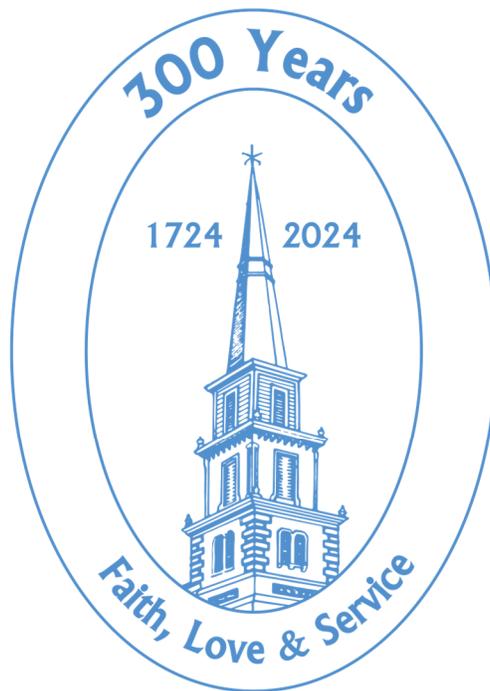


The 5th Quarter



The
Congregational Church
of Westborough

300th Anniversary Committee

Chair: Cathie Achorn

Newsletter Editors: Celeste Chenet-Monte, Tom Morgan

Layout / Graphics: Donna Morgan

Happy 300th Anniversary Everyone!

Welcome to the final newsletter celebrating the 300th Anniversary of The Congregational Church of Westborough. Throughout the year, we have reflected on those who came before us to build our wonderful church with fortitude and vision. We studied our past history, music, buildings, and worship practices. We held a pancake brunch, a tea, an ice-cream social, and a final celebratory dinner. We packed 30,000 meals, hosted an ecumenical Thanksgiving service, a Messiah Sing and a church open house.

From the Kick-Off Celebration in February and the historical skit in March, to the Anniversary Dinner and celebration in October, it has truly been a year of activity!

It is now time to close our 300th year and thank the faithful group of church members who worked tirelessly to bring the events of the past year together:

- * The talented musicians who lifted our spirits each Sunday
- * The historians who researched our rich history
- * The actors who brought our church history to life
- * The writers, designers and editors of the newsletters
- * The church merch team, and especially, our most-talented logo designer
- * Our bench and plaque designers and installers
- * The gravestone cleaning team
- * The many cooks, prep and clean-up crews
- * The Westborough Historical Society
- * The videographers, Zoom hosts, presenters and social media writers
- * The steeple climbers, carpenters and electricians
- * And those behind-the-scenes people who may not be seen!

Special thanks to those who made generous financial donations, to those who burned the midnight oil to make sure that everything happened on time, to our incredibly talented Minister of Music, who planned a full year of special music, to our church staff, and to our Pastor, who provided valuable input and organized the historical services.

But we are not quite finished!

We invite you to join us in one last official 300th Anniversary celebration on Sunday, June 8, as we unveil our revised Timeline, and dedicate:

- † Our newly refurbished steeple and Parkman Chapel cupola
- † Our new bell system
- † A bench on the front lawn
- † Several commemorative brass plaques in and around the church
- † The 2025 Time Capsule

As we lay the foundation for the future of The Congregational Church of Westborough, we extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed their time, creativity, skill and passion to our year of celebration. Here's to the next chapter in our shared journey of Faith, Love and Service!

