

The Scribe

November 2025

As we make plans for Thanksgiving, prepare our shopping lists, and coordinate with friends and family about who is going where and when, I want to take a moment to thank all of you, and particularly our church staff, for all that you have done for this family of faith.

The fall, and the whole year really, has been full of reasons to be thankful. From the creation of a new bell choir group called Bellissimo and the Children's Worship Arts program, to the mission trip to North Carolina, the new Christian Education curriculum for children and youth, and the addition of the playground for infants and toddlers, there is so much to be thankful for.

For those of you who come on Sunday mornings, I want to just remind you that an enormous effort goes into creating all of these opportunities to serve, learn, and worship together. Hours of planning and collaboration and practice take place before the actual events. Andy, Kathy, and Cheryl lead with creativity and humility and prepare weeks ahead of Sunday services. Michael is building bonds with teens and pre-teens. Christine has served faithfully as the ELC Director for twenty years, and Nancy grounds us all with consistent dedication.

But I want to take a moment to specifically thank Amanda. Amanda has adapted to the most noticeable and demanding area of growth of all – the children's ministry. I am thankful for Amanda's leadership and creativity that she has shown as the program has taken off. She directed a surprisingly well-attended Vacation Bible Camp and met needs as they changed each Sunday. It was particularly hard to keep up with new children's names, faces, and parents this year, and it is with gratitude that we say thank you to her as she steps down as Children's Ministry Coordinator after church on November 9th.

I call upon all of you to echo my thanks and for several of you to volunteer with the children's ministry to help carry on the growing program as the church interviews for our newest staff member.

Peace, Pastor Gin Courtney





FROM OUR SESSION

As our church continues to grow, we are pleased to welcome two babies for baptism. Joseph Zelano will be baptized on November 16 and Hayden Schilke on November 23.

For a few months, session has had conversation about finding ADA accessible, comfortable space to have meetings, seminars, movies, Bible study, etc. on our church campus. Many creative ideas have been considered, and we will share more as options are explored. It is important to our church that we be accessible not just to our own church members but the whole community as we proudly witness to in our church's name.

Finances continue to be reviewed by both the trustees and session members each month. While we projected a balanced budget in 2025, our current estimates show a \$17,000 shortfall in expected income. We are doing what we can to reduce our expenses but we want to be transparent with the congregation about what we are seeing.

The company that installed the new audio/visual equipment in the sanctuary will be back soon to make a final visit. Our website is not yet able to play recorded services, but we hope that, by the time you read this, a resolution is in place. We also looked at having the company wire the Chapel in the Pines but that bid is outside of our current budget at this time.

The new curriculum for the children's ministry is working well we are told. The teens will serve in worship once per month and just hosted a "Parents Night Out."

Session authorized the donation of a "Peace Pole", celebrating peace both in English and three other languages, and finally, the Presbyterian women will lead an adult Bible study in January which will be open to the whole church.

Art Ganz, Clerk of Session



Thanksgiving Harvest Table 2025



It is time to plan for our bountiful Harvest Table for Thanksgiving Sunday. Again, we will have a reversed offering asking for donations of fresh vegetables and fruit. On Sunday, November 9th as you enter the sanctuary there will be baskets with slips of paper naming the items we need donated. They are vegetables and fruits that have a long shelf life. Please take as many offering slips as you wish, purchase the item(s), and return the following Sunday November 16th. There will be a large container in the narthex for your donations. The container will remain through the week if you forget on the 16th. The table will be decorated after the bazaar on November 22nd. After worship on Sunday, November 23rd, all donations will be delivered to the W.A.R.M. Shelter and Jonnycake Center.

Let us celebrate Thanksgiving 2025 with grateful and generous hearts. Let's fill the Harvest Table fuller than all the other years!! Again, thank you for your continued generosity. God bless, and as always... peace.

Questions? Contact Pam Ganz at 401-787-1793 or Sandi Dinwoodie at 401-486-0591
P.S. Pumpkins and gourds are appreciated for added decoration.

