



DIXWELL AVENUE
CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Founded 1820

August 23, 2026

www.DixwellUCC.org

Ways to Give | (Zelle) DixwellUCCFB@gmail.com & on Website

217 Dixwell Avenue | New Haven Connecticut 06511 (203) 787-5839 | info@dixwellucc.org

*Live Streaming on **YouTube** @DixwellUCC*

Rev. Ande C. Gilford Jr., M.Div, M.Ed, Interim Pastor

Order of Service

****Please stand in body or in Spirit.***

Prelude.....Mr. Markel Green

Introit.....Welcome into This Place

***Call to Worship.....Deacon Darlene Castillo**

LEADER: May God be gracious to us, and bless us,
and cover us with the radiance of grace.

**PEOPLE: May your way be known everywhere, God:
in the hidden places of our hearts;
in the comfort of our homes;
in every corner of our world;
in the farthest reaches of creation.**

**You transform us; you heal our lives;
you renew the earth and every creature:
Let our praise for you shake the rafters with songs of joy!**

***Opening HymnLeaning on the Everlasting Arms (see insert)**

***Invocation.....Deacon Castillo**

LEADER: God, we remember with wonder and joy
that your spirit is reaching everywhere:
rejoicing in the liveliness of all living things;
touching what is wounded or ill with healing power;
gathering in the lonely, the lost, the least;
soothing ancient animosities;
creating and recreating a vision of hope.

**PEOPLE: Come now, Holy Spirit.
Let our worship rejoice in you,
and lift our hearts,
and bind us in one family of loving grace.
We ask in Jesus' name; Amen.**

WelcomeDeacon Castillo

262 Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

*The eternal God is thy refuge,
and underneath are the everlasting arms — Deuteronomy 33:27 KJV*

1. What a fel-low-ship, what a joy di-vine, Lean-ing on the ev-er-
 2. O how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, Lean-ing on the ev-er-
 3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear, Lean-ing on the ev-er-

last - ing arms; What a bless - ed-ness, what a peace is mine,
 last - ing arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day,
 last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,

Refrain

Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms. Lean - ing
 Lean - ing on Je - sus,

lean - ing, Safe and se-cure from all a-larms; Lean - ing,
 lean-ing on Je-sus, Lean-ing on Je-sus,

lean - ing, Lean-ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 lean - ing on Je - sus,

WORDS: Elisha A. Hoffman

SHOWALTER

Song of PraiseMy Hope Is Built on Nothing Less NCH #403

ScriptureMin. Miles Wilson-Toliver

***Meditative Response.....Acceptable to You**

Let the Words of my mouth and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in thy sight

Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of our heart be acceptable unto thee

Here I am Lord, at your feet Lord; my soul looks up to thee

Make my thoughts, Lord and my tongue, Lord, acceptable to thee!

Sermon.....Min. Wilson-Toliver

***Invitation to Christian Discipleship**

***Pastoral Prayer.....Min. Wilson-Toliver**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Please ask permission to hug. Thank you!

Worship through Giving -Thank You for your Gifts

General Offering

If you would like to contribute to our ministry electronically, you may do so on **Zelle:**

DixwelluccFB@gmail.com or give online @ DixwellUCC.org

Presentation of Gifts/Doxology*

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow | Praise Him all Creature Here Below | Praise Him above ye Heavenly Hosts |

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost | Amen

Announcements.....Deacon Castillo

***Closing Hymn.....The Blessing**

The Lord bless you

And keep you

Make His face shine upon you

And be gracious to you

The Lord turn His face toward you

And give you peace

***Benediction.....Min. Miles Wilson-Toliver**

Postlude.....Mr. Markel Greene

Service subject to change

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Let's Pray for Our Children before School Starts! We will worship the Lord in spirit and in truth outside on the church grounds on August 30, 2026 during 11:00 AM service. Please come dressed relaxed and ready to fellowship and worship God under the clear skies. Also, please bring your own folding chair as chairs will be limited. Bring a friend to worship with us! **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Please email Rev. Andre at andregilford@dixwellucc.org.

Build the Church! Construction PHASE 1 COMPLETE: We are nearing the completion of Part 1 or Phase 1 work which includes the Pastor's and Administrative Offices and connecting ADA accessible Bathroom, Amistad Room, Mezzanine level Bathrooms, as well as window replacements within the aforementioned spaces and along the side of the Building adjacent to the parking lot.

