

July 5, 2026



Westminster

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Worship With Us at First Presbyterian Church of Hartford This Sunday!

Please note the later start time of 10:30 a.m.

To join worship online, click the button below or visit the First Presbyterian Church of Hartford website at

<https://www.firstpreshartford.org/>

**10:30 a.m. Sunday Hybrid Worship Link at
First Presbyterian Church of Hartford**

Any questions, contact Becky Kimberly in the office
at office@westpresby.org.



This Week at Westminster

In this e-newsletter, you'll find details about:

Westminster News and Events

- *Summer Worship at First Presbyterian Church of Hartford, Sundays at 10:30 a.m.*
- *YMCA Camp Canceled Due to Low Enrollment*
- *Support Ella Kimberly's PC (USA) YAV Year in Peru*
- *Becky Kimberly on Vacation July 4-20*

Prayers for Our Community and Our World

Westminster News and Events

A Summer of Worship and Connection 2026

JUNE 28th & JULY WORSHIP

Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church of Hartford

136 Capitol Avenue, Hartford

AUGUST WORSHIP Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2080 Boulevard, West Hartford



A Summer of Worship & Connection with

First Presbyterian Church of Hartford (FPCH) Sundays in July at 10:30 a.m.

We are excited to continue our annual summertime partnership with First Presbyterian Church of Hartford (FPCH). **Throughout the month of July**, Westminster will gather for worship at First Presbyterian Church of Hartford at their Sunday worship time of 10:30 a.m. (please note the later starting time). In the month of August, Westminster will play the role of host here at our 10:00 a.m. worship time. Online worship will continue to be offered.

[Click here](#) for further information regarding worshipping at FPCH.

YMCA Camp Canceled Due to Low Enrollment

The West Hartford YMCA regretfully had to cancel their planned summer camp at Westminster due to low enrollment. There are a variety of reasons for this including the delayed start in announcing the camp and competing with other local camps who had earlier sign-up deadlines.

The YMCA is moving forward and planning for the future. Their leadership will be meeting with various representatives with the town of West Hartford throughout the summer to determine where the real needs are for West Hartford's youth and how the YMCA can support rather than compete with the town and other camp programs.

Our relationship with the YMCA remains a strong one. Evidence of this is that the YMCA committed to paying the promised rent despite the cancellation, citing the work the church took on to prepare for the camp and the costs already budgeted. Conversations are ongoing regarding ways Westminster can partner and support future YMCA programs.

We are so grateful to Mike McElroy, our Sexton, and the members of the Buildings & Grounds Committee who under Steve Frazzini's leadership, worked so hard to get the church ready for the summer camp. We deeply appreciate the hours that have been spent on this! This is all part of our learning and growth, as we open up to the direction of God's Spirit.



Ella Kimberly to Embark on PC (USA) Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) Year in Perú Learn How to Support Her Journey

I'm excited to announce that in August I will be moving to Perú for a year as a Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) for the Presbyterian Church (USA). This is an ecumenical, faith-based year of service for young adults between the ages of 19-30. YAVs work with a local agency within their site location to address the root causes of poverty and racism, with an overall focus on the theme of reconciliation. ([click here](#) to learn more about the YAV program.)

Although I am still learning what my responsibilities will be, I know that I will be volunteering with an agency that works with children in Perú's capital, Lima. I chose this program because I want to live a life of service, but I'm not sure what exactly that will look like. This will be an opportunity for me to reflect on how I am being called to service, how to lead by example as a Christian, and to fully immerse myself in a culture that is different from the one in which I've always lived.

A YAV year abroad is supported by donors. I am asked to raise a total of \$5,000 with the goal of reaching \$2,500 by July 1st to cover the cost of my year in Peru. I'm very grateful that the Session at Westminster has pledged \$1,000 in funds. I'm hoping my church family will prayerfully consider supporting my YAV year with a financial donation if you're able. I'm happy to answer any questions you might have about the program. As a YAV volunteer I will be blogging my experiences in Perú, and I will make sure this is shared with the congregation.

Donations can be made by clicking the link below or by writing a check to Westminster Presbyterian Church with Ella Kimberly YAV year in the memo line. Thank you!

