

OUR CHURCH:

Pastor:

Greg Flower

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!

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
- Mike Annuzzi, friend of Tim Alemany, healing
- Claire Seibert, health and healing
- Sean McGarry, friend of Caitlin Hicks, health and healing
- Dr. Richard Suhie, healing

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

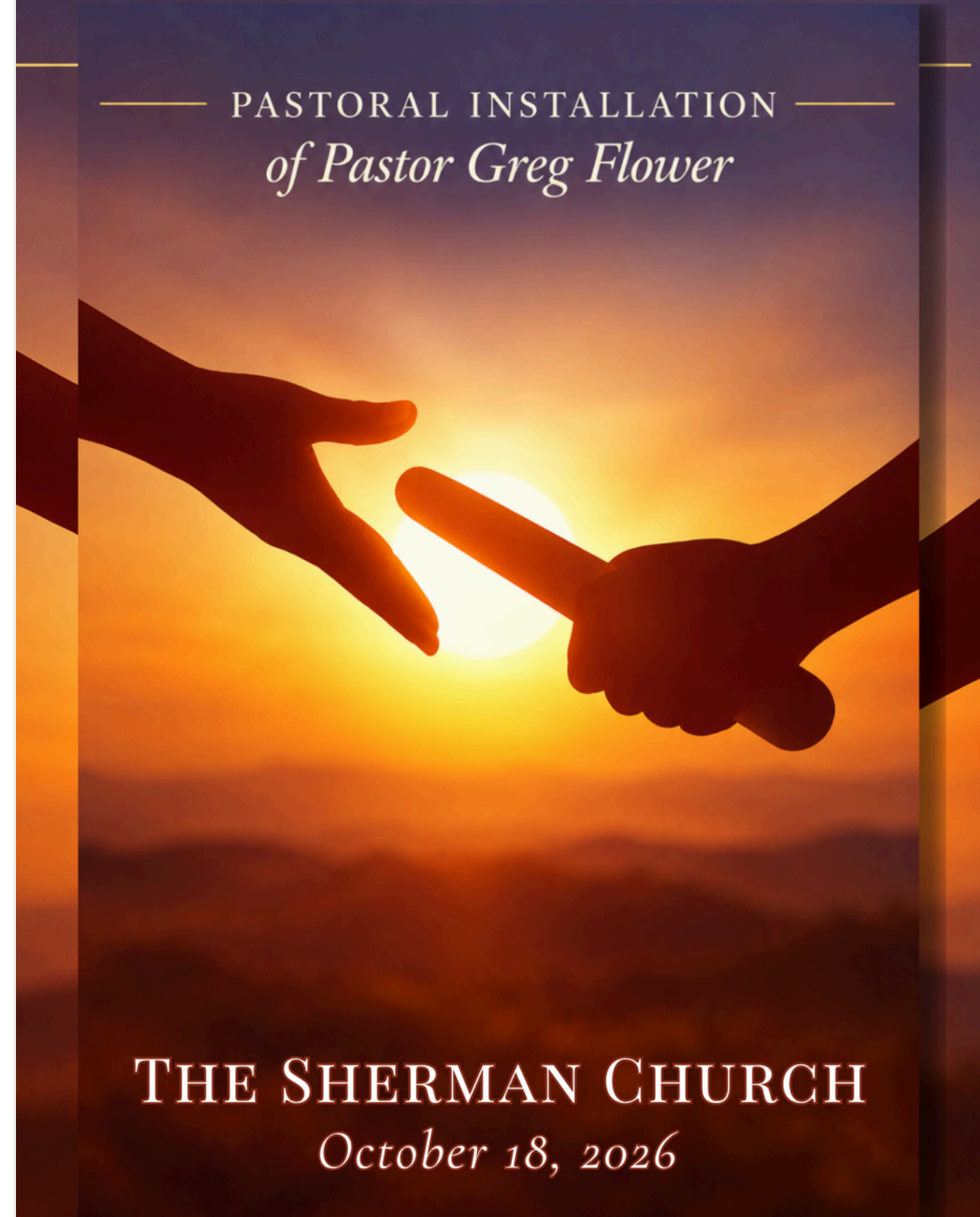
6 Church Road | Sherman, CT 06784

860-354-6114

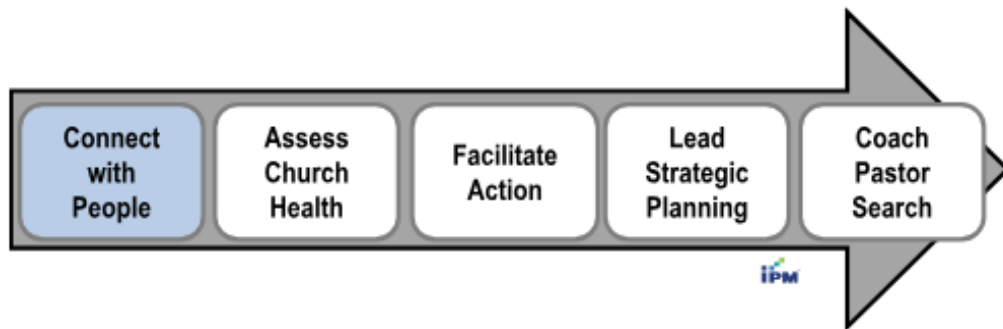
info@shermanchurch.org | Shermanchurch.org