Church Worship Attendance and Donations Summary September, 2025

| Date | Attendance | | | | Donations | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|----------|------------|-------|------------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| | 8A M | 10A M | Single | Total | Pledged | Other | Total |
| Sep-07 | | | 141 | 141 | \$ 4,647 | \$ 801 | \$ 5,448 |
| Sep-14 | 38 | 95 | | 133 | \$ 25,913 | \$ 1,291 | \$ 27,204 |
| Sep-21 | 32 | 108 | | 140 | \$ 2,412 | \$ 764 | \$ 3,176 |
| Sep-28 | 36 | 95 | | 131 | \$ 1,949 | \$ 1,855 | \$ 3,804 |
| Average-2025 | 44 | 95 | 112 | 137 | | | |
| Average-2024 | 39 | 81 | 145 | 119 | | | |
| * percent of year completed | | | | 75% | | | |
| Pledged Donations Year-to-Date | | | \$ 217,026 | 80% | Percent of annual budget collected | | |
| Other Donations Year-to-Date | | | \$ 34,543 | 41% | Percent of annual budget collected | | |
| Per Capita Payments | | | \$ 5,317 | 101% | Percent of annual budget collected | | |



CHRISTMAS BAZAAR COOKIE WALK

It's hard to believe we are right around the corner for our upcoming Christmas Bazaar, Saturday, November 22nd. With that said, I'm calling on all bakers to dig out your favorite recipes and start baking. Signup sheets are in Fellowship Hall waiting to be filled. **Please make sure to label all cookies** nuts/no nuts, or gluten free nuts/no nuts to ensure we put them in the appropriate area. Tables will be set up and labeled for drop off, anxiously waiting the arrival of your cookies. I'm requesting that they be dropped off on Friday, November 21st, downstairs in the choir room. We are looking forward to another successful year for our cookie walk, and want to send everyone home with a smile on their face. As always, thanks to all for your support.

Sharon DeSarro
Cookie Walk Chair

Calling All Bakers

We need your pies,
brownies, bars, cakes, etc....

Baked goods needed by Thursday November 21st.
Sign up in Fellowship Hall
Questions? Contact: Mimi Yu at mimilueyat@gmail.com



GRAMMA'S ATTIC

Our Christmas Bazaar's popular vintage shopping corner is looking for donations of unusual collectibles. Some suggestions are art glass, hand-blown glass, or collectible glassware such as carnival, milk glass, and depression; decorative dishes; vintage toys, especially Legos; lamps, candle holders, mirrors (hand and wall), vintage clothing, kitchenware, nesting bowls, pottery, and nautical items like fish or whale sculptures.

In addition, we are looking for vintage or gently used Christmas decorations.

Call **Kim Magro at 860-772-7412** if you have something you'd like to donate.

Christmas Bazaar and Raffle
Saturday, November 22nd, 2025 9 am to 2 pm



GATHERING GREENS

The Christmas Bazaar committee is looking for donations of evergreens for the holiday wreaths and greens committee. **Would you consider bringing your evergreen cuttings to church anytime after Nov. 7th?** They may be placed on the ground between the Meeting House and the small utility shed, or if you are able to, bring them down to the patio behind the meeting house.

Many evergreen types are useful: Fir, Spruce, White Pine, Juniper, Hemlock, Winterberry, Cedar or Umbrella Pine. In addition, we are delighted to receive red or white branches, as well as Andromeda, Rhododendron and Laurel that don't have insect or fungus damage. We are **not accepting Holly** this year.



Collecting free greens increases the profit we are able to earn - and makes the wreaths and arrangements more unusual and interesting!

Raffle

Tickets go on sale now in fellowship hall.

\$1.00 each or 15 for \$10.00



Get Your Tickets!

Jewelry Corner

ITEMS NEEDED
(All in good condition)



I am happy to receive any jewelry and jewelry box donations for the jewelry table at the bazaar.

If you have any jewelry questions, please Contact Jane Larkin at jalarkin@hotmail.com

Stewardship

Thank you to everyone who has invested in Dunn's Corners Community Church by filling out your 2026 estimated giving cards! This edition of the Scribe comes at an awkward time, because it was printed at the end of October, before our final Stewardship Sunday, but will arrive in your mailboxes after the final Sunday, so we don't yet have numbers to share with you, but we have faith and hope that, together, we will provide the necessary funds to keep our church strong.

Every contribution, no matter the amount, truly makes a difference and is deeply appreciated. By sharing your gifts today, you help shape the future of our church and ensure that our story continues for generations to come.

We understand that life's journey comes with various challenges and changes. As you have prayerfully reflected on the ways God has blessed you, we have already seen how your enthusiasm is growing. Your generous support helps us continue vital ministries and outreach programs that serve both our congregation and the wider community, inspiring hope and strengthening our church family.

