



The Unitarian Church in Westport Soundings

10 Lyons Plains Road Westport, CT 06880
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Faith in a Time of Hate



I have heard from some of you about how hard it is to believe in our principles in the face of such terrible hate. The killing of eleven Jewish Congregants at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh has many of us worried and on edge.

Over the next several months I will be addressing these issues and needs from our pulpit. I urge you to come to services even if it feels a little scary. Now, more than ever, is the time we need to be together as a community of faith, because faith is what we

need to bolster the inner strength necessary to stand on our principles; principles that have served us well, and then to actively be part of solving the problems of our time. You should know that we have been proactively dealing with these fears. We already have in place a "Disruptive Behavior Protocol" to help our ushers and staff deal with those who might come to us with a hateful message. This protocol also includes an active shooter protocol which the ushers are being trained in. We developed this protocol in cooperation with the Westport and CT State Police.

David Brooks in a recent column in the New York Times wrote:

"Maybe it's time we began to see this as a war. On the one side are those forces that sow division, discord and isolation. On the other side there are all those forces in society that nurture attachment, connection and solidarity...."

"And here's the hard part of the war: It's not between one group of good people and another group of bad people. The war runs down the middle of every heart. Most of us are part of the problem we complain about...."

"The good news is that most of us are part of the solution as well. Most of us admire and want to be the teacher who reaches out to the lonely boy. Most of us mentor and serve people unlike ourselves. Most of us are part of the chosen families that Americans are constructing to replace the decimated biological



UPCOMING EVENTS

Child care is provided for Sunday Services & on an as needed basis for other events. Organizers of events should contact [Saundra Clements](mailto:Saundra.Clements@uuwestport.org) to arrange child care.



Fri Nov 2
Shawl Ministry - MH -
12:30

*Bakersfield Mist -
Sanctuary - 8:00*

Sat Nov 3
*Bakersfield Mist -
Sanctuary - 8:00*

Sun Nov 4
**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
END - FALL BACK**

OWL Parents - YR -
10:00

OWL - OWL Room -
10:00

ones."(NYT 10/29/18)



While I am wary of his war metaphor, I do agree with his conclusion: We are part of the solution. Our congregation is part of the solution. You are part of the solution. These times too shall pass and we will be here to remember what helps us carry on.

Yours Always, Rev. John

SUNDAY SERVICE - November 4, 2018 - 9:00 & 11:00 AM

The Moral Power of Memory - Rev. John Morehouse

Memories are too often sentimentalized. In this service, Rev. John will explore what memories can teach us about how to be of service and where to find sustenance even when those memories are painful.



Worship Associate: Jamie Forbes

Pastoral Care Chaplain: 9:00 Kate Croarkin
11:00 Stapley Emberling

Music: Chamber Choir

Sunday, October 14, 2018



"Finding Sanctuary"

Meditation - Children's Chapel - 10:15

Self-Care Support Group - Rev. John's Office - 10:15

Youth Group (9th-12th) - YR - 11:00

Building Your Own Theology - EW - 12:30

Immigration Social Action - Sanctuary - 12:30

Bakersfield Mist - Sanctuary - 3:00

Mon Nov 5
NVC Practice - FR - 6:30

Bell Choir - 6:45

Grief Support Group - Rev. John's office - 7:00

O&A - 7:45

Tues Nov 6
Labyrinth - Sanctuary - 8:00

Wed Nov 7
Stewardship Committee - FR - 7:00

Buddhist Practice Group - MH - 7:00

Eliminating racism - EW - 7:30

Chamber Choir - 7:45

Thurs Nov 8
Children's Choir - 5:00

Teen Choir - 6:00

Special Projects Choir - 7:45

Sat Nov 10
United w/Kenya Retreat - EW - 8:30-12

Youth Group Lock-In - MH - 1:00



In an effort to more adequately address the worship needs of the whole congregation, we are trying a bit of an experiment in November and December. There will not be all the busyness of our later service but an opportunity to settle into a more contemplative space.

Starting the first Sunday in November, our 9:00 am service will include a longer time for meditation and a shorter homily. The choirs will not perform for the 9:00 am service but there will be instrumental music and several songs for us to sing. Occasionally we will have a special musician.

