



The View

Publication of South Congregational Church, UCC East Hartford, CT

Stewardship Moment

My original message was going to talk about how much this church has meant to me, however, after a moving All Saints Sunday on November 3rd, I thought I would craft a different stewardship moment.

It was about two years ago when our Pastor left South and moved to another church. The Deacons helped to fill the pulpit and worked to find an Interim Pastor. During that time, it was a number of key leadership helping to plan out services, continuing with traditional events and creating new ideas to move forward with the church. We were blessed with bringing in Reverend Paul to help us while we searched for a new Pastor. During All Saints Day, Reverend Paul mentioned that all of us are Saints, not just the members who have passed.

One of the definitions of a Saint is that every follower of Jesus Christ is considered a Saint. The apostle Paul often addressed the recipients of his letters as saints, emphasizing their status as holy ones.

I'm not sure I have gained the Sainthood name just yet, but thinking about all that we have accomplished during the past two years, I can think of many of you who I believe truly fit the Sainthood name. Without your talents and our annual pledging during stewardship, we couldn't have accomplished ½ of what we have done thus far.

Let us remember that our giving is not merely a transaction, but a joyful expression of our faith and commitment to each other. The future is bright, let's cultivate a spirit of abundance that will bless our congregation and those we serve.

Erin Pelletier

Church Council Meeting Summary – Meeting held October 22, 2024

Review of prior Minutes & Correspondence: September minutes were accepted as written.

Upcoming Events – Save the Dates!!

| Description | Date |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Community Sunday | Sunday, November 11 th |
| Candidating Sunday | Sunday, November 24 th at 10:00 a.m. |
| Special Congregational Meeting | Sunday, November 24 th at 11:10 a.m. |
| Lighting of the Creche | Sunday, December 1 st |

Treasurer’s Report:

- Pledging as of end of August at 71.8%, vs expected of 75%.
- Balance of \$11,120 at end of September
- Concern that we are under expected amount at this time

Staff Reports:

Pastor Report: No Report

Christian Education and Faith Enrichment (CEFE) – Written report

Additional Comments:

- 4 families attended the bike rodeo on Sept 14th with 7 children and 1 adult leaving with property fitted helmets, 2 families with new bikes!

Board Reports:

Deacons:

- Deacons will be hosting a coffee hour on November 3rd.

Missions:

- P&W Community Service will share food with us Dec 12th.
- Stage cleanup underway for Girl Scouts talent show on Nov 2nd.
- Food baskets for Thanksgiving to be distributed Tuesday, Nov 26th.
 - Canned vegetable donations to be requested from congregation.
 - Food vouchers to be included.
- St Rose foodbank is closing.
- St Chris office is closed (FB to St. Mary’s)

Trustees:

- Working on design for front sign
- Fall cleanup planned for Nov 2nd, rain/snow date Nov. 9th.
- Tree trimming planned.
- Creche to be put up Dec 1st.
- Cross to be taken down.

Church Growth:

- Trunk or Treat planned for Saturday October 26th.

Stewardship: Working on annual letter

Old Business:

Search Committee update:

- 11 profiles reviewed to date.
- 8 ZOOM meetings, 6 in-person interviews completed.
- Search Committee made a motion to Council for approval to present an offer to a candidate for the Pastor as follows:

Motion: *Pat Zendian made a motion to present new candidate to church upon offer acceptance, George Schoen seconded, with unanimous approval.*

Next meeting planned for Tuesday, November 19th @ 6:30 p.m. in the Church Library and via ZOOM

Respectfully submitted by Maureen Miller, Council Clerk



“Let every creature praise His holy name, forever and ever.” ~Psalm 145:21

Sunday, November 3 @ 11:00 AM. Recycling 101. Are you often confused about what can or cannot be recycled? Do you toss things in the garbage that might be reusable? If you answered yes to either of these questions, then Recycling 101 is for you! Join CEFE as we welcome Cesar Zapata from the EH Public Works Department as he shares the correct way to recycle household products, as well as introducing a new food scrap recycling program. Please come as we work together to care for God’s beautiful creation.



