

May 3, 2026



“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father.

— John 14:6-7

The United Presbyterian Church of Whitinsville

Church Location
51 Cottage Street,
Whitinsville, MA 01588

Office Location
7 Spring Street
Whitinsville, MA 01588

The members of United Presbyterian Church envision a vibrant congregation that passionately connects with God and one another, seeking to discover His presence deep within through meaningful worship, prayer, and Bible study. As we reflect on God’s grace in our lives, we commit to growing together in faith and unity. We honor the diverse needs and opinions of all people, striving to build bridges of support, kindness, and peace within our church and community, fostering an environment where the Holy Spirit and God’s love uplift hearts and lives.

Worship Service: May 3, 2026
Presiding Minister: Rev. Andy Hall

Children's bulletins are available at the welcome center

Hearing devices are available upon request

*** All hymns are from The Celebration Hymnal (the green one) unless otherwise noted***

We Gather

Prelude: "Praise the Name of Jesus (Psalm 18:2)

Hicks

Welcome:

Marilyn Alling

Announcements:

Marilyn Alling

Call to Worship: *(from Psalm 31)*

Marilyn Alling

One: In you, Lord, I have taken refuge;

**All: let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.**

One: Turn your ear to me,
come quickly to my rescue;

**All: be my rock of refuge,
a strong fortress to save me.**

One: Since you are my rock and my fortress,

All: for the sake of your name lead and guide me.

One: Keep me free from the trap that is set for me,

All: for you are my refuge.

One: Into your hands I commit my spirit;

All: deliver me, Lord, my faithful God.

Opening Hymn: #403 "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

Latin Hymn/Smart

Call to Confession:

Friends,

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

But if we confess our sins,

God, who is faithful and just,

will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Almighty God,

in raising Jesus from the grave,

you shattered the power of sin and death.

We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear,

bound by the ways that lead to death.

We overlook the poor and the hungry,

and pass by those who mourn;

we ignore the cries of the oppressed,

and are indifferent to calls for peace;

we despise the weak,

and abuse the earth you made.

Forgive us, God of mercy.

Help us to trust your power

to change our lives and make us new,

that we may know the joy of life abundant

given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

Words of Assurance:

Rev. Andy Hall

Passing of the Peace

And this peace that we have received is simply too good to keep to ourselves,
and so we share a sign of peace with one another.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Please turn around and greet your neighbors with a wave or a sign of peace.

Gloria Patri:

WORD

Prayer for Illumination:

Marilyn Alling

Living God,
help us so to hear your holy Word
that we may truly understand;
that, understanding, we may believe,
and, believing,
we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience,
seeking your honor and glory in all that we do;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading: 1 Peter 2:1-12

Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,”

and

“A stone that makes them stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people,
but now you are God’s people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul. Conduct yourselves honorably among the gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honorable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge.

Children’s Message:

Anthem: “Let Us Break Bread Together”

Trad. African-Am. Spiritual

Second Reading: John 14: 1-14

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him,

“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

Sermon: “Are We Playing the Right Game?”

Rev. Andy Hall

Hymn:#428 “In Christ There Is No East or West”

WE RESPOND

Creed: *from the Belhar Confession (South Africa, 1986)*

We believe that Christ’s work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another.

We believe that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God’s Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain.

We believe that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted.

We believe that this unity can be established only in freedom and not under constraint; that the variety of spiritual gifts, opportunities, backgrounds, convictions, as well as the various languages and cultures, are by virtue of the reconciliation in Christ, opportunities for mutual service and enrichment within the one visible people of God.

We believe that true faith in Jesus Christ is the only condition for membership of this church.

Therefore, we reject any doctrine which professes that this spiritual unity is truly being maintained in the bond of peace while believers of the same confession are in effect alienated from one another for the sake of diversity and in despair of reconciliation.

We reject any doctrine which denies that a refusal earnestly to pursue this visible unity as a priceless gift is sin.

