



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

August 23, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost



ENTRANCE



*Stand in body or spirit

Bold responses read in unison

Jim West

Worship Leader, Laurie Tacadena

PRELUDE

WELCOME

This is the day the Lord has made, let us give thanks and be glad in it!
Welcome members, friends and visitors, in-person, and on Facebook.

Today is **Sunday, August 23, the 13th Sunday after Pentecost** where we continue to celebrate that initiating day of the outpouring of Holy Spirit to begin a movement to empowered all disciples to continue the work of Jesus to Love Boldly, Serve Joyously and Lead Boldly!!!

A few announcements before we begin our worship experience **See back of bulletin for information on future announcements:**

- **Today we welcome our own Associate Member Mark “Tony” Hall as our guest preacher. Again, we pray for Bishop J and Shantelle as they are on vacation.**
- **Next Sunday, August 30, following worship, we will have a CongersUMC “Town Meeting”, plan to stay and participate in receiving information and planning for the rest of this 2026 year**
- **Reminder, Sunday, September 13, 4pm, Shantelle Williams Johnson, “On My Journey Now” in Concert a fundraiser to help our church become accessible Tickets and sponsorships are available now. Time is running out for you to purchase tickets. Get yours today or See Frances Reid to reserve a seat for you and yours.**
- **We now know our annual Charge Conference will be Sunday October 18, following worship. More information will be forthcoming**

Today, in preparation for worship you will need a bulletin, (hold to see); Most music today from the small black music book (hold to see) called the “Faith We Sing.” and some from The United Methodist Hymnal (hold).

If now all hearts are now prepared for worship, please stand in body or spirit for our Call to Worship found in your bulletin:

*CALL TO WORSHIP

In a world where powerful people make decisions to lift themselves up and cast others aside, how does God teach us to use our power?

God teaches us to protect the vulnerable, resist the oppressors, and persist in doing good.

In a world where power means might, how does God show us what power means?

God shows us through the midwives’ daring, Peter’s truth-telling, and Jesus’ humility.

In a world where power is held over people’s heads, how does God exercise power?

God exercises power with—with the oppressed, with the outcasts, with the poor and downtrodden.

Beloved, we gather to recognize our world as it is and to grow as disciples and imitators of Christ. So, how will you use your power today?

We will side with the vulnerable, build community in the margins, and love all of our neighbors with the exuberant and all-encompassing love of Christ. Amen.

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

Remain standing for Our Opening hymn,

*OPENING HYMN

“How Great Thou Art”

UMH # 77

You may be seated for the opening prayer

OPENING PRAYER

O God, Sustainer of all life and Creator of the universe, you set us aside to be leaders, so help us see things as they are and not only as they affect ourselves. Grant that we may have a wise and modest estimate of our own powers and live in full contact with all things high, true, and good. Teach us our failings and our faults; give us courage to acknowledge them and, by your grace, enable us to overcome them.

Lift us above the unstable currents of our self-will and establish us on the rock of your purposes. Be to each of us the secret stay and the inner guide of our lives. May your Spirit dwell in us more and more, that your peace which exceeds all understanding may possess our hearts and minds. Amen.

Adapted from Lawrence Gandiya, Zimbabwe. Found in Prayers Encircling the World: An International Anthology (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1998), 91.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

While we may yearn to be like Jesus,
we know that in our hotheaded choices, our frantic lives, our impetuous words,
we are too often like Peter.
But like him, we can confess Christ as our Lord,
speaking of our need for your saving presence in our lives.

We look for you in all the wrong places, God of the lost,
and wonder why we cannot find you.
We wander the corridors of power,
while you are on the sidewalks, beside the homeless.
We sit at the head tables of the world,
while you are handing out soup to the hungry at the kitchen's backdoor.
We applaud those who win the race,
while you are cheering on those in last place.
In forgiving us, God of new life,
you would transform our cold hearts
into those melted in service to others.
In granting us mercy,
you challenge us to think of all those we have ignored.
In gifting us with grace,
you enable us to proclaim Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior,
as the hope, the joy, the peace the world seeks.

