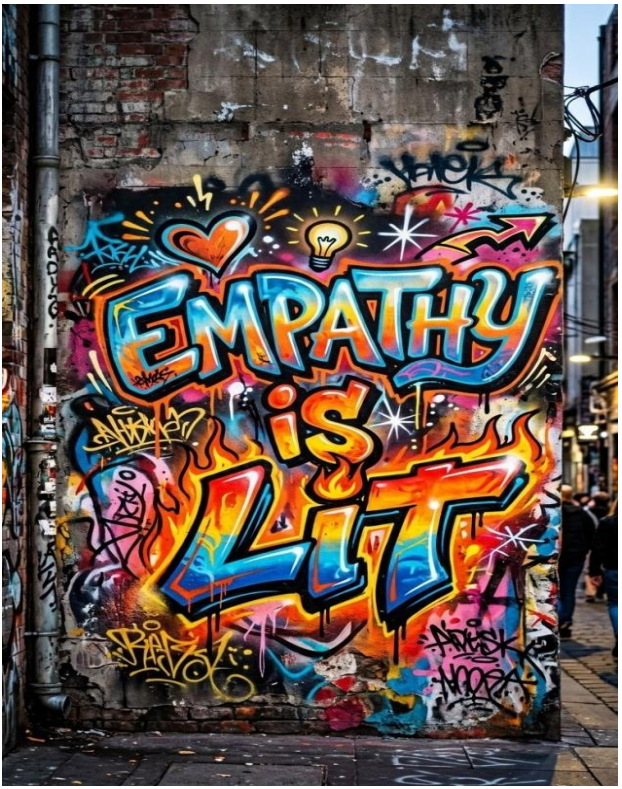
North Haven Congregational Church

United Church of Christ



(created with a.i.)

North Haven, Connecticut

An Open & Affirming Congregation

FOUNDED 1716

NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Sunday, November 1, 2026 **9:30 a.m.**

PRELUDE Salmodia para el Magnificat Antonio de Cabezon

WELCOME Deacon Jim Bennett

Leader: The Lord be with you.
Congregation: And also with you.

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: May the Living God, who provides the bread of life, be with you!
C: And also with you.
L: Friends, this is Christian worship!
C: Which means it is a celebration of God's love for all, and a training center for living as disciples of Jesus Christ today.
L: The enlivening and generous Spirit has brought us together,
All: So let us worship God!

***OPENING HYMN** "See the Morning Sun Ascending" VU406

CALL TO, AND PRAYER OF, RENEWAL

All: God of love, in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, the Christ, you set us free - free to live as truthful people - most importantly, people who can be truthful about ourselves. We confess that we sometimes limit our empathy to those who are like us, or others we think deserve it. As scripture teaches, help us follow the way of Jesus and always have wise empathy for our neighbor, the immigrant, and our enemy - that is, for everyone, just as you have empathy for all of us. Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS Mike Solberg

***CREATING A COMMUNITY OF RECONCIATION**

L: The peace of Christ be with you!

C: And also with you!

L: Please share the peace of the Living Christ with others, with one saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," and the other responding, "And also with you."

***THE GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

GIFT OF MUSIC

"Chariots Comin'" (I've Got a Home)
Don Besig & Nancy Price
Sung by the Chancel Choir

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING Maddie Delucia

All: God of truth and light, fill our hearts and guide our steps by the ancient and holy words we are about to hear. May we all, preacher and congregation, be open to your Word, with all its challenge and comfort, its call upon us and its enlivening Spirit in us. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS Micah 3:5-12
Matthew 23:1-12

SERMON "Empathy" Mike Solberg

***HYMN** "When a Poor One" VU702

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS AND CONCERNS FOR PRAYER ***(to be included later with the Communion prayers)***

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING & THE OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: Gracious God, as we will soon gratefully receive the bread of life, may these offerings and our service to you be our grateful response, and help distribute that bread in the world. May we, like all the faithful, be known for our empathy, even loosely holding what we have, ready to let it go for the work of repair, and for the spreading of your love and good news to all. Amen.