If you have not turned in your card yet, it's not too late! The budget process for 2026 is just getting underway, and your information helps the church officers understand where we can grow and how we can support our staff and the mission of our church.

If you have any concerns or would like to discuss your investment further, please feel free to reach out. We are here to support one another in our walk with Jesus. Thank you to those who submitted your cards already for your continued faith and generosity! In Christ's love,

Stewardship Committee
Bruce Yarnall
Bob Strouse
Sue Strouse
Charles Jones



**VETERANS
DAY** ★★★★★

We are honoring our veterans in worship on Sunday, November 9th. We have a list of the names of all the veterans that have been submitted over the last several years. Please help us make sure the list is complete.

Send the names of veterans connected to our congregation to dunnschurch@gmail.com

October has been such a lovely month for us. The weather has been perfect and we have achieved a lot of learning and fun.

We thoroughly enjoyed our fire safety unit. We welcomed Firefighter Jake into our classroom. He read us an engaging story, allowed us each to hold a special firefighter tool, taught us about the tools, and dressed into his uniform. He allowed us to touch his uniform to show us that firefighters should never be scary, but rather they are always there to help us. To finish off our fire safety unit, we will be taking a field trip to the Dunn's Corners Fire Station at the end of the month in our Halloween costumes.

We will also be making a stop at Broadview and Dunn's Corners Market to go trick or treating. We are so excited to host our third Trunk or Treat on Friday 10/24. We have 12 families signed up to decorate their trunks for our preschoolers. We cannot thank our families enough for supporting our program and our family engagement activities.

We try to host a family engagement activity once a month. We are continually learning math, science, social studies and literacy skills through our different units. Most recently, we have been learning through our Fall unit which include: apples, pumpkins, leaves, fire safety, and of course Halloween. Some activities have included learning our color words, completing different patterns, reading a firefighter decodable book, using our 5 senses to describe an apple, talking about our weekends.

We cannot wait to continue building on our skills and knowledge through our next units: 5 senses, food groups/healthy eating, body parts, and of course Thanksgiving.





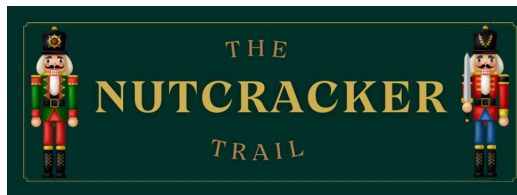
Angel Tree

Every year at holiday time the Jonnycake Center has a program called “Adopt a Family” We call this our Angel Tree. We take approximately 50 children’s wishes and hang a tag on our tree in the rear of the Sanctuary. Each tag has requests for gift cards which are given to the parents so that they can shop for that special gift for their child. We also hang requests for grocery gift cards. Last year we donated \$1,500.00 for groceries. This year our tree will be up in the Sanctuary on **Sunday, November 23rd**. We hope we can have another successful Angel Tree this year!



Deacon’s Speaker Series

Sunday, November 23, 2025 following the church service. (*We will have only one service that day from 9:00 -10:00 am.) Linda Wilkinson, Founder of the Chikumbuso Project in Africa, will speak about her work with women in Zambia. The Chikumbuso Project is dedicated to building empowered community through love, education, and micro-enterprise.



Kickoff Event Friday, November 28, 2025 3:00pm—7:30pm

United Theater, Westerly

Admission \$5 per person—\$10 for family of 4

Come see DCCCP’s nutcracker along with all the other local business sponsored nutcrackers for the first time all together

DEACONS

Corner

Deacons who are faithfully serving the congregation are:

Sue Eldridge, Stephanie Cahoon, Karen Ingalls, Bonnie Krauss, Sam Pierson, Jeanne Pietraallo, Stacey Pride, Cheryl Remsbecker, Sandy Santy, Doreen Smith, Cheryl Spino, and Susan Strouse.

The deacons of DCCCP are busy helping people and groups in the congregation and the larger community. Our deacons are currently involved in many activities, and we invite you to join us in our endeavors. Deacons continue to seek ways to grow as a community where God's love and kindness are available for all. A few ongoing activities are highlighted below.

Warm Shelter Dinner: DCCCP members will serve the Swiss chicken dinner on **Saturday, November 1.** Volunteers are needed and there is a sign-up list next to the Warm Center food sign-up list in Fellowship Hall. This will take place on the first Saturday of each month from approximately 3:00 - 6:00. This includes heating, setup and serving the food - there is no cleanup required of the volunteers.

