Senior Pastor’s Message

Loved ones:

For many months, an ongoing staff meeting conversation has been the pandemic and its impact on the life of the church. Krista, Lisa G., and I have observed frustrations as well as celebrations. It often seemed the former were more readily identifiable than the latter. Sometimes you miss the forest for the cedar sprigs and mustard seeds.

Thankfully, Lisa G. was quietly documenting the many victories and successes the people of God have experienced during our sacred journey in the wilderness. I mean, she literally wrote down the many ways that we have adapted and adjusted with creativity and imagination to continually move through problems toward promise. She has wanted to share the list publicly for some time now. Which is a fine idea, of course! Yet, what if we did that very thing… live and in person so that we could not only see it but truly feel it? This is the question we pondered together.

The answer we’ve devised is to honor our shared achievements and the work of God’s hands at the 2021 South Church Pandemmy Awards during worship on Sunday, July 25th. Instead of a sermon, the awards ceremony will serve as the message, undergirded by the featured text Psalm 145:10: “All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.” There will be no individual recognitions. The Pandemmys are all about us and God’s mighty deeds and “the glorious splendor of God’s kingdom”. There will be moments of gratitude, reflection, laughter and awe as we bring our collective attention to the ways God upholds and sustains and “lifts up those who are bowed down”.

Oh, and…there will be a red carpet and photo opportunity in the Narthex so that all who enter may know what it’s like to be a star. Oh, and…there will be an after party in Charrier Hall. Of course. We shall not ever miss an opportunity to taste and see that God is good. Oh, and…Sunday July 25th is the official start date for our new Minister of Music, Jeff Cregeur! Come and see!

Be blessed and be a blessing meanwhile,

Lisa G. and Rev. Fredd
Church Council Meeting Summary – Meeting held June 23, 2021

Review of prior Minutes & Correspondence: May minutes were accepted with corrections

Upcoming Events – Save the Dates!

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Live Streaming of Sunday Church Service</td>
<td>Sundays at 10:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>Outside singing before Church!</td>
<td>Sundays at 9:50 a.m.</td>
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<td>Chicken BBQ</td>
<td>Saturday, September 11th</td>
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<td>Little Theater of Manchester</td>
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<td>Habitat for Humanity Event</td>
<td>Saturday, October 16th</td>
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<td>Fall Fest</td>
<td>Saturday, October 30th</td>
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Treasurer’s Report:
- Balance @ $4,884
- Pledging on target.

Staff Reports:

Pastor Report:
- Short service with singing will be held outside prior to 10:00 a.m. Sunday services
- Employment of Mary Douglas, Music Director, has been severed
- Search Committee has been formed in support of filling Music Director role

UCC Report:
- 1st Conference Minister installed on June 19th

Christian Education and Faith Enrichment (CEFE) – Lisa Griffen

Board Reports:

Deacons:
- $1,000 was donated to the Church general fund under Strawberry Fair line item
- Ushers and Lay Readers all set for Summer

Missions: No Report

Trustees:
- Planter under stained glass window under consideration for repair
- A toilet was replaced in the Men’s room due to plumbing issue

Church Growth:
- Habitat for Humanity planned for Saturday, October 16th
- “Church Merch” sales closed. Approximately 33 items sold with $5 for each going toward Faith Challenge!
- Little Theater of Manchester planned for August
- Yard Goats game under consideration

Old Business:
- Pandemic Response committee provided written report (singing and fans will remain on hold)
- Strawberry Fair went well! Including donation from Deacons, met $7,000 budget projection!
- Talent/Services auction planned for the Fall
- Transition of cleaning to Sexton going well

New Business:
- By-Laws have been updated to capture changes in Music Director job description

Next Meeting planned for August 11th at 7:00 p.m. in Church Library and ZOOM

Respectfully submitted, Maureen Miller Council Clerk
2021 Strawberry Fair

A **HUGE** thank you to all who helped before, during and after our annual Strawberry Fair, as well as all who partook in all of the Fair festivities!! Every year it is so amazing and gratifying to see how our congregation and community come together to make our fair a success!

