

May 10, 2026

10:00 AM

Come gather for fellowship following our Worship Service

BECOMING LIKE CHRIST – MAKING HIM KNOWN COME WORSHIP THE LORD!



PREPARATION OF OUR MINDS

(Entering worship, let us prepare our hearts reflecting on this.)

When New Testament writers say, "Love your neighbor as yourself," they're saying, "Nurture that new nature inside you so you can love your neighbor as yourself." You have to be born in order to grow. If you're going to grow physically, you have to be born physically. If you're going to grow spiritually, you have to be born spiritually. -- Timothy Keller

WELCOME & LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE + LIGHTING OF CANDLES: "If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee." H. Vetter

CALL TO WORSHIP

INVOCATION & LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN: "If You Will Trust in God to Guide You"

Hymnal #636

THE PEACE

*OLD TESTAMENT: Psalm 125

Bible p.613

*NEW TESTAMENT: Revelation 3:14-22

Bible p.1217

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(Sharing our joys and burdens in prayer.)

OFFERTORY: "Alleluia! Hear the Sound" Pasley The Sherman Church Choir

*DOXOLOGY

Hymnal #808

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

SERMON: "Gardening Tips From the Master Gardener" Matthew 13:1-23

Pastor Loring Carpenter Bible p.968

*HYMN: "We are Called to Be God's People"

Hymnal #710

*BENEDICTION and THREEFOLD AMEN

(*Congregation, please stand if able.)

NEXT WEEK: We continue with the series "Rooted." Scripture: 1 Corinthians 3:5-9

Calendar for May 10th - 16th

(Links for online meetings may be found at shermanchurch.org)

Table with 3 columns: Day, Time, and Event. Rows include Sun., May 10 (10:00 am, Sunday Worship Service, Sunday School), Mon., May 11 (9:00 am, Hearts & Crafts - Fellowship Hall), Tues., May 12 (7:15 pm, Missions - Online), Wed., May 13 (10:00 am, 6:30 pm, 7:00 pm, Women's Bible Study - Fellowship Hall, Church Council - Online, Alcoholics Anonymous - Fellowship Hall), Thurs., May 14 (6:45 pm, 7:00 pm, Prayer In The Parlor, Dialing 667-770-1484; when prompted, use access code 357664#, Alcoholics Anonymous - Fellowship Hall), Fri., May 15 (6:30 pm, Trustees - Office)

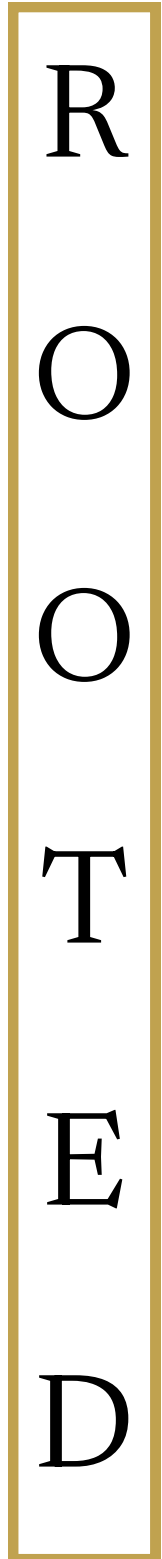
Church Responsibilities for May 10th

Flowers: Anna Galasso

Coffee Hour Host: Aimée Suhie

Nursery: Aimée Suhie

HAPPY Mother's Day



OUR CHURCH:

Interim Pastor:

Rev. John Loring Carpenter

Ministers:

The Congregation

Minister of Music:

Penny Rose

Moderator:

Charles Mastroni

You may make a prayer request anytime by contacting the church office at info@shermanchurch.org or (860)-354-6114. Outside of office hours (9:00 AM – 2:00 PM) or for an emergency prayer or pastoral request contact the Chair of Deacons (deacon@shermanchurch.org or 860-733-9972) or the Pastor (pastor@shermanchurch.org or 860-350-5151). Let us join together in prayer!

PRAYER IS ALWAYS OUR MISSION

Prayer is a vital part of our ministry at The Sherman Church.

You are invited to join in prayer each Thursday to pray for our church. Dial-in information is in the calendar.