A MEMBER CHURCH OF THE CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE

PASTORAL INSTALLATION *of Pastor Greg Flower*



WHERE THE SHERMAN CHURCH HAS BEEN



- Nov 2022 – A time of getting acquainted, hearing stories, and healing hearts as we looked to Christ.
- Jun 2023 – First meeting of the Transition Team to begin the assessment of our pastor and discern God's future.
- Nov 2023 – Journey Wall experience, a first step to a new vision for the future.
- Apr 2024 – Adoption of a Vision Statement
- Feb 2024 – Transition Team becomes Search Team
- May 2024 – Formal Search begins
- Mar 2026 – New Pastor called, and God calls him before he begins.
- Jun 2026 – New search begins
- Aug 2026 – Pastor Greg Flower called as Pastor of The Sherman Church
- Oct 2026 -- INSTALLATION OF PASTOR GREG FLOWER!**

**PRAISE GOD FOR HIS HANDIWORK
IN DRAWING HIS PEOPLE TOGETHER.**

A SHERMAN CHURCH COVENANT BUILDING A WAY FORWARD October 18, 2026

Recognizing that God has brought into our lives His under-shepherd, Greg Flower, and affirming that God has brought us this far as his church, the body of Christ, to be his ambassadors, his ministers to our area, we covenant with and before God Almighty to share this journey together in the following ways. His is a unique calling, to walk in faith and love with us as we grow deeper in knowing Christ and in sharing that faith with those around us – the mission of The Sherman Church.

- 1. I covenant before God to PRAY for our pastor, his family, and one another daily, that God will guide us in a journey of faith and life that only can be known in Christ Jesus, my Savior and Lord.
1 Thessalonians 5:12-18
- 2. I covenant before God to PARTICIPATE alongside my pastor as a member of the Body of Christ, in this local church.
1 Corinthians 12:12-27
- 3. I covenant before God to be PATIENT with our pastor, his family, and with one another, seeking always unity in Christ?
Ephesians 4:1-6
- 4. I covenant before God to PRACTICE Christlike servanthood, serving one another in love, yielding to the needs of others more than myself?
Philippians 2:1-11

This covenant I make today, after prayerful thought and reflection, seeking God's strength and wisdom that His Spirit will work in me through prayer-filled obedience, so together we may grow in faith and witness to the glory of Christ my Savior, my Lord.

Signed: _____

THE MISSION OF THE SHERMAN CHURCH
Becoming Like Christ and Making Him Known

The Supremacy of Christ

Colossians 1:15-18

Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him. He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together. Christ is also the head of the church, which is his body. He is the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead. So he is first in everything.

I generally don't like being told what to do. (If you told me I had to finish off the rest of the chocolate cake or the cookies, I would very much like being told to do that!) There is something about us as a species that tends to rebel against power and authority. We don't like the thought of someone ruling over us. Yet history and experience show us over and over that we need that.

Paul is writing his letter to the believers in Colossae about the authority, the supremacy, of Christ. Paul is in prison as he writes that letter. He understands authority. He understands the importance of authority and of submitting to that authority. But the authority he has in mind is not man's authority over man, but Christ's authority over all things. Paul reminds the Colossians that Christ, "existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation." We are being reminded of that as well. We, as humans, are part of that creation. Jesus is not just our Savior. He is also our Lord. We are called to recognize and surrender to Christ's supremacy. His complete authority. Every day. What will it take to move from just having Him present in our lives (passive faith) to recognizing His supremacy over everything, including ourselves (active faith)? Will you do that?

Questions:

How does recognizing Christ as "the image of the invisible God" shape my understanding of God's character and deepen my trust in Scripture as the final authority for faith and practice?

Where in my life do I need to more fully acknowledge Christ's supremacy—especially in areas where competing loyalties, habits, or cultural pressures challenge His lordship?

How does knowing that "all things were created through Him and for Him" reshape my sense of purpose, calling, and stewardship within my family, work, and congregation?

In what ways am I contributing to the health, unity, and mission of The Sherman Church, given that Christ is "the head of the body, the church"?

How is Christ's supremacy becoming visible in my daily discipleship—through my decisions, relationships, worship, and witness to the world?

The Abundant Life

The Supremacy of Christ

Colossians 1:15-18

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.

The book of Colossians is a letter Paul wrote to _____ in the city of Colossae.

It was written to a group of people that he had never _____ and a church that he didn't _____.

Paul is reminding the believers in Colossae that Jesus rules as _____.

He is reminding _____ of the same thing.

WHAT DOES SUPREMACY MEAN?

The state or condition of being _____ to all others in authority, power, or status.

It means there is no one higher in _____ or _____.

God has created a world of _____, not chaos. To preserve that order and prevent chaos, there must be _____ and authority. Someone has to rule.

Jesus **RULES** and reigns, and there is no one higher.

WHY IS JESUS SUPREME?

Jesus is _____.

I and the Father are one. (John 10:30)

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: ⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage... (Philippians 2:5-6)

Jesus has been given all authority over us by _____ the _____.

Scripture tells us very clearly that Christ is _____.

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. (Colossians 1:15-18)

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN FOR US TODAY?

We must acknowledge Christ's authority as _____.

The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. (2 Corinthians 4:4)

We must surrender and _____ to Christ's authority _____.

Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. (Romans 8:5)

⁵ *In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:*
⁶ *Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! (Philippians 2:5-8)*

Recognize the difference between His mere _____ in your life (passive) and His supremacy over your _____ (active).

⁵⁹ *He said to another man, "Follow me." But he replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."* ⁶⁰ *Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God."* ⁶¹ *Still another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family." (Luke 9:59-61)*

Recognizing Jesus as both Savior and _____ is part of how you live out the abundant life Jesus _____.