Community Sunday: November 10 @ 11:00 AM. Please consider joining us as we pack boxes of food for Thanksgiving distribution. This time of service and fellowship will find us collaborating, making memories, and pouring South Church love into every box of food we assemble. Too tired to stand? We still need more homemade cards to be included with each box of food. We will provide the cards and the craft supplies if you provide your artistry and imagination! Come help to ensure that our neighbors feel the love of God during this holiday season.



Save the Date: Sunday, December 8 from 11:00 AM-12:00 PM. Join CEFE as we welcome the East Hartford community for cookies with Santa, an old-fashioned carol sing, luminaria decorating, origami fun and simple crafts for young children! Come prepare your hearts for the arrival of the Christ Child by ministering to our neighbors, spreading God’s love, and celebrating the joys of the season. **Please consider bringing a pair of NEW men’s, women’s, or children’s socks to be distributed to our food pantry patrons.**

A note about Sunday School. In an effort to integrate children more meaningfully into the life of the church, all children are welcome to participate in our Community Sundays on the **second Sunday** of every month. Children are invited to worship with their parents and then help support the service project at 11:00 AM. A more traditional Sunday School model will continue to be offered on the **fourth Sunday** of the month.

Nursery care for infants and toddlers will be available on the second and fourth Sundays as well. The nursery and Sunday School classrooms open at 9:45 AM. **Please be sure that an updated registration form is on file for your child.**

CEFE contact information: To sign up for an initiative, ministry or to simply ask a question, we can be reached at cefe@southucc.org or 860.568.5150. We look forward to hearing from you!

Yours in love, laughter, and peace: Lisa ☺

More Good News from CEFE!



You Save What You Love

It was our privilege to welcome the Reverend Thomas Carr and Terri Eickel for a South Church Second Hour presentation on October 6, 2024. As co-founders of the **Connecticut Interreligious Eco-Justice Network (IREJN)** they shared their passion for Caring for God's Creation and ways for us to become better stewards of the earth. Stay tuned for more opportunities for our congregation to make a positive impact on the planet!

Community Sunday: Pumpkin Painting

On Sunday, October 13, 2024, South Church welcomed our East Hartford neighbors into Charrier Hall for a time of pumpkin painting and fellowship. We greeted our visitors with joy and delighted in meeting new friends and celebrating the gifts of the autumnal season. Besides our church community, CEFE would like to thank Girl Scout Troop #10865 for their support of this event and for their donation of cider. You. Are. Loved.



Don't forget to stop and work on our **Community Collage!** A great way to decompress and visit with your South Church family. Don't delay, as the activity will only be available through November 30th!

Search Committee Updates

It was a little over a year ago when we held our envisioning retreat which where it was recommended to form 2 committees, the Transition Team and Search Committee. The Transition Team completed our church Profile by February, which was then submitted on the UCC website in March.

Between April and October, we received 11 Pastor Profiles, held 8 Zoom interviews and held 6 in person interviews. A few weeks ago, we interviewed a candidate whom was unanimously approved by the Search Committee to move forward with bringing the candidate to the congregation. **Therefore,**

Members of South Congregational Church

You are called to attend the Candidating Sunday on November 24th at 10:00 a.m. Commencing with a Special Congregational Meeting after worship beginning at 11:10 a.m. to discuss and vote on our Pastor Candidate. All those who are able are strongly encouraged to attend in person, as livestreaming will not be available.

If you would like to vote and cannot attend in person, please feel free to call me at 860-670-1549 before Sunday, 11/24.

Thank you for your continued support – we look forward to seeing you!

