

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.”

November 7, 2010 • 9:00 & 11:15AM
All Saints Sunday

A Season of Stewardship at NCC: *Grow • Teach • Rejoice! • Care*

To celebrate is to share in a greater joy, to participate in an eternal drama. In acts of consumption the intention is to please our own selves; in acts of celebration the intention is to extol God, the spirit, the source of blessing.

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

WE GATHER AS THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

Organ prelude
“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”
Agape (9AM)

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.

INTROIT

“Available To You”
Gospel Choir

Thompson Community Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Sing for joy to God, all the earth;

People: Worship with songs and shouts of joy!

Sing praise to God! Play music on the harps!

Blow trumpets and horns, and shout for joy to the Holy One of Israel!

Roar, sea, and every creature in you;

Sing, earth, and all who live on you!

Clap your hands, you rivers; you hills, sing together before God.

**God comes to rule the earth, and to govern the peoples of the earth
with justice and fairness.**

✕ HYMN #715

“Rejoice, the Lord is King”
(11:15AM, with Adult Choir)

DARWALL'S 148TH

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, as we remember you in joy, we also remember that in some ways we have let you down. By what we have done, and what we have not done, we have not always loved you with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. We have not always loved our neighbors. We have relied on things other than you, God, and we know this disappoints you. We declare our intention to turn from lovelessness, and return to your ways of joy and compassion. Embolden our wills to follow you, in Jesus' name: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: We do fall away from relying on God alone, and following in Jesus' way. But whenever we say what we have done, and turn back to God with our hearts, God's forgiveness comes pouring in. Dear saints of God, know that in Christ you are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God!

WE PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL IN WORD

A THOUGHT FOR YOUNG MINDS

✕ HYMN #273

“Praise with Joy the World's Creator”

LAUDA ANIMA

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

SCRIPTURE READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

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

“Supercharged”

John A. Nelson

WE RESPOND IN PRAYER AND FAITH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and PASTORAL PRAYER

STEWARDSHIP: HOW WE REJOICE

Anne Gonsalves

RESPONSIVE PRAYER FOR ALL SAINTS

Pastor: Almighty God, your people of all the ages live and praise you without ceasing. In our communion with you, we have communion with generations past and generations yet unknown. Before your throne we are one with a great multitude which no one could number, and in praising you we join with those from every nation.

O God, the generations rise and pass away before you.

You are the strength of those who labor;

you are the rest of the blessed dead.

We thank you for all the saints,

all those who have been baptized in the spirit

and whom you have justified by grace and faith.

We rejoice that their faithfulness

has paved the way for our lives to follow.

Thank you for the saints known to many,

and the saints known to few;

we rejoice in their witness of joy and challenge, love and care:

Viben (Pete) Eriksen ✠ Doris (Debbie) Painter ✠ Rachel Ayer

and others whom we name now.

Grant to your church on earth

that as we celebrate the triumph of your saints in glory

we may profit by their example

and enter with them into the inexpressible joys

you have prepared for those who love you,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Leader: We remember the saints who lived their joy in God long before us; we also have remembered saints whom we knew and loved. God reminds us that we are the saints, as well: not pure or perfect people, but a community called together by the power of the Holy Spirit: forgiven of sin by grace; led into new life by Christ. We are blessed beyond measure! We now share some of our blessing: a joyful response to our generous God.

Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

REJOICING IN THE GIFTS OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

REJOICING IN MUSIC

Charles and Tom Spranklin

✠ 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 One, whose heart abounds with gifts, receive this offering as a sign of our intention to live as saints: surrounded by your mercy, inspired by your Spirit, open to the joy of your presence, hospitable to one another, and generous toward your world. In Jesus' name; Amen.

WE FEAST WITH ALL SAINTS AT THE LORD'S TABLE

PREPARATION

Leader: We gather now as one body, joined around the table.

