



THE GOOD NEWS

From the Belfry



JULY 2026

The Newsletter of the United Congregational Church of Haddam and Higganum
A member of the United Church of Christ

Worship Schedule

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July worship is at the  
**Haddam Campus**  
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July Lectionary

July 5

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Communion
Gen 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67
Ps 45:10-17
Song of Sol 2:8-13
Zech 9:9-12
Rom 7:15-25a
Matt 11:16-19, 25-30

July 12

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Gen 25:19-34, Ps 119:105-112
Isa 55:10-13
Rom 8:1-11
Matt 13:1-9, 18-23

July 19

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Gen 28:10-19a
Ps 139:1-12, 23-24
Wisd of Sol 12:13, 16-19
Rom 8:12-25
Matt 13:24-30, 36-43

July 26

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
Gen 29:15-28
Ps 105:1-11, 45b
1 Kings 3:5-12
Rom 8:26-39

4th of July

In honor of America's 250th, we will be joining churches across America in ring our churches' bells at 2pm and at 2:50pm on July 4th. They will be rung 13 times to represent the original 13 colonies. We will also ring them on July 8th at 5:59pm, right before the town's reading of the Declaration of Independence.

RON BOOTH

MISSION GOLF OUTING

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

Lyman Orchards Player Course, Middlefield
Followed by community dinner in Higganum with a river view

To benefit the United Congregational Church of Haddam & Higganum



Christian Education

Submitted by Amy Harlow, CE Director

Hello from CE!

At our June meeting, Christian Education finalized roles for Children’s Sunday and completed our Christian Education Introduction to the United Congregational Church of Haddam and Higganum Safe Conduct Policy slideshow, which was approved unanimously. We also discussed Adult Education and hope to compile a list of Adult Ed opportunities in our area. We plan to list those opportunities in the bulletin and Belfry, so stay tuned!

I had the pleasure of collaborating with Christine Sima to create and lead this year’s Children’s Sunday service. Fun was had by all, and it was wonderful to see our congregation come together in support and encouragement of our young people.

A special thank you goes to Adeline and Clementine for the incredible job they did preparing and presenting their spoken parts. Their thoughtful reading, research, and confidence helped make the service truly meaningful. Job well done!

Children’s Sunday was a beautiful reflection of all we have learned this year through our Fruits of the Spirit curriculum. Throughout the year, our children explored how God calls us to live with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Seeing those lessons come to life through worship was a wonderful reminder of the gifts our children bring to our church family.

As we look ahead, CE is excited to begin planning for next year’s curriculum as we journey through Stories of the Bible, following the order of scripture and choosing age-appropriate stories to help deepen our children’s faith.

Thank you to all our teachers, volunteers, families, and congregation members for another wonderful year of Christian Education. We are grateful for your continued support and look forward to what comes next.

Christian Ed will continue to provide childcare and learning opportunities throughout the summer.

Peace and blessings,
Amy Harlow, CED



After gathering input from members, the CE Committee is offering several book titles that we feel are inspirational reads. Summer is a good time to pick up a book. In the fall we can gather and share our thoughts on the books and see if they inspire us to take action.

Currently on the list of “Good Reads”

Incline Your Ear by Chad Abbott & Teresa Blythe

Searching for Sunday by Rachel Held Evans

Chasing Hope: A Reporter’s Life by Nicholas D. Kristof

The Simsbury Congregational Church is reading *The Vanishing Church* by Ryan Burge. They will have an author’s talk open to the public in the fall. It would be interesting for a group from UCCHH to join them.

Have you read something you found inspiring? Share it with us [CE Committee]. Sparking good conversation is a wonderful way to build our faith.





Outreach/Mission

Submitted by Sue Craffey, Outreach Chair

Our mission project with Christian Ed has been very successful! We have raised \$375 so far! These proceeds will be sent to Heifer International, where we will procure five shares of a Heifer and four hives of bees! Thank you to all who helped make this collaborative project a success!

Strengthen the Church UCC Collection collected \$225.

The West Haven VA Veteran Christmas Stocking Collection started Memorial Day and runs until October; the wish list consists of full-size bars of soap, socks, shaving cream, toothbrushes, deodorant, hand/body lotion, granola bars, Chapstick, new pens, wrapped hard candies, gum, Slim Jims, pkgs of crackers/cookies, and candy canes, and we will make holiday cards. Printed shopping lists are available.

REMEMBER to save your soda and pet food pull tabs this summer!!!

In June we will start our school supply collection for Church World Service (CWS) and HK Youth & Family Services (HKYF). To each organization, we hope to provide seven backpacks, lunch boxes, water bottles, and mechanical pencils for HKYF. Pull tabs are available from our poster. Each CWS Kid Kit consists of 11 items: a box of 12 colored pencils, one 2-pocket folder, one glue stick, one blunt-tip scissors, one 70-page spiral-bound notebook, one 30cm/12 inch ruler, one handheld pencil sharpener, one large eraser, 6 new UNSHARPENED pencils, one box of 24 crayons, one pencil pouch... Our GOAL is 20 kits! Shopping lists provided!

