November 8, 2026

Westminster
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins by Friedrich Wilhelm von Schadow

Worship With Us!

24th Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture
Matthew 25:1-13

Sermon
Preparing for Good
The Rev. Julie Emery

Bulletin

10:00 a.m. Sunday Hybrid Worship Link

Zoom Meeting ID: 822 3301 6989
Please note that our worship service is recorded and posted online.

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



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

Westminster News and Events

- *Fun Crafting in the Fellowship Hall After Worship*
- *Community Conversation on Addiction, THIS SATURDAY*
- *Stewardship: "Let's Make Something Beautiful"*
- *Donate Food for Thanksgiving Meals*
- *Changes in Westminster Facility Management*
- *Nathalee Golden, Rental Property Coordinator Message*
- *Coffee Hour Hosts Needed!*
- *Brunch Bunch, November 15*
- *Ella Kimberly YAV Update with Photos*
- *Thank You for Food Pantry Donations*
- *Our Front Porch Gathering, Sundays at 9:00 a.m.*

Prayers for Our Community and Our World

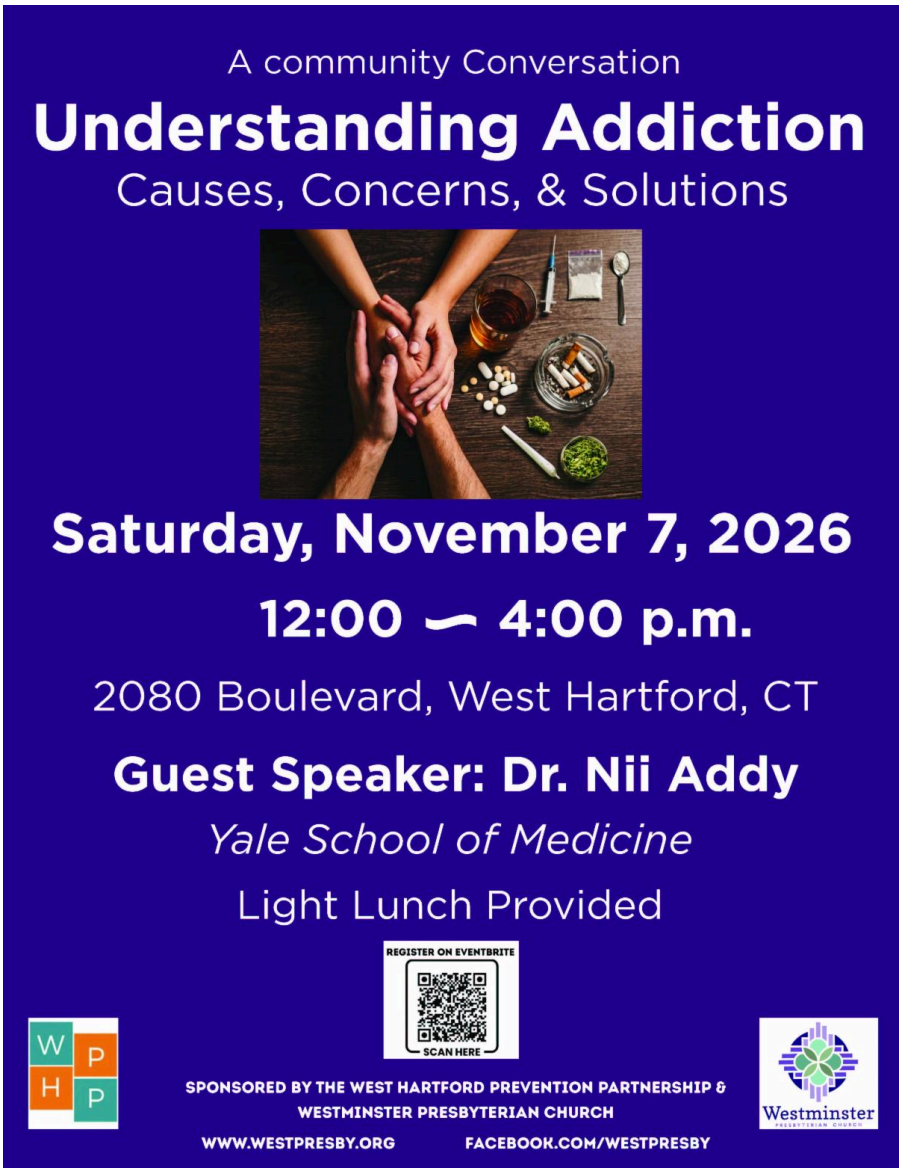
Join us in the Fellowship Hall following worship on Sunday for good conversation and fun crafting! Together we'll make some paper flowers that will be used on a bulletin board to "grow a garden" in celebration of our November stewardship campaign.

