

Rev. Dr. Gary Comstock
The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme
Pastoral Prayer

July 26, 2026

Hello God,

It's good to have you with us, especially as we welcome Ellianna into our community with our promise of unconditional love and support throughout her life.

We appreciated the rain last weekend and during the week as vegetables, flowers, plants, and wildlife seem to be jumping with joy — especially the rabbits who can't seem to get enough of each other and will likely provide the next generation to benefit from our Fall gardens.

Many of us are slipping a bit early into the laziness of slow-and-casual August with its time to relish just how fortunate we are to live by the river, by the sound, and in verdant hills.

We anticipate the Sturgeon Full Moon of August when the Nehantic people gave praise and gratitude for the source of their livelihood, and now with the sturgeons near extinction we hope and work with the Nehantic for the sturgeon's restoration.

We take time here today to think about the need for each of us to balance caring for our own emotional and physical health with helping others to care for theirs.

You've created us with the capacity to do both — to love ourselves and to love others — and, also you've created us with the individual will to manage doing both. Thank you for trusting us to know and do what's right.

We can't begin express the comfort, confidence, and challenge we gain by your presence within each of us and among all of us. We hope we don't bug you too often for too much attention.

Take care, Bestie. See you later, Buddy. We love you — so much!

Amen