

BECOMING LIKE CHRIST AND MAKING HIM KNOWN

COME WORSHIP THE LORD!



PREPARATION OF OUR MINDS

As God's children, we are not to be observers; we're to participate actively in the Lord's work.
Spectators sit and watch, but we are called to use our spiritual gifts and serve continually.
Charles Stanley

WELCOME & LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE + LIGHTING OF CANDLES: 'Tis the Gift to Be Simple"

C. Callahan"

CALL TO WORSHIP, INVOCATION & LORD’S PRAYER (debts)

* HYMN: “We Are Called to be God's People"

Hymnal #710

* THE PEACE

OFFERTORY PRAYER & ANTHEM: "Lift Thine Eyes" (from Elijah) F. Mendelssohn
Women of the Sherman Church Choir

DOXOLOGY

*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*

Hymnal #808

(Children dismissed for “Jesus is F.U.N.” time)

* OLD TESTAMENT: Exodus 31:1-6

Bible p.85

* NEW TESTAMENT: Romans 12:4-8

Bible p.1123

* GOSPEL: Matthew 10:1-8

Bible p.964

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(Sharing our joys and burdens in prayer.)

* HYMN: "Spirit of the Living God"

Hymnal #297

SERMON: “The Abundant Life: Unleashing Your God Given Gifts”

Pastor Greg Flower

* HYMN: "We're Marching to Zion”

Hymnal #596

* BENEDICTION and THREEFOLD AMEN

*(*Congregation, please stand if able.)*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We gather to praise God and listen to God’s Word. We are a fellowship knit together by Jesus Christ, who has called us and seeks our worship each and every day. We are a people devoted to “Becoming Like Christ.” We would love for you to join us in worship, growth groups, prayer, and study as well as fun and fellowship through the year.

LET US KNOW...

... if you have a prayer request or wish to share a comment with church leaders.
... if you are new to The Sherman Church and wish to know more by receiving emails of a visit to answer questions about this ministry.

... BY COMPLETING THE CONNECTION CARD

Available in each pew rack; place it in the offering plate or give it to an usher.
Above all, please...

Come gather for fellowship following our Worship Service

NEXT WEEK: Pastor Greg Flower will be preaching. Continuing the series, “The Abundant Life: Arising Faithful Stewards”, reading from 1 Peter 4:10

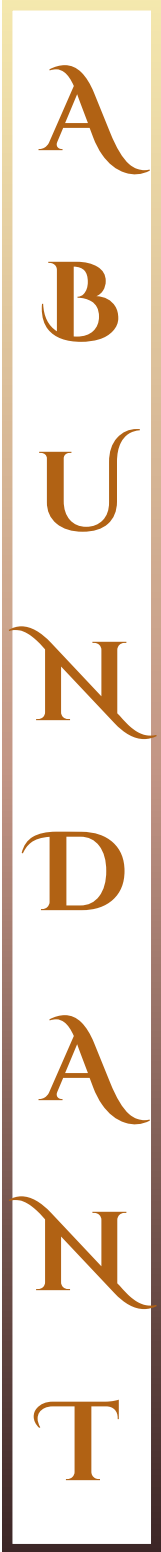
Church Responsibilities for October 25, 2026

Flowers: Lynne Gomez
Coffee Hour Host: Ken and Suzanne Leach
Nursery: Barbara Hoag

Calendar for Oct. 25^t - Nov. 1st

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

Sun., Oct. 25	10:00 am	Sunday Worship Service Sunday School	Discipleship Journey: Part 2 after service
Tues., Oct. 27	6:30 pm	Youth Group	Fellowship Hall
Wed., Oct. 28	10:00 am 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Woman’s Bible Study Youth Group Alcoholics Anonymous	Fellowship Hall Church Office Fellowship Hall
Thurs., Oct. 29	6:45 pm 7:00 pm	Prayer In The Parlor Alcoholics Anonymous	Dialing 667-770-1484; use access code 357664#. Fellowship Hall



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!