The Warm Shelter address is 56 Spruce St in Westerly, RI. We are reaching out to the congregation to help support this ministry.

If you have any questions, please contact Doreen at (401) 429-8969. Thank you.

Jonnycake: We continue to greatly appreciate all the donations received! As we turn to fall we could use the following items:

- Coffee
- Tea
- Soup

Thank you for your support!

Food and Fellowship Ministry: As we all know, food and fellowship are important parts of DCCCP! Coffee hour, memorial collations, holiday dinners, and Diamond lunches are significant ways we can join together and share food and friendship inside and outside the congregation. We can help feed neighbors and involve the community in lifting our spirits and sharing our love.

Thank you for signing up to provide refreshments for the congregation after church services. We appreciate cookies or coffee cake, cheese and crackers, or fruit and veggies-- anything to snack on while enjoying coffee hour! Please note we place a small basket on the table for Donations. Whatever money we collect, we buy supplies for the kitchen such as coffee, tea, sugar, and juice. We do rely on these donations to make sure we have what we need each week for fellowship, and funds are currently low, so please contribute what you can to the basket. Thank you! If you have any questions, please see Jeanne Pietraallo or Sandy Santy.



Friday, December 12, 2025 at 7:00pm



Yes, the popular book is a movie!

Come see this inspiring and fun movie.
Rated PG. Great for the whole family.

Tickets are \$10
15% off Concession food (does not include alcohol)

See Cathy Kellers for tickets



DECEMBER 7TH, 4:00-6:00

We will be creating ornaments to decorate the tree in fellowship hall and to bring home.



@ DUNNS CORNERS COMMUNITY CHURCH PRESBYTERIAN

IN FELLOWSHIP HALL!

221 POST RD, WESTERLY, RI 02891

HANDMADE WITH HOLIDAY MAGIC!

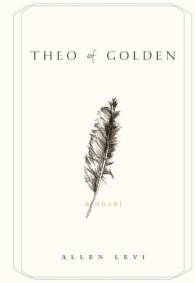
A supper of soup, salad, and dessert will be served.

All are welcome to join us for a fun and festive time!!

Presbyterian Women's Book Club

The Presbyterian Women's Book Club is planning to meet December 8th, at 7pm to discuss the book *Theo the Golden* By Allen Levi.

Anyone interested should contact Sue Rieger at talltreesue1@gmail.com to receive the zoom link.



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN – CALISTA CIRCLE

We had a very productive meeting in October. There were seventeen in attendance. It is great to see it grow. Remember, if you are a woman of the church and you are available at 1pm on the third Monday of the month, you are welcome to come and join us.

The Book Club book for Mon, Dec 8th at 7pm is “Theo of Golden” by Allen Levi.

A vote was taken to have all funds raised from our summer book sale to go to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

We will be promoting the Job Lot Veterans day coat donation. Buy a coat at Job Lot and get a \$45 gift card. We will have signups on Sundays after both services starting Nov 2nd to Nov 16th. Look for more information to be in upcoming bulletins.

For our November meeting, we will be putting together graduate packages for last year's graduating seniors. There will be four boxes. We will also be choosing the Bible study we will start in January. This will be open to the whole congregation





The Children's Ministry program nurtures the next generation of our church, giving the children a safe space for spiritual growth, positive role models, as well as educational opportunities. By investing in our programs, we are helping to build a brighter future for our church. Some ways you can help with our programs are with monetary donations, donating items to upcoming events, and volunteering.



Dear Dunn's Corners family,

Since 2014 I've had the joy of working with our Teen Team. Week after week we share laughter, food, real talk and scripture; while serving our neighbors and practicing grace. I get a front row seat as shy sixth graders grow into servant hearted seniors and then come back from college to cheer on the next crew. Your encouragement and support makes this all possible. Thank you for believing in the next generation. They aren't the church of tomorrow, they're a vital part of the church today.

Sincerely,
Michael Walton



There is so much happening in the world of Christian Ed. We are blessed to have so many children and youth coming to church, attending the Sunday school program, participating in worship arts, and coming to teen time.

Starting in September, the third Sunday of the month was designated Children and Youth Sunday. You may see them helping out as ushers, worship assistants, greeters, and more. This is such an important part of ensuring that the kids feel like they are part of the church community. As we have said several times before, the children and youth are not just the future of the church; they are the heart of the church right now.

