



THE GOOD NEWS

From the Belfry

SEPTEMBER 2026



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

September **Worship Schedule** **Higganum Campus**

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#### **September 6<sup>th</sup>**

15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Communion  
Ex 12:1-14  
Ps 149  
Ezek 33:7-11  
Rom 13:8-14  
Matt 18:15-20

#### **September 13<sup>th</sup>**

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Ex 14:19-31  
Ps 114  
Ex 15:1b-11, 20-21  
Gen 50:15-21  
Rom 14:1-12  
Matt 18:21-35

#### **September 20<sup>th</sup>**

##### **No Worship Service**

17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Ex 16:2-15  
Ps 105:1-6, 37-45  
Jonah 3:10-4:11  
Phil 1:21-30  
Matt 20:1-16

#### **September 27<sup>th</sup>**

18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Ex 17:1-7  
Ps 78:1-4, 12-16  
Ezek 18:1-4, 25-32  
Phil 2:1-13  
Matt 21:23-32



**Sun., September 13<sup>th</sup>**  
**9:30 am**

*Celebrate the start of the new Sunday school  
program year!*

## **Gladys Burr Peck Memorial Organ Concert**

**September 13, 2026 ~ 3 PM**

*Reception to follow.*

### **Featuring Nathan J. Bayreuther**

*Mr. Bayreuther is the  
Organist and Director of  
Music Ministry at the First  
Congregational Church of  
Madison, Madison, CT.*

Join us for an  
**incredible  
performance of  
inspiring organ music.**

**UCCHH Higganum  
Campus  
23 Parsonage Rd  
Higganum, CT**



September 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.

18 HOLES \$160  
9 HOLES \$110

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



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

## GOLF DINNER

Sign up to supply:

Appetizers  
Side dishes  
Desserts  
Raffle prizes



## Outreach/Mission

Submitted by Sue Craffey, Outreach Chair

### Annual HK CROP Walk



Save the Date! Our CROP Walk will be on Sunday, October 4th, at 12:30 PM at Chatfield Hollow State Park.

The Crop Walk will benefit Church World Service and three local charities: the Haddam Food Bank, Killingworth Helping Hands Food Pantry, and the HK Backpack program. Last year, they each received \$420.

Please register to walk, donate online, and share the information on social media.

Register or donate at:

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/chw/team/haddamkillingworth>

### School Supply Collection



HK Youth & Family expressed much thanks for the 12 backpacks and lunch boxes as well as the 10 water bottles that we collected this summer. The numerous folders, notebooks,

mechanical pencils, markers/crayons, and other school supplies donated will be used to start the 2026 school year for over 60 students in our HK community! In total, over 600 items were collected, with much of it being used to create 20 school kits for Church World Service, which will disburse the kits to areas of need that have been affected by wildfires, floods, hurricanes, and other disasters.

### Camp Bethel

On August 6, a very hot day, Lori Chadwick and I were invited to Camp Bethel to share what our church does regarding mission outreach. Lori presented a computer

presentation on HaRRP and I created poster boards regarding all the projects we do, both locally and globally. The poster boards are currently in the fellowship hall for all to see.

About 50 Camp Bethel participants were there and asked lots of questions. It was a wonderful experience, and we met some very nice people from all around the world.

Camp Bethel is a multi-denomination camp on the banks of the CT River in the Tylerville section of Haddam. There are adorable legacy seasonal cottages, and we were invited to visit one of the cottages and their museum.

### Outreach Collections

- Pull tab collection for **Ronald McDonald Charities**. This is one of our simple ongoing collections.
- Collection for West Haven VA Christmas stockings will wrap up on October 1st. Any non-perishable food or small items such as pens, granola bars, Chapstick, playing cards, etc. that fit in a stocking are welcome!
- Neighbors in Need will be held on October 4th.



### Help is needed to sell Quilt Raffle tickets!

The Quilt Committee needs your help! Raffle tickets for the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Yuletide Quilt Show Quilt Raffle will go on sale on September 21st.

Please consider taking a few packs of 5 and selling them for us. Tickets are \$2 each. Packs will be available during coffee hour at the end of the month.

#### First Prize

**“Modern Poinsettia”**

Created by Dena Liedke

#### Second and Third Prizes

**“Four-Stripe” and “Three-Stripe” Christmas Afghans**

Created by Donna Turnage



## Christian Education

Submitted by Amy Harlow, CE Director

Hello from CE!



Rally Sunday is September 13th, and our guest minister will be Christine Sima! We have a wonderful, joyous service planned, complete with uplifting music. We are looking forward to celebrating the beginning of another exciting year together!

This school year's curriculum will focus on the books of the Bible, and we will begin our journey in September with the story of Creation. I am very excited about the year ahead and all the wonderful Bible stories we will explore together!

CE is also searching for a male mentor to engage with the older boys who attend Faith Formation. Each month, a short reading will be provided that corresponds with that month's curriculum. I would love to share this opportunity among three or four individuals, so the commitment would be manageable. I encourage you to consider taking on this important role and helping these young men grow in their faith and continue their faith formation journey.



On Sunday, October 4th, and Sunday, October 18th, CE will be holding a brief Safe Conduct video presentation. Our goal is for the entire congregation to become familiar with the church's Safe Conduct Policy. This policy is not just for Faith Formation teachers and childcare helpers—it helps guide all of us in creating and maintaining a safe and welcoming environment for everyone in our church community.

As always, thank you for all of your continued support of Christian Education!