SILENT MEDITATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

"Amazing Grace"

UMH #378, vss. 1,2,3

Min Hall: ASSURANCE OF GRACE, FORGIVENESS AND HEALING

Stay always open to the continual presence of God. The Spirit of truth leads us into all truth, as the Creator proclaims: in the name of Jesus Christ, You are forgiven. Thanks be to God!!"

Min Hall: Offer each other the gift of forgiveness by saying: "In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! and also to our Facebook friends

WELCOMING FIRST OR SECOND TIME WORSHIPPERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

We want to welcome all 1st or 2nd time visitors in person and on Facebook live today. We pray that as you have blessed us with your presence that you too will be so blessed.

Check to see if Children are in church today. If so, also check with with Cheery or Evelyn to see if they will take children, if not, skip this next part.

Children may be dismissed for Children's Sunday School

"Jesus Loves Me"

UMH #191

PROCLAMATION

***SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Romans 12:1-8

Laurie Tacadena and Arielle Rogers

SONG OF PREPARATION

Nick Orange

Min Hall MESSAGE

“Never The Same”

Minster Mark “Tony” Hall

RESPONSE

Min Hall SILENT MEDIATION AND INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

Min Hall 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 OFFERING

Prayer of Consecration

Heavenly Father, We thank You for every blessing You have given us. As we present our tithes and offerings, We do so with grateful hearts. You are our source and provider, and all that we have comes from You. Receive these gifts as a token of our gratitude and love. May it be used to glorify Your name and bless others. In Jesus’ mighty name, **Amen.**

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:



OFFERTORY

“Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”

UMH #95

SENDING

***SENDING HYMN**

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

TFWS #2153

Min Hall*SENDING, DISMISSAL WITH TABLE BLESSINGS

POSTLUDE

Jim West

Acolytes carry the Light into the world!

Thank you Today's Worship Team:

Guest Preacher: Minster Mark "Tony" Hall

Worship Leader: Laurie Tacadena

Scripture Readers:

Laurie Tacadena and Arielle Rogers

Song of Preparation: Nick Orange

Facebook Coordinator: Cheery Villaseñor

Music: Jim West



Lisa Anderson - 8/1

James Reid - 8/3

Aaron Edwards - 8/16

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 **13th 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.



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

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, August 22, 2026, 11am – 4pm, East Harlem, NY, Dr. Stacy May's Ymnnas Helping Hands 5th Annual Health and Wellness** ministry for the Unsheltered. Volunteers and donations will be welcomed.
- **Sunday, August 30, following worship, we will have a CongersUMC "Town Meeting"**, plan to stay and participate in receiving information and planning for the rest of this 2026 year
- ***Sunday September 13, 2026, 4pm: Shantelle Williams Johnson and Friends in Concert: Special Fundraiser for CongersUMC Accessibility projects.**



*Flyers of these events are available in the sanctuary.

**ON MY JOURNEY NOW:
FROM CHURCH TO HOME
SHANTELE WILLIAMS JOHNSON
& FRIENDS**

A Concert with a Cause: A Musical Testimony of Faith, Justice, and Soul

SHANTELE WILLIAMS JOHNSON VOCALS
WYNNUM SABILE GUITAR
JOE HAM DRUMS
CLYDE BULLARD BASS
DINAH VERO PIANO
ERIC LANE SAXOPHONE

Your support will help us meet critical accessibility and reasonable accommodation needs—because everyone deserves a place to belong.

**SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 13, 2026**

Congers United Methodist Church, Education Building, 86 Congers Road, Congers, NY 10920

4-6 PM

Sponsorship Levels from \$50 to \$1,000.
Tickets: \$50 adults, \$25 students/youth & children under 12 are free.
To sponsor or purchase tickets, go to <https://on-my-journey-now-39605.cheddarup.com> or use the QR code here----->

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