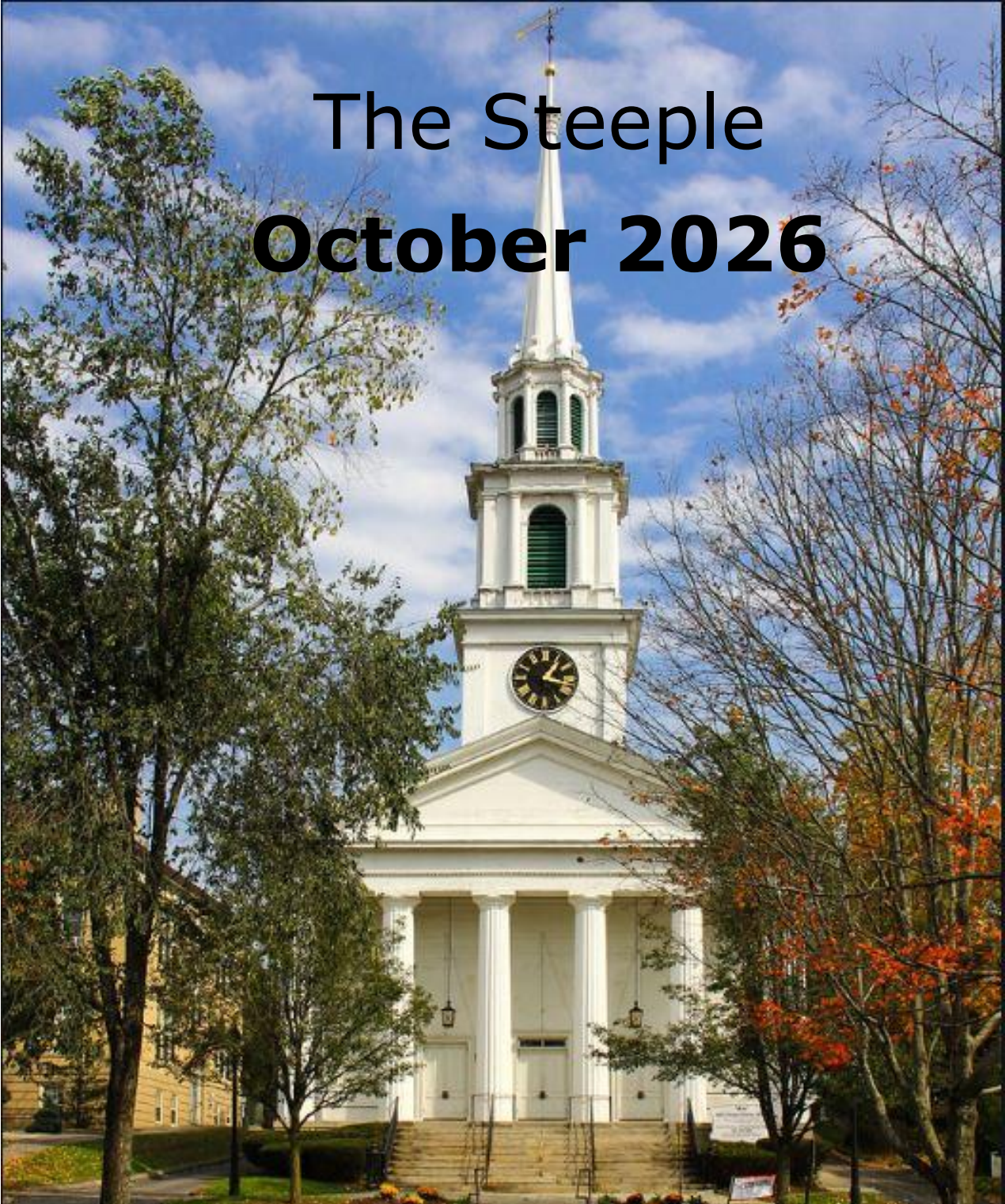




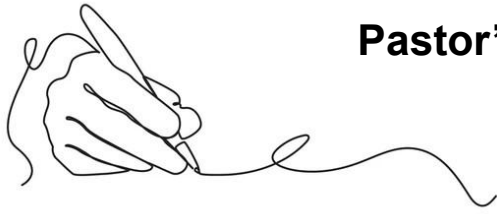
The Steeple

October 2026

First Congregational Church

36 Main Street, New Milford, CT, 06776

860-354-8232 | nmchurch.org



Pastor's Message

Dear Friends,

October is nearly upon us with our fall schedule well underway. There are two events happening on Sunday, October 4 that I want to highlight. The first is the celebration of naming Rev. Mike Moran our Pastor Emeritus. This will be a glorious celebration. Mike will preach and he and I will lead communion on that morning. There will be a festive coffee hour and reception following the service. Please come and be a part of the festivities and welcome Mike and Eileen back to FCCNM!

Then at 3:30 that afternoon storyteller, John Cilio, will share the story of our own Patriot, Roger Sherman. This event will be a wonderful way to learn more about this valuable contributor to the founding of our country, who was ordained a deacon in our church in 1758.

As we celebrate our past, we also share in ministry now that shapes who and whose we will be in the future. We thank God for our past which has guided us to where we find ourselves today. We pray that God leads us now so that we may be a blessing to all who search for a spiritual home and a place of respite and compassion. We trust that God will be with us as we dream, plan, and move into the future with grace and love.