God Bless,
Cathie Achorn, for the 300th Anniversary Committee

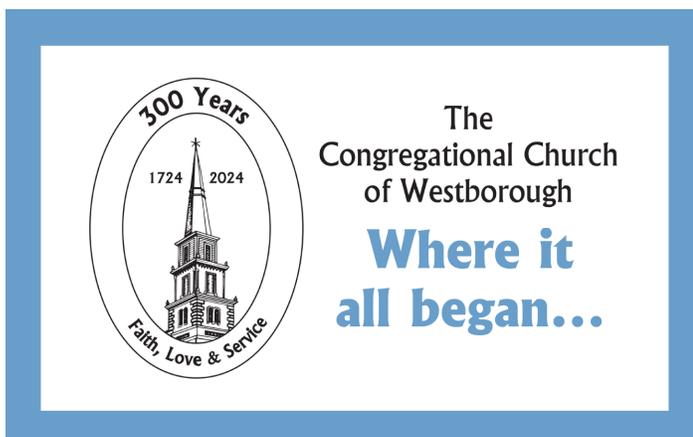
300th Anniversary Committee



L to R: Doug Wales, Betty Gray, Charlotte Bramley, Jen Hossack, Melinda MacKendrick, Elizabeth Kafig, Celeste Chenet-Monte, Marcia Hoffman, Donna Morgan, Joe Stillitano, Cathie Achorn, Tom Erwin
Not Pictured: Adrianna Baltimore, Pam Faustine, Sally Petersen

This issue is a pictorial review of the *full* year of special activities organized for the 300th Anniversary. Also included are our church's traditional activities as well as events that were unique to the year 2024.

- The Newsletter 'Team'

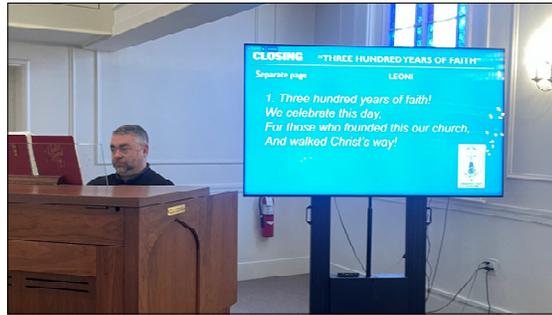


Kick-off Celebration — Welcome!

Worship Service of Parkman's Era February 11, 2024



Rev. Betsy as Rev. Ebenezer Parkman



Pancake Brunch February 11, 2024



Familiar sights...
Steve Achorn at the grill and Sandy Horton in the kitchen
300th Anniversary Swag bags



Historical Skit following the Communion Service

(Updated from the "250th Celebration" Script)

March 3, 2024



Hannah Parkman and the Rev. Ebenezer Parkman (Cathie Achorn and Max Keeler)

Westborough welcomes Rev. Parkman



Food Packing March 17, 2024



We packed 30,000 meals in 2024 with The Outreach Program.



Matthew 25:40 (NIV)
"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."



Easter Sunday

March 31, 2024

Special music with Brass Ensemble



Traditional Flowering of the Cross



Scout Sunday

April 7, 2024

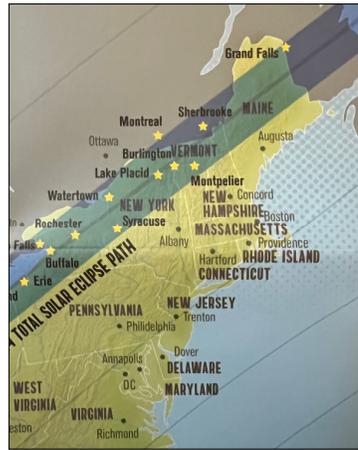


Scouting  America.



Total Solar Eclipse

April 8, 2024



Date	4/8/2024
Coverage	100.00%
Eclipse Type	Total
Eclipse Start	2:18 PM
Full Eclipse Start	3:29 PM
Maximum Eclipse	3:30 PM
Full Eclipse End	3:32 PM
Eclipse End	4:39 PM