We hope you will try this new experience.
Rev. John and Rev. Ed

Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration Thursday, November 15 at 7:30 in the Sanctuary

The service is sponsored by the Interfaith Clergy Council of Westport and Weston. Members of the Council, made up of religious leaders from local churches and synagogues, will lead us in prayers and songs representing a cross section of religious traditions. Local community leaders will also be participating.



Reverend John Betit from Christ and Holy Trinity Episcopal Church will give the sermon, "*Finding Our Way Back Home*," a combined Norfield Congregational Church and Unitarian Church choir and the Norfield Bell Choir will provide music.

A reception with light refreshments will follow the worship service.
 For additional information please contact David Vita, david@uuwestport.org

Joe Jencks at Voices Café - Saturday, November 17 at 8:00 pm



Merging conservatory training with his Irish roots and working-class upbringing, Joe delivers engaged musical narratives filled with heart, soul, groove and grit. Having penned several #1 Folksongs including the ever-relevant Lady of The Harbor, Jencks is also co-founder of the harmony trio, Brother Sun. From Festivals like Falcon Ridge, Kerrville, Mariposa, and Old Songs, to venues like Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall, Jencks has enthralled diverse

audiences with his approachable style. Joe is noted for his unique merging of musical beauty, social consciousness, and spiritual exploration. Blending well-crafted instrumentals and vivid songwriting, Jencks serves it all up with a lyric baritone voice that has the edgy richness of a good sea-salt caramel.

[CLICK HERE](https://voicescafe.org/show/joe-jencks-with-heather-pierson/) for tickets -
<https://voicescafe.org/show/joe-jencks-with-heather-pierson/>

Pastoral Care Associates - Chapel - 1:00

Sun Nov 11
 6th-7th Grade "Reflect" - MH - 10:00

OWL Parents - YR - 10:00

OWL - OWL Room - 10:00

Meditation - Children's Chapel - 10:15

Self-Care Support Group - Rev. John's Office - 10:15

Youth Group (9th-12th) - YR - 11:00

Building Your Own Theology - EW - 12:30

TUCWomen's Brown Bag Lunch - MH - 12:30

Mon Nov 12
 Bell Choir - 6:45

Tues Nov 13
 Rehearsal Choir - Sanctuary - 7:45

Wed Nov 14
 Domestic Violence Task Force - EW - 12:30

Buddhist Practice Group - MH - 7:00

COM - Rev. John's office - 7:30

Thurs Nov 15
 Children's Choir - 5:00

Finance Committee - FR - 6:00

Teen Choir - 6:00

Bell Choir - 6:45

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service - Sanctuary -

Come join us for a hike in the woods!

We had such a good time at our October hike that we decided to do it again.

When: Saturday, November 3 at 10:00 am
(rescheduled if raining)

Where: Collis B. Huntington State Park,
Redding. (dogs allowed)

More details: Meet inside the Sunset Hill Road
parking entrance.

No need to RSVP, just meet up at 10:00 am.



Any questions contact Gian Morresi (gmorresi@gmail.com)
or Jamie Forbes (jforbes1@gmail.com)

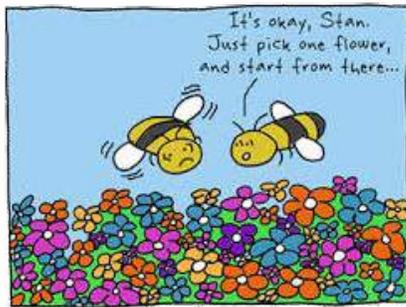
UCW's Hiking Group Calendar

Saturday, November 3: Huntington Park, Redding

Saturday, November 17: Devil's Den Preserve, Weston

Saturday, December 1: Shelton Lakes Greenway, Shelton

Saturday, December 15: Saugatuck Falls Nature Area, Redding



Rev. John will inaugurate and lead a self-care support group for those of us feeling overwhelmed by the events and politics of our times.

The group will meet for six Sundays starting November 4th from 10:15-10:45 in Rev. John's office. All are welcome.

Building Your Own Theology is Back!