Peace and blessings,

Amy Harlow, CED



Parents are asked to fill out a 2026 Sunday School Registration Form. Forms can be picked up at church or downloaded below.

[Click HERE to download the Sunday School Registration Form.](#)



Submitted by Brian Frazier, Music Director



### Music in Worship: A New Season Begins

Although our choir has continued to share its gifts with us throughout the summer months, September marks the beginning of a new season of regular choir rehearsals. We will resume rehearsing on **Thursday, September 10, at 7:00 PM at the Haddam campus**. I am excited to begin our fall season with several new anthems for the choir to learn over the next two months, as well as beginning our preparations for our annual **Christmas Eve Concert**. There is always something special about hearing a choir grow together as we learn new music, and I look forward to seeing what this new season will bring.

As always, we welcome new members to the choir! You do not need to have previous choir experience, formal musical training, or a perfect voice to participate. If you enjoy singing and would like to become part of a welcoming musical community, we would love to have you join us. Choir is not simply about preparing music for Sunday worship; it is also an opportunity to build friendships, learn something new, and contribute your own gifts to the life of our church. I am especially grateful to our dedicated choir members who faithfully give their time and energy throughout the year to help make music an important part of our worship.

Music, however, is not only the responsibility of the choir. **Congregational singing is one of the ways that all of us participate actively in worship.** When we sing a hymn together, we are not simply providing musical accompaniment to the service—we are joining our voices in prayer, praise, thanksgiving, lament, and hope. The voices of the congregation remind us that worship is something we do together as a community. Whether your voice is strong or soft, whether you read music or simply follow the words, your voice belongs in the congregation. In the spirit of our UCC tradition, our singing can be one of the ways we affirm that there is a place for every voice in the life of the church. September also brings another opportunity to celebrate the gift of music in our church. Our **annual organ concert will take place on Sunday, September 13, at the Higganum campus**. I hope you will join us for this special event and experience the remarkable range and beauty of the organ. As we begin another program year, may our music—whether offered by the choir, the organ, or the congregation—continue to enrich our worship, bring us together, and remind us of the joy of making a joyful noise together. I look forward to making music with you in the months ahead!

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Wine Tasting**  
**FUNDRAISER**

**October 10th**  
**6 – 9 PM**

UCCHH Haddam Campus

Food ~ Music ~ Raffle

Wine & Bourbon Tasting



The September coffee hour schedule:

- September 6 . . . . . Officers
- September 13 . . . . . Memorial Garden Committee
- September 20 . . . . . No Service – Golf Outing
- September 27 . . . . . Quilt Show Committee

The **Music Committee** will host in October.



## Sunday Services Stream Live on YouTube!

YouTube

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

Click [HERE](#) to get started!

## September Meetings

**Choir Practice, Thursdays, 7 pm (Haddam)**  
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**CE, September 8, 6:30 pm (LH/Zoom)**

**Property, September 14, 5:30 pm (Lewis House)**

**Diaconate, September 14, 7 pm (LH/Zoom)**

**Council, September 15, 7 pm (LH/Zoom)**

**Outreach, September 21, 7 pm (LH/Zoom)**

A threefold cord is not quickly broken. ~ Ecclesiastes 4:12

**The Ties That Bind**

**7th Annual Meeting**  
Sept. 25 - 27, 2026  
Worcester, MA

Southern New England Conference  
United Church of Christ  
Living the Love & Justice of Jesus



## 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 Henahan . . . . . 860-212-4807

Dave McComas. . 860-978-0462

## Pulpit Supply Schedule

**August 9**

Rev. Tim Haut

**August 16**

Rev. Tim Haut

**August 23**

Rev. Terry Schmitt

**August 30**

Rev. Terry Schmitt

**Sept. 6**

Rev. Cindy Stasko

**Sept. 13**

Christine Sima

**Sept. 20**

No Service - Golf

**Sept. 27**

Christine Sima

**October 4**

tbd



## Zoom Login Information

ID: 391 987 2707

Password: 90523

## INTERCESSORY PRAYERS



[Click for the Prayer List](#)

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.*



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:

**United Congregational Church  
of Haddam and Higganum**

**Attn: Collector  
P.O. Box 215  
Haddam, CT 0643**

Make checks payable to: **UCCHH**

Automatic payments for your pledge can be set up for most banking institutions; contact your bank for more information.

### Online Giving

Visit [www.haddamchurch.org](http://www.haddamchurch.org) and click on *Online Giving* on the menu bar.

OR



This QR code will bring you directly to our secure Online Giving page.



**Follow Us on Facebook**

[www.facebook.com/haddamchurch/](http://www.facebook.com/haddamchurch/)

## August Worship Attendance

August 2 . . . . . not recorded  
August 9 . . . . . 25  
August 16 . . . . . 20  
August 23 . . . . . 27  
August 30 . . . . . n/a



## Church Documents

Click on the links below to view various church documents.

Council Minutes – [August 18, 2026](#) (Draft)

[UCCHH August 9, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes](#)

[UCCHH 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Report](#)

[UCCHH 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Minutes](#)

[UCCHH ByLaws](#)

[UCCHH Church Policies](#)

## Church Contact Information

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

[fcchaddam@gmail.com](mailto:fcchaddam@gmail.com)

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

(860) 345-2742

[www.haddamchurch.org](http://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.*



September 2026

Photo Album



School supplies collection



UCCHH at Camp Bethel



Yard Goats Game





## September 2026

