



The Chimes

July-August 2026 Edition

Editor: Sherri Boldt

E-copy: Brian Hager

From the Pastor's Desk:

"For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us . . ." - Romans 12:4-6

No matter where we find ourselves during the summer months, we are still part of one body. Since summer bring us numerous opportunities you may find yourself out of doors: if the heat isn't too oppressive, there's gardening in the morning dew, hiking one of the local preserves, dining at a sidewalk table, or taking in an outdoor concert. Some folks will take vacation time and get away while others remain nearby. No matter what your situation, I hope you will have a healthy and safe summer!

Meanwhile, at 89 Main Street we will gather and worship on Sundays. During the week though there are other numerous opportunities! Outside the pollinator gardens need weeding; playground equipment has to move so we can finally get a start on our Memorial Garden. Inside lots of little tasks can be done with a little bit of time. If you have an hour to spare and you want to share your particular gift, please stop by or call the office and we can match you up with something you can accomplish.

With gratitude for all you are and all you bring, *Sue*

Congratulations Graduates!!!

Sadie Fox (granddaughter of Monica Eppinger), graduated from American University in Washington, DC with a Bachelor of Science in Public Health.

David Graham Thaxton graduated from Thetford Academy, VT; he will be attending Worcester Polytechnic Institute next year.

Stella Thompson graduated from Wheeler High School; she'll be attending The University of CT at Storrs in the fall.



Wishing everyone a safe and happy summer!



Best wishes from your Chimes editor 😊

SUMMER MUSIC TIME!

Our choirs have all earned a well-deserved break for the summer and that means it's time for our summer music program. Anyone who is interested in offering a gift of song during the summer worship is encouraged to sign up for a Sunday. You do not have to be a choir member to participate.

Singers and instrumentalists who wish to present a song during summer worship should sign up on the summer music calendar located in the choir room. Children, youth and adults are all encouraged to sign up. If anyone knows of a musical group who might wish to participate on a Sunday, please have them contact Mike.

Summer Reminders for Generous Souls

Have a safe and exciting summer, but:

Please don't forget to keep your pledge payments and offerings current over the summer.

We need to pay our bills throughout the year, even when everyone else takes a break.

Your regular pledge payments and offerings will be greatly appreciated.

Building Fund:

You can always make contributions over and above your pledges to the church's building fund, anytime.

Contact Info:

If you need to know the amount of your pledge payments please call Steve Weicksel, Financial Secretary.

Thanks very much –You are so important to our Church Family!

Stewardship Corner



There will your heart be also!



Let's consider Matthew 6:

Much of the book of Matthew refers to the teachings of Jesus as he instructed his followers about ...

- Sincere devotion
- Practicing righteousness
- Giving to those in need
- Having a trusting relationship with God
- Praying with humility
- Sharing heavenly treasures – those that come from God – not earthly treasures

All in all, we should try to develop a spiritual practice of giving all to God.

***“Blessed are the pure in heart:
they will see God.”***

MONTHLY MISSION PROJECTS: 2026

July & August - Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center (PNC) Summer Hunger Awareness; start Church World Service (CWS) School Kits

September - Help with this month's fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity of Eastern CT (HFHECT); continue work on CWS School Kits; hold a party for the kids

October – United Church of Christ (UCC) Neighbors in Need collection.

November - Jammie Grammie pajama collection with First Baptist Church; provide for the PNC Thanksgiving Baskets

December - UCC The Christmas Fund; PNC foods for Christmas



DO YOUR MISSION IN THE SUMMER!

The Summer is for Hunger Awareness at the Pawcatuck Neighborhood. WHY? Summer vacation from school is challenging for families that depend on school lunches. The center fills backpacks with snacks and healthy choices. They now prepare the lunch back packs two times a week for their clients.

Please bring kid-friendly foods to the church or the center that will help throughout the summer months; like fruit, protein snacks, veggies, and breads.

Also, donations for food can be placed in the green mission of the month envelopes.



