



**The Congregational Church
of West Medford**

An Open and Affirming Congregation
of the United Church of Christ

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

February 23, 2014

10:00 o'clock am

WELCOME

The Congregational Church of West Medford, United Church of Christ, is a community that strives to live according to the teachings of Jesus Christ and to share in the costs and joys of discipleship. We unconditionally welcome and affirm people of every age, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, race, culture, ability, and economic circumstance, and invite everyone into full participation in our church life and ministry.

If you're visiting for the first time, feel uncertain about church, find yourself here infrequently, or attend weekly, there's a place for you here. There are many ways to be involved and if you'd like to know more about our many activities, please speak to a greeter or the pastor.

We ask that you wear a name tag to help us know each other.

Blank name tags are available by the door for anyone in need.

Please be sure to sign the Pew Register which you will find on the center aisle.

As an act of prayer, you are encouraged to light a candle on the table at the front of the sanctuary—for yourself, for a loved one, for peace, for the world.

GATHERING TO PRAISE GOD

Prelude

Cantilena

—Jeppeson

Welcome

Call to Worship Carvina Williams

One: Friends, we gather once more at the feet of Wisdom;

All: *we come to learn, we desire to be changed.*

One: These are not easy teachings, for they would have us go beyond familiar horizons of belief and action;

All: *we come to learn, we desire to be changed.*

One: Come, then, let us journey on this road together; open to new insight and willingness to enter God's grand vision for a renewed and just world.

All: *We come to learn, we desire to be changed.*

*Opening Song "Your Ways Are Not Our Own" # 170

Opening Prayer

Sharing Ourselves with God

Invitation

* Please rise in body or spirit as you are able

-2-

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!

The image shows a musical score for two systems. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near." and "Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!"

Music: J. Berthier
 © Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, F. 71250 Taizé-Communauté

Prayer of Confession (based on Psalm 119:33–40)

Silence

*The Good News of God’s Grace and Presence

*Passing of the Peace

One: May the peace of Christ be with you all. **All: And also with you.**

*Sung Response

“Lead Me, Guide Me”

—Akers

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way,
 for if you lead me, I can - not stray.
 Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

The image shows a musical score for the song "Lead Me, Guide Me". It consists of four lines of music on a single staff (treble clef). The key signature is two flats (Bb, Eb) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are: "Lead me, guide me, a - long the way, for if you lead me, I can - not stray. Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me." There are triplets indicated by a '3' above the notes in the second and third lines.

LEAD ME, GUIDE ME
 Irregular

Stanzas included in other editions.
 WORDS: Denis Akers
 MUSIC: Denis Akers
 © 1952 Denis Akers, renewed, admin. by Utchicago Music, Inc.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Time with Young Christians

Welcome

One: They were bringing children to Jesus that Jesus might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, Jesus was indignant, and said to them,

All: *“Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the realm of God like a child shall not enter it.”*

One: And Jesus took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

The Meaning of Baptism

Questions to the Parents and Sponsors

Congregational Pledge (In Unison)

There is one body and one Spirit. There is one hope in God’s call unto us in Christ. By the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body. We, as the people of this congregation, now fully promise our faithful support, our nurture, and our Christian love to the one about to be baptized, and to those who care for her. We acknowledge that Juliet will minister to us as much as we minister to Juliet. Give to her: strength for life’s journey, courage in time of suffering, the joy of faith, the freedom of love, and the hope of new life, through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.

Prayer of Baptism

Presentation

Juliet Evangeline Langone

Child of God

Daughter of Lorna Marisa Nielsen Langone & Marc Charles Langone

Granddaughter of the late Juliet Nielsen & Alan Nielsen and Patricia Langone and the late Charles Langone

Goddaughter of Ariel Templeton and Brandan Jackson

Act of Baptism

Act of Praise—Presentation of Baptismal Certificate and Gifts

Prayer for the Baptized

Hymn

“Take Me to the Water”

322

Children are invited to go to Sunday School during the hymn.

Church Life and Mission

Prayers of the People and Pastoral Prayer

You are invited to write your prayers on the blue prayer sheet and pass them to the aisle.

PROCLAIMING & RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination (Unison)

Spirit, we are preparing to open the Scriptures. We want to hear from you as we read. We want to understand these living words and apply them to our lives. We believe that you can give us insight and understanding. Move in us and give us hearts that are open to the truth we will encounter. Let us be changed because we have engaged in the word of the Lord. Amen.

From the Bible

Matthew 5:38—48

Carvina Williams

Sung Response

“What Does the Lord Require of You?”

Insert

Sermon

DO NO HARM

Rev. Wendy Miller Olapade

Offering

Karen McCune Barca

Invitation to Joyful Stewardship

Offertory

Moment Musicale

—Schubert

*Procession of Gifts

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit, comforter; One God, triune, whom we adore. Amen

*Prayer of Dedication

One: All that we are, O God, and all we are called to be,
we bring to this special moment of offering and hope.

**All: *Receive these gifts given in love and in your wisdom
may they be used creatively, for the well-being of all. Amen.***

*Closing Song

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

Insert Page 6

Benediction

Postlude

Trio

—Albinoni



Everyone is encouraged to join in a time of community building immediately after worship in Barnes Chapel—exit the Sanctuary through the door to the left of the pulpit.

The Emerging/Exploration of Ministry Series will begin 15 minutes after the start of fellowship time in Barnes Chapel.