Ella Kimberly

[Link to Support Ella's YAV Year](#)

Becky Kimberly Out of the Office on Vacation July 4-20, 2026

Becky Kimberly, church administrator, will be out of the office from July 4-20, 2026. She'll be back in the office on Tuesday, July 21.

During the week our Sexton, Mike McElroy, will be at the church from 7:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and the building will be open. If you have any concerns about accessing the church or other building-related questions, you can reach out to Mike directly at 860-944-3026.

Prayers for our Community and Our World

Please text or call Rev. Julie Emery at 603-748-1130 with any prayer requests or pastoral concerns.

We pray for our country:

As we approach this 250th anniversary of the founding of our country, we pray that we work ever more fervently towards peace, justice and protection for all people who come to this land searching for a better life. We grieve that so much of our history has been burdened by the sin of racism, xenophobia, colonialism and harm. May we as a country learn from our history and seek a new way of living; forging a loving, peaceful community.

We pray for those near and far:

We pray for the people of Venezuela, as they recover from the destruction of the earthquake there. May those who have lost loved ones be surrounded with comfort, and may supplies and support reach those in need of food, shelter, and medical care.

We continue to pray for peace, especially in those places of increased violence and war particularly in Iran and throughout the Middle East. May God's peace take root in the hearts of all people, may peace prevail.

We pray for the communities throughout our country who are experiencing increased conflict and terror due to the actions of ICE. We pray for those suffering from trauma and grief, and for those who are caught in the middle of such conflict. We pray for an end to the violence and for justice to be found.

May there be mercy and protection for those who are most vulnerable: Immigrants and refugees; the LBGTQIA+ community; those standing up against injustice in all its forms.

We pray for those who stand up for justice in communities throughout the world. May they be wise, safe and courageous.

May God's love and grace be the guiding force in our lives, our homes and our communities in the days ahead.

We pray for those in need for health and wholeness:

We pray for Yvonne Smith who is recovering in Hartford Hospital from a recent cardiac event. We are deeply grateful that she is okay and for the care she is receiving. We hold Diane and Aimee, Yvonne's daughters, in prayer as well as they manage Yvonne's care. May God's presence walk with them all and surround them with healing, encouragement, and strength.

May those who are struggling receive God's love and encouragement including: George Dewey; Cyndi Robinson's friend Shelby Lippart; Nancy Murray; Ashley Aronson; Abbey Downing's father Jack Neller; Callie Boone's Aunt Cyndi; Liz Grabber's mother Barbara; David MacMeekin; Bob and Carol Rentz; Mike McElroy's wife Jane; Doug Levine, friend of Marilyn Pikor; Susie Scoville's brother Jon; Jane Sebolt; Joan and Jim Lin; Bob Gillis; Barbara Aronson; Karen Wagner's friend Rich; Ross Ludeman; Muriel Sherman and Betty Stokes.

We ask God to comfort those who grieve:

We continue to lift to God all those who are grieving the loss of loved ones in recent months: friends and family of Richard Stafford; the family of Jamison Clegg, Eina Reiger's cousin; the family of Camden Siegal; the family of Ginger Ludeman, wife of former Westminster pastor Rev. Ross Ludeman; Janet Wade-Utay and Art Utay upon the death of Art's aunt and Janet Wade-Utay and her sister-in-law, Jen, upon the death of Janet's brother George.

Session Members

Peter Benner (Flourish) pbenner16@gmail.com

Liz Doering (Clerk) lizdoering81@gmail.com

Stephen Frazzini (Sustain: Buildings & Grounds) stevefraz@me.com

Linda Geisler (Care) linda.barron.geisler@comcast.net

Greg Hammond (Sustain: Finance) rgregoryh@yahoo.com

Sheila Huddleston (Worship) sheilahuddleston7@gmail.com

Lesley Morrey (Serve) lpmorrey@gmail.com

Janet Wade-Utay (Sustain: MR&P) mainSt.chef10@gmail.com

[**www.westpresby.org**](http://www.westpresby.org)

Westminster Presbyterian Church | 2080 Boulevard | West Hartford, CT 06107 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!