In that same vein, you may notice a new addition to the sanctuary space, the playground. Pastor Gin mentioned it in the October Scribe, and it has become a reality. The playground is for our youngest children, ages 3 and under. It is a way for parents to stay in the sanctuary and worship with their kids, while the kids have quiet, age-appropriate toys to help keep them occupied.



The children have been engaging with the new curriculum and participating in the worship arts program with Andy. During the service on Sunday, October 5, the kids did their first worship arts activity and played the chimes right before communion. They are currently preparing for their next activity. It will be another great experience for everyone.

MISSION News

During late September and October the Mission Committee continued to purchase both gas and laundromat gift cards which were given to the Jonnycake Center. They give these cards to Homeless people as needed. Comments from the people themselves indicate they are extremely grateful for this kind of assistance.

Sixteen members of our congregation completed a one week mission trip to Burnsville, NC under the auspices of the Fuller Center for Disaster Relief to help renovate houses destroyed in Hurricane Helene a year ago. The trip was very successful and much work was accomplished. The entire team would like to thank the congregation and the Mission Committee members for their support that made this outreach possible. A congregational soup dinner was held on Monday night, October 27th to share information about the trip, including a slide show.



Dunn's Corners Community Church,
Presbyterian
221 Post Road
Westerly, Rhode Island 02891

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid Westerly, RI 02891
Permit No. 145

Return Service Requested



The Scribe
November 2025

Follow us on Facebook @ Dunn's Corners Community Church, Presbyterian and on Instagram @ Dunn's Corners Community Church

Diamonds Among Us!

We extend our birthday wishes to:

- 🕯 Tom Roy November 3
- 🕯 Robin Johnson November 10
- 🕯 Sam Pierson November 25
- 🕯 Phillip Clark November 28



Young at Heart
Happy Birthday

Diamonds (70 and beyond), please contact the Church Office at (401) 322-0655 or sign up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall and add your name to our list.

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|--|--|---|---|
|  | | | | | | 1 8 am-2 pm Deacons Collect Meals for the WARM Center (FH) |
| 2 Communion Sunday 8 am Worship 9 am Fellowship Hour 10 am Worship & Sunday School 11 am Fellowship Hour | 3 | 4 8:30 am Work Team 4 pm Worship Committee (Z) 5 pm Christian Ed Committee 5:30-7:30pm Teen Time (T) 5:30-7pm GriefShare (S) 6pm Buildings and Grounds (M) 6pm Trustees (M) | 5 1:30-3:30pm Westerly Village (FH) 6-8 pm Cub Scouts (FH) | 6 5:45-6:50 pm Glory Ringers 7-8:30pm Chancel Choir | 7 | 8 3pm Memorial Service |
| 9 8 am Worship 9 am Fellowship Hour 10 am Worship & Sunday School 11 am Fellowship Hour | 10 | 11  5-7pm Teen Time (T) 5:30-7pm GriefShare (S) 7 pm Session (M) | 12 1:30-3:30 pm Westerly Village (FH) 6pm Christmas Bazaar Meeting (ELC) 6-8 pm Cub Scouts (FH) | 13 5:45-6:50 pm Glory Ringers 7-8:30pm Chancel Choir | 14 | 15 |
| 16 8 am Worship 9 am Fellowship Hour 10 am Worship & Sunday School 11 am Fellowship Hour | 17 1 pm Presbyterian Women (FH) | 18 8:30 am Work Team 5 - 7pm Teen Time (T) 5:30-7pm GriefShare (S) | 19 1:30-3:30 pm Westerly Village (FH) 6-8 pm Cub Scouts (FH) | 20 5:45-6:50 pm Glory Ringers 7-8:30pm Chancel Choir | 21 | 22  9 am—2 pm Christmas Bazaar |
| Thanksgiving Harvest Table 23 9 am Worship 10 am Fellowship Hour 11 am Deacon's Speaker Series | 24 | 25 8:30 am Work Team 5-7 pm Teen Time (T) 5:30-7pm GriefShare (S) 7 pm Deacons (M) | 26 1:30-3:30 pm Westerly Village (FH) 6-8 pm Cub Scouts (FH) | 27  | 28 3-7:30 pm Nutcracker Kick-off event at the United Theater | 29 |
| 30 8 am Worship 9 am Fellowship Hour 10 am Worship & Sunday School 11 am Fellowship Hour | | | | | | |