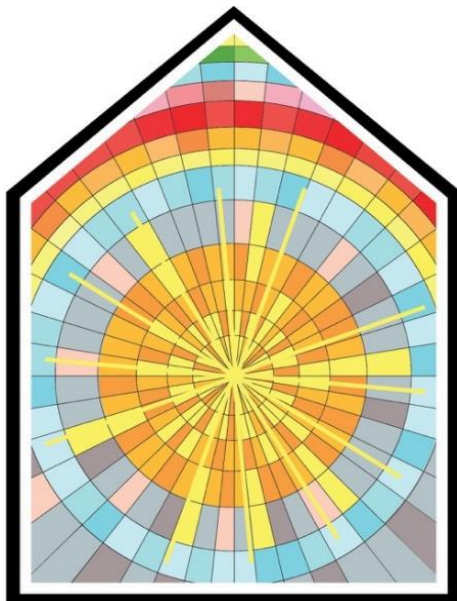


Welcome to
South Congregational Church, UCC
1301 Forbes St. East Hartford, CT 06118



SOUTH
Congregational Church

East Hartford, CT

January 19, 2025

Lay Leader
Minister of Music
Coordinator of CEFE

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Lisa Griffen
Jeff Cregeur
Lisa Griffen

Meditation

You do not need to know precisely what is happening, or exactly where it is all going. What you need is to recognize the possibilities and challenges offered by the present moment, and to embrace them with courage, faith and hope. –Thomas Merton

Prelude

Jeff Cregeur, Minister of Music

Welcome and Announcements

† Passing the Peace

Call to Worship

Bea Piersa

Lay Reader: Jesus Christ invites us into the healing presence of God.

People: God knew us before we were born, and called us to service in our youth.

Lay Reader: God rescues us from injustice, cruelty and wickedness.

People: God touches our lips and puts words in our mouths. God commands us to speak and removes our fears.

Lay Reader: God meets us where we are and leads us to times of witness and praise.

People: God comes in unexpected places to meet our needs and empower our service.

† Gathering Hymn

God of Grace and God of Glory

Chalice Hymn #464

Prayer of Adoration and Lord's Prayer

Unison

Gracious God, when we feel the absence of care, we ask that you show us the worth of our own lives and what we seek to do. When worship is hard and promise is difficult and uninspiring, open our lips in songs of thanksgiving, and attune our hearts to the music of your presence. We ask you to meet us in this hour, precious Lord, to give us a new perspective on life, even as we pray: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Lisa Griffen

Offertory Sentences

Bea Piersa

Whether your jars are empty or full, whether your gifts seem mighty or small, they are gifts to be treasured and shared, just as each of us are gifts to be treasured and shared. Let us share our lives and our gifts with the world this day.



The South Church family extends a warm welcome to all newcomers and visitors this morning. We hope you will find this worship service meaningful, the fellowship friendly, and that you will consider making this your church home. If you are a first-time visitor, please fill out the Pew Card that can be found in the pew or at the Welcome Station outside the sanctuary. You may give this card to any usher or put it in the offertory plate.

Hearing devices are available for use during worship service. Please see an Usher if you're in need of one.

~

In loving memory of Tom Juliani, the steeple is lighted for the month of January by his family.

This Sunday's Service Volunteers:

-Ushers: Gary Armentrout and Liz O'Donnell

-Lay Reader: Bea Piersa

-Deacons for the month of **January:** Bob Handel and Peggy Schoen

-Audio Visual: Chuck Pelletier, Bryan Denman, Bob Handel

-Flower Contacts: Jean Foisey, Lisa Handel, Gayle Juliani

Council Notice

A Council meeting will be held this **Tuesday, January 21**, at **6:30pm** in the church library. All church members are welcome to attend either in person or virtually. The Zoom invite link will be sent via email the day of the meeting.

Attention all Church Members

For the Lenten Season 2025 we will be putting together another of our popular all-Church Devotionals.