***HYMN OF PREPARATION** "We Gather Here" VU469

INVITATION TO THE FEAST

THE COMMUNION PRAYER AND REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES BEFORE GOD

Jeffrey A. Adams
Jaime Ann Arsenault
Mona Bellonio
Larry Blake
James J. Berg-Johnsen
Jeanne Bessett
Paula Diehl
Joan Farley
Michael J. Figueiredo, Sr.
Ronald Froment
Virginia Jahoda
Bruno Juliano
Timothy Peiffer
Linda Rankin
Barbara Scheidecker
Ann Schneider
Herbert Schneider
Neil Schneider
Linda Shannon
Craig Hobart Smith
Anthony Solecki
Muriel Tiedemann
Joseph Virizi

Leader: Great is the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

All: Thanks be to you, O God, that we all, those alive on earth, and those alive in heaven, share together in this divine feast of love.

CHORAL PRAYER Pie Jesu Gabriel Fauré

The sopranos of the Chancel Choir

Pie Jesu Domine, Dona eis requiem

"Blessed Jesus, give them rest"

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

(Communion will be served in the pews.)

THE PEOPLE'S THANKSGIVING

All: We thank you, God, for life in the Spirit of Jesus – for gladness in this bread and cup, for love that cannot die. Give us the gifts of this holy communion – union with the departed, oneness of heart, love for neighbors, forgiveness of enemies, truthfulness in all things, the will to serve you every day, and risen life that never ends. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** "For All the Saints" VU705

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE March B. Yarnold

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All Saints Remembrance

Jeffrey A. Adams	from Heather Meachen
Jaime Ann Arsenault	Daughter of Beverly Arsenault
Mona Bellonio	Linda Lacobelli's nephew's wife
James J. Berg-Johnsen	Brother of Carol Mitchell
Jeanne Bessett	Mother of Mark Bessett
Larry Blake	Ex-Husband of Robbie Juliano
Paula Diehl	Heritage Member
Joan Farley	Heritage Member
Michael J. Figueiredo, Sr.	from Heather Meachen
Ronald Froment	Uncle of Peter Froment
Virginia Jahoda	Mother of Wendy Glynn
Bruno Juliano	Husband of Robbie Juliano
Timothy Peiffer	Long-time Member
Linda Rankin	Long-time Member
Barbara Scheidecker	Wife of Robert Scheidecker
Ann Schneider	Heritage Member
Herbert Schneider	Husband of Ann Schneider
Neil Schneider	Son of Ann & Herbert Schneider
Linda Shannon	Heritage Member
Craig Hobart Smith	Brother of Cheryl Hall Brother-in-law of Peter Hall Long-time Member
Anthony Solecki	Husband of Cheryl Solecki
Muriel Tiedemann	Mother of Nancy Mahoney
Joseph Virizi	Cousin of Martin Benassi

The Deacon/liturgist is Jim Bennett
The scripture reader is Maddie Delucia.
The greeter is Beth Anderson.
The camera operator is Damon Quinn.
(see next page for the flower information)

The flowers are provided by Susan Guckert. These flowers are given in thanksgiving for God's grace and strength which guided my sister and me through the past year. "The times when you have seen only one set of footprints, my child, it was then that I carried you." They are also to thank my church family for the prayers, support and kindness they bestowed upon us throughout Lee's difficult journey.

CHURCH STAFF: All the Members, Ministers for the World
Donna Carpenter, Office Administrator
Karlee Etter, Ministry Coordinator for Children
Brianne Goldfuss, Nursery Attendant
Jeffrey Hutchins, Director of Music
Heather Meachen, Organist
Dave Nelson, Sexton
The Reverend Mike Solberg, Interim Minister

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK: Melanie Howlett, Marlene Bellonio, Meg Adams, and Charlotte Shea.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Dan Lafleur, 11/1, Laura Alden and Cheryl Bogert, 11/2, Onna Gott, 11/4, Cheryl Solecki, Bette DeMayo and Peter Hall, 11/8 and Annette Grant, 11/10.