We reject any doctrine which explicitly or implicitly maintains that descent or any other human or social factor should be a consideration in determining membership of the church.

Invitation to the Lord's Table:

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!

They will come from east and west,
and from north and south,
and sit at table in the kingdom of God.

This is not my table, or your table, or United Presbyterian Church's table.

This is the Lord's table.

And our Savior invites all to share in the feast which he has prepared.

Great Thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy...Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with angels and archangels
and with all the faithful of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

[sung:]

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

You are holy, O God of majesty,...

According to his commandment:

**We remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory**

Gracious God,...all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father,
with the Holy Spirit in the holy church,
now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer:

As our savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread:

Because there is one loaf,
we, many as we are, are one body;
for it is one loaf of which we all partake.

When we break the bread,
is it not a sharing in the body of Christ?

When we give thanks over the cup,
is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ?

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Communion of the People

Hymn During Communion: Insert “One Bread, One Body”

Foley

Prayer After Communion:

**Eternal God,
you have graciously accepted us**

**as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his body and blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Call for Offering:

Offertory: “Come and Sing Praises”

Chapman&Massanari

Offering:

Sing Doxology:

Prayer of Dedication:

Closing Hymn: #10 “Majesty” (Sing Twice)

Hayford

SENDING

#Charge and Benediction

And now,
may the God of peace,
who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus,
make you complete in everything good
so that you may do God’s will,
working among us that which is pleasing in God’s sight,
through Jesus Christ,
to whom be the glory forever and ever!
Amen.

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude “Lead Me, Lord”

Psalm 5:8/Wesley

Announcements for May 3, 2026

May prayer guides are available at both entrances.

The National Day of Prayer will be observed on the first Thursday of May, May 7th

The May Congregational Prayer Meeting will be held on Monday, May 11th at 6:30 PM in the church office.

All prayer concerns should be sent to the Church Office. The Administrative Assistant will make sure to get the prayer concerns to the person preaching that Sunday.

Support our on-line broadcasts and the ongoing ministry of the church by mailing a contribution to the United Presbyterian Church, 7 Spring Street, Whitinsville, MA 01588 or online by going to www.whitinpres.org/give click on the "Give" tab and then scroll down and click on the yellow Pay Pal DONATE button.

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PRAYER FOR

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Prince of Peace,

We pray for unity in our nation, Where there is conflict, bring peace. Where there is division, sow understanding. Help us to seek reconciliation and harmony, and heal the wounds caused by hatred and division, In Jesus name. Amen

SOURCE: <https://prayerbase.com/national-day-of-prayer>

Session notes
April 2026

Approved

- Cancel communion on Pentecost Sunday
- Permit Peace of Bread to accept any amount of undesignated donations without Session approval
- Change the church's fiscal year to a calendar year and extend the 2025-2026 fiscal year to 12-31-2026

Discussed

- Restructure committees and reschedule committee meetings due to the fiscal year change
- Obtaining quotes for replacing the church office's front steps
 - when to have BRS finish the tower point work
- updates regarding snow removal for the next season
- possibly needing a second NAC rep
- new members class in May and two baptisms in June

Reviewed

2026 stewardship letter

Dissolved

Memorial Funds committee as those funds have been permanently moved to the Boyd Endowment Fund

Determined next month's communion servers, prayer meeting & Session Stated Business Meeting

Church Calendar of Events
May 3 – May 10, 2026

Sunday, May 3, 2026

Presiding Minister – Rev. Andy Hall
Worship Leader—Marilyn Alling
Greeter – Bonnie Candalino
Sound Board – Mark Thomas
Media – Mark Widner
Junior Church- Communion Sunday
Camera – Jim Baker
Coffee Hour – Mark Thomas
Counters –Mike Sabourin
Tanya Remillard

Monday, May 4, 2026

6:30 PM Trustee Meeting (Church Office)

Wednesday, May 6, 2026

5:30 PM Peace of Bread
1:00 PM Outreach and Mission (ZOOM)
7:00 PM Worship Committee Meeting (ZOOM)