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

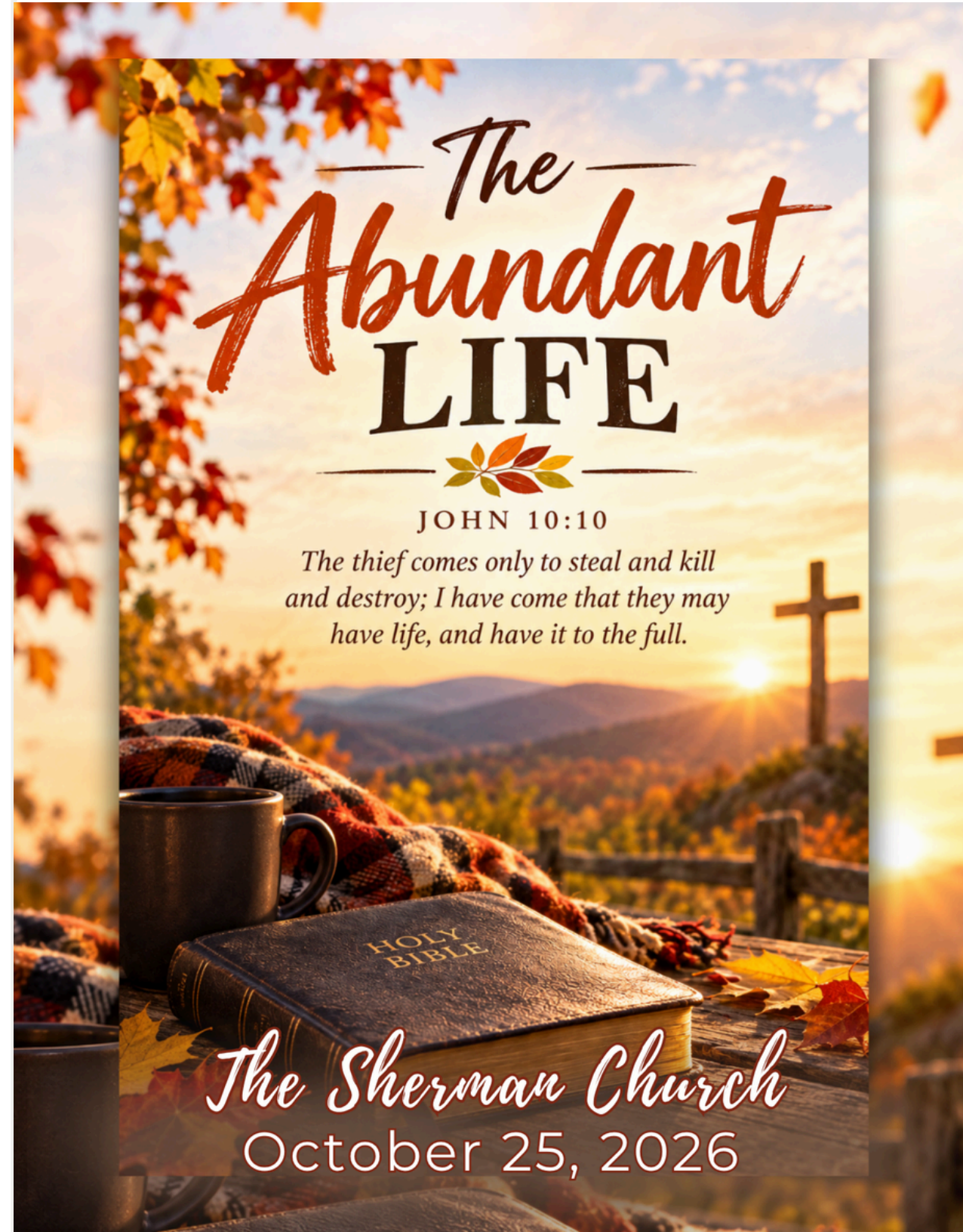
A MEMBER CHURCH OF THE CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE

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
- 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



WARNING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Elections Meeting of The Sherman Church will be held in the sanctuary
November 8, 2026,
Immediately Following the Worship Service
In-person and via Google Meet

1. To approve the minutes of the September 18, 2026, emergency special meeting (church roof) of the Sherman Church.
2. To act upon the 2027 slate of officers, board and committee members as presented by the Nominating Committee.
3. To hear and act upon any business proper to come before the congregation.