Assabet Valley Chambersingers

April 14, 2024

Dr. Robert P. Eaton,
Artistic Director



Mother's Day Tea

May 12, 2024

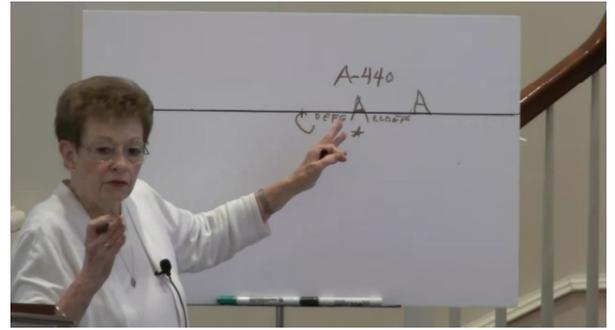
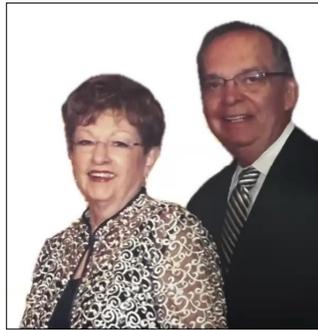


Linda Duncan presents:
"Do You Hear What I Hear?"
 (How Music Works)
 Scales and chords in everyday sounds
Sunday, May 19th
1:00 PM
 The Congregational Church
 of Westborough

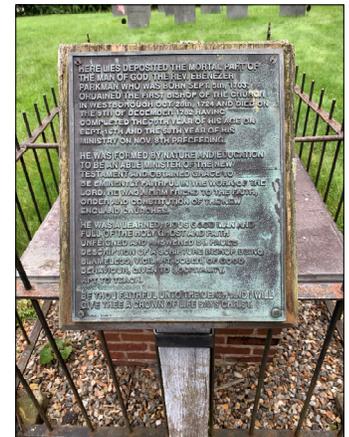
Accompanied by the
Festival Ringers

A 300th
 Anniversary Event

Program by Linda Duncan
May 19, 2024



Memorial Day Sunday - Visiting Rev. Parkman's Grave
May 26, 2024



Youth Sunday and End-of-Year Picnic
June 9, 2024



Ice Cream and Strawberry Shortcake Social

June 16, 2024

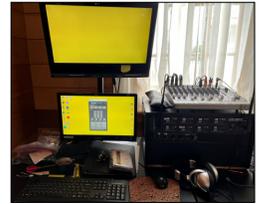


Summer Worship Services in the Chapel



Summer Pianist:
Allyn Phelps

Added technology was installed for remote worship.



Mini Splits were added to the Chapel in time for summer worship.

Welcome Here Sunday

September 8, 2024



“Memories 2”

October 20, 2024

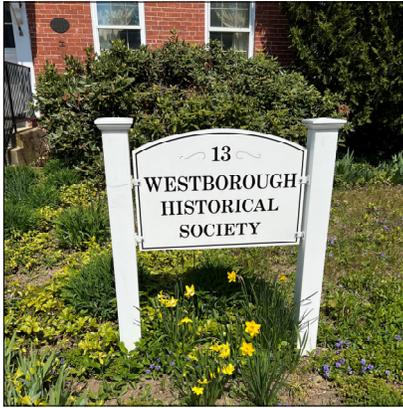


THE ABA TRIO
ADRIANNA BALTIMORE AND BILL COTTEN
TOGETHER WITH **ANDREW ALPER** AS THE M.C.
PRESENT A CONCERT ENTITLED “MEMORIES 2”



Special Open House September 29, 2024

The Westborough Historical Society graciously hosted our church family members and friends at the Sibley House.



Hallowe'en

Westborough's 'Main Street Trick or Treat' October 29, 2024



Northern Lights
October 10, 2024



Founders' Day Services

October 27, 2024



The Chancel Choir and Festival Ringers performed "Pass It On" together.



Pastor Kazimierz Bem was the featured speaker.



The *Journey Home Singers* sang a beautiful piece "There are Angels Hovering Round"



Rev. Betsy Dorsi, Moderator Roland Regnier and Church Clerk David Smith, were the first to sign the Church Covenant..