Thank you again for your continued support!!

*Maureen and Erin - Fair Coordinators*

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Your Feedback...

Your feedback would be very much appreciated!! Please let us know what you thought went well, not so well, or ideas for the future!! Electronic responses can be sent to maumlr46@gmail.com, or feedback forms will also be available in the church office that can be completed and left in the Fair mailbox. We will plan to consolidate all feedback received for review and further discussion at a meeting this Fall.

Hope everyone has a wonderful summer!!

*Thank you!!!*

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Altar Flowers

The florist that provides our altar flowers (Paul Buetnner Florist) has closed the family business. In light of this, our procedure for providing flowers for Sunday morning worship has changed. A new sign-up sheet has been posted outside the main office door. Please sign up for whatever Sunday you wish to give flowers then call any one of the following people so they can provide you with information of how to proceed.

Jean Foisey 860-568-8031  
Lisa Handel 860-568-0171  
Gayle Juliani 860-647-1659
As we move into summer, there are a number of initiatives that Church Growth is spearheading that we want to call to your attention so you can save the dates.

If you have any questions or interest in participating in these events, please contact Felix Piersa.

**Manchester Little Theater:**

A lighthearted comedic review of the complete works of William Shakespeare.

**Date:** Sunday, August 15

**Time:** 2:00 PM

**Seating:** Inside, General Admission, last 6 rows

**Ticket Price:** Awaiting confirmation, but in the $17 - $19 range

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**Hartford Yard Goats:**

I’m looking for guidance from the congregation as to what their comfort level is in attending a game in a full capacity stadium setting.

If you are interested in attending a Yard Goats game, as a group outing, please let me know and we’ll see what is available. I’m thinking an evening game would be preferable since it would not be as hot.

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**Habitat for Humanity:**

South Church will be providing volunteers for a Faith Build on Saturday, October 16. This involves a commitment of your time from 8:00AM-3:00PM on that day. The worksite will be in either Hartford or East Hartford.

We are looking for 12 volunteers and previous construction experience is not required. You can sign-up sheet on the bulletin board next to the Men’s room.
Join us for our Annual Chicken BBQ on Saturday, September 11 at 6 P.M.

Tickets will be available in the Crossroads on Sunday mornings during August and at the door.

Save the Date.
Watch for further information as it becomes available.

Opening Day is Sunday, September 12

We’ve missed you in church. Help us come back better than before.
Bring a friend to celebrate worship!

Join us for our Annual Chicken BBQ on Saturday, September 11 at 6 P.M.

Tickets will be available in the Crossroads on Sunday mornings during August and at the door.
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. Due to the pandemic, this much beloved tradition was put on hold. We’re pleased to announce that Coffee Hour is back! For the months of July and August Coffee Hour will be held every other Sunday outdoors, weather permitting. Please bring your own lawn chair. In the event of rain, refreshments will be served in Charrier Hall. We are in need of hosts. The sign-up sheet has been posted on the Church News bulletin board directly across from the library. Please consider volunteering to host a Sunday that you are available. Thank you for your help with this vital component of our Sunday worship and fellowship.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

1 Erin Pelletier    11 Lori DeCrescenzo    22 Amanda Constantine
3 Shawna Hannon    12 Kayla Pelletier    24 Grace Guerin
5 Laura Davis      13 Eddie Beaver       26 Elizabeth O'Donnell
6 Robert Parks     14 Avis Baker         27 Rev. Fredd Ward
8 Joann Dufresne   15 Will Thayer        28 Deborah Rataic
9 Chris Rataic, Jr. 18 Charles Goding    29 Alex D'Attilio
Peggy Schoen     21 Jillian McNamara    30 Jonathan Vann
10 Laura Davis     23 Elizabeth O'Donnell 31 Paul Werkheiser