LET'S MAKE SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL

Everyone is invited to come and learn how to create these simple paper flowers!



THIS SATURDAY!



Click Here to Register

Westminster is co-sponsoring this event with the West Hartford Prevention Partnership. It's not to late to register - click the button above to learn more. Any questions, please contact Diane Smith at smithdiane2009@gmail.com

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Link to Digital Pledge Card

Westminster Launches Stewardship Campaign "Let's Make Something Beautiful"

Our pledge drive will be held throughout the month of November. Help us to plan for our upcoming year by letting us know your giving intentions.

Click here to read Rev. Julie Emery's Stewardship message that was emailed l week.

Click here to take part in the 30-day beauty challenge.

Together, we can make something beautiful! Any questions about this year's campaign, please contact Sandy Fry, Engage Elder at **psfry2016@comcast.net**



Donate to Thanksgiving Baskets For Those in Need

Westminster will continue our partnership with Covenant to Care by collecting donations for Thanksgiving baskets for 10 families under the care of the Department of Children and Families. **Food donations and gift cards are needed no later than Sunday, November 22**. This give us time to assemble these baskets after worship and have them ready for our social worker to deliver to families before Thanksgiving.

Please sign up by clicking the button below.

Sign-up to Donate

Donations can be dropped off at the church on Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. with Wednesdays and Thursdays open until 8:30 p.m. If you need alternative drop off arrangements, please contact Becky Kimberly at 860-521-6240.

If you would like to donate money towards the purchase of Walmart gift cards (so the families can purchase a turkey or other needed items), please bring a check or cash to the church office, leave it in the collection basket or deposit it in the locked mailbox outside the office entrance. Include a note indicating that the donation is for the Thanksgiving baskets.

Need help or have questions? Contact Lesley Morrey at lpmorrey@gmail.com or text/call 860-778-5948.

Westminster Changes in Facility Management

Following the retirement of Mike McElroy as sexton, Westminster has employed a property development company, Amador Associates, to help with the cleaning and maintenance of the building. Amador has been provided cleaning services to Westminster for a couple years and its owner Rick Lopes has been a reliable resource for repairs and work around the facility.

Moving forward, here are some key things to know about this new structure:

- Becky Kimberly, church administrator, will be the primary liaison with Amador. She can be reached at 860-521-6240 x100 or (**office@westpresby.org**). Please contact her regarding:

    - Building use for church events and committee meetings
    - Any set-up needs for church events like tables and chairs, A/V requests, heating and cooling and access to the building
    - Any building needs or issues you notice (a leaky faucet, need more paper towels, etc.)

- If you're interested in having a party or event at the church or know someone who might be interested in renting our facilities, please contact Nathalee Golden, Rental Property Coordinator at **rentals@westpresby.org**. *See her bio below*.

As always, the Buildings and Grounds Committee will be overseeing the care of our building. Any questions or concerns, please contact Steve Frazzini, Elder and Chair, at **stevefraz@me.com**

Introducing Nathalee Golden, Rental Property Coordinator



Hello, I'm Nathalee Golden, the Rental Property Coordinator for Westminster Presbyterian Church. I help care for and manage the church's rental spaces and the community partners who use them. I bring more than 15 years of property management experience and a strong background in customer service.

I am also a licensed Connecticut REALTOR® with more than 10 years of experience in residential real estate, serving both buyers and sellers. I love helping people make one of the most important decisions they will ever make, and I take pride in guiding each client with honesty, patience, and care.