ANNIVERSARY: Daniel & Paige Mickolyzck, 11/1, Melissa & Carmen DeLuca, 11/9, William & Mary Ellen Adams, 11/10.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP HARVEST FAIR:
9:00 – 2:00 Nov. 7 - It's almost that time again! We need lots of helping hands to make the Fair a success. There are lots of things to do to get ready. Cookies for the Cookie Walk and pies, breads, soup (frozen), and other items for Grandma's Kitchen & Bakery are needed. Helpers are needed for each area in Carroll Hall and for Coffee & and Lunch at the Café. Look for sign-up sheets at Coffee Hour or call the Church Office (203-239-5691) to let Donna know what area you are interested in. Thank you!

DONATE NEW CLOTHES FOR COLUMBUS HOUSE: Our Church is partnering again with the North Haven Rotary Club collecting men's and women's underwear, sweat pants and sweat shirts and socks. Boxer shorts are needed for the men. The sizes needed for the men's items are mostly large and extra large. The sizes needed for women are medium, large and extra large. We will begin collecting in October through December. The Columbus House Shelter accommodates 100 individuals and it is already full. Please be as generous as possible.

FALL CLEAN UP
Fall clean-up will be Saturday, November 14th, from 8:00 am to whenever all is finished. Many hands make light work.

GIVING TO COLUMBUS HOUSE – THANK YOU!
This Wednesday nine bags of clothing were donated to Columbus House. The staff person was grateful for all the clothing. In addition to the request for new underwear, socks and sweat pants and shirts, I was informed that gently used men's and women's winter jackets and coats, winter boots or shoes are needed and would be accepted. A box is located in the narthex for donations. Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Columbus House. Your generosity in helping others in need is an expression of our caring for our brothers and sisters. Collection of clothing will continue through December. Thank you! Sandy Carter

ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION WITH REV. MIKE:
Today following worship, Rev. Mike will continue his class on the Lord's Prayer - but you've likely never heard it like this before! We often say Lord's Prayer without really considering what we are praying, and what it meant when Jesus first taught it to his disciples. The class will be each Sunday from 10:45 - 11:45, and each week will "stand alone," so come when you can. See, or email, Rev. Mike with questions.

SERMONS FOR THE TAKING
There are folders out in the narthex with Mike's written sermons in them. We have just updated through October 25th and will add sermons each week.

IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY (non-church events):
"Honor Them with a Flag" is a fundraiser to benefit the American Legion Post 76. It is a way to salute to our country's military personnel, veterans and first responders, among others. All are invited to participate Sunday, November 8, at 12:00 p.m. on the North Haven Town Green. All are welcome to participate in this ceremony.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	**11/1**	9:30 a.m. 10:45 1:00 p.m.	WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream) Adult Bible Study (L) Tibetan American (K, CR)
Monday	**11/2**	1:00 p.m. 1:00	FOOD PANTRY OPEN Retired Federal Employees (CH)
Tuesday	**11/3**	9:30.a.m. 10:00 10:30 12:00 p.m. 3:30 4:30 6:00	Music Together (DBL) Al-Anon (K) Music Together (DBL) PLP (PL, CH) United Girls; Choir (CH, K, Sanct.) Music Together (DBL) Bible Study (Zoom)
Wednesday	**11/4**	10:00 a.m. 9:30 7:00 p.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL) Lions Club (L)
Thursday	**11/5**	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir
Friday	**11/6**	10:00 a.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN
Saturday	**11/7**	8:30 a.m. 9-2 p.m. 9:30 a.m.	Music Together (DBL) Harvest Fair Music Together (DBL)
Sunday	**11/8**	9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m. 1:00 p.m	WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream) Adult Bible Study (L) Tibetan American (RR,CR)

