



Faith. Family. Fellowship. Music.  
Congers United Methodist Church

86 Congers Road, Congers, NY 10920  
(845) 268-2186 \* [www.congersumc.org](http://www.congersumc.org)  
Bishop Alfred Johnson, Pastor

**Sunday Worship**  
**July 12, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.**  
**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**



**Bold** responses read in unison

**ENTRANCE**

\*Stand in body or spirit

**PRELUDE**

Jim West

**WELCOME**

Frances Reid, Worship Leader

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come, let us worship God!

**Come, let us worship our Creator!**

God is the great Sower, scattering seeds of life and abundance across the earth.

**We are the soil the Sower plants, created to nurture and sustain the seeds of God's life-giving love.**

God is the great Gardener, tilling and cultivating our soil with love and grace.

**We notice the rocks and thorns in our soil and call on the Gardener's love and grace to transform us into good soil.**

God is the great Life-giver, sowing seeds and tending the soil to produce the fruit of abundant life.

**May we nurture and grow God's new reality, bearing the fruit of flourishing and abundance for all God's creation. Amen.**

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, January 2026.

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*"Woke Up This Morning With My Mind"*

TFWS #2086

**OPENING PRAYER**

Holy and gracious God, You are the Sower of every good and life-giving word. Today we gather with open hands and open hearts, asking You to scatter Your seed generously among us. Let Your Word fall on the soil of our lives in a way that takes root, grows deep, and bears fruit that blesses the world. We pray this in the name of the One who is the Living Word, Jesus Christ. Amen.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Loving God, Sower and Reaper of love, we admit to you that we are like stony fields, capable of growing goodness and sharing it around, but also we allow goodness to wither and weeds to flourish. Your mercy has taken root in us, but we do not share enough of it with others, your justice has grown on us, but we have inadequately implemented it, your truth has showered on us, but we have let it run to waste, your love has blossomed among us, but we have been slow to set fruit.

Most loving God, please open the furrows of our lives to receive again the seeds of your Gospel. Rain your mercy upon us, shine your warmth and light into every dark place, and bring forth in us not the harvest we deserve but the harvest that in your glorious love you have destined for us. Through Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen!

**SILENT MEDITATION**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**PRAYER RESPONSE**

*"His Eye is on the Sparrow"*

TFWS #2146, vs. 1&2

**ASSURANCE OF GRACE, FORGIVENESS AND HEALING**

\*Offer each other the gift of forgiveness: "In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven."

(continued on the next page)

**WELCOMING FIRST OR SECOND TIME WORSHIPPERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS**

**Children may be dismissed for Children’s Sunday School**

*“Jesus Loves Me”* UMH #191

**PROCLAMATION**

**\*SONG OF PREPARATION**

*“Give Me Jesus”*

Jayon Anthony

**\*SCRIPTURE LESSONS**

Matthew 13:1-9;18-23

**MESSAGE**

**“Sanctifying Soil”**

**Bishop J**

**RESPONSE**

**INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

**PRAYERS OF COMPASSION/ PASTORAL PRAYER**

You are invited to lift names for prayers of celebration or concern; respond with “Thanks be to God/ Lord, in your mercy hear our prayers”

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES, GIFTS AND OFFERINGS**

**Prayer of Consecration**

Special Compassion Offering  
People to People Offering



Congers UMC now has online giving with Givelify:  
go to <https://www.givelify.com> designate Congers UMC.  
Or, use our QR code by pointing the camera on your cell phone to this image:

**\*OFFERATORY:**

*“Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”*

UMH #95

**SENDING**

**\*SENDING HYMN**

*“Amen, Amen”*

TFWS#2072

**\*SENDING, DISMISSAL WITH TABLE BLESSINGS**

**POSTLUDE**

Jim West

Acolytes carry the Light into the world!

kindly

R

S

V

P

ALL CHURCH RETREAT

Saturday, July 25, 10am.

Valley Cottage Library.



If you will be attending, please fill out this card and give to Shantelle. Thank you.

NAME .....

PHONE/  
E-MAIL .....

NUMBER  
OF GUESTS .....

# Thank you Today's Worship Team:

Worship Leader: Francis Reid

Scripture Reader:

Song of Preparation: Jayon Anthony

Music: Jim West



Henry Samuel (7/3)  
Jennifer Julmis (7/4)  
Sonya Burnham (7/15)  
Camille Cascia (7/30)

**Welcome to Congers UMC.** We are happy to have you with us. Join us for a time of food and fellowship after worship service in the fellowship hall.

If this is your first or second time with us, please fill in your name, email address, and/or cell number in the **“CongersUMC Connect Card”** in the back of the pew in front of you. Kindly place it in the offering plates or give it to any member. You may also access this form digitally with our “Connect” QR code. We hope to see you again.



\*Please be aware that we use **Facebook Live for our worship services.** If you are uncomfortable being screened or having pictures taken of yourself or family members, please let our Communications Team (Cheery Villaseñor or Bishop J know).

## Today

We celebrate the **7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**, when the Holy Spirit came with sound and tongues of fire to empower the disciples and the church to continue the work of Jesus to unfold and evolve God's Kingdom.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP, AND SERVICE

### COMPASSION PRAYERS

- Please keep in heart and prayer church members, families, and friends who stand in the need of prayer. You can find the complete list on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. (If there are additions, removals, or amendments to this list, please let Pat Williams know.)
- We pray for God's Peace and Justice throughout our country and throughout this world; such as the ongoing wars between Israel and Palestine, Ukraine and Russia, Israel and Iran, The Congo, Somalia and other parts of Africa, and other parts of our world. Global issues, such as, immigration, atomic energy, women and children abuse, active shootings, climate change, attacks on democracy, disarmament, food insecurity, the unsheltered, etc.



### SERVICE

- If you didn't bring your non-perishable food item to be donated to **PEOPLE TO PEOPLE**, this Sunday, and you would like to donate, bring it next week or see Francis Reid, coordinator, for more information.



### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### SPECIAL FUTURE PROJECTS:

- **Saturday, July 25, All Church Retreat, 10am, Valley Cottage Library.** Please RSVP if you think you will be attending.
- **Saturday, August 22, 2026, 11am – 4pm, East Harlem, NY, Dr. Stacy May's Ymnnas Helping Hands 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Health and Wellness** ministry for the Unsheltered. Volunteers and donations will be welcomed.
- **\*Sunday September 13, 2026, 4pm: Shantelle Williams Johnson and Friends in Concert: Special Fundraiser for CongersUMC Accessibility projects.**
- **\*Saturday October 10, 2026, 4pm, John Anthony Celebration Committee is proud to announce the kickoff concert for The John and Naomi Anthony Music Foundation.** This foundation is dedicated to providing and assisting young musicians as they seek musical instruction at the many prestigious music schools in Rockland County and New York City. The concert will feature talent from the Metropolitan area many of whom worked with and loved John and Naomi Anthony.



\*Flyers of these events are available in the sanctuary.



5th Anniversary Celebration  
Saturday August 22, 2026,  
@9AM TO 5PM!  
3rd Ave between 127th &  
128th Streets, Harlem, NY  
More info: Contact  
Dr. Stacey May