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me 139

♩=68

1. I'm gon-na live so _____ God can use me _____ an - y -
2. I'm gon-na work so _____ God can use me _____ an - y -
3. I'm gon-na pray so _____ God can use me _____ an - y -
4. I'm gon-na sing so _____ God can use me _____ an - y -

- time, Lord, _____ and an - y - where. _____
- time, Lord, _____ and an - y - where. _____
- time, Lord, _____ and an - y - where. _____
- time, Lord, _____ and an - y - where. _____

- I'm gon-na live so _____ God can use me _____
- I'm gon-na work so _____ God can use me _____
- I'm gon-na pray so _____ God can use me _____
- I'm gon-na sing so _____ God can use me _____

- an - y - time, Lord, _____ and an - y - where. _____
- an - y - time, Lord, _____ and an - y - where. _____
- an - y - time, Lord, _____ and an - y - where. _____
- an - y - time, Lord, _____ and an - y - where. _____

WORSHIP AT THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WEST MEDFORD

*Nursery Care is provided during the worship "hour".
Sunday School is offered today for school aged children..*

Today, February 23, 2014, Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

The Sacrament of Baptism for Juliet Langone

Prayer for our Process (Bean Chapel) 9:15 am—9:30 am

Worship (Sanctuary) 10:00 am

Emerging/Exploring Ministry Presentation (Barnes) 15 minutes after worship

Faith Formation/Confirmation Class (LD/DR) 4:00—6:00 pm

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The Liturgist today is Carvina Williams

Deacon of the Month for February is Robin Baker.

Leadership for Fellowship Hour for February is the Christian Education Committee; with special thanks to Vina Williams and Karen McCune Barca for this week's coffee hour.

**The Altar Flowers today are given by Rich & Charlene Carle
in memory of Parents, Dot & John Carle**

Jesus' "Sermon on the Mount" invites us to see God's love in a new light, bend our understanding of the world around us, and take more seriously our response to God's loving welcome and liberation. In fact—God's reality turns the ways of the world upside down. Rev. Wendy offers a four week Sermon on the Mount series from the Matthew Texts:

The four week sermon series on the Sermon on the Mount comes to a close with the consideration of the idea of "Do No Harm" found in Matthew 5:38—48.

Wednesday Worship/Study: Being Jesus Followers

February 26 (Bean Chapel) 7:00—9:00 pm

We will consider Jesus' admonition to take up our cross and "Follow" from Luke 9:18-26.

Sunday, March 2, 2014, Transfiguration Sunday

Celebrating Girl Scout Sunday

Prayer for our Process (Bean Chapel) 9:15 am—9:30 am

Worship with Holy Communion (Sanctuary) 10:00 am

Emerging/Exploring Ministry Presentation (Barnes) 15 minutes after worship

Faith Formation/Confirmation Class (LD/DR) 4:00—6:00 pm

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Join us as we celebrate with the Girl Scouts of our church who will participate in worship.

THIS WEEK AT YOUR CHURCH

February 23, 2014 Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

Prayer for our Process (Bean Chapel) 9:15—9:30 am
Cleaning The Closets—9:30 am-10:00 am; 11:00 am--12:00 pm
Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary) 10:00 am
Crossroads Phase II Leadership Team (DR) 12:00 am
Goodland Church Worship (in Korean) (Sanctuary) 12:30 pm
Faith Formation/Confirmation (LR/DR) 4:00 pm

Monday

(3) Boot Camp Sessions: 5:45 am--6:15 am;
8:15 am--9:00 am; 5:30 pm—6:15 pm (FH)
Yoga— 6:30 pm (FH)
Mother's Club—7:30 pm (LR)

Tuesday

Church Council—7:00 pm (DR)
Gamblers Anonymous—7:30 pm (BC)
Gam-Anon—7:30 pm (YR)

Wednesday

(3) Boot Camp Sessions: 5:45 am--6:15 am;
8:15 am--9:00 am; 5:30 pm—6:15 pm (FH)
Following Jesus: Worship and Study—7:00 pm (Bean)
Alcoholics Anonymous— 8:00 pm (YR)

Thursday

Youth Champions—5:00 pm (FH)
Food Addicts—6:00 pm (YR)

Friday

(3) Boot Camp Sessions: 5:45 am--6:15 am;
8:15 am-- 9:00 am (FH)
Strategic Planning—9:30 am (LR)
Girl Scouts—7:00 pm (BC)

Saturday

Alanon - 9:00 am (YR)
Yoga—9:00 am (FH)
Boot Camp—12:15 pm (FH)

March 2, 2014 Transfiguration Sunday—Celebrating Girl Scouts

Prayer for our Process (Bean Chapel) 9:15—9:30 am
Cleaning The Closets—9:30 am-10:00 am; 11:00 am--12:00 pm
Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary) 10:00 am
Spiritual Life—Care Ministry Team (LR) 11:30 am
Tibetan Sunday School (Lower Level) 12:00 pm
Goodland Church Worship (in Korean) (Sanctuary) 12:30 pm
Faith Formation/Confirmation (LR/DR) 4:00 pm

Weekdays

(M—F) **Bright Stars Afterschool Enrichment Program**, www.BrightStarsKids.org

((M—F) **Gentle Dragon Co-op Preschool**, www.GentleDragonPreschool.org

(M—F) **English at Large** (ESOL/ESL Programs), www.englishatlarge.org

Room Legend: (BC) Barnes Chapel; (Bean) Bean Chapel;
(DR) Dining Room; (LR) Living Room; (YR) Youth Room

The Congregational Church of West Medford, United Church of Christ

Ministers: All of us!

Organist and Choir Director: Dr. Herman Weiss

Moderator: Paul Roberts

Treasurer: Beverly Roche

Pastor and Teacher: Reverend Wendy Miller Olapade

Church Administrator: Diane Petrelis

Deacon of the Month: Robin Baker

Clerk: TBD

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Rev. Wendy—pastor@medfordchurch.org