MISSION

Our church's mission is to bind ourselves with Jesus Christ in:

- *Worship together;*
- *Nurture of Christian discipleship; and*
- *Compassionate service to our community and beyond.*

VISION

We are a hub for the larger community as a church of action:

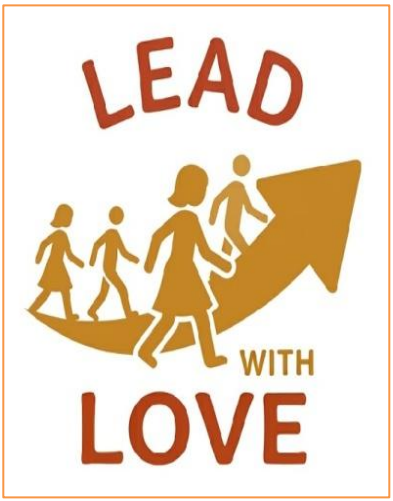
- *Conducting regular, robust worship in a responsible and relevant way in an ever changing and challenging world;*
- *Welcoming all people from different and diverse backgrounds to become a community of disciples together; and*
- *Involved in purposeful action and activities through the structure of self-directed Mission Teams.*

VALUES

- *We: Pray together, encourage each other, and trust one another;*
- *Take personal responsibility for fellowship and our community; and*
- *Celebrate with honored traditions.*

OUR SHARED MISSION, VISION, AND VALUES

GENEROSITY 2027:



Hello Church! Maybe we are a little odd? But the truth is that we have enjoyed being on the Generosity Team this year! We've had good feedback on the Sunday (and video) talks, our letters and emails, and even the (very long!) FAQs document we sent last week. It's been a joy to encourage people to lead with love!

As we now come closer to our November 8 Generosity Sunday, we want to emphasize one particular reason our giving is so important this year: preparing for the eventual selection and arrival of our new settled minister! We are sure the person we call as our next minister will be motivated by deep Christian faith and love

of our congregation - and at the same time, money makes a difference. 2027 is the year when candidates for our position will be closely looking at the congregation, and they will want to see that our finances demonstrate that we are "all in" on building a healthy, sustainable, and vibrant future. Our pledging and giving for 2027 will be a primary sign they will look at as they decide whether to be considered for our position - and we hope to have a good pool of candidates to consider!

We have been talking about "Gifts to Grow" because growth is what we all want for our congregation: spiritual growth, fellowship growth, financial growth, and numerical growth. If we all give our gifts of presence, faithfulness, and abundance, whoever our eventual pastor is will join us in building the future of our church.

This past week, you (hopefully!) received your Estimate of Giving Card (a.k.a. Pledge Card) for 2027. With faith and hope, we encourage everyone to consider the messages we have heard and read during our Generosity focus (most of all, lead with love!), and then **complete your Estimate of Giving Card and bring it with you to worship on November 8,** or return it to the church before that date. On November 8, following worship, we are going to quickly add up the numbers and announce the total pledges up to that point: we hope to get close to our goal of $220,000! Join us at our special gathering/fellowship hour after church next week and hear the news.

Again, bring your cards on November 8 for our Generosity Dedication Sunday, and join us as we lead with love!

In Christ, the Generosity Team



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NOTICE:

Hear Ye, Hear Ye!
We will have a special Congregational Meeting on November 15, 2026, immediately after the worship service.

This meeting concerns our pastoral transition process. We are entering a new phase of the process and this will be an important meeting to learn about the next steps of, and the timeline for, selecting our next settled pastor – and to learn about your important involvement in this process!
This is an exciting time in our church and your input is essential. We will have a brief presentation and a question and answer period.
Immediately following the meeting, coffee and dessert will be served in Carroll Hall.

Please mark your calendar for this exciting event. Sandy Carter, Moderator