FIRE EXITS are located at the rear of the sanctuary through the double doors and at the front through the doors on both sides of the altar.

THE SHERMAN CHURCH

Gathered In 1744

Continuing to invite all to know the love of Jesus

6 Church Road | Sherman, CT 06784

860-354-6114

info@shermanchurch.org | Shermanchurch.org

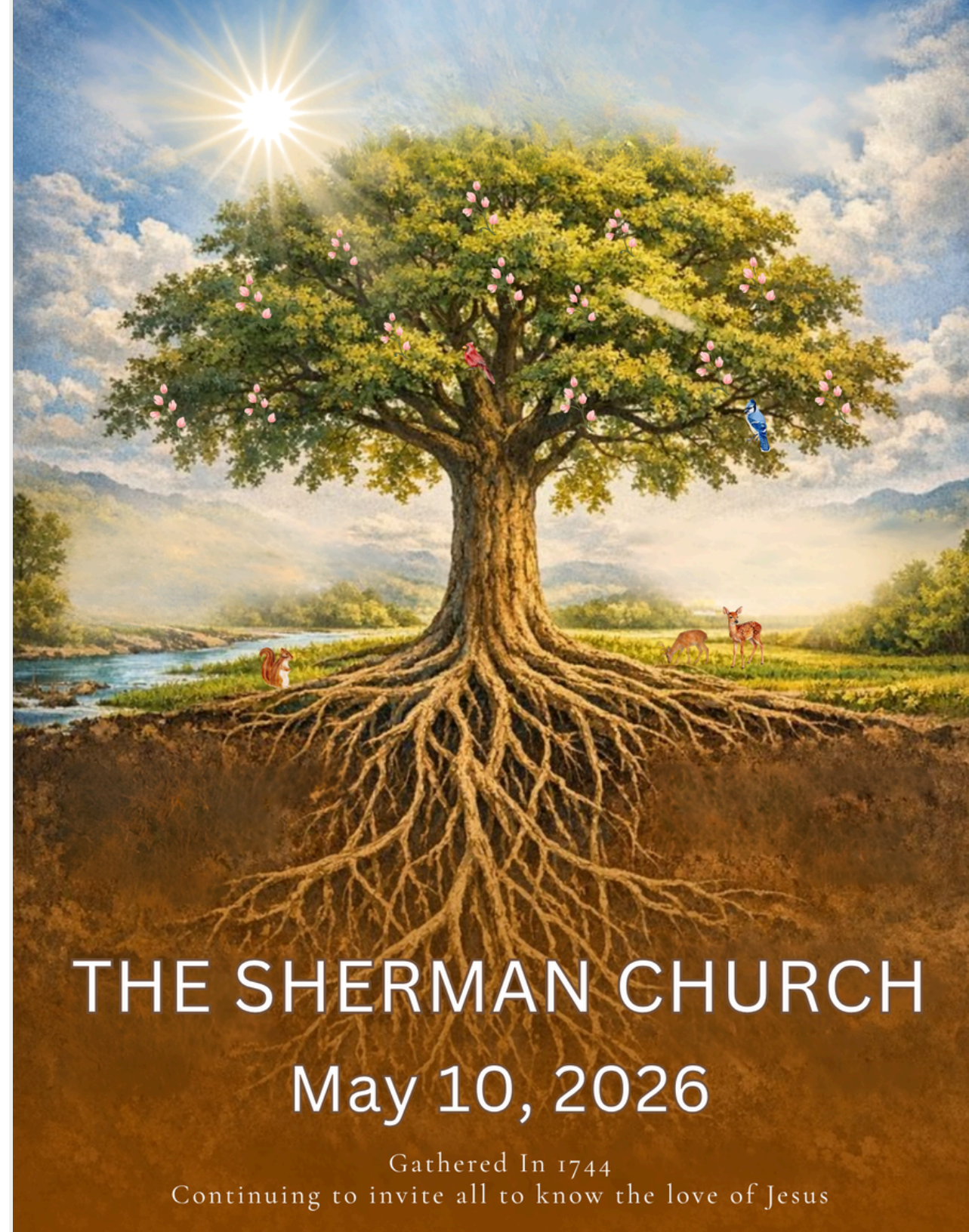
A MEMBER CHURCH OF THE CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE

OUR MISSIONARIES:

- **Mesa Global:** Robert & Nina Bruneau;
- **CCCC Church Re-Planting:** Green Mountain Church, Chester, VT,
- **Lion of Judah Academy,**
- **Hope Academy of the Bronx.**

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

- Eliza Capehart, serving in the United States Air Force.
- John Langworthy, back injury.
- Jim Beddows, health.
- Jim and Christine Munch, health.
- Roberta Judd, health.
- Christopher Siebert, healing of foot.
- Rev. Daniel Morton, health
- Betty Freeman, health
- Chris Freeman, health, strength in the care of her mother
- Debbie Whittaker, Dawn Langworthy's sister. Healing and growing faith.
- Jill Finch, Strength and healing during troubled times.
- Mike Annuzzi, friend of Tim Alemany, healing
- Bereaved Family of Rev. Michael Smith.
- Bereaved Family of Rev. Paul Astbury



THE SHERMAN CHURCH

May 10, 2026

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Continuing to invite all to know the love of Jesus

REGISTRATION IS OPEN

SHINING A LIGHT ON
WHO JESUS REALLY IS

AGES 5-11

ILLUMINATION
STATION
JOHN 8:12

VBS

AT THE SHERMAN CHURCH

6 Church Road, Sherman, CT

JULY 20 - 24TH

9:00 AM - 12:30 PM

REGISTER NOW!

[HTTPS://WWW.MYVBS.ORG/
2026-SHERMANCHURCHVBS](https://www.myvbs.org/2026-ShermanChurchVBS)



The Ministry Insight Tool (MIT) helps a church evaluate their ministry during a time of pastoral transition. Our church completed the MIT about 2.5 years ago. We want to retake the survey to see the progress we have made by comparing the results of the new MIT with the first one.

Churches that have done this have seen significant progress in key areas of their church's health. This not only helps us see where we need to continue to focus our attention, but it is a great encouragement to see what the Lord has done. It also is a great encouragement to prospective pastors.

Everyone who is part of our church family is invited to take the survey. The survey takes about 25 minutes to complete and is an opportunity to take an extensive look into various aspects of our church's ministry. The MIT will be available for two weeks beginning Sunday, May 17th. It will close at midnight on Monday, June 1st.

Follow this link to take the survey online – this is the preferred method:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/ShermanChurch2026

Paper copies are available for those unable to take the survey online. Paper copies must be returned to the designated spot by Sunday, May 31st. But, when possible, please use a smart phone, MIT Insight Tool. Use your smart phone or tablet's camera to open the MIT by aiming it at this QR code.



If you have questions, please contact the Office or Pastor Carpenter.

Strengthening churches
during pastoral transition
for greater effectiveness!



MAY – A MONTH OF PRAYER BEGINS

“Corporate prayer isn’t an extra credit assignment for the spiritual overachievers. It’s the means by which God moves when His people agree together and call on His name. Something changes when believers pray out loud, in one room, for one purpose... Corporate prayer wasn’t a program they endured. It was the engine that drove everything else.” – Daniel Henderson

The past few months have been filled with emotions and infused with assurances of faith. We are now in a transition no one expected – but God. Scripture is clear: if we are to walk through the valleys of life, we are to remain connected with our Father for strength and guidance.

It is essential that we enter this next phase of corporate life together, connected with the Lord. That happens only through PRAYER! We encourage all to share their hearts through the MIT, but also to engage with one another in prayer, much like the first gathering of Jesus-followers. Two opportunities you are urged to share this month are:

PRAYER TRIPLETS

From today May 10 through June 13 gather with two or three people on a weekly basis to share in prayer. Each week a Prayer Guide will be in the bulletin and the weekly email. Commit to one another to pray together at a time convenient to the group.



A CONCERT OF PRAYER THURSDAY, MAY 21, 6:30 pm

Let your voices join in prayer as we call on God in humble praise to guide our search for Pastor Next and for discerning leaders as we enter the summer months.