Erin Pelletier, Chair
Search Committee



Food Bank Request

The food bank is in need of canned corn, string beans, stuffing, gravy, and cranberry sauce for our Thanksgiving baskets to be distributed on November 26. Please donate if you are able.



The Choir's annual Cookie Walk will take place on Saturday, December 7, from 9 a.m. - 12 noon - believe it or not, just about a month away! Choir members will be in the Crossroads throughout November to sign up cookie bakers. The more cookies we have the better, as this event is a part of the town-wide Holiday Fest weekend, and lots of folks around town know that South Church bakes the best cookies! We are requesting bakers provide a minimum of 4 dozen cookies, so we have plenty to sell.

Cookies can be dropped off at the church on THURSDAY, Dec. 5, from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, Dec. 6, from 1:00 - 6:00 p.m., or on SATURDAY, Dec. 7 (the day of the event), from 8:00 - 8:45 a.m. Cookies may be packaged in either decorative containers or aluminum foil pans. A list of ingredients is not necessary, but if your cookies are gluten free or contain nuts, we ask that you label them as such so we may place them on appropriate tables.

Many thanks to all our South Church bakers (and South Church friends who love to bake) who contribute to this event. We are looking forward to tasting lots of delicious cookies! Not a baker but would like to help? Consider supporting the event by purchasing cookies for your holiday celebrations. They will be sold by the pound, and they go fast - plan on coming early for the best selection. Questions? Please call Bea Piersa at 860-569-6778.



The well-known local choral group CitySingers of Hartford returns to South Church on Sat. Dec. 7, at 4:00 p.m., with a performance of "Hearth and Tapestry", their first concert of the 2024-2025 season. "Hearth and Tapestry" binds the musical fabric of culture from around the globe to remind us of our own shared human experience. The concert sews together vibrant pieces of patchwork, hailing from the isles of Indonesia to the foothills of France, into one festive wintery quilt. Jeff Cregeur is the newly appointed Artistic Director of CitySingers and will conduct this performance.

Tickets are \$20 each and will be available at the door. Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy an afternoon of beautiful music right here in our sanctuary.



Lend a Hand:

We, the Board of Trustees, can use some help. We have several items on our list of things that need attention:

- Weeding/grounds maintenance
- Sand & paint outdoor railings
- Sand butcherblock in kitchen and apply proper oils
- Concrete repair outdoors in the area of trash cans (under railing)
- Sort folding chairs & dispose of damaged ones; clean remaining chairs
- Repair windowsill on 2nd floor of education wing
- Memorial Garden Door: Paint Exterior

Please let us know if you have skills, equipment and/or time to help us complete these projects. A gift of time is a wonderful gift!

Thank you for your consideration!



Dear South Church Family,

I'm taking it upon myself to let you all in on what I perceive as a secret. There are a few people in South Church that put their gifts into action in service to our church home without anyone really noticing. Sure, we know they're always there when many hands are needed, but they're also always there working when no one's looking! One of those people is our Treasurer, George Schoen. He deeply LOVES South Church. I know for a fact that he loses sleep at times worrying about our church's welfare - especially when the budget is tight, or when the market trends down, or when the roof leaks, or when the Food Bank moves upstairs, or when any one of a million other issues happen that the Church must face. George is always involved in coming up with solutions – and, usually, pitching in to get the issues handled. Our South Church home is blessed to have George as part of our family and I think everyone should know the secret of what a gift he truly is to South Church! We can all sleep a little more soundly at night knowing that George is watching over our South Church home.

It my privilege to work with you, George.

Madeline Harris



We Celebrate with:

- The Jack & Handel families upon the baptism of Bennett Aaron Jack on October 13th.
- Patrick Lynch and Macarah Collins on their wedding on October 26, 2024. Macarah is from Pembroke, Virginia and they are living in Chesterfield, Virginia.

Hospitalized/Convalescing:

- Anthony Manuel, grandson of Debbie Wall, continues to recover from a spinal cord injury at home after months in a rehabilitation facility. He is regaining use of his lower extremities and is hopeful for continuing improvement.