The Fire Safety Alarm system installed throughout the building is almost completed.

Starting mid-August, Part 2 or Phase 2 work is scheduled to begin- Sanctuary and Lower Fellowship Hall bathrooms, the Narthex or Lobby area, the Kitchen exit stairwell, and front stairwell. The 8 paneled stained glass light box installation is also scheduled to return home to the Narthex.

We are grateful for these improvements and most grateful for everyone's continued understanding and resilience in living alongside the construction activity. It is the sand (and we have had plenty) in the oyster that makes the pearl; sharing the burdens with shouts of gratitude provide encouragement to our team efforts; our vision of the anticipated results that will be enjoyed by our congregation and community propel us through the overwhelmingly low points of disarray. Schedules are forecast as best as possible and can still be subject to change. We will keep you updated.

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow!

Learn about our historic stained-glass windows! We hope to schedule a field trip to see our stained glass windows, understand the preservation process and the History of our windows. ***Date of August 27 or 29 to be announced shortly.*** Please let Shay or a Finance Board member know if you are interested.

SAVE THE DATES:

Congregational Meeting to elect Mr. W. Martyn Philpot as a deacon will be held on September 6, 2026 immediately after 11:00 AM worship. All church members in good standing are asked to attend.

Homecoming Sunday is September 20, 2026 during 11:00 AM Worship Service. We look forward to celebrate "Rekindling Our Faith" together as a community. We encourage you to find new ways to live out your faith in the life of Dixwell Church.

New Way to Give Online: Our new online giving portal is up & running. Go to our website - www.dixwellucc.org - look for the "GIVE" buttons (at the top or bottom of the page). Your gifts continue to sustain Dixwell Church as we continue to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ in the world. Thank you!

Join the Hospitality Committee! If you have a heart for showing radical welcome and hospitality for all God's children, the Hospitality Committee is looking for you. Its purpose is to host the weekly coffee hour after service. Want more information? See Ms. Thelma Grant.

For the Good of the EARTH: If you would please remember to bring your used ink cartridges to us for recycling. The church will benefit from your doing so. Thank you. The Missionary Board.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES FOR AUGUST

Rev. Andre Gilford	August 2
Knina Simone Ellis	August 3
Livingston Wormley	August 5

Annette Streets	August 19
Angela Robinson	August 21
Otis Johnson	August 26

Amanda Simpson	August 7
Kennedy Jackson	August 16
Sabaga Kombo	August 17
Cecil Sims	August 19
Elizabeth W. Hunt	August 31

Maajida Christian	August 27
Deacon Jill Snyder	August 30
Carroll E Brown	August 31
W. Martyn Philpot	August 31

SPECIAL PRAYER LIST

Ms. Olive Fletcher
Mrs. Amy Wormley
Rev. Pat Parker
Deacon Chris Christian
Mr. Arius Priestley
Family of Mr. Kirk Baird (*husband of Sandra Baird*)
Dr. Chuck Warner Sr.
Family of Mrs. Agnes Farrar
Mrs. Maxine Davis
Family of Mrs. Theresa Parker (*sister of Patricia Byrd*)
Mrs. Aldith Pritchett
Family of Mrs. Joella Mitchell (*sister of Patricia Byrd*)
Mrs. Ethel Ralls
Mr. Reuben Taylor
Family of Mr. Carlos Barros (*husband of Mrs. Ethel Higgins-Barros*)
Family of Dr. Ann Garrett Robinson (*mother of Ms. Angela Robinson*)

Mr. Vernon Simpson
Ms. Julia Roberts
Family of Mrs. Margo Taylor
Family of Ms. Donna Ellis

Sermon Notes

The Question for Reflection is. _____

What are my three takeaways from the sermon?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

DIXWELL AVENUE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC

presents

H O M E C O M I N G



Rekindling Our Faith

2 TIMOTHY 1:6-7

SEPT. 20 @ 11:00 AM

LIGHT RECEPTION AFTERWARDS

JOIN US FOR A TIME OF WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP



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217 DIXWELL AVE.. | NEW HAVEN, CT 06511

WWW.DIXWELLUCC.ORG | YOUTUBE LIVE: @DIXWELLUCC

REV. ANDRE C. GILFORD JR., INTERIM PASTOR

Dixwell Avenue Congregational United Church of Christ
An Open & Affirming Congregation

The Oldest Formally Recognized African American Congregational Church in the World.

All God's Children are Welcome Here