PRAYER GUIDE – ROOTED

Week of May 10 - 16, 2026

Psalm 1 – Read the passage aloud together slowly, reflectively. What words jump out for you as essential to being a disciple?

REVERENCE – After a brief silence, share prayerfully a thought or two about what this says about God, His heart, faithfulness, love.
Father, like the tree planted by the water you give me _____.

RESPONSE – “Whoever has ears, let them hear.” (Matt. 13:9)
I confess I have been tempted to listen to the talk of the world, to rush through life without the nourishment of your Word when _____. I surrender my heart that I will meditate more faithfully on your truth.

REFLECTION – What should we pray about in light of this Psalm?
Lord, help me delight in your law when I am tempted to _____.
Father, I am trusting you to sustain me and allow me to bear fruit as I _____.

READINESS – Where do I go from here?
When I am prone to doubt, remind me that you know my way especially when I wander and wonder by _____.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

What can you do next week to strengthen the soil of your heart?

PLAN TO SHARE IN A CONCERT OF PRAYER THURSDAY, MAY 21, 6:30 PM. At THE SHERMAN CHURCH

“Corporate prayer isn’t an extra credit assignment for the spiritual overachievers.”
– Daniel Henderson.

Prayer is the life-source for all believers, multiplied when shared together as in the early church (see Acts 2)

PLEASE JOIN OUR

Women's BRUNCH

SATURDAY | MAY 16 | 10:00 AM
2026

"Be still and know I am God"

PSALM 46:10

RSVP to:

<https://forms.gle/UPV3uMhiunmihWws5>

Email: Info@shermanchurch.org

Or Call 860-354-6114

RSVP DEADLINE: MAY 11TH



ANN VAN HINE

The Missions Committee will host a Women's Brunch Saturday, May 16, from 10am to noon in Fellowship Hall. Christian speaker **Ann Van Hine** of Lititz, PA, the widow of New York firefighter Bruce Van Hine killed in 9/11, will speak on "Stillness in a Chaotic World."

The brunch is free and open to all, but RSVPs are needed through

<https://forms.gle/UPV3uMhiunmihWws5>, Church Email (info@shermanchurch.org), or by calling the church office at 860-354-6114.

Van Hine is the author of *Pieces Falling: Navigating 9/11 with Faith, Family & the FDNY*. She has spoken throughout the country as well as internationally in Japan, Belgium, England and Northern Ireland about experiencing personal loss amid a national tragedy. She has led walking tours of the National 9/11 Memorial, and participated in a hearing at the European Parliament. Her story is included in the Netflix documentary *Turning Point 9/11* which was released in 2021.

Her talk will be based on *Psalm 46:10* -- "*Be still and know I am God.*" Van Hine will discuss the Biblical concept of stillness and how we need stillness to be able to connect to God. "I share parts of my September 11th story and how God was who He says He is," she explained. "I believe the stories of September 11, 2001, are like a mosaic. The stories don't fit together like a puzzle. Instead, they lay next to each other to form the larger narrative of what happened that day and since."

The brunch menu will include casseroles and quiche, homemade muffins and fruit, pastries and beverages. A freewill donation will be taken.



RSVP



Book of Remembrance Sunday

The Book of Remembrance has a long history in the Sherman Church. It began in 1943 as a memorial fundraising effort to help build the Fellowship Hall. Today, it continues to honor loved ones and to raise funds for projects of a lasting nature – adding to the beauty of the sanctuary and keeping the memorial garden.

Donations to the Book of Remembrance may be made at any time during the year, but the names are always held for public reading during the worship service on Memorial Sunday. This year, the memorial reading will be held on May 24. Deadline for donations to be included in the 2026 reading is **Sunday, May 17.**

Donations may be made to the BOR “in honor” of the living or “in memory” of loved ones who have passed. Please make checks out to “BOR” and put the form and your check in the collection plate or give it to Penny, Anna, or Edna. You may mail them to the church office. A donation form is enclosed for your convenience.

Edna Coons, Chair, BOR

My name, phone and address:

Enclosed find my donation to the Book of Remembrance.

Please make this donation: (circle one): **in honor of** or **in memory of** the following

person or persons: (please print clearly)