300th Anniversary Celebration Choir sang "I Dream a World"

The church bell rang 300 times in honor of our anniversary.

Dinner at The Knights of Columbus Hall
followed the Afternoon Service





State Representative Kate Donahue conveyed congratulations from the Commonwealth.



Former staff came from miles away!



The flowers on the chancel were given in honor and memory of all the members and friends of the church who have worked, donated, served, prayed and spread the love of Christ for 300 years.

The planters gracing the church entry were given in honor of our church staff and the 300th Anniversary Committee.

Annual Westborough Interfaith Service November 26, 2024



Westborough Light Parade December 1, 2024



Pie Making — Christian Education

November 2024



Any Glennon led this tremendous mission during the weeks before Thanksgiving. They donated 250 pies to the Curtis Family in Framingham.



Evergreen Fair December 7, 2024





 The 68th Annual
“Evergreen Fair”
Sat., December 7
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
The Congregational Church
of Westborough
57 West Main Street

Proceeds from the Fair support the programs and missions of The Women's Fellowship.



Assabet Valley Mastersingers December 15, 2024





Assabet Valley Mastersingers

The Congregational Church of Westborough
Westborough, Massachusetts
December 15, 2024



Messiah Sing

Christmas Pageant

December 22, 2024



The Music Committee's Annual Cookie Walk



- * Sunday, December 22nd
- * In the Vestry (immediately following the Christmas Pageant Service)
- * Cost: \$8.00/lb.

Anyone willing to bake a couple dozen cookies and donating them to the sale should leave them in the kitchen before the service.

Please label your cookies with your name, the type of cookie and whether they contain any allergens.

Thanks to all the bakers and consumers!!

Questions? Call Celeste Chenet-Monte
(774) 245-1425

Cookie Walk

December 22, 2024



Thanks to the
bakers, and to the
congregation for
shopping!
We appreciate your
support every year.

Nom, Nom,
Nom!!



- The Music
Committee

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2024



Rev. Betsy asked for people to show the congregation their family Creches.



Old-fashioned Hymn Sing

December 29, 2024



Making Music for God's Glory



JoySpring



Chancel Choir

Psalm 66: (KJV)
 "Make a joyful
 noise unto God,
 all ye lands:
 sing forth
 the honor of
 His name..."



Festival Ringers



Cleaning of Tombstones of Former Pastors and Missionaries

Completed in the Fall of 2024



These, and others, were professionally cleaned and paid for with Memorial Gifts Funds.

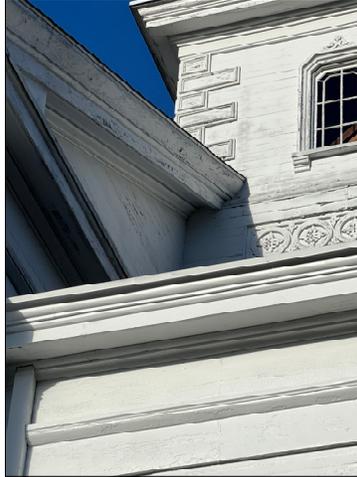
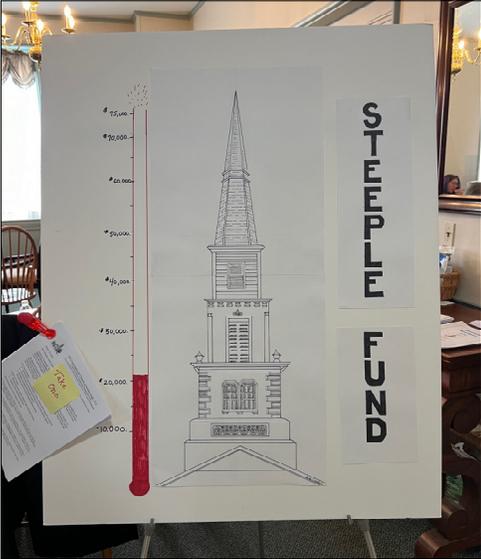
Dedications Benches and Plaques



This ball in this lectern was atop the temporary spire added in 1957, to substitute for the spire lost during the Hurricane of 1938.