Dated at Sherman, Connecticut, this 25th day of October 2026.
Aimée M. Suhie, Clerk

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

Fellowship Hour is in need of extra hands!! Our volunteers are scheduled every 2 months and that is too frequently. **PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING.** Contact Jess in the office at 860-354-6114 or speak with Edna or Barbara. WE have members who are happy to help you. Below are the BASIC RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Check the refrigerator the week before to see if we have milk or half and half and juice (nothing red so it doesn't stain carpet). If not, purchase these items.
2. Purchase or bring something sweet such as cookies or coffee cake, muffins, etc., and something healthy like fruit. *It is NOT necessary to do any more.*
3. Make coffee; heat water for tea; put out cups, sugar, sweeteners, milk, and juice.
4. Set up the table with snack, napkins, plates, or plasticware if needed.
5. Clean up

If you want a partner, let us know, and we can find one for you. Thank you!!

Operation Christmas Child

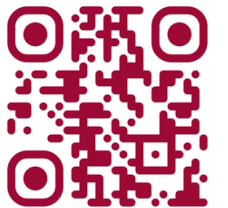
The Missions Committee will once again join in the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child shoebox collection, with a choice of both physical boxes and online donations. In November, during the worship service.



The brochures with instructions on how to fill a box, labels for the boxes and requested \$10 donation for each box will be available in Fellowship Hall. If you would like to fill a box, we will have sturdy shoeboxes, or use one of your own and decorate it if you can. Please note when you get your brochure what is acceptable and not acceptable; NO SOAP may be included in the boxes due to customs regulations in different countries.

If you opt to donate online, you may choose what items you want Samaritan's Purse to put in your shoebox or you may just ask them to choose items. You may also follow your shoebox online to its destination. If you donate online, please do so through the Sherman Church website so we can track how many boxes were filled online.

The Sherman Church Goal Page
<https://gqr.sh/24LS>



OUR DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY

PART 2

MEETING AFTER SERVICE

OCTOBER 25 **NOVEMBER 1, 8, 15**

Watch the Trailer

Unleashing Your God Given Gifts

1 Peter 4:10

God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.

Gifts. Everybody loves gifts. We love to give them. We love to get them. And we know that God gives us good gifts. (So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him. Matthew 7:11) God blesses us with all sorts of gifts. Some of those gifts are financial. Some of them are spiritual. Some of them are natural abilities. All of them come from God. And all of those gifts come with the expectation that we will use them for the Kingdom of God.

As followers of Jesus, we are called to discover our gifts and to steward them well. Spiritual gifts are abilities that come directly from God. They are abilities that we would not be able to do apart from the power and the Spirit of God. When we discover what our spiritual gifts are, we should seek to use them to build up others. One way to begin to discover your spiritual gifts is by going through a spiritual gifts inventory. A spiritual gifts inventory is a manmade tool meant to help believers discern their spiritual gifts. While it can be a helpful tool, it is limited. A human tool cannot effectively measure the infinite workings of the Holy Spirit. A spiritual gifts test may identify spiritual gifts and natural talents. But, because they cannot distinguish between them, it could actually encourage believers to “serve” according to our natural talents rather than relying on the power and equipping of the Holy Spirit. So while spiritual gifts tests can be useful, we have to remember their limitations and proceed with caution.