**People: Here we celebrate God's presence among us
united in Christ's spirit, broken and whole all at once;**

Nourished and hungry, loved and loving,
sinner and forgiven; we make one circle of knowing,
**believing, rejoicing, being,
as God lights and rests among us.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*trespasses*)

INVITATION

Leader: This is the table of the Heavenly Feast,
the joyful celebration of the saints of God.

**People: Christ invites everyone to eat the bread of life,
to drink the cup of the new covenant.**

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life.
She who comes to me shall never hunger;
he who believes in me shall never thirst."

**In the beginning,
God provided every plant yielding seed
and every tree with seed in its fruit for food.**

When the Israelites were in the wilderness,
God fed them with miraculous food.

**When the crowds were hungry,
Jesus fed over five thousand
with two fish and five loaves of bread.**

When two were walking towards Emmaus,
they recognized the Anointed One
as they broke bread together.

THE MEAL

On the night of his arrest Jesus took bread,
and after giving thanks to God, broke it and said,

**"This is my body which is for you;
do this remembering me."**

After supper Jesus took the cup and said,

**"This is the cup of the new covenant;
whenever you drink it, do so remembering me."**

UNISON PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

**Come, Holy Spirit. Continue to pour out your life-giving, healing power on us,
and on this meal that nourishes us. As we share this food and drink, may we
become, for each other, the hope that Jesus has awakened in us. In this meal
we celebrate the promised banquet when all shall be fed abundantly, and all
shall drink from the river of the water of life. Amen.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

We celebrate an open communion, and welcome every person to the table. We understand the sharing of the bread and the cup in Jesus' name to be a reenactment of an ancient vision of God's feast for all people. We don't require you to be a

member of our church, or any church, to participate with us in this feast of grace: all that is needed is that you desire God's nurture. Today we will take communion by intinction: please come forward to receive bread, then dip it into the cup. (We use unfermented grape juice.) If you wish to be served in the pew, please indicate so to an usher.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

Thank you, God, for the gift of yourself. We rejoice for the grace we receive in the bread and cup; we rejoice as we remember that uncounted thousands of saints, past and present, who share this meal with us. Having been forgiven and fed, may we find common purpose in sharing your dream of a world of peace. In Jesus' name; Amen.

✠ HYMN #711 "For All the Saints" SINE NOMINE

✠ BENEDICTION AND THREE-FOLD AMEN (Hymnal, 898)

POSTLUDE "Rejoice, the Lord is King" *Rawsthorne*

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



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: Edna Gilstad, Rich Morrill,
Bette Mahon, Sandy Spencer

Worship Leader: Joyce Wood

Acolytes: Jackson Perrelli, Jay Mirecki

11:00AM

Ushers: Nancy Burkhardt, Georgie
Granger, Terry McNatt

Worship Leader: Mary Wassung

Preacher: The Rev. John A. Nelson

Parish Host: Annette Silvia

Flowers have been placed in the sanctuary to the Glory of God
and in Loving Memory of my dad, Coach Ivan Olsen,
by Ocean Pellett,
and
in Loving Memory of Donald Prescott,
by Marion Prescott and family.

✂ 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: Lynne Floyd
Directors of Children's and Gospel Choirs:
Lee Wilkerson & Nikki Rollins
Sound Engineers: Dick Robinson & Ron Deziel

Education & Youth

**Interim Director of Religious Education &
Youth Ministries:** Kayla Castronova
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 (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.)*

BELLS OF HOPE: Today at 6:00PM, faith communities across Connecticut will come together to ring their bells and raise their voices for Connecticut's foster children waiting for permanent homes. Niantic Community Church encourages you to pause at 6:00 this evening and offer a prayer for those children, for the families that will (soon, we hope) give them a home, and for all those working to secure safe and loving placements for foster and adoptive children.

New Concerns:

Mercedes, cancer diagnosis • Paul Harper, deployed to Dubai • Dick Lovett and Sandra Harrington, terminal illnesses • Bernie, stroke and heart attack • Brian Lewis, in terminal stage of cancer • Children transitioning between schools.