Refurbished Steeple and Chapel Cupola



View of West Main Street from our steeple



Generous donations by the congregation enabled us to continue care for our historic building by doing the following:

- * Power wash the spire
- * Scrape and paint the front of church above the roof line
- * Remove old screens, clean and paint inside louvers and frames
- * Install new screening
- * Repair and re-paint cupola
- * While the crane was available, we had help to install the new custom steeple windows.



Cupola on top of the chapel was repaired and repainted



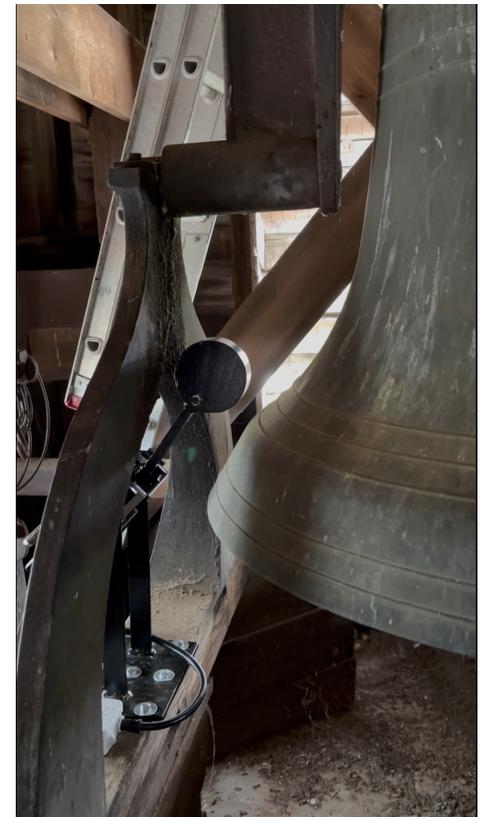
Updated our Bell by installing Remote Electronic Operation



Looking up into the spire, you can see the louvers.



Our bell used to be part of the fire alarm system for the town.

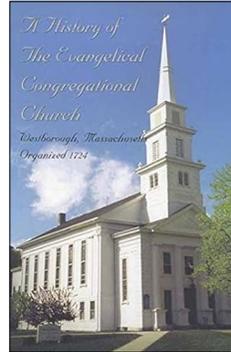
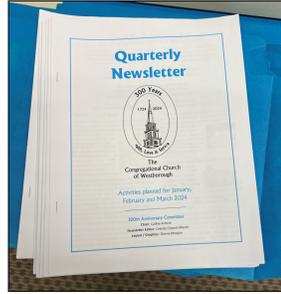
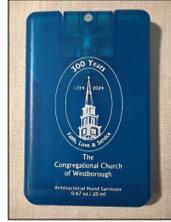


The new bell striker

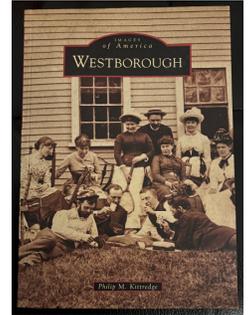


Bell "Chime Master" controls the ringing of the bell.

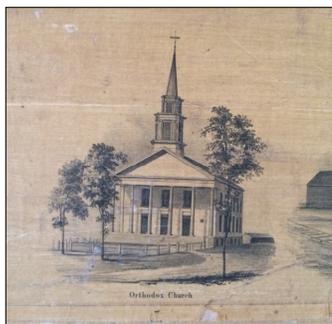
“Church Merch” and Historical Pictures



Rev. Parkman's Pulpit



Stairs that were added as part of the 1865 improvements.