Of Special Concern:

- Traci Constantine is struggling with health issues and needs our prayers.

Please keep in your prayers.....

| | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Barbara Abbott | Eugenia Dansinghani | Barbara Hooker | Gene Pellett |
| Nimmi Baker | Bill Fagan | Ivy Lehmann | Barbara Slocum |
| Georgi Beers | Charlie Goding | Liz Costa Mayerson | Rev. Will Thayer |
| John & Phyllis Carella | Barbara Guthrie | Beth McGinnis | Russell Turner |
| Veona Cashman | Mary Ann Higgins | Jill McNamara | |

Andrew, grandson of Margie Articulo
 Linda Bandecchi, aunt of Bryan Denman
 Mary Anne Barrett, sister of Liz Costa Mayerson
 Allison Cornelius, stepdaughter of Gary Fowler
 Barbara Hitchcock, mother of Bryan Denman
 Sandy Hodge, sister of a friend of Jean Foisey and Debbie Rataic
 Maureen Kosha, friend of Margie Articulo
 Kim McMenamin, daughter of Chuck and Nancy Goding
 Addyson Murphy, great-granddaughter of George and Peggy Schoen
 Carol Poehnert, friend of Maureen Miller
 Roseann Russell, friend of Debbie Wall
 Deborah Lambert Sevetson, friend of South Church
 Ruth Sheehan, friend of Celia Collins
 Richard Shonti, husband of a friend of Jean Foisey
 Liam Stickley, mother is a close friend of Sue Gammie
 Bill Vendetta, Debbie Wall's brother-in-law



South Church has a long tradition of hosting a coffee hour after Sunday worship as a means of extending fellowship among the congregation and visitors to our church. Coffee Hour will continue to be held every other Sunday in Charrier Hall, provided we have hosts. The signup sheet for the months of **November & December** is posted on the bulletin board directly across from the church library. You may also contact Krista Goh in the office to sign up. The scheduled dates we are in need of hosts are **12/1, 12/15 & 12/29**. Please consider hosting if you are available.

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| 27 8am - Martial Arts 8:45am - Choir 10am - Sunday School 10am - Worship Service | 28 5pm - Girl Scouts 6:30pm - CitySingers | 29 2pm - Tuesdays at Two 6pm - Martial Arts 7:30pm - AA | 30 6:30pm - Cub Scouts | 31 Halloween 9am - Floor Wash 6pm - Martial Arts 7pm - Choir | 1 First Day of American Indian 5pm - Girl Scouts 7pm - Cub Scout Leaders | 2 9am - Fall Cleanup 5pm - Girl Scouts |
| 3 Daylight Saving Time ends 8am - Martial Arts 8:45am - Choir 10am - Worship Service 11am - Guest Speaker | 4 6:30pm - CitySingers | 5 Election Day (General) 12pm - Food Bank 2pm - Tuesdays at Two 6pm - Martial Arts 7:30pm - AA | 6 10am - Caring Ministry 6:30pm - Cub Scouts | 7 9am - DDNCS 9am - Floor Wash 6pm - Martial Arts 7pm - Choir | 8 5:30pm - Hayes | 9 6pm - Candlelight Concert 8:30pm - Candlelight Concert |
| 10 8am - Martial Arts 8:45am - Choir 10am - Worship Service 11am - Community Sunday | 11 Veterans Day 6:30pm - CitySingers | 12 2pm - Tuesdays at Two 6pm - Martial Arts 6:30pm - CEFE Meeting 7pm - Trustees 7:30pm - AA | 13 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7pm - Deacons | 14 9am - Floor Wash 6pm - Martial Arts 7pm - Choir | 15 7pm - Cub Scouts | 16 |
| 17 8am - Martial Arts 8:45am - Choir 10am - Worship Service | 18 6:30pm - CitySingers | 19 12pm - Food Bank 2pm - Tuesdays at Two 6pm - Martial Arts 6:30pm - Council 7:30pm - AA | 20 5:30pm - Girl Scout Leaders 6:30pm - Cub Scouts | 21 9am - Floor Wash 6pm - Martial Arts 7pm - Choir | 22 6pm - Candlelight Concert 8:30pm - Candlelight Concert | 23 6pm - Candlelight Concert 8:30pm - Candelight Concert |
| 24 8am - Martial Arts 8:45am - Choir 10am - Sunday School 10am - Worship Service | 25 6:30pm - CitySingers | 26 Thanksgiving Basket 2pm - Tuesdays at Two 6pm - Martial Arts 7:30pm - AA | 27 9:25am - EHHS Students 6:30pm - Cub Scouts | 28 CLOSED Thanksgiving Day | 29 CLOSED Native American Heritage | 30 |