Continuing concerns:

Megan Shafer, recovering from injuries in car accident • Cathy Burdeshaw, surgery •

Nancy, with undiagnosed illness • For Margaret Gayda's return to good health • Peter, back surgery • Edie Watrous, recovering from fall • Huey, struck by car • Christine Morales, thyroid cancer • Madelyn Wyckoff, knee surgery • Peggy Lippingcott, recovering from knee replacement surgery • Edna and Patti, medical tests • Tony, in hospice care • Barbara (John Mahon's sister), struggling with illness • Helen Heaney & family • Jackie Garvey, cancer recurrence • For safe travels •

Anne Wernau, recovering from surgery •
Mary Kent, Virginia, Mary, Kent, Jim, & Sue •
Huey, Aunt Lyla • Alyssa, traveling in Prague
• Paul Swann • Those suffering from
depression and anxiety.

In treatment for cancer:

Bret, colon cancer • Ron, with pancreatic
cancer, and wife Sara • Carolyn, cancer
surgery • Shannon Duffy, in chemotherapy for
Ewing's Sarcoma, parents Deb & Pete and
sister Brianna • Missy Gardner • Nancy
Jacobson, brain cancer and Lyme Disease
• Ray Herzberg • Clara Ball — and their
families, friends, and caregivers.

For those grieving and struggling in response
to wildfires in Russia and California, and to
floods in Pakistan.

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:

Kyle Fedors, Keith Devlin, Walter Dlugozima
Dana Poole • Kristi
Billy Pasqualini
Neal Thayer • David, brother of Betty
The Rev. Robert Huston
Great-grandmother Nellie
John Allen McDonald • Russ Han
Fr. Emmett Jarrett, TSSF

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 Peace Walkers and the continuous
conversation about peace • For all hearts open
to forgiveness and acceptance • For Chara
achieving a place on the swim team, and for
wonderful coaches • For Cherie's visit • For
the rescue of Chilean miners • A visit with
Barbara & BB Burnham in Maine • For the
successful capital campaign, the work of Al
Larson & the Maintenance Committee, and
Laurie Castronova • Marriage of Laura, Keith
Neilson's cousin • Marriage of Alex and
Rebecca • Marriage of Jeffrey Mayer and
Christine Fainer.

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).

HAVE CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGED since you last updated your estate plan? Do your current estate planning documents carry out your commitments to your Church? If not, amend your documents now.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING, November 14th. Worship Services at 9 & 11:15am; 10:00-11:00am "Between Hour Café;" 10:15am Adult Sunday School. Pastor John A. Nelson, preaching. Scripture readings: Isaiah 65:17-25 or Isaiah 12 or Malachi 4:1-2a; Psalm 98; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19.

MIDDLE SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP, today, 1:10-3:05. Meet at Niantic Cinema to watch "Megamind." Please bring money for snacks!

SENIOR HIGH FELLOWSHIP, today, 10:15-11am and 6pm Homeless Shelter Meal.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP BOOK CLUB meets tonight at 7pm to discuss "The Hour I First Believed" by Wally Lamb. Please bring suggestions for our next read.

JACK FROST BAZAAR'S PRECIOUS PAST. Donate that wonderful item you don't have room for – help us with your one of a kind item. Our needs are antiques, and old collectibles. Items such as old linens, china, crystal, silver or silver plate, depression or early glass, old toys, etc. Contact Judy Sleights (860-739-2230) with any questions.

65TH JACK FROST BAZAAR. Saturday, November 13, 2010 from 9 am - 2 pm. **PLEASE NOTE: NEW START TIME OF 9:00 A.M.!** Beginning **TODAY** at 12:30 p.m., you may start bringing your donated items to the church! Please bring: books, music CDs, videos, jewelry, attic treasures (housewares), precious past items, kids toys and equipment, sporting goods - does that cover it all??? If you have any handmade items or homemade Christmas decorations, please bring those in on Sunday or during the week. We will begin set up and decoration at that time as well. Many hands needed to move and transform the church for the big day. Helpers also needed to clean up the day of the bazaar beginning at 2:00pm. Please pick up a flyer on Sunday between services or from the church office to hang up around town. If you have any questions, please contact Susan Brown at (860)460-7414 or Jennifer Datum at (860)434-7399.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA: The Adult Choir has begun rehearsing Saint-Saens Christmas Oratorio. Anyone interested in joining choir for the Christmas season should talk to Paul Althouse or come Thursday at 7pm.

