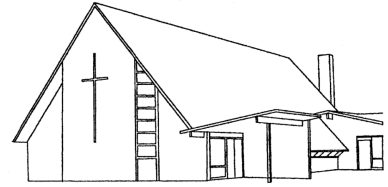


NIANTIC COMMUNITY CHURCH

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 20, 2010 • 10:00AM • *The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

WE GATHER AS THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

“Minuet and Arioso”
Richard Schenk, *cello*; Mary Mirecki, *organ*

J.S. Bach

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.

INTROIT

“Dona Nobis Pacem”

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God is ready for us to seek what is eternal;
God wants us to find the truth beyond ourselves.

Many: Our spirits long for God, as a deer longs for water.

We cry out for some evidence of God’s presence.

God seldom comes as earthquake, wind, or fire;

Rather, in moments of sheer silence, God is revealed.

We come in quiet expectation to this holy place.

We approach the altar of God, hungering to be fed.

✠ HYMN #660

“God Is Here, as We, Your People”

ABBOT’S LEIGH

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

God, our refuge and our hope, Come among us today to give us energy and purpose. Move us beyond the discipline of the law to the discipleship of faith. Free us from the shackles of fear and a sense of failure that keep us from stepping bravely into your future. Grant us the sense that we are not alone but are part of a great company of your faithful people of every nation and tongue.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*trespasses*)

WE PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL IN WORD

A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS

✕ HYMN #358 "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind" REST
Prayer requests will be collected; Children attending *Divine Activity Time* (for PreK-4th grade) may leave during the singing of the hymn.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Kings 19:1-15a

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.

SERMON

"The Sound of Silence"

Mary B. Larson

WE RESPOND IN PRAYER AND FAITH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and PASTORAL PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

Leader: God has richly provided all we need for life's journey. What are we doing with God's bounty?

People: May our dedicated dollars reflect a consecrated congregation.

RECEIVING TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE MUSICAL OFFERING

"Bist du bei mir"

J.S. Bach

Jurate Svedaite, *soprano*

✠ 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

Holy God, as we gather here today, we are reminded of all that you provide for your people. For your grace and mercy, we thank you. May we be always willing to share from our bounty; and may our gifts and our lives be dedicated to your purposes, through Christ our Lord. Amen

✠ HYMN #102

“Now Thank We All Our God”

NUN DANKET

✠ BENEDICTION AND THREE-FOLD AMEN

(Hymnal, 898)

POSTLUDE

“Tu virginum corona,” from *Exultate, Jubilate*
Jurate Svedaite, *soprano*

W.A. Mozart

**Please remain seated in silence during the Postlude
before going out to serve as Christ’s representatives in the world.**



WELCOME TO NIAN TIC 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 also available 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 Bibles, Bulletins, and Hymnals are available. Please ask an usher for assistance!

Today's Worship Leaders

Ushers: Chris & Sara Bayreuther, John & Kay Whritner

Worship Leader: Jeannette Woodworth

Preacher: The Rev. Mary B. Larson

Parish Visitor: Mary Wassung

Flowers have been placed in the sanctuary to the Glory of God
and in Celebration of our 15th anniversary, by Rich & Jan Cushing,

and

in Celebration of our wedding anniversary by
Richard and Ann Schenk.

✕ All who are able may stand at these times

Call to Worship, Invocation, and Call to Offering today are adapted from *Gathered by Love* by Lavon Bayler.

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO BE LED IN WORSHIP TODAY BY THE REV. DR. MARY BROWN (MOBBY) LARSON, who began her ministry in 1985, serving as the Director of Christian Education at St. Luke Lutheran Church in Gales Ferry. After attending Hartford Seminary and Andover Newton Theological School, she was ordained in the United Church of Christ (her "growing up" denomination) in 1994 and served two churches in the New London Association. She received her Doctor of Ministry from Hartford Seminary in 2003, focusing on her work to promote understanding among the Mashantucket and Eastern Pequot tribes and the host towns. Since her retirement from Ledyard Congregational Church in 2008, she has been serving as roaming "Ambassador" among the Association Churches, Eastern Region Annuitant Visitor for the UCC Pension Board, supply preacher and ringer, member of the Shoreline Ringers, and enjoying time with family.