Another way to discover your spiritual gifts is to ask God specially to reveal them to you. As you start to get a sense of what your gifts are, try them out. Try some different things. Then, reflect on how you felt while doing those things. Evaluate how effective you were. And expect confirmation from the body of Christ. Using the gifts God has given you is part of how you arise and shine the glory of God to the world. Will you do that?

QUESTIONS:

Was there a Scripture or statement that stood out to you from this message? What was it and why did it stand out to you?

How would you explain the difference between natural abilities and spiritual gifts? Why does the difference matter?

What gifts has God given you, and how are you currently using them to serve others?

In what ways do you treat your abilities and resources as stewardship rather than personal possession?

Does the idea of serving “as faithful stewards of God’s grace” change the motive behind your actions?

Where could you more intentionally share God’s grace in its various forms with people in your everyday life?

The Abundant Life

Unleashing Your God Given Gifts

1 Peter 4:10

God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.

God gives us _____.
Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God our Father, who created all the lights in the heavens. He never changes or casts a shifting shadow. (James 1:17)

So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him. (Matthew 7:11)

Some gifts are _____ (money and/or stuff).
So the believers in Antioch decided to send relief to the brothers and sisters in Judea, everyone giving as much as they could. This they did, entrusting their gifts to Barnabas and Saul to take to the elders of the church in Jerusalem. (Acts 11:29-30)

Some gifts are _____.
There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. 5 There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. (1 Corinthians 12:4-5)

Either way, God expects us to use those gifts _____.
God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. (1 Peter 4:10)

WHY DOES GOD GIVE US GIFTS?

To build (grow) the _____.
And the same is true for you. Since you are so eager to have the special abilities the Spirit gives, seek those that will strengthen the whole church. (1 Corinthians 14:12)

To help the Church until _____.
Through him, God has enriched your church in every way—with all of your eloquent words and all of your knowledge. This confirms that what I told you about Christ is true. Now you have every spiritual gift you need as you eagerly wait for the return of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 1:5-7)

To serve _____ and not ourselves.
God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. (1 Peter 4:10)

To bring _____ to Himself.
Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen. (1 Peter 4:11)

HOW DO WE DISCOVER OUR GIFTS?

Believe that God does in fact give you _____.
It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have. (1 Corinthians 12:11)

Ask God to show you _____ your gifts are.
Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. (Matthew 7:7-8)

Understand the difference between natural _____ and spiritual _____.
Then the Lord said to Moses, “Look, I have specifically chosen Bezalel son of Uri, grandson of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. I have filled him with the Spirit of God, giving him great wisdom, ability, and expertise in all kinds of crafts. He is a master craftsman, expert in working with gold, silver, and bronze. He is skilled in engraving and mounting gemstones and in carving wood. He is a master at every craft! (Exodus 31:1-5)

Take an _____.
A spiritual gifts inventory is a manmade tool meant to help believers discern their spiritual gifts. While it can be a helpful tool, it is limited. A human tool cannot effectively measure the infinite workings of the Holy Spirit. A spiritual gifts inventory may identify spiritual gifts and natural talents. But, because they cannot distinguish between them, it could actually encourage believers to “serve” according to our natural talents rather than relying on the power and equipping of the Holy Spirit. So while spiritual gifts inventories can be useful, we have to remember their limitations and proceed with caution.

Don’t _____ your gifts, _____ them.

Seek out _____ to use your gifts.

HOW DO I USE MY GIFTS?

Experiment through _____. Try _____ things.
Plant your seed in the morning and keep busy all afternoon, for you don’t know if profit will come from one activity or another—or maybe both. (Ecclesiastes 11:6)

Examine your _____. How did you _____ when you tried it out?
Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7)

Evaluate your _____.
For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. (Ephesians 2:10)

Expect _____ from the body of Christ.
We are sending Judas and Silas to confirm what we have decided concerning your question. (Acts 15:27)

_____ the gifts God has given you is part of how you _____ the abundant life.