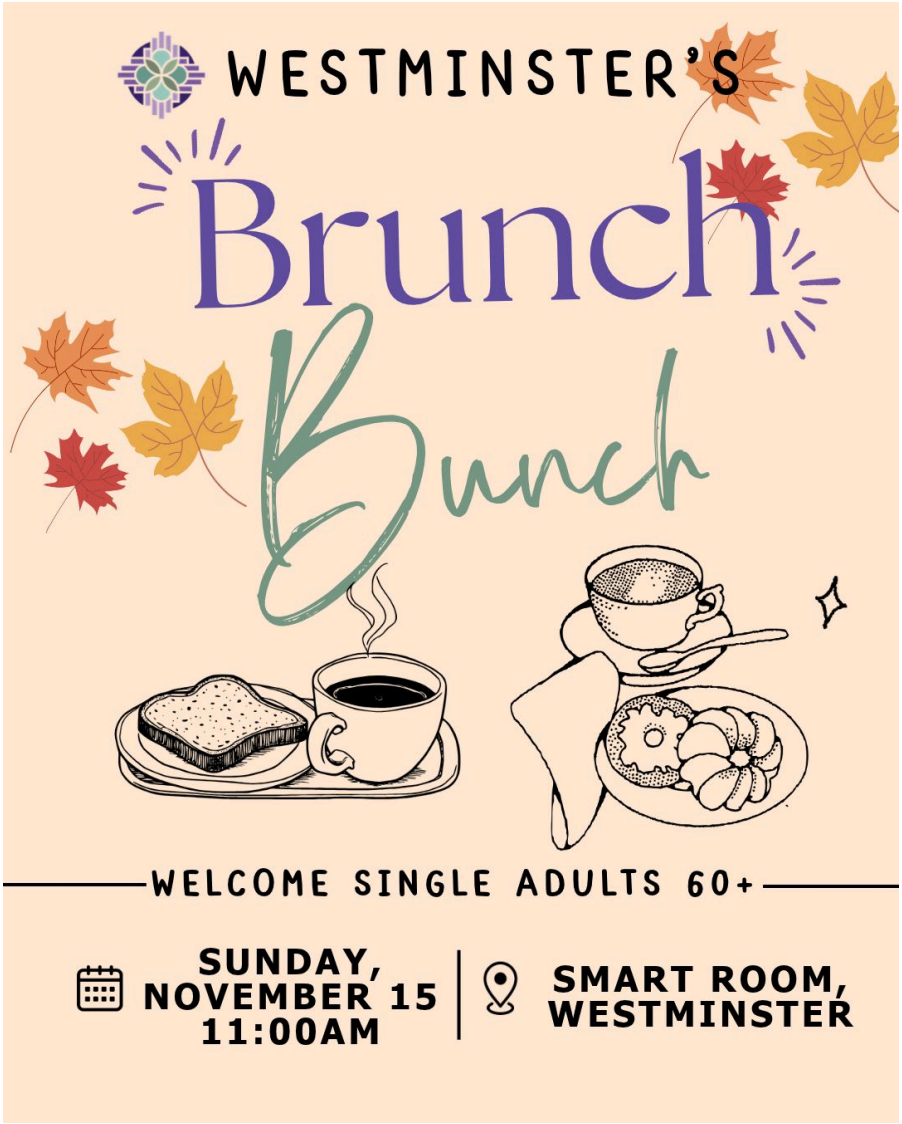
If you or someone you know is interested in reserving a room or space within the church, I would be happy to set up a tour of the building. I am also available to assist you or anyone you know who is looking to buy or sell a home. Please feel free to contact me with any questions about reserving space at the church or any of your real estate needs at 860-713-3200.



Help Host Coffee Hour on Sunday

Do you love the chance to connect with church-goers after worship each Sunday? Can you bake or buy some muffins to share with friends occasionally? Can you mix lemonade and set out cups or clean up afterward? Please consider signing up to help on an upcoming Sunday so that we can continue this important ministry. Training will be provided! Email Linda Geisler with questions: Linda.Barron.Geisler@comcast.net.

Sign Up to Help with Coffee Hour



The Brunch Bunch will gather Sunday, November 15, 2026 right after church in the Smart Room. All single adults 60ish or above are invited to become part of this monthly gathering as we get to know each other better. Food will be provided so the only thing you need to bring is your smile. Please contact Barbara Riihimaki (860-803-9090) or bdriih@gmail.com to let her know if you'll be coming.

See you there.