(Pastor Nelson is currently on his third and final three-week residency in Chicago, as he works on requirements for the Doctor of Ministry in Preaching. He will return to the pulpit on July 11th.)

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

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

Pastor and Teacher: The Rev. John A. Nelson

OCCASIONS FOR SERVICE, WITNESS, AND PRAYER

In Our Prayers:

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

Victims and survivors of the Arkansas floods • Safe travel for family members • Deb, breast cancer treatment • Mark Hansen, recovering from surgery • for acceptance of step-families • Trish's father, hospitalized.

Prayers from the Sunday School classes:

For creativity; good health, plants and all of the world's resources ... thanksgiving for moms and dads, for animals, for friends, and for giving us your Son Jesus as a model and leader for the church ... for the earthquake victims in Haiti and Chili, for the people of Afghanistan and Iraq as well as our troops, for the hungry and homeless, and thank you for

our homes, food, and all the gifts you give us ... for the victims of all kinds of disasters all over the world, and prayers of thanksgiving for food, clothing, friends and family ... prayers of support and recovery for all of the people and animals affected by the oil spill and prayers of comfort for those people killed in the blast on the oil rig.

Continuing concerns:

Conner, and Aunt Lyla • 6-mo. old Aaron Ruty • Joe Lomastro, recovering from surgery • Freddy: God give him strength, courage, faith • Andrea, Crohn's disease • Molly, a teenager caught up in family conflict • Susan Mellon • Jeff DeMatto, recovering from surgery • Teachers, parents, students,

administrators, and communities affected by school budget cuts and layoffs • For foster grandchild of Marie & Bob Pierce, in Manila, and for other orphans • 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 • 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:

Linda Brown, cancer diagnosis • Colleen Burns, battling cancer • A friend with recurring cancer • Doug & Paula Bosman & family, as they deal with Doug's terminal cancer diagnosis • 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:

Georgeanna Bristol
Christian (Frank) Olsson • Sgt. Ed Rivera
Aunt Jean • Baby Roween
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:

For the marriage of Rachel Farr and Laura Elizares • For the care and support of our church family • For my teacher, Mrs. Douton, and the baby she expects this summer • 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 • 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, beginning June 24th at 7pm by the pond, weather permitting. Come for casual worship, uplifting music. All ages welcome, refreshments served.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP - A new group is forming for caregivers in our midst. First meeting, Saturday, June 26th from 10:00-12:00 in the Fellowship Room and all are welcome to attend. Joanne Moore will be giving a 30 minute presentation/guided activity on Physical Fitness for Caregivers followed by guided conversation. Refreshments served. Call Joanne Moore (860) 739-2573 or the church office (860) 739-6208 for more information. A program of Parish Life Ministry.

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: www.onebookoneregion.org. We will meet on July 11 at 7 pm.

JUST A COUPLE MORE VOLUNTEERS are needed to help facilitate the Summer Sunday School ministry, please see Jess Bunger if you are willing to help out a couple times this summer.

DON'T FORGET, adults and children have the opportunity to take part in the Christian Education hour all summer at 9am before the 10 am worship service.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is going to be a BLAST!! VBS is just around the corner on July 12th-16th and parents of children 5-10 years old are invited to download a registration form at the NCC Youth Ministry website: <http://nccyouth.shutterfly.com>.

PRAYER SHAW KNITTING GROUP this Tuesday at 7pm in the Fellowship Room. Please join us for uplifting conversation and knitting/crocheting. Lessons and patterns available. Call Jane Barth (860-739-6002) with questions.

SIGNING UP TO HELP WITH SUMMER SUPPERS IS EASY. A bright colored sign-up board is near the church office. Just choose the task you'd like to do and the date(s) you want to do it. And when you are through, break bread with the rest of the volunteers and enjoy the fruits of your labor with a delicious turkey/roast beef dinner. Summer Suppers couldn't exist without you. Sign up today. You can even call the church office to sign up that way. (860)739-6208. The dates are July 6, 20 & August 3, 17.

