

SEPTEMBER 2026

THE WEATHERVANE

The official newsletter of the Westport Point United
Methodist Church

Hello
Autumn

In this Issue

- ✿ Church Calendar
 - ✿ Local Community Events
 - ✿ Pastoral Note
 - ✿ Prayer List
 - ✿ United Methodist Church Spotlight
 - ✿ Brain Teasers
- 

Westport Point UMC

September 2026

Westport Point UMC
1912 Main Rd, Westport Point



Sunday 9/6 - Feast of Christ's Creation

Sunday 9/13 - Hymn Sing

Sunday 9/20 - Jay Martineau preaching

Sunday 9/27 - Blessing of the Animals

TUES
1

Massachusetts Legislative Advocacy Group

1 PM - Zoom

The Conference is developing a group for legislative advocacy in Massachusetts based on the UMC Social Principles

Mobile Ministries

10 AM - St Paul's UMC in New Bedford, MA

Join our churching in partnering with St Paul's UMC to deliver essential items to people in need.

SAT
5

SUN
6

Feed & Be Fed - 10:00 AM

The first Sunday of every month all are welcomed to join in our communion worship and bring food donations for the Westport Food Pantry



Feast of Christ's Creation Sunday

10 AM

As part of worship, we will be celebrating Creation and our responsibility to be stewards of the earth.

SUN
6

WED
9

Church Potluck

5:30 PM

Bring your favorite dish for a time of food and fellowship.



Westport Point UMC



September 2026

Westport Point UMC
1912 Main Rd, Westport Point



**FRI
11**

9/11 25th Anniversary Commemoration
**7:00 PM - Myricks UMC, 95 Myricks St,
Berkley, MA**



Bible Study

7:00 PM - Hybrid in Sanctuary
Weekly Bible Study following the Book of
Acts

**WED
9, 16, 23,
& 30**

**SAT
19**

Church Clean-Up Day
12:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Join us in working on organizing the sanctuary and
doing some outdoor maintenance on the church.



Blessing of the Animals
10 AM - In front yard of the church

Bring your favorite furry, feathery, or scaly friends (or a picture of
them) to join us in worship outside. (Bring a chair too)



**SUN
27**

**WED
30**

Voting Our Faithfulness

The NEAC Board of Church & Society is sponsoring a lecture
by Civil Rights attorney Chavis Jones about the history of
voting rights in America and American spiritual
movements.

VOTE!

For more information:
westportpointumc.com
westportpointumc@gmail.com
Facebook: Westport Point UMC: A Source of God's Grace
Instagram: westportpointumc



Westport Community Events

2026		SEPTEMBER						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		
		1	2	3	4	5		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
27	28	29	30					

FOWL Annual Book Sale | Sept. 11–19

Shop a wide selection of books at the Westport Free Public Library, 408 Old County Road.

A members-only preview will be held Sept. 11 from 5:30 p.m.–8 p.m.,

Public sale begins Sept. 12, from 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission is free



Outdoor Movie Night: Footloose | Sept. 12

Westport Recreation is hosting a free outdoor showing of Footloose at the Town Hall Annex, 856 Main Rd. from 7 p.m.–9 p.m.

Westport Rock, Rhythm & Blues Festival | Sept. 12–13

The 31st annual music festival returns to the Holy Ghost Grounds, 171 Sodom Road.

Saturday from 1 p.m.–6:30 p.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m.–5 p.m. Tickets available at door



Stand Up for Every Voice Comedy Fundraiser | Sept. 18

Enjoy comedy night at White's of Westport, 66 State Rd, for Samaritans Southcoast.

Doors open at 6 p.m. Show begins at 7 p.m. Tickets \$30 per person



Handy House Artisan Fair & Vintage Market | Sept. 19

Browse local artisans, antiques and vintage vendors, music, and family activities.

Hours are 10 a.m.–3 p.m. at the Handy House, 202 Hix Bridge Road.



South Coast Harvest Festival | Sept. 25–27

The Westport Fairgrounds, 200 Pine Hill Road, is hosting three days of fall festivities.

Hours are 3 p.m.–8 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.–8 p.m. Saturday, and 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Sunday.

Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for ages 5–12, and free for children under 5



Forever Paws Celebration of Giving | Sept. 26

Support Forever Paws Animal Shelter for its Celebration of Giving at

White's of Westport, 66 State Rd. Event begins 6 p.m. Tickets start at \$65



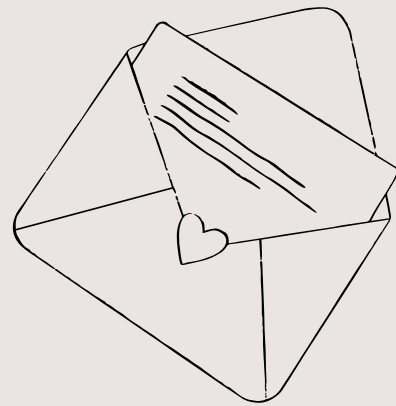
Little Legends Wave Fest | Sept. 27

Horseneck Beach State Reservation is hosting a youth surfing celebration with music, vendors, and fun for the whole family. Hours are 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Ticket prices vary by participation



A Message from Rev. Heidi Fiore



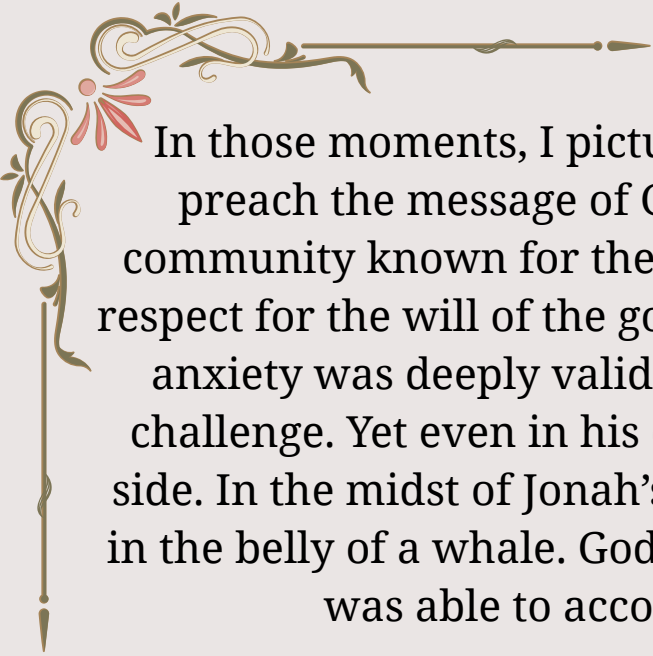
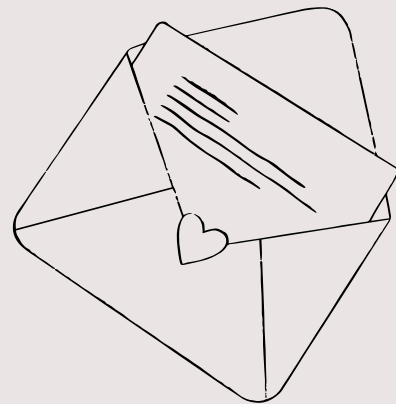
"I called to the Lord out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice." - Jonah 2:2

For as long as I could remember I have struggled with an anxiety disorder. As a child, I'd get stomachaches and migraines just thinking about stressful situations like tests or social interactions. Over time, and lots of therapy and prayer, my anxiety has significantly improved, but days still come when I feel the same tightening of my muscles, heart racing, and labored breathing that come along with an anxiety attack.

Several doctors have explained to me that anxiety is an evolutionary response to danger. Back when civilization was just beginning, our ancestors learned that when encountering dangerous situations, such as an encounter with a wild animal, we had three options for response: fight, flight, or freeze. Whether they made the choice to prepare to fight off an assailant, run from an attack, or hold still in hopes of not being noticed, their bodies had to prepare without conscious thought, because taking the seconds to think about it could mean the difference between life and death.

Nowadays, our concerns are rarely as dire as they were for our ancestors, but our bodies still respond to perceived threat in the same way. Now, our bodies react on instinct whenever we encounter challenge or conflict. It may not always manifest in full anxiety, but we all have had situations when a comment, gesture, or critique have not sat well with us.

A Message from Rev. Heidi Fiore Continued...



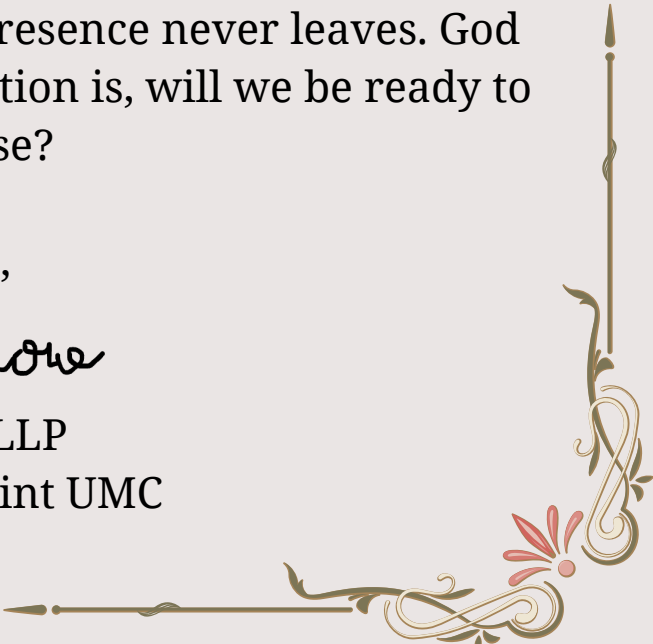
In those moments, I picture Jonah. He was tasked with going to preach the message of God's love, mercy, and judgement to a community known for their violence against outsiders and lack of respect for the will of the gods, let alone the God of the Israelites. His anxiety was deeply valid, and his response was to flee from the challenge. Yet even in his disobedience, God doesn't leave Jonah's side. In the midst of Jonah's fears, God carries Jonah safely to shore in the belly of a whale. God was there beside Jonah, making sure he was able to accomplish all he was called to be.