Update from Ella Kimberly
PC (USA) Young Adult Volunteer in Peru

There are now new updates on Ella's blog detailing her experiences as a YAV in Peru. **Click the button below** to access her website.

The photos are from the locations Ella volunteers. Pictured above are participants in a workshop regarding violence against women given by AETE, an ecumenical, theological education institution. The photos below are from a local school afterschool program









Link to Ella's Blog

Thank You for Food Donations to
West Hartford Food Pantry



The food box was overflowing this weekend thanks to the generosity of the Westminster community. A special thank you to Craig and Erin Doucette. They asked guests to bring food donations for daughter Josephine's birthday party which was held in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday afternoon. All the food will be donated to the West Hartford food pantry. We focus on food donations on Communion Sunday, the first Sunday of every month, but welcome them all week long.



Prayers for our Community and Our World

We invite you to hold our community in prayer throughout your week, to reach for God's grace, to watch for God's beauty, and to pray in thanksgiving in hope for ourselves and each other. We offer the prayers below for our community and our world:

We pray for those near and far:

We pray for all those impacted by gun violence; may God's justice prevail.

We pray for peace in Gaza, Iran, Sudan, Ukraine. May God's peace take root in the hearts of all people, and may those who are caught in between the powers and principalities be protected and comforted.

We pray for all people who, because of conflict and economic instability, have been forced into migration to seek safety and stability. We especially pray for the people of Venezuela, Colombia and Ecuador. May God's strength and presence be with migrants everywhere.

We pray for all of God's creation, and for people impacted by the repercussions of global warming. May we seek new ways to heal our planet and steward our resources.

We pray for the communities experiencing increased fear and terror due to the actions of ICE. We pray for the safety and dignity of those who have been detained, and for justice to be found.

May there be mercy and protection for those who are most vulnerable: Immigrants and refugees especially children; the LBGTQIA+

community; those standing up against injustice in all its forms.

We give thanks 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 celebrate with:

John and Jeannette Rhine on the wedding of their son James Rhine to Cindee Beard on October 20th. We wish them God's blessings as they begin their married life together.

The Rev. Laura Opsahl who this month celebrates 49 years in ministry.

We pray for those in need for health and wholeness:

May those who are struggling be surrounded by God's healing and comfort. We especially pray for:

Jim Lin, who is in a rehab facility, and for his wife and caretaker Joan.

Laura Opsahl as she recovers from wrist surgery.

We continue to pray for: Cyndi Brown's friend Gayle; George Dewey; Jane Sebolt; 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; Mike McElroy's wife Jane; Doug Levine, friend of Marilyn Pikor; Susie Scoville's brother Jon; Bob Gillis; Barbara Aronson; Karen Wagner's friend Rich; Muriel Sherman and Betty Stokes.

We ask God to comfort those who grieve:

May God's loving arms surround all those who are grieving the loss of loved ones in this season.

We pray God's comfort and peace upon:
The family and loved ones of: David MacMeekin; Bob Rentz; Ross and Ginger Ludeman; Paul Chabot; Mary Sand; Eugenia, Yvonne Smith, especially daughters Diane Smith and Aimee Hopkins; Marilyn Pikor's dear friends, Carol and Stan; Nancy Hoffman; Susan Plese, friend of Karen Wagner; Richard Stafford; Jamison Clegg, Eina Reiger's cousin; George Utay, Janet Wade-Utay's brother and Art Utay's aunt.

We trust that God walks with each of us in our struggles and sorrows, and rejoices in our celebrations.

If you have any prayer requests or pastoral concerns, please text or call Rev. Julie Emery at 603-748-1130.

Session Members

Cathi Nelson (Flourish) **cathi@thephotomanagers.com**
Liz Doering (Clerk) **lizdoering81@gmail.com**
Stephen Frazzini (Sustain: Buildings & Grounds) **stevefraz@me.com**
Linda Geisler (Care) **linda.barron.geisler@comcast.net**
Sandy Fry (Engage) **psfry2016@comcast.net**

Sheila Huddleston (Worship) **sheilahuddleston7@gmail.com**
Lesley Morrey (Serve) **lpmorrey@gmail.com**
Barbara Riihimaki (Sustain: MR&P) **bdriih@gmail.com**

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www.westpresby.org

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

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