Caregiver Support Group

Saturday, June 26th

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

A new group is forming to offer encouragement, support and valuable information for the caregivers in our midst. The group will meet monthly in the Fellowship Room and all are welcome to attend this free program. Bring a friend.

Joanne Moore, owner of Shoreline Physical Therapy, will be giving a 30 minute presentation/activity on Physical Fitness for Caregivers, followed by guided conversation.

Refreshments will be served.

Call Joanne Moore (860)739-2573 or the church office (860)739-6208 for more information or just stop on by. Please join us. A program of Parish Life Ministry.

Niantic Community Church
170 Pennsylvania Ave., Niantic, CT 06357
www.NianticCommunityChurch.org

OCCASIONS FOR SERVICE, WITNESS, AND PRAYER continued

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING, June 27th. Christian Hour 9:00-9:45am; Worship Service 10:00am. Guest Preacher, The Rev. Moby Larson. Scripture readings: 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14; Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20; or Kings 19:15-16, 19-21; Psalm 16; Galatians 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-62.

NEXT COMMUNITY MEAL is Saturday, June 26th. Please consider volunteering as we are looking for more members of our congregation to take part in this ministry. We need a crew of 6 people to go down to the Community Meal Center in New London and serve the meal between 12 and 1 on Saturday the 26th. We allow a half hour before and after the meal for set up and clean up and serve the meal cafeteria style. Our customers are most appreciative and it is a very rewarding experience. The menu this month is hot dogs in rolls, macaroni with cheese and broccoli, salad and brownies. We also need a volunteer to make the salad and people to make a tray of brownies which you can date, mark Community Meal, and leave in the freezer outside the scullery. For food donations we need hot dogs, Split TOP hot dog rolls, shredded cheeses. Please leave in kitchen by Wednesday noon, June 23rd. Please call Anne Davis with questions (739-7455).

LOOKING FOR a mouth watering recipe for summer entertaining? Have you lost that old favorite and looking for something new to tempt your palate? The arrival of One Table, Many Meals is just a few weeks away. Watch for it...

CELEBRATE EAST LYME is Saturday, July 17th from 9:00-3:00. If you are interested in representing your group at our booth, please let us know. We need folks to cover the booth. Call Patty (860)739-6208.

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 20

9:00-9:45AM "Christian Education Hour"

Children (Multipurpose Room)

Adult Offerings: 1. Seasons of the Spirit Bible Study (Fellowship Room)

10:00AM **Worship Service** (Sanctuary)

MONDAY, JUNE 21

7:00PM Prudential Board (Fellowship Room)

7:00PM Toastmasters (Dining Hall)

TUESDAY, JUNE 22

7:15AM Breakfast Bible Study (Niantic Diner)

6:30PM Banner Workshop (Multipurpose Room)

7:00PM Prayer Shawl Knitting Group (Fellowship Room)

7:00PM Men's Group (Parish Life Office)

7:00PM Boy Scouts (Dining Hall)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23

7:30PM NA (Dining Hall)

THURSDAY, JUNE 24

5:15PM Yoga Class (Multipurpose Room)

6:00PM Shoreline Food Pantry (Dining Hall)

7:00PM **Seashore Contemporary Worship** (Dodge Pond, weather permitting, or Multipurpose Room)

8:00PM AA (Dining Hall)

FRIDAY, JUNE 25

7:30PM AA (Dining Hall)

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

10:00AM Caregivers Support Group (Fellowship Room)

7:30PM AA (Dining Hall)

Niantic Community Church

170 Pennsylvania Avenue, Niantic, CT 06357 • Phone: 860-739-6208

Fax: 860-739-8308 • E-mail: NianticCommChurch@sbcglobal.net

www.NianticCommunityChurch.org

Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30-5:00 p.m.; Friday 8:30-Noon