Sunday, May 10, 2026

Presiding Minister – Rev. Andy Hall
Worship Leader—Mark Widner
Greeter – Tanya Remillard
Sound Board – Mark Thomas
Media – Ken Remillard
Junior Church- Lynne Walsh
Camera – Jim Baker
Coffee Hour – Laurie Sabourin
Counters – Kimberly Mercer
Jim Baker

People in Ministry

Ministers

The People of this Congregation

Pastor

Andy Hall

Minister of Music

Eileen N. Straub

Corporate Treasurer

Ken Remillard

Financial Secretary

Lynne Walsh

Administrative Assistant

Mark Thomas

Sexton

Patricia Reynolds

Session

Rev Andy Hall, Moderator
Lynne Walsh, Clerk
Marilyn Alling
Ken Remillard
Tanya Remillard
Mark Thomas
Mark Widner

Deacons

Bonnie Candalino
Jean Finnegan
Gay McCrea
Carol Pilibosian
Becca Widner

Trustees

Jim Baker
Kimberly Mercer
Mike Sabourin
Suzanne Santoro

Giving Report

Giving Report Budgeted Operating Giving for 2025-2026 FY	49,000.00
Regular Offering Collected as of 1/31/2025	28,159.23
Expenses as of 12/31/2025	117,003.49

April 5, 2026

Regular	\$ 1802.00
Missions	3.00
Total	1805.00

April 12, 2026

Regular	\$ 697.50
Missions	2.50
Total	700.00

April 19, 2026

Regular	\$319.80
Missions	2.20
Total	322.00

April 26, 2026

Regular	\$230.00
Missions	596.00
Total	826.00

MAY 2026 CHURCH CALENDAR

May 3 (5th Sunday of Easter)

- 9:15 AM Choir Practice 10:30 AM Worship Service

Monday, May 4

- 6:30 PM Trustee Meeting (Church Office)

Wednesday, May 6

- 1:00 PM Outreach & Mission Committee (ZOOM)
- 5:30 PM Peace of Bread 7:00 PM Worship Committee (ZOOM)

Thursday, May 7

- National Day of Prayer

May 10 (6th Sunday of Easter)

- 9:15 AM Choir Practice 10:30 AM Worship Service

Monday, May 11

- 6:30 PM Congregational Prayer Meeting (Church Office)

Wednesday, May 13

- 5:30 PM Peace of Bread 7:00 PM CG&N Committee (ZOOM)

Phone: 508-234-8220

Office Email: whitinpres@gmail.com

Minister of Music: mainemelody@aol.com

Visit Us: www.whitinpres.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/whitinpres

In case of emergencies, please call 774-293-1382

May 2026 Worship Leader Calendar

	May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24	May 31
Worship Leader	M. Alling	M. Widner	M. Thomas	S. Santoro	L. Walsh
Greeter	B. Candalino	T. Remillard	S. Santoro	C. Lee	B. Candalino
Sound Board	M. Thomas	M. Thomas	L. Walsh	M. Thomas	M. Thomas
Camera	J. Baker	J. Baker	J. Baker	J. Baker	J. Baker
Media	M. Widner	K. Remillard	M. Widner	K. Remillard	M. Widner
Coffee Hour	M. Thomas	L. Sabourin	T. Remillard	L. Walsh	M. Thomas
Junior Church	Communion Sunday	L. Walsh	C. Pilibosian	Pentecost	Summer Break
Counters	T. Remillard M. Sabourin	K. Mercer J. Baker	S. Santoro L. Walsh	C. Pilibosian K. Remillard	M. Sabourin T. Remillard

A PIECE OF PEACE

We had a new volunteer group from the Whitin Community Center train alongside our volunteers from UPCW this week at Peace of Bread Community Kitchen. We are excited to welcome them. They will be cooking a family favorite lasagna dinner at PoB in June.

The month of May volunteer groups & menus: (More in next week's bulletin)

5/6: Open Sky Community Services~ baked chicken dinner