Please think about a contribution, and sign up to submit an entry for a day (or two or three).

The sign-up sheet will be in the Cross-roads beginning January 5, 2025.

All entries will need to be turned in by February 23, 2025, and the devotional will be distributed March 2.

Ash Wednesday is March 5, 2025.



Tuesdays at Two

Tuesdays at Two resumes on January 21. This winter the book club will be reading *Church of the Wild: How Nature Invites Us Into the Sacred* by Victoria Loorz. As described by author Veronica Kyle, *Church of the Wild* is “Deeply personal, inspirational, and spiritually nourishing. As you turn each page, you can feel yourself being called to get outside and connect with creation. Our natural alters—the trees, the waters, the sun, and the moon—are waiting to heal us.” Come and be a part of this magic! **Please contact Lisa G if you would like her to order you a book off Amazon. Books will cost \$15.**

American Red Cross

Sunday, February 2, 11:00 a.m.

Join CEFE as we welcome Rebecca Johnson from the **American Red Cross**. Becky will share some history about the organization, volunteer opportunities, and tips about disaster preparedness. This gathering will be held in the library and light refreshments will be served.

Chili Cookoff

Sunday, February 9, 11:00 a.m.

The South Church Chili Cook Off is back! Whether you have a treasured family recipe to share or have a hankering to experiment with a new one, this is your opportunity to shine and claim the coveted chili pepper necklace prize. Please sign up in the Crossroads if you are interested in participating in this exciting South Church tradition.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Continued Prayers are Needed for...

<i>Barbara Abbott</i>	<i>Traci Constantine</i>	<i>Mary Ann Higgins</i>	<i>Jill McNamara</i>
<i>Nimmi Baker</i>	<i>Eugenia Dansinghani</i>	<i>Barbara Hooker</i>	<i>Gene Pellett</i>
<i>Georgi Beers</i>	<i>Bill Fagan</i>	<i>Ivy Lehmann</i>	<i>Barbara Slocum</i>
<i>John & Phyllis Carella</i>	<i>Charlie Goding</i>	<i>Liz Costa Mayerson</i>	<i>Russell Turner</i>
<i>Veona Cashman</i>	<i>Barbara Guthrie</i>	<i>Beth McGinnis</i>	

Andrew, grandson of Margie Articolo

Linda Bandecchi, aunt of Bryan Denman

Mary Anne Barrett, sister of Liz Costa Mayerson

Barbara Hitchcock, mother of Bryan Denman

Sandy Hodge, sister of a friend of Jean Foisey and Debbie Rataic

Anthony Manuel, grandson of Debbie Wall

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 Severson, friend of South Church

Richard Shonti, husband of a friend of Jean Foisey

Liam Stickle, mother is a close friend of Sue Gammie

Bill Vendetta, Debbie Wall's brother-in-law

This Week at South Church

SUNDAY, January 19

8:00am – Martial Arts/Basement

8:45am – Choir/Sanctuary

10:00am – Worship Service

MONDAY, January 20

OFFICE CLOSED – MLK Jr. Day

TUESDAY, January 21

2:00pm - Tuesdays at Two/Library

6:00pm – Martial Arts/Basement

6:30pm – Council/Library & Zoom

7:30pm – AA/Rms 9&10

WEDNESDAY, January 22

6:30pm – Cub Scouts/Rms 2, 9&10, and
Charrier

THURSDAY, January 23

6:00pm – Martial Arts/Basement

7:00pm – Choir/Library

FRIDAY, January 24

6:00pm – Candlelight Concert/Sanctuary

8:30pm – Candlelight Concert/Sanctuary

SATURDAY, January 25

6:00pm – Candlelight Concert/Sanctuary

8:30pm – Candlelight Concert/Sanctuary

SUNDAY, January 26

8:00am – Martial Arts/Basement

8:45am – Choir/Sanctuary

10:00am – Worship Service & Sunday School

*Please email/call the office at
office@southucc.org or 860.568.5150
to reserve a room*



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