The Longest Day® #TheLongestDay #ENDALZ

Alzheimer's Association shares awareness on the "LONGEST DAY." That is important to families caring for an Alzheimer's patient; because as the daytime grows longer there is more work to do and the caregivers need their rest.

Join to fight the darkness of Alzheimer's and all other dementia through a fundraising activity.

You can reach out to other communities or create an activity of your choice on a day that works for you. Popular activities are golf, pickleball, baking and more. Or how about a family Bowling Day?

Updates From MISSIONS

School Kit List for Church World Service



Please donate \$2.00 for shipping

- 3 Spiral bound notebooks of 70 pages each
- 1 30 centimeter ruler – 12” ruler
- 1 Large eraser (not pencil caps)
- 6 New unsharpened pencils – no packaging;
 please wrap them with an elastic band
- 1 Handheld pencil-sharpener - no packaging
- 1 Pair of blunt scissors – rounded tip
 & no packaging
- 1 Box of 24 crayons

Celebrate July 4th!

A historical perspective:

It was on July 2, 1776 that the Second Continental Congress voted for the legal separation of the Thirteen Colonies from Great Britain.

First, on July 1, 1776, in anticipation of this great day, John Adams wrote to his wife Abigail that Independence Day, would be the most memorable day in the history of America. He wrote “I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival.”

He was right about the day; however he was off regarding the actual signing by two days.

Americans now celebrate Independence Day on July 4th, since the resolution of independence was debated on in a closed session of Congress and the Congressional Vote didn't take place until July 4, 1776.

Independence Day has become a national holiday to be celebrated with friends enjoying barbecues, picnics and patriotic concerts.

Please celebrate safely.



Thanks a Heap!

Thanks to...

- Margaret Leonard and her CE helpers for the Children's Day program in June.

-All of our choirs for their weekly dedication and beautiful music throughout the choir season.

-The Youth Choir for their music on June 7th. Youth choir members were recognized with certificates. Moss Leonard earned his first year pin and Violet and Madeleine Leonard both earned a choir medal for five years of youth choir service. We are blessed to have such a dedicated group of fine young singers.

-All who are offering special music throughout the summer weeks, beginning with Violet Weicksel and Madeline Leonard.

-The Thursday pie crews getting lots of pies ready for the market this summer, including Pastor Sue.

-All who attended the 250th Celebration in town on June 27th.

-All of our outdoor caretakers, including Paul Ames and Son for mowing, the children for their summer & pumpkin garden and Ann Nelson.

-All the ladies who participate in Ladies Luncheons on the 3rd Wednesday.

-Everyone who gave to HELO Haiti.

Thanks a Heap! (continued)

-All who donated to Tools and Blankets for Church World Service.

-Contributors to Strengthen the Church for the UCC.

-Those who assisted with the memorial services and the receptions in Hewitt Hall.

-Julie Clow and Matthew Sander for ushering during funerals.

-Mary Bliven helping with set-up and flowers for memorial receptions.

-Mobby Larson for covering for Pastor Sue who was on retreat.

-Doreen Gerrish, Jamie Towle-Weicksel, and Pastor Sue for donations of rhubarb.

-Dennis Bliven for weed-whacking before the Misovich service.

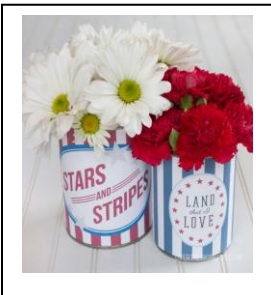
-Kris and Joe Serwinski for their dedicated oversight of the cemetery.

-The families who will have children taking in part in this year's Confirmation program and their offers to help.



July Birthdays...

- 1 Dana Cross
- 2 Heidi Gingerella
- 3 George Mayhew
- 4 Anne Nelson
- 5 Jeffrey Nelson
- 6 Nate Gadaree
- 7 Kathryn Kimball, David McCue
- 8 Monica Eppinger, Wayne Sander
- 14 Madeline Leonard
- 15 Cody Sawyer
- 17 Bruce Sawyer
- 18 Rubin Alvarez, Kathy Wunschel
- 19 Brian Byassee
- 23 Charlie Pianka
- 29 Mobby Larson, Elliana Robbins
- 30 Nathaniel Doble, Lynne Holden



... and Anniversaries

- 4 Brian & Robin Piela
- 11 Matt & Heidi Gingerella
- 14 Bob & Kris Shabunia
- 27 David & Mobby Larson

If we have missed your special day(s) or if there are corrections to be made, please notify the church office at 860-535-0379.

