education Hour from 9am to 9:45am. The worship service will begin at 10am and will be led by the children. This new schedule will continue through Labor Day and will include a Divine Activity Time (DAT) throughout the summer starting on the 20th.

BETWEEN THE WEATHER FORECAST and the RSVP regrets due to scheduling conflicts, it seems that June 6th is not a good day for a BBQ. The Annual Bunker BBQ will be held later this summer, likely late August, in order to kick off the start to the new youth fellowship year. Once the date is set information will be sent out asap. The high school youth are still invited to meet at NCC to carpool to the shelter at 6pm on Sunday, June 6th.

PARENTS OF CHILDREN ENTERING the 9th grade in the fall should contact Jess Bunker at 739-6208 or jessbunker@nianticcommunitychurch.org if they are interested in participating in the confirmation ministry starting in September.

DEPRESSION/BIPOLAR TALK Sunday, June 6 12:15-1:15p.m. Cheryl Decker, R.N. psychiatric head nurse with the Southeastern Mental Health Authority will present a talk about Depression and Bipolar Disorder. "Depression affects a lot of people," says Decker. "People aren't comfortable talking about it. They see signs in friends and family but it's left untreated." Decker hopes to discuss ways to recognize symptoms as well as what to do once you realize a loved one may be affected. Open to the public and free of charge. Refreshments will be served.

FAIR TRADE coffee, tea and chocolate, will be on sale at half price during the next 2 Sundays in the Dining Hall.

TOOLS OF HOPE/FATHER'S DAY: A gift of \$5 can purchase—enough potato seeds to grow more than 6,700 pounds of potatoes, one rabbit or some baby chicks, 50 fish fingerlings. Representatives of the Outreach Committee will be in the Dining Hall between services today with Father's Day cards for you to purchase.

THERE IS A RUMOR MAKING THE ROUNDS that helping during the Summer Suppers helps you find your inner being. That may or may not be true. However, working at a Supper does give you a chance to meet fellow church members and to see how wonderful they are. Each supper serves an average of 250 meals during two seatings. That is a lot of food requiring a lot of work by a lot of people. Please join us in providing this community service. Sign-up sheets are being posted in the church for the first supper which takes place on Tuesday, July 6. Follow-up suppers take place on July 20 and on August 3 and 17.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING, June 13th. Christian Hour 9:00-9:45am; Worship Service 10:00am; Guest Preacher, The Rev. Moby Larson. Scripture readings: Psalm 5:1-8 or Psalm 32; 1 Kings 21:1-10, 11-14, 15-21a; Galatians 2:15-21; Luke 7:36—8:3.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED! If you have a heart for children and would like to lead/assist in during Divine Activity Time or Sunday school this summer please contact Jess Bunker (jessbunker@nianticcommunitychurch.org).

There are a few dates left that need coverage and even helping out for just one day is a blessing. The planning meeting will be June 15th at 6pm.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP BOOK CLUB. Our next book is "A Pearl in the Storm" by Tori Murden McClure. This is the selection for "One Book One Region". There will be activities planned in the area. The author will return to SE CT in the fall. Here is the website for One Book One Region. <http://www.onebookoneregion.org/> We will meet on July 11 at 7 pm.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) is out of this world!! Save the dates – July 12-16. Registration has begun.

AS WE APPROACH THIS BUSY TIME OF YEAR please remember to keep your pledges current. Thank you for your continued commitment to Niantic Community Church-The Finance Committee.

UNITED ACTION'S ANNUAL JUSTICE BANQUET is June 17th. See Ocean Pellett or Ellen Ashburn for tickets (\$40/each. They would love to get two tables filled with NCC members and friends. If you are interested please contact Ocean or see her between church services to purchase a ticket. There will be a car pool leaving NCC at 6pm on June 17th. The dinner will be from 7-9pm at St Francis of Assisi, Msqr. Fox Parish Center 10 Elm Street, Middletown.

Our Record of Faithfulness In Giving And Attending

Received to Date for 2010: \$171,625.15; Needed to be current for 2010: \$173,629.06

Last Sunday's Attendance: 9:00 a.m. – 212; 11:15 a.m. – 23; Church School – 43;

Contemporary Worship 8; **Total: 286**

SUNDAY MORNINGS RE-IMAGINED – A ONE-YEAR REVIEW

When the congregation voted in June of 2009 to modify the Sunday morning schedule to incorporate more opportunities for study and faith formation, we committed ourselves to a three-year trial. We also agreed that we would periodically review the new schedule to see how well the plan is working and, perhaps, to implement some changes which might make the schedule even more effective. To that end, you are invited to fill out the questionnaire below and return it to the church office by June 13. You may also email your responses to Judy Snitkin (NianticCommChurch@sbcglobal.net). Your comments will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

1. What has been your experience of the revised Sunday morning schedule?

2. What suggestions do you have that might make the new schedule more effective?

3. Are there particular topics, or aspects of the Bible, or questions of faith that you would like to explore?

THIS WEEK AT NIANTIC COMMUNITY CHURCH

We are a community of Christians:
learning God's ways;
sharing God's love;
extending God's peace and healing grace to all.

SUNDAY, JUNE 6

- 9:00AM Worship Service
10:00-11:00AM "Between Hour Café"
(Dining Hall)
10:15AM Sunday School for All Ages
Adult Offerings: 1. Seasons of the Spirit
Bible Study (Downstairs Nursery)
2. Sharing from Mission trips to Mexico &
Honduras
11:15AM Worship Service
12:15AM Depression/Bipolar Talk
(Multipurpose Room)
1:30PM Wedding Ceremony (Sanctuary)
5:00PM Contemporary Worship Service
(Multipurpose Room)
6:00PM High School Fellowship (Shelter)

MONDAY, JUNE 7

- 7:00PM Christian Ed Committee
(Multipurpose Room)
7:00PM Toastmasters (Dining Hall)

TUESDAY, JUNE 8

- 7:15AM Breakfast Bible Study (Niantic Diner)
10:30AM Banner Workshop (Fellowship
Room)

TUESDAY, JUNE 8

- 5:30PM Children's Choir Practice
(Sanctuary)
6:00PM Youth Bells Practice (Multipurpose
Room)
6:15PM Gospel Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
7:00PM Boy Scouts (Dining Hall)
7:00PM Maintenance Committee (Office)
7:30PM Music & Worship Arts (Parish Life
Office)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

- 7:30PM NA (Dining Hall)

THURSDAY, JUNE 10

- 10:15AM Caregiver Support Group
(Fellowship Room)
5:15PM Yoga Class (Multipurpose Room)
6:00PM Shoreline Food Pantry (Dining Hall)
8:00PM AA (Dining Hall)

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

- 7:30PM AA (Dining Hall)

SATURDAY, JUNE 12

- 7:30PM AA (Dining Hall)

Niantic Community Church

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