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1 Samantha Malin    8 Chuck Pelletier    19 Mark Davis
Jim Trail          9 Debby Wood         Chris Prevost, Jr.
4 Celia Collins    11 Scott Malin      24 Eric Miller
5 Gabriel Zaikarite 14 Dave Porowski    28 Kathryn Simard
6 Haley DeCrescenzo 15 Will Thayer      31 Patricia Kowalczyk
7 Mary Catherine Mumley 16 Christopher Simard
8 Tom DeCrescenzo  17 Robin Guthrie
We Celebrate With:
– The Abbott family upon Katelyn’s graduation from CCSU.
– The Davis family upon Matthew’s graduation from Williams college with a Bachelor’s degree in Mathematics and Computer Science. Matthew has accepted a position with a company outside of the Boston area.
– The Goh family upon Ben’s graduation from UCONN with a Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science and Engineering and Garrett’s graduation from EHHS. Ben has accepted a position with Cigna and Garrett will attend Lincoln Technical Institute for their Electrician Training program.

Our Sympathy Goes To:
– Kathy Kurniawan & family upon the passing of her brother, Don, on May 29th after a brief battle with cancer.
– John and Phyllis Carella whose son, John Carella Jr., recently passed into God’s eternal care.

Hospitalized/Convalescing:
– Charlotte Bradbury continues to recover from injuries sustained in a fall.
– Liz Costa-Mayerson is recovering from recent surgery.
– Mayland Clark, friend of Barbara McNamara’s, is receiving therapy.

Of Special Concern:
– Hannah Kopp, Margie Articolo’s niece.

Please keep in your prayers…..

Dave Abbott    Liz Costa-Mayerson    Mary Ann Higgins    Rev. Al Turner
Rev. John Adams Eugenia Dansinghani Ivy Lehmann Bob & Debby Wood
Myrtle Backus Bill Fagan Beth McCashland
Veona Cashman Charlie Goding Beth McGinnis
Eleanor Cooley Barbara Guthrie Barbara Slocum

Dorothy Smitko, Margie Articolo’s sister
Margie Articolo’s grandson, Andrew
Maureen Kosha, friend of Margie Articolo
Dick McCarthy, member of the Rotary Club
Addison Murphy, great-granddaughter of George and Peggy Schoen
Carol Poehnert, friend of Maureen Miller
Theresa Violette, Barbara McNamara’s friend’s daughter
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Church Office Hours:
Monday-Friday 8:30am-2:30pm

Church Staff & Positions
Senior Pastor .................. Rev. Fredd L. Ward III
Minister of Music ................. Jeff Cregeur
Coordinator of CEFE ............. Kelly Consalvo
Coordinator of CEFE ............. Lisa Griffen
Minister in Residence ......... Rev. Dr. Henry Millan
Treasurer ...................... George Schoen
Assistant Treasurer .......... Robert Fitzgerald
Office Manager ............. Krista Goh
Accounts Manager ........ Madeline Harris
Moderator ..................... Susan Smith
Clerk ......................... Maureen Miller
Sexton ........................ Bill Vibert

Chairpersons:
Board of Deacons... Bob Handel & Peggy Schoen
Board of CEFE ............... Sandra Ward
Board of Missions ......... Lisa Handel
Board of Stewardship ..... Jane Porowski
Board of Trustees .......... Rick Rodrigue
Board of Church Growth .... Felix Piersa

Emails
Rev. Fredd Ward .............. pastor@southucc.org
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.

The office will be closed on Mondays during the months of July and August.

Visit our website at southucc.org

www.facebook.com/SouthUCC/
office@southucc.org
Search for us on YouTube: South Church East Hartford
Visit our website at southucc.org
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 ($40 for 25 copies)

My Name: __________________________ Telephone Number ______________________

I wish to honor/remember: ______________________________________________________

Reason/note for bulletin: ______________________________________________________

________________________________________

Please make all checks payable to South Congregational Church.