DUE SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2026!

Looking for talented seamstresses to create 20 book bags, which will hold the school supplies. See Sue Craffey!

July Meetings

No choir practice is scheduled for July.

Property, July 13, 5:30 pm (Lewis House)

Diaconate, July 13, 7 pm (Lewis House)

CE, July 14, 6:30 pm (Lewis House/Zoom)

Outreach, July 20, 7 pm (Lewis House/Zoom)

Council, July 21, 7 pm (Lewis House/Zoom)



We are in need of more volunteers to join the tech team to help stream the Sunday services. If you can help, please see Ginny Murphy or Nancy Soneson.

Pulpit Supply Schedule

June 28 Rev. Terry Schmitt	July 5 Rev. Tim Haut	July 12 Rev. Tim Haut
July 19 tbd	July 26 Rev. Kathy Peters	Aug 2 tbd



IN SYMPATHY

With great sadness, we announce the passing of **Anna Anderson** on June 20th. Although Anna was a member for only a short time, she immediately dove right into the life of this church, performing the annual audit, joining our tech team, and lending a hand at church functions. Please keep Gene and Anna's family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.



[Click for the Prayer List](#)



Congratulations UCCHH and the Green Church Team!

On Sunday, June 7th, UCCHH received its **Green Church Level I Certificate**. Rev. Nancy Leckerling, UCC minister, pastoral counselor, and environmental justice advocate, and her husband presented the certificate.

A huge thank you to our Green Church Team: Kristin Battistoni, Lori Chadwick, Kit McKinnon, Greg Shields, Sue Henehan, Lindamae Peck, and Katy Rizzo.



Note from the church office:

We would like to keep our prayer list as current as possible and will be reviewing entries monthly. Please contact the office to restore any prayer concerns that may have been prematurely removed.



Caring Connection

In this time of pastoral transition, the Caring Connection members are here for you. Please reach out to one of them if you, or someone you know, needs a visit, assistance, or to let them know of any health concerns.

Caring Connection contacts:

- Sue Craffey 860-338-0216
- Sue Henehan 860-212-4807
- Dave McComas. . 860-978-0462



The **Outreach Committee** will be hosting coffee hour in July. The August schedule is as follows:

- August 2 CE Committee
- August 9 Delegates & At-large members
- August 16 Golf Committee
- August 23 Property Committee
- August 30 Property Committee

June Worship Attendance

- June 7 36
- June 14 38 (Children's Day)
- June 21 29 (Father's Day)
- June 28 35 (Memorial Garden)



Sunday Services Stream Live on YouTube!

YouTube

We livestream each Sunday service - just tune in at 9:40 a.m. to watch live or watch previous recordings.

Click [HERE](#) to get started!



Our Ministry and Mission are maintained by your generosity. Thank you for supporting UCCHH with your gifts of Time, Talent, and Treasure.

Financial contributions may be made at in-person worship services or mailed to the following address:

UCCHH
Attn: Collector
P.O. Box 215
Haddam, CT 06438

Make checks payable to: UCCHH

Online Giving

Visit www.haddamchurch.org and click on *Online Giving* on the menu bar.



OR

Use this QR code to go directly to our secure online giving page.



Church Contact Information

Amy Harlow, CE Director
Dr. Brian Frazier, Music Director
Nancy Soneson, Office Administrator

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Church office hours: Tues. & Thurs., 9 am–1 pm

Haddam campus: 905 Saybrook Rd, Haddam, CT 06438
Higganum campus: 23 Parsonage Rd, Higganum, CT 06441

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www.haddamchurch.org

UCCHH Purpose Statement

United as an inclusive congregation, following Christ's message, growing through worship, fellowship and service, striving towards a just, loving society.



Church Documents

Click on the links below to view various church documents.


Council Minutes – [June 16, 2026](#) (Draft)

[UCCHH 4th Annual Report](#)

[UCCHH 4th Annual Meeting Minutes](#)

[UCCHH ByLaws](#)

[UCCHH Church Policies](#)



Zoom Login Information

ID: 391 987 2707
Password: 90523





UCCHH at Middletown Pride

#LOVEWINS!





July 2026



UNITED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF
HADDAM AND HIGGANUM

RON BOOTH MISSION GOLF OUTING

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026
LYMAN ORCHARDS PLAYER COURSE

8:30 AM SIGN-IN
9:30 AM SHOTGUN START

REGISTRATION INCLUDES GREENS FEE, CART, LUNCH,
AND GRILLED STEAK/CHICKEN DINNER
OVERLOOKING THE CONNECTICUT RIVER.

[HTTPS://BIT.LY/RONBOOTHMISSIONGOLF2026](https://bit.ly/RonBoothMissionGolf2026)

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR
TO REGISTER, SCAN THE QR CODE.





Photo Album



Middletown Pride Parade



UCCHH HK Pride Booth



Children's Sunday



The piano gets a cleaning!