Church Office Hours:
Monday-Friday 8:30am-2:30pm

Church Staff & Positions

Interim Pastor.....*Rev. Paul Goodman*
 Minister of Music.....*Jeff Cregeur*
 Coordinator of CEFE.....*Lisa Griffen*
 Treasurer.....*George Schoen*
 Assistant Treasurer.....*Pat Zendzian*
 Office Manager.....*Krista Goh*
 Accounts Manager.....*Madeline Harris*
 Moderator.....*Erin Pelletier*
 Clerk.....*Maureen Miller*
 Sexton.....*Bill Vibert*

Chairpersons:

Board of Deacons...*Bob Handel & Peggy Schoen*
 Board of CEFE.....*Felix Piersa*
 Board of Missions.....*Lisa Handel*
 Board of Stewardship.....
 Board of Trustees.....*Rick Rodrigue*
 Board of Church Growth.....*Linda Russell*

Emails

Rev. Paul Goodman.....*skirev52@sbcglobal.net*
 Jeff Cregeur.....*music@southucc.org*
 Lisa Griffen.....*cefe@southucc.org*
 Krista Goh.....*office@southucc.org*
 Madeline Harris.....*accounts@southucc.org*
 Bill Vibert.....*sexton@southucc.org*

Bulletin and View Deadlines

Bulletin:

All announcements are due by Wednesday.

View:

All submissions are due by the 3rd Friday of the month.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|----|-------------------|----|-----------------|
| 1 | Alison Caruso | 10 | Chris Rataic, Sr. | 21 | James Ouellette |
| | Linda Hall | 12 | Autumn Larsen | 23 | Lorrie Parks |
| | Arie Kurniawan | 13 | Colin Schleicher | 26 | Evan Rodrigue |
| 2 | Vanessa Kelman | 17 | Jim Hall | 29 | Gary Fowler |
| | Barbara Slocum | 19 | Laura Benigni | 30 | Dave Caruso |
| 6 | Keith Benson | 20 | Felix Piersa | | Laura Pellett |
| 7 | Mary Ann Higgins | | Dan Werkheiser | | |



*The office will be closed
November 28th & 29th.*



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 southucc.org
 office@southucc.org

THE VIEW

South Congregational Church

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South Congregational Church is part of the Southern New England Conference of the United Church of Christ.

The View is published monthly with the exception of 1 issue during July and August.

The deadline for submissions is the 3rd Friday of each month. Please contact Krista Goh with any questions at 860.568.5150 or office@southucc.org

November 2024

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**Dated Material
Deliver no later than
the 12th of the month**



I wish to honor/remember a loved one or someone special by doing the following:

- Worship folders (\$10 per week)
- Lighting of the steeple (\$1 per day)
- Flowers for the altar (cost is determined by you)
- Purchase choir music (\$50 for 15 copies)

My Name: _____ Telephone Number _____

I wish to honor/remember: _____

Reason/note for bulletin: _____



Please make all checks payable to *South Congregational Church*.