



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

86 Congers Road, Congers, NY 10920

(845) 268-2186 * www.congersumc.org

Bishop Alfred Johnson, Pastor

Sunday Worship

July 19, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost



*Stand in body or spirit
Bold responses read in unison

Judy Gorman

Carole Anderson , Worship Leader

ENTRANCE

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: People of God, stand tall—the Spirit is alive in you and testifies that you are God’s own.

People: We are children of God, heirs with Christ, called into a future filled with glory.

Leader: The world is aching for liberation, and the Spirit empowers us to join God’s work of renewal.

People: We step forward in hope, trusting that what we see now is only the beginning.

Leader: Come, let us worship the God who transforms suffering into strength, waiting into witness, and hope into new creation.

People: With joy and expectation, we worship the Lord. AMEN!

*OPENING HYMN

“My Hope is Built”

UMH #368, vss 1,2,4

OPENING PRAYER

God of grace and love, We rely on Your love extended to us in all ways and at all times, extravagantly and with generosity. We live day by day knowing that Your care and concern is poured out for us in Your provision for our needs and beyond our imagining. You entrust us with the gift of the good news of the Gospel and invite us to be partners in the sharing of the message of grace. Day by day, we realize the many gifts lavished upon us. We come to You to acknowledge and praise You for all Your goodness to us. **Amen.**

Written by Rev. Nigel Robb and posted at <https://pilgrimwr.unitingchurch.org.au/?p=7107>.)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Your Spirit. We let fear shape our choices. We let despair silence our imagination. We forget that Your Spirit is alive in us, testifying that we belong to You. Forgive us for small visions and timid faith. Forgive us for ignoring the cries of our communities and the groans of creation longing for justice. Forgive us for settling for what is instead of leaning into what could be. Fill us again with the Spirit of adoption. Awaken our hope. Empower our witness. Make us bold participants in Your new creation. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SILENT MEDITATION

THE LORD’S PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

“There is a Balm in Gilead”

UMH #375, vss 1,2

ASSURANCE OF GRACE, FORGIVENESS AND HEALING

Beloved of God, The One who searches our hearts knows our weakness, hears our groaning, and meets us with grace. The hope God gives does not disappoint, because the Spirit is already at work within you. In Christ, you are forgiven, renewed, and set free. Thanks be to God. *Offer each other the gift of forgiveness: “In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.”

WELCOMING FIRST OR SECOND TIME WORSHIPPERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

Children may be dismissed for Children’s Sunday School

“Jesus Loves Me”

UMH #191

PROCLAMATION

*SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 8:12-25

Lisa Dawn Anderson

SONG OF PREPARATION

Jackie DeSouza

MESSAGE

“Listening to the Groaning of Our Neighbors”

Rev. Dr. Stacey May

(continued on next page)

RESPONSE

SILENT MEDIATION AND 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

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

“We are Climbing Jacob’s Ladder”

UMH #418, vs 1,4,5

*SENDING, DISMISSAL WITH TABLE BLESSINGS Dr. May

POSTLUDE

Judy Gorman

Acolytes carry the Light into the world!

Thank you Today's Worship Team:

Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Stacey May
Worship Leader: Carole Anderson
Scripture Reader: Lisa Dawn Anderson
Song of Preparation: Jackie DeSouza
Music: Judy Gorman



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 **8th 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.
- **Sunday, July 26, starting at 1pm, Sound and Music at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockland, Pomona, NY. Sound bath with Lorin Oneal at 1pm and the Main St. Singers Annual UUCR Benefit Concert conducted by Judy Gorman at 2pm.**
- **Saturday, August 22, 2026, 11am – 4pm, East Harlem, NY, Dr. Stacy May's Ymnas Helping Hands 5th 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

EIGHTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

LISTENING TO THE *Groaning* OF OUR NEIGHBORS

Romans 8:18-27

“Creation groans. People groan.
But the Spirit intercedes for us
with sighs too deep for words.
(Romans 8:26)

Rev. Dr. Stacey May
TEACHER | PREACHER | SERVANT
Called to Listen. Called to Love.



Creation Groans
The world is hurting.



Neighbors Groan
People are hurting
in silence.



The Spirit Groans
God hears even what
we cannot say.

JULY 19, 2026 10:00 AM
CONGERS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3 Old Haverstraw Rd, Congers, NY 10920

Our call is simple but sacred:
Listen, Care, and Act.

“So do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away,
yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.”
— 2 Corinthians 4:16

BE A PEOPLE WHO LISTEN. BE A PEOPLE WHO CARE.
Let's bring the love of Christ to every groaning neighbor.

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