

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.”

July 11, 2010 • 10:00AM

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost



WE GATHER AS THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

“Adagio”

Bruckner

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 first hymn.

INTROIT

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

CALL TO THE SPIRIT OF PENTECOST

One: Spirit comes!

Spirit blesses.

Spirit calls.

Spirit challenges.

Spirit challenges us to open our hearts and minds.

We open our lives to God’s new directions and dimensions.

✠ HYMN #122

“God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale”

ROEDER

Prayer requests will be collected.

PRAYERS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*trespasses*)

WE PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL IN WORD

A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS

✦ HYMN (insert) "They Asked, 'Who's My Neighbor?'" NEIGHBOR
Children attending *Divine Activity Time* (for PreK-4th grade)
may leave during the singing of the hymn.

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 10:25-37

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

"There Goes the Neighborhood"

John A. Nelson

WE RESPOND IN PRAYER AND FAITH

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR MARTIN RICHARD COOPER

Pastor: We are gathered to present this child to the church and to dedicate him to God. What can we affirm about him?

People: That he is a child of God and made in the image of God.

As he grows in our congregation, how will he know that he is a child of God, made in God's image?

We will give him our love and include him in the life and ministries of this church.

How will he learn of the Christian faith?

People: Through our teaching and the example of our lives. We will tell him about Abraham, the father of our faith; about Sarah, the mother of Isaac; about Moses and Miriam who led our ancestors out of bondage; about Ruth's faithfulness; about the Jewish hope for a messiah; about Mary and Joseph's openness to mystery; about our Savior, Jesus; and about the history of the Church as the people of God.

And what, in turn, will we expect of him?

We look forward to sitting with him at the Lord's Table, sharing with him the costs and joys of discipleship, learning and growing with him in the Christian pilgrimage, and declaring with one voice our faith in God and God's son, Jesus.

QUESTIONS OF THE PARENTS AND GODPARENTS

QUESTIONS OF THE CONGREGATION

Deacon: And do you, the congregation of Niantic Community Church, pledge to work toward creating and maintaining a nurturing and challenging Christian environment for this child?

People: We do, for he belongs to us as well.

Then, may God be with us.

God help us. Amen.

POURING OF WATER

BAPTISMAL PRAYER

THE PRAYER AND ACT OF BAPTISM

RENEWAL OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Pastor: May the Eternal God, who in Christ has given us new birth by water and the Spirit, now give us the grace we need to fulfill what we have promised

People: Let us be faithful to our Savior Christ, for ever and ever.

CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME

Deacon: Now, with joyful hearts let us welcome the newest member of the body of Christ:

People: We rejoice in God's empowering love, freely given to each and all. We welcome you, Martin, newly baptized, into the loving embrace of our church, which is called the Body of Christ. We promise to pray for you, to seek the depths of faith with you, to support you, and to love you. We covenant with you to love God with all our hearts, minds, souls, and strength, and our neighbors as ourselves. In this way we shall learn from one another, grow stronger, and more often be faithful to God as servants to all people. So be it!

OFFERTORY

Leader: In a baptism we remember our own promises: the daily choice to live in God's love, instead of living in fear or greed or isolation. In Jesus' teachings we see ourselves as God does: each one utterly beloved, and sent out to befriend all of our utterly beloved sisters and brothers. To that vision we give ourselves, and our gifts, in gratitude for all that God has done.

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

RECEIVING TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE MUSICAL OFFERING

"You Raise Me Up"
Lynne Floyd

Lowland & Graham

✠ 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

Thank You, God, for the opportunity to share in your creative, healing, and transforming work among people. Because you have blessed us, we have much to give. These offerings express our gratitude and our hope to be more fully your own loyal community: we bless them in the gracious name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

✠ HYMN #192

"There's a Spirit in the Air"

ORIENTIS PARTIBUS

✠ BENEDICTION AND THREE-FOLD AMEN

(Hymnal, 898)

POSTLUDE

"Postlude in C minor"

Bruckner

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



**CALL TO NIANTIC COMMUNITY CHURCH
SPECIAL MEETING
Sunday, July 11, 2010**

On July 11, 2010 in the Dining Hall immediately following the 10AM Worship Service we will hold a Congregational Meeting with the sole purpose of determining how we will pay for improvements to the parking lot and sidewalks that surround our Church. Based on recommendations from the Finance Committee and the Prudential Board, we are calling upon the Congregation to vote on a motion to undertake a capital campaign to raise the funds necessary to undertake this project.