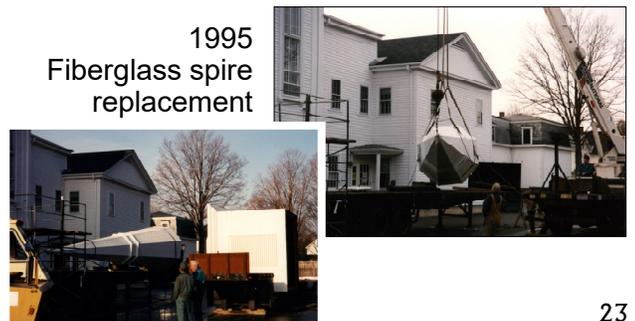


Third Meeting House in its original configuration in 1834.

After the 1938 hurricane



1995 Fiberglass spire replacement



“Life within our Church”

Women’s Fellowship



**2024 May Dinner
Past Presidents**

Men’s Fellowship



The men of the church meet the 3rd Saturday morning of the month for breakfast. All are welcome.

Christian Education





Friday, May 2nd
NOON - 5:00 PM

Saturday, May 3rd
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
(Bag Sale will start at 1:00 on Saturday)

The Congregational Church of Westborough
57 West Main Street
(Next to the town Library)

Sponsored By
The Women's Fellowship
Proceeds to go to Kitchen Renovation



Yard Sales are held twice a year to raise money for our kitchen renovation.

Fellowship Hour

Women’s Fellowship provides coffee and a variety of refreshments



Maundy Thursday



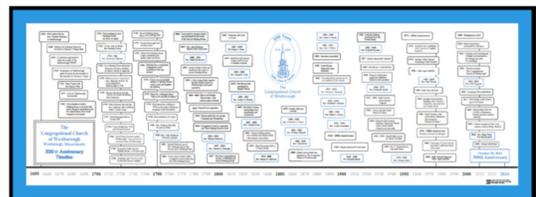
Veterans Day



Baptisms

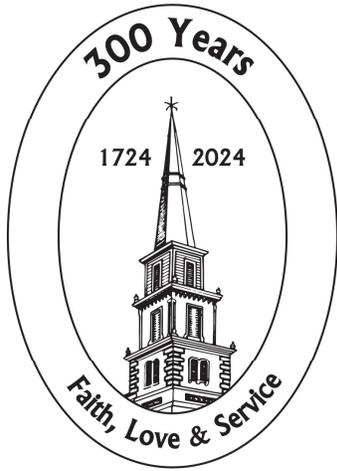


Thanks for our office staff!



300th Anniversary Timeline Historians:

Celeste Chenet-Monte, Marcia Hoffman and Tom Morgan



Please Join us on
Pentecost Sunday

Sunday, June 8, 2025

10:00 AM

We will be commemorating
our **300th Anniversary** with
these dedications:

- * Our newly refurbished **Steeple** and **Parkman Chapel Cupola**
- * Our updated **Bell System**
- * A Memorial **Bench** on the front lawn
- * Several commemorative brass **plaques** in and around the church
- * Our 2025 **Time Capsule**

Contributors to this newsletter are Cathie Achorn, Steve Achorn, Warren Anderson, Deb Boucher, Linda & Dana Crawford, Sarah Curran, Celeste Chenet-Monte, Reverend Betsy Dorsi, Pam Faustine, Betty Gray, Marcia Hoffman, Elizabeth Kafig, Philipp M. Kittredge, Darvin Kapitz, Mike Lawler, Glen Morgan, Donna Morgan, Tom Morgan, Elena Moskal, Joe Stillitano and Annie & Doug Wales.

We are extraordinarily grateful for the rich historical resources available through the work of many others, including Helena Engberg, Kris Allen, Harriette Forbes, Rachel Dearing, Ross Beales, Anthony Vaver, Reverend H. P. DeForest, and E. C. Bates.