Blessings,

Rev. Marie

Looking Ahead

October 4:	Pastor Emeritus Celebration Roger Sherman Presentation @ 3:30 pm
October 18:	New Member Class
November 1:	Remembrance Sunday
November 8:	Stewardship Sunday
November 15:	Congregational Meeting
November 20:	TDOR @7:00 pm
November 28:	Craft fair Living Nativity

Lunch & Learn



Lunch & Learn is a potluck luncheon on the First Wednesday of the Month at 12:30pm in the Taylor room. This informal gathering is a wonderful outlet for church fellowship. We enjoy a meal together prepared by all that attend.

Mark your calendar!

In **October** we will welcome the Farmland Preservation group to speak about the Barn Quilt Tour.

In **November** we will welcome Donna Hespe the President of the New Milford Community Ambulance Corp.

Women's Ministry

Women's ministry is planning an event called Bags and Crafts. This community service and crafting event will be held on Saturday, December 5 from 2-4 pm in the Taylor Room. The event will start by making gift bags for the nursing homes followed by a Christmas craft.

Children's Choir

The two childrens' choirs have begun rehearsals! It is exciting to see our groups grow in numbers. Our Alleluia Choir has 10 members and the Cherub Choir has 7. Children's choirs are a wonderful place for children to learn about their voices, to explore music concepts, and to praise God through their music.

Cherubs, our 4 - 6 year olds, learn through movement, through games, and singing together with old friends and new friends.

Our older group, the Alleluia Choir, is learning how to read a score of music, how to add simple instruments to their anthems, and how to blend their voices with old friends and new friends.

As the kids make friends with fellow choir members, their parents are spending time getting to know each other, too, while waiting as their child rehearses. The fellowship of choir parents has become such a special offshoot of our childrens' choir program.

The Alleluia Choir will sing on October 18 and November 8.

The Cherub Choir will sing on November 1.



Baby Bundles

Baby Bundles has been a part of this church's mission for more than 35 years. The church has offered space, storage and volunteers to keep this outreach going. As the years have passed we have seen many new families grow from newborns to high school graduates. Many families that received help from Baby Bundles have come back to donate items and support this program.

We have been blessed with a wonderful group of dedicated long time volunteers that have helped with the shopping, sorting, organizing, and monthly distribution. Now that many of our volunteers have received the title of “grandma” we have found that it would be beneficial to have the input from parents of young families. Trying to figure out how to open and close a stroller can be a humorous challenge for us.

We would greatly appreciate a chance to talk to young families to discuss how we can upgrade our mission to help new parents. You can Jan McCarthy at jlmcc60@gmail.com or speak to any of our volunteers: Carol and Katie McKay, Katie and Kathy Elmore, Katie Johnson, Gail Peck, Susan Sennello, Carole Schwartzman, Nicole Henderson, Sharon Schuster.

Meaningful Dates

October 1, marks the day that we welcomed Rev. Marie Bacchiocchi to join our congregation.

If you would like to make a donation, Digital Giving is available.		
Please scan the QR Code to donate. We kindly ask that you use the comment feature to direct your contribution.		
Your continued support to the church is appreciated.		

October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 Pastor Emeritus celebration Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am Roger Sherman Presentation 3:30pm	5 Woman of the Bible Study Group 1 pm	6	7 Lunch & Learn 12:30pm	8	9	10
11 Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am Chapel Stitches 11:30am Deacon Meeting 11am	12 Office Closed Woman of the Bible Study Group 1 pm	13	14 Church Management meeting 7pm	15	16	17 Men's Breakfast 8:30am
18 Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am New Member Class 11am	19 Woman of the Bible Study Group 1 pm Church Council 6:30 pm	20	21	22	23	24 Trunk or Treat 5 -7pm
25 Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am	26 Woman of the Bible Study Group 1 pm	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween on the Green

November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Remembrance Sunday Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am	2	3	4 Lunch & Learn 12:30 pm	5	6	7
8 Stewardship Sunday Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am Chapel Stitchers 11:30am Deacon Meeting 11am	9 Woman of the Bible Study Group 1 pm	10	11 Office Closed	12	13	14
15 Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am Congregational Meeting 11 am	16 Woman of the Bible Study Group 1 pm	17	18 Church Management meeting 7pm	19	20 TDOR 7pm	21 Men's Breakfast 8:30 am
22 Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am	23 Woman of the Bible Study Group 1 pm Church Council 6:30 pm	24	25	26 Office Closed	27 Office Closed	28 Craft Fair Living Nativity
29 Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am	30 Woman of the Bible Study Group 1 pm					

December 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Lunch & Learn 12:30 pm	3	4	5
6 Advent Brunch Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am	7 Woman of the Bible Study Group 1 pm	8	9	10	11	12
13 Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am Deacon Meeting 11am Chapel Stitches 11:30 am Christmas Concert 4pm	14 Office Closed Woman of the Bible Study Group 1 pm	15	16 Church Management Meeting 7pm	17	18	19 Men's Breakfast 8:30 am
20 Christmas Pageant Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am	21 Woman of the Bible Study Group 1 pm Church Council 6:30pm	22	23	24 Family Service 4pm Service of Lessons, Carols & Communion 8pm	25	26
27 Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am	28 Woman of the Bible Study Group 1 pm	29	30	31		