ALL YOUTH WHO ARE INTERESTED in going on the YouthWorks trip take note that the spots are filling up so please turn in your deposit of \$65 as soon as possible.

WE ARE GOING TO NEED HELP from all the youth for the 65th Annual Jack Frost Bazaar. Please see Kayla for the many different volunteer opportunities. Thank you.

CONSIDERING MEMBERSHIP??? Considering Membership Sessions are being held on Wed. 11/10 & 11/17 from 7:00-8:30 pm and on Saturday, 11/20 from 9:00am -12:00 pm. If you are interested in learning more about becoming a member, call the church office. (860)739-6208.

1 OUT OF 4 WOMEN IS A SURVIVOR OF SEXUAL ABUSE. Survivors don't have to be silent anymore. Inner Voice is a support group for women who are sexual abuse survivors. The groups are run by survivors for survivors. If you are interested in attending, please call 860-886-7511 x204. If you are interested in having a group start at NCC, call Marie LaTourette 860-739-0733.

THANKSGIVING FOOD COLLECTION. We will be receiving a collection of canned foods to help stock food pantries in our area before the Thanksgiving holiday. On **Nov. 14th** come to church with donations of non-perishable, healthy foods that haven't gone past their sell-by date (by law, these can't be used). Thank you.

OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS Ocean Pellet and Ellen Ashburn will be inviting church members to have "faith conversations," with the goal of strengthening our congregation and deepening our own journey with God. It's all about relationship building - our relationship with God and our community. Conversations are voluntary (but with Ocean and Ellen, they're also a lot of fun). You may get a phone call asking you to participate. Call the church office if you would like to have this conversation but haven't received a phone call.

Our Record of Faithfulness In Giving And Attending

Received to Date for 2010: \$347,972.19; Needed to be current for 2010: \$348,249.44

Last Sunday's Attendance: 9:00 a.m. - 167; 11:15 a.m. - 67; Church School - 40;

Total: 274

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, NOVEMBER 7

9:00AM Worship Service

10:00-11:00AM "Between Hour Café"
(Dining Hall)

10:15AM Sunday School for All Ages

Adult Offerings: Uppity Women of the Bible
(Fellowship Room)

10:15AM High School Fellowship (Youth
Room)

11:15AM Worship Service

1:10PM Middle School Fellowship (Niantic
Cinema)

6:00PM High School Fellowship (Shelter)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8

4:00PM Nominating Committee (Parish Life
Office)

5:45PM Children's Center Board (Children's
Center)

6:15PM Church Officers (Pastor's Study)

7:00PM Preaching Group (Pastor's Study)

7:00PM Men's Choir (Sanctuary)

7:00PM Finance Committee (Fellowship
Room)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

7:15AM Breakfast Bible Study (Niantic Diner)

1:00PM "A Course in Life" (Fellowship
Room)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9 CONTINUED

5:30PM Children's Choir (Sanctuary)

6:00PM Youth Bell Rehearsal (Multipurpose
Room)

6:15PM Gospel Choir (Sanctuary)

7:00PM Adult Bell Rehearsal (Multipurpose
Room)

7:00PM Maintenance Committee (Office)

7:00PM Boy Scouts (Dining Hall)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

9:30AM DISCIPLÉ (Fellowship Room)

7:30PM NA (Dining Hall)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Church Offices Closed for Veteran's Day

6:00PM Shoreline Food Pantry (Dining Hall)

7:00PM Adult Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12

All Day Church-wide set up for Jack Frost
Bazaar

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

9:00AM-2PM 65th Jack Frost Bazaar

7:30PM AA (Dining Hall)

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