September can be a time of anxiety for many. Those in the education world are preparing themselves for all of the expectations and challenges ahead. Others might see the shortening days of Autumn ahead, the yard work to be done, the shifting between Summer and Fall wardrobes, the holidays rapidly approaching around the corner... But in all these things, God's presence never leaves. God hears our voices and answers. The question is, will we be ready to hear the response?

Grace & Peace,

Rev. Heidi Fiore

Rev. Heidi Fiore, LLP
Pastor of Westport Point UMC





Held in Our Prayers:



Sharon Andrade (health) - 1325 Drift Rd., Westport, MA 02790

Huxley Conkilyn (health) - 241 Cornell Road, Westport, MA 02790

Cathy Davis (health) - 443 Division Road, Westport, MA 02790

Charlene & Jordan Fiore (health & home repairs)- 425 Winthrop St.,
Taunton, MA 02780

Kim & Brian Lima (pregnancy) - 1384 Drift Rd.

Megan Shufelt (health) - 19 Old Farm Rd., Westport, MA 02790

Inge VanPelt (health) - P.O. Box 345, Westport Point, MA 02791





United Methodist Global Community



Following the disastrous flooding and landslides on the Nepal-Tibet border, Christian communities are uniting in order to provide both practical aid and spiritual support to people who are suffering huge losses. Hundreds have been killed, many are still missing, and with the roads and bridges damaged some villages have become isolated from external help.

Despite these challenges, local believers are responding. The Nepal Prayer Church and its offshoots are gathering emergency donations to supply dry food, clean water, tarpaulins, and other essentials. Church members and young people are walking and hand-delivering supplies where the roads cannot be used. The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is supporting the United Mission to Nepal (UMN) as it gives emergency assistance in the Dhading and Nuwakot districts. UMN is also working in partnership with CIRDS, a local organization that helped with the recovery following Nepal's 2015 earthquake. Missionaries associated with the Korean Methodist Church are likewise active in the area. Meanwhile, the Christian Conference of Asia has asked churches everywhere to respond with prayer, compassion, and ongoing support.

Though far from the disaster, we can still help in many ways. Local churches, Bible studies, and individuals can support disaster-relief organizations, share information about the continuing need in Nepal and Tibet, and pray for grieving families, missing persons, relief workers, and the many communities that still desperately need help.

As recovery and rebuilding begin, the Church has an opportunity to demonstrate faith by supporting these communities during this critical period and sending assurance to those who are suffering that they are not forgotten.

Brain Teasers

Welcome Autumn

P S S P I R I T C X P U M P K I N S P T
H S E G S R S R A I H Q E S D T H S A A
T N J K I B W E M M B A P F F E L K D G
O K B I V T V X P D F G Y W H N Z B D Z
B B A P P L E S B T C E R R Z H F J I N
W A B G F I J Y U C E O W Q I D W Y B N
N B A H O C F C O O U M M J X D M M I U
Q L H L Q F R G C W W J B P P K E M B B
A W J K G B H R L O W F U E A S Z N L V
C H A R I T Y A L V R D F V R S L E E V
O W J P O C F C G N N N A L W E S Q Q Z
R L X I T J F E G T H R U H X B T I K W
N D E H A R V E S T B E P C I D T G O C
E N K A V E K C E S B U Z R O E J K L N
X X Y T V E S A V V J F L H A P O O P W
W G H J J E I S A S T R E U I Y I R E Y
M Y Y M M F S L A T N Q D K S T E A U I
W G V T X R F B Q M D B G F T H S R W I
Q K G F G C Z S A L V A T I O N R E P Y
I B L E S S I N G S P J T B V B I R K J

Cornucopia
Blessings
Harvest
Apples

Spirit
Compassion
Salvation
Hayride

Leaves
Acorn
September
Pumpkins

Charity
Prayer
Grace
Bible