Rev. John had to cancel earlier dates but we will have six sessions of this great course Sundays November 4, 11, 18 and December 2, 9, 16. BYOT explores each participants spiritual journey and helps them discover for themselves their own "theology" or system of greater meaning. Registration is required and is limited. Please register by emailing Rev. John - revjohn@uuwestport.org.



7:30

Fri Nov 16

Shawl Ministry - MH - 12:30

Sat Nov 17

A Better Man - MH - 8:00

Special Projects Choir - Sanctuary - 9:00

Small Group Facilitators - MH - 10:00

Voices Cafe - Sanctuary - 8:00

Sun Nov 18

OWL Parents - YR - 10:00

OWL - OWL Room - 10:00

Meditation - Elm Room - 10:15

Self-Care Support Group - Rev. John's Office - 10:15

Youth Group (9th-12th) - YR - 11:00

Building Your Own Theology - EW - 12:30

[SEE TUCW'S CALENDAR FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

ELECTION DAY: VOTE and then come and walk the LABYRINTH in the sanctuary. A perfect way to "let go" when there's nothing more to do!



Walk the Blue Lotus Peace Labyrinth any time between 12:00 Noon and 9:00 PM on November 6, 2018, in the sanctuary, accompanied by contemplative music in the beautiful glass-walled space. Many who walk labyrinths as a regular practice report that this special form of walking meditation is deeply calming, and that the experience of profound Inner Peace, like other forms of meditation, can be transformational long after the walk, challenging and shifting one's perspective in positive and supportive ways. Like "Yoga Off the Mat," insights from the labyrinth experience can inspire a greater sense of equanimity in challenging times.

The Small Group Ministry has 104 members in 9 groups that meet once a month to discuss a topic.

The topic for November is "Memory."

"If memory had a voice, it wouldn't sing "remember me." It would call out, "don't forget who you are."

Groups meet on different days and at different locations.
Join a group near you!

For information, talk to a representative in the foyer after the service or contact Steven Rosenberg - Rosen323@aol.com.



Meditation is led by Janet Luongo and others from 10:15 to 10:45 every Sunday in the Children's Chapel/(Maple Room) by the downstairs entrance. We center on our inner light and sense our inter-connectedness with all, using a variety of traditions from mindfulness and music to yoga and Zen.

For more information, contact Janet Luongo - jluongo3@optonline.net

Celebration of the life of Vidal Clay will take place on Saturday, November 10 from 4:00-8:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

Ministers' Discretionary Fund in Need of Funds

The Ministers' Discretionary Fund is used by the ministers to assist those in our congregation and community with such basic human needs as shelter, food, transportation, and medicine. It is also used occasionally to provide funds for educational advancement. The MDF is in need of additional donations. This Fund is not supported by the budget of the congregation. It relies on individual donations. With the holidays approaching the need increases. Thank you for your support. ~
Rev. John





TUCWomen

All women are invited to the launch of our **Quotable Women Brown Bag Lunch Series**. Come and join the conversation. Our Guide this month will be Connie Rockman. November 11, 12:30 PM in the Meeting House.

Plan to come to our **Holiday Potluck** at the home of Chris Place in New Canaan. Friday, December 7th, 6:30 PM. Bring something to share or just come. There is always plenty.

RSVP - sharon@slpoole.com

Are you receiving TUCWomen email notices?
If not or if you are not sure sign up here --> [Add me to the list!](#)

Questions about TUCWomen? Send them to tucwomen@uwestport.org



Holiday Jewelry Boutique is Coming !!

December 2nd and 9th after each service.

Donate those scarves and jewelry that aren't your favorites anymore.

(Also, broken gold and silver jewelry.)



Bring your contributions to the Church Office and include your name so we can send you a receipt.

Questions to Sharon - sharon@slpoole.com

Save the Date

December 15, Saturday, annual pot-luck and carol sing.
December 16, Sunday, annual holiday concert at 11:00 am
February 23, Saturday, Choral Chameleon concert at 8:00 pm



Pastoral Care - If you are going through a challenging time or know somebody in the congregation who needs support from our Pastoral Care Chaplains, call to leave a confidential message in the PCA voice mailbox - (203-227-7205 ext. 19) or email - pca@uwestport.org.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about our Pastoral Care Associates.

you are not alone!