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 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:

Anita Potts, Madelyn Wyckoff, John & Catherine Vincent

Worship Leader:

Mary Wassung

Preacher: The Rev. John A. Nelson

Parish Visitor:

Dick Goeben

Flowers have been placed in the sanctuary to the Glory of God
and In Loving Memory of our daughter, Marcia, her grandparents,
Erma & Silas Brailey and Harriet & Harold Layden,
and, her Uncle Roger and Aunt Jan
by Judy and Justin Layden.

✠ All who are able may stand at these times

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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

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, Thursdays at 7pm by the pond, weather permitting. Come for casual worship, uplifting music. All ages welcome, refreshments served.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for second quarter 2010 are ready for distribution. They are located in the Narthex. Please pick up your statement to help save mailing costs. Thank you.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING, July 18th. Christian Hour 9:00-9:45am; Worship Service 10:00am at the outside altar, weather permitting; Pastor John A. Nelson, preaching. Scripture readings: Psalm 52 or Psalm 15; Amos 8:1-12 or Genesis 18:1-10a; Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42.

JULY 20th is just around the corner for the second of NCC's traditional summer suppers and we need your help. Sign up sheets for the Monday night setup crew, the wait staff, the kitchen team, and the scullery are in the narthex. No experience necessary, come enjoy the fellowship. The remaining suppers are scheduled for August 3, and August 17.

REGISTER YOUR 5YR-10YR OLDS for the Vacation Bible School Now! We are Blasting Off July 12th-16th. There is no cost and all are welcome!

PARENTS OF CHILDREN ENTERING THE 9TH GRADE in the fall should contact Jess Bunger at 739-6208 or jessbunger@nianticcommunitychurch.org if they are interested in participating in the confirmation ministry starting in September.

THE HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER SERVICE TRIP is almost here. Thank you for keeping the group in your prayers as they prepare to serve in Boston July 18th-23rd.

KUNDALINI YOGA FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS: Thursdays, 5:30- 6:30pm, in the multi-purpose room. Ongoing. Register by contacting Sukh Aman 860-287-1824 or emailing sukhamankaur@aol.com

"CELEBRATE EAST LYME" is July 17th and we need NCC representatives to man our booth. Two to three hour shifts are available between 4-9 p.m.. Without booth coverage we won't have representation at the event. Call the church office if you can help. 739-6208.

COME JOIN THE FUN at On the Rocks Restaurant at Fox Hopyard Golf Club for lunch on August 29th. This is the year-end activity for the dinner groups and everyone is invited whether you were in a group or not. Fox Hollow is located in East Haddam (One Hopyard Road, East Haddam for your GPS) and the cost per person is \$20, including gratuity. The menu is a classic backyard BBQ with marinated chicken, hamburgers/cheese burgers and all the trimmings plus coffee and dessert. Lunch begins at 3:00pm. Deadline for signing up is August 10th. Make checks payable to Niantic Community Church, (memo: Fox Hopyard dinner). Questions?? Email Cheri Meier: cherimeier@hotmail.com or Edna Gilstad: egilstad@aol.com.

COOKBOOKS HAVE ARRIVED !!!! One Table, Many Meals is available in the church office packed with 624 mouthwatering recipes. \$15. Order forms are available as well to take to your friends, neighbors, offices and clubs. Easy as selling Girl Scout cookies without the wait. They will also be available after worship on Sundays and at each Summer Supper. Get yours today! Call 860-739-6208.

Our Record Of Faithfulness In Giving And Attending

Received to Date for 2010: \$206,212.15; Needed to be current for 2010: \$213,090.21

Last Sunday's Attendance: - 113

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, JULY 11

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

Children (Multipurpose Room)

Adults: Seasons of the Spirit Bible Study
(Fellowship Room)

10:00AM Worship Service

7:00PM Women's Fellowship Book Club
(Parish Life Office)

MONDAY, JULY 12

9:00AM Vacation Bible School

5:45PM NCC Children's Center Board
Meeting (Parish Life Office)

7:00PM Toastmasters (Dining Hall)

TUESDAY, JULY 13

7:15AM Breakfast Bible Study (Niantic
Diner)

9:00AM Vacation Bible School

7:00PM Maintenance Committee (Office)

7:00PM Boy Scouts (Dining Hall)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

9:00AM Vacation Bible School

7:30PM NA (Dining Hall)

THURSDAY, JULY 15

9:00AM Vacation Bible School

12:00PM Spirited Pens (Parish Life Office)

5:15PM Yoga Class (Multipurpose Room)

6:00PM Shoreline Food Pantry (Dining Hall)

7:00PM Contemporary Worship (by the
pond, weather permitting)

8:00PM AA (Dining Hall)

FRIDAY, JULY 16

9:00AM Vacation Bible School

7:30PM AA (Dining Hall)

SATURDAY, JULY 17

7:30PM AA (Dining Hall)

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS BULLETIN

Niantic Community Church

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www.NianticCommunityChurch.org

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