August Birthdays...

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 1 | Megan Byassee (Husk), Michael Noonan |
| 9 | Kevin Noonan |
| 10 | John Terrill |
| 11 | Mason Rockwell |
| 13 | Bob Shabunia |
| 14 | Heather Ames |
| 16 | Dennis William Alvarez |
| 18 | Lori Pearson |
| 21 | Karen Hess |
| 22 | Michael F. Cipriani |
| 23 | Jacob Williams |
| 26 | Luke William Gingerella, Rob Rockwell |
| 26 | Nolan David Pelletier |
| 29 | John Thompson |
| 31 | Cori Lynn Welch |



...and Anniversaries

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| 1 | Brian & Megan Byassee (Husk) |
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Worship Volunteers: July

	Ushers	Deacon	Altar Flowers	Lay Reader	Communion	Comments
5-Jul	Gretchen Noonan Kevin Noonan	Matthew Sander	Evans	Gretchen Noonan	Julie Clow Kathi Thaxton	
12-Jul	Patty Danley Monica Eppinger	Ron Robbins	Open Date	Monica Eppinger		
19-Jul	Steve Gadaree Matthew Sander	Kathi Thaxton	Evans	Open Date		
26-Jul	Paul Ames Julie Clow	Patty Danley	Open Date	Open Date		

Worship Volunteers: August

	Ushers	Deacon	Altar Flowers	Lay Reader	Communion	Comments
2-Aug	Joe Serwinski Kris Serwinski	Kevin Noonan	Open Date	Gretchen Noonan	Julie Clow Matthew Sander	
9-Aug	Patty Danley Monica Eppinger	Dave McCord	Noonan	Open Date		
16-Aug	Gretchen Noonan Kevin Noonan	Karen Doble	Open Date	Open Date		
23-Aug	Steve Gadaree Matthew Sander	Anne Nelson	Open Date	Open Date		
30-Aug	Paul Ames Julie Clow	Matthew Sander	Open Date	Open Date		



Worship Watch - July-August 2026

Congregational Church of North Stonington

Worship at 10 a.m. & streaming online.

Church School at 10:15 Office Hours Mon-Thurs 9 to 1.

Summer Music series.

July 5th - Communion Sunday with patriotic music to celebrate our 250 years of independence. The story of Esther continues.

12th - "Have Confidence" Luke 15: 4-7 and 1 Timothy 1:12-17. We begin a series on 1 and 2 Timothy.

19th - "Enough" 1 Timothy 6:6-19. The ingredients for satisfaction in life are found in God.

26th - "Gift of God Within" Luke 17:5-6 and 2 Timothy 1:1-14. Paul encourages to rekindle the gift within us.

August 2nd - Communion Sunday - "Keep it Simple" 2 Timothy 2:8-15. Remember that Jesus Christ was crucified; that says it all.

9th - "We Are All Teachers" 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5. Sharing the Good News encourages and helps others.

16th - "Good to the Last" 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18. Even when everyone abandons us, God stands by us.

23rd - Guest Preacher today while Pastor Sue attends a class reunion.

30th - "The 'R' – word: Relationship" Exodus 20:3-11 These commandments help us know how to relate to God.

MISSION FOCUS FOR Summer: Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center– Your donation of food – especially breakfast products – helps folks right here in town. And any donation to the Weekender Backpack Program feeds children in homes with food insecurity.

"As an Open and Affirming church: We respect the worth and dignity of all persons who come into our church family regardless of race, age, marital standing, gender identity and expression, economic status, mental or physical challenges, nationality or

sexual orientation. We promise to support one another in our personal struggles, to understand and accept differences in one another, and pray to strengthen our love and acceptance."