For individuals or families of our congregation seeking confidential support or information about addiction issues... please contact our Addiction Recovery Ministry by calling 203-227-7205 ext. 19 or emailing pca@uwestport.org.

UPCOMING SERVICES

November 11, 2018 - 9:00 & 11:00 AM
"In Memory of Them" - Rev. John Morehouse

November 18, 2018 - 9:00 & 11:00 AM
"Invited to the Feast" - Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

November 25 2018 - 9:00 & 11:00 AM
David Vita, Director of Social Justice and Membership, will preach.



LIFESPAN FAITH DEVELOPMENT

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2018

THIS WEEK INFORMATION for (Pre-K to 5)



Sankofa: The importance of returning to the past to retrieve stories and wisdom that needs to be remembered and shared.

Topic: Sankofa

Theme: Memory

UU Principal #3: We should accept one another and keep learning together

Pre-K- 1st grade

* 9:00 am and 11:00 am service

* LOWER LEVEL - PINE Room

2nd-3rd children start upstairs for story

- * 11:00 am service
- * LOWER LEVEL - Oak Room

4th-5th children start upstairs for story

- * 11:00 am service
- * LOWER LEVEL- Birch Room

[CLICK HERE](#) for PreK-5 FAMILY "take-home" for SUNDAY, October 28, 2018



Families Please pick up children after service ends 😊 Then together get that snack & cup of



**Thank you to all who have signed up for 4th and 5th grade LFD
But we still need a few more volunteers**



Still need volunteer for dates below:

- * 12/2 need one volunteer
- * 1/6 need one volunteer
- * 2/3 need one volunteer
- * 3/3 need one volunteer
- * 3/24 need **two** volunteers
- * 4/21 need **two** volunteers

Please sign up here at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054ea8a923a02-45th2>
or call [Saundra Clements](#) 203-216-7708 cell/text

4th/5th grade OWL DATES ARE HERE! Sign up your child now. Sign up sheet is in Saundra's office.



- * **Tuesday January 22nd - 7:00 pm Parent Info Session**
- * **Sunday January 27th - 9:00 am - 1130 am Mandatory Parent/Child Orientation**
- * **Sessions 1-10 occur weekly on Sundays at 9:00 am from February 3rd through April 7th**

YOUTH GROUP



Youth Group this past weekend carving pumpkins. We had a little Halloween festival, with candy, apple cider, and pumpkins! [CLICK HERE](#) for photos.

This week we will be discussing and hopefully helping to make phone calls to ask people to vote on Election Day. We will also be discussing what is a human right and why it's important to uphold human rights.



We are going to have our first lock-in of the year on November 10 at 2:00 pm. Bring your sleeping bags, and come and enjoy the best bonding experience with your fellow youth groupers! Please RSVP at zhasan@uuwestport.org.

 **Mark your calendars!** We are having our first midnight run on December 8. If you'd like to get more involved, let Zulaikha know at zhassn@uuwestport.org

6-7th grade - The December 30th trip scheduled will be canceled and re-scheduled. Please throw away your magnets, as a new schedule is on its way.



Mark Your Calendars

EVENTS



SOME DATES:

- * **November 25 (Sun):** Wreath Sales 10:00 am-12:45 pm
- * **December 2 (Sun):** Wreath Sales 10:00 am-12:45 pm
- * **December 23 (Sun):** YG Holiday Party w/alums 11:00 am-12:30 pm
- * **March 15 (Fri) - 17 (Sun):** CON at TUCW

- * **March 17 (Sun):** Youth Services (both)
- * **April 26 (Fri)- 28(Sun):** Youth (8th Gr) BOSTON Trip
- * **May 5 (Sun):** Youth (8th Gr) Coming of Age Ceremony
- * **May 19 (Sun):** Youth (8th Gr) comes to Youth Group
- * **June 2 (Sun):** Bridging Ceremony (Seniors)

The Unitarian Church in Westport is a diverse and welcoming religious community, free of creed and dogma, and open to people of all backgrounds and beliefs.

WE INSPIRE and support individual spiritual growth.

WE CONNECT through worship, music, learning, and caring ministries.

WE ACT in the service of peace and justice.