Senior Pastor’s Message

Check out the 2021 Pandemmy Awards in Review insert that is attached to this month’s issue of The View! Read it. But also...relish it. Rejoice in it. Reflect upon it.

Here’s why: The whole point of the Pandemmy Awards was to honor our shared achievements and the work of God’s hands – to focus our collective attention on the ways God has saved us, sustained us, and been a steadfast source of grace and mercy during the most difficult days we’ve ever endured. The holy hope in presenting the ceremony on July 25th was that it might outlive that morning and echo eternally, especially as we begin another church year on Opening Sunday, September 12th.

That said, it is entirely possible that we could hold another awards ceremony on the same Sunday next year. And if that reality should come to pass, it would be smart to start thinking now about the ongoing need to adapt and adjust to the newly unfolding uncertainties of these unusual times. It would be prudent to keep being creative and imaginative in anticipation of the obstacles we will surely encounter on the way to the land of milk and honey. It makes good sense (and God sense) to take advantage of the head start we have gained as it relates to our ability to rely upon the greatness and goodness of God in our life together.

Troubles and trials have taught us well. We have profited from problems and pains. We have learned how to convert losses into lessons...burdens into blessings. The golden trophies, in fact, are symbols of the knowledge we have attained. And yet, as Chekov has remarked, “Knowledge is of no value unless [we] put it into practice.” Thus, let us apply our extensive education to realize even richer rewards as we grow and go forward in faith. Let us roll out the red carpet for God and meditate on God’s wondrous works ahead of time...all of the time!

“Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.” Whether we have a dine-in or drive-thru chicken barbeque. Greatly to be praised. Sitting shoulder-to-shoulder or staying six feet apart in the sanctuary. Greatly to be praised. Mask mandate per the Mayor’s office? Greatly to be praised! God is going to work it out. “All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.”

Be blessed! Be a blessing! Be the church!

Love you madly,

Rev. Fredd
Church Council Meeting Summary – Meeting held August 11, 2021

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

Upcoming Events – Save the Dates!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<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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<tr>
<td>Chicken BBQ</td>
<td>Saturday, September 11th</td>
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<td>New Member Acceptance</td>
<td>Tentatively planned for Sunday September 26th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Habitat for Humanity Event</td>
<td>Saturday, October 16th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall Fest</td>
<td>Saturday, October 30th</td>
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Treasurer’s Report:
- Balance @ $9,944

Staff Reports:

Pastor Report:
- Vacation planned from 8/15 – 8/22

UCC Report: No Report

Christian Education and Faith Enrichment (CEFE) – Lisa Griffen
- Meeting to be held on August 25th
- Protectors of Animals Drive will continue through end of August

Board Reports:

Deacons: No Report

Missions:
- Missions to donate $2,000 to Goodwin School PTO in support of the distribution of a $100 gift card to each teacher to defray out of pocket classroom expenses

Trustees:
- Floors are being waxed

Church Growth:
- Habitat for Humanity planned for Saturday, October 16th
- “Church Merch” sales closed. $292 toward Faith Challenge!
- Little Theater of Manchester planned for August 15th
- Yard Goats game under consideration (possibly 9/17 or 9/18)

Old Business:
- Talent/Services auction planned postponed until 2022
- Chicken BBQ planning underway
- A special Council meeting via ZOOM was held of June 30th to determine new Minister of Music

New Business:
- A decision was made to move Council meetings from the 3rd Wednesday of each Month to the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

Next Meeting planned for September 21st at 7:00 p.m. in Church Library and ZOOM

Respectfully submitted, Maureen Miller Council Clerk
“There is a miracle in every new beginning.” -- Hermann Hesse

During a recent conversation with my friend Karen, she wondered aloud: “What if we did not have a Welcome Back Sunday, but rather a Welcome Forward Sunday instead?” There was wisdom in her wondering and a transformational shift as well. What if we considered the implications of a fresh start (not a reset) at this turning point in our ongoing journey through the wilderness while simultaneously integrating the longstanding sacred traditions that this community holds dear?

As I prayed about what that would look and feel like, I began to daydream about an intergenerational approach to ministry. I imagined a congregation where children and adults worshipped side by side on Sunday mornings. I visualized a teenager delivering a sermon from the pulpit. I thought about a four year-old sharing her/his experience of God with an eighty-four year-old. The possibilities spilled forth with grace and beauty and each experience was infused with God’s love and the blessed mystery of the Holy Spirit.

Therefore, as we enter this season of new beginnings, I invite you to pray with me about what is on your heart; and the places around town where you feel compelled to share the powerful message “You Are Loved”; and how to infuse that love into the work we do within the walls of the church and beyond. I invite you to daydream about the ways we can meaningfully provide experiences for all members of South Church, regardless of age, to work together to be the body of Christ.

The possibilities are endless! Let’s stretch a little, become comfortable with being uncomfortable, and enter into this new beginning with a renewed sense of purpose and commitment to God, community, and one another. We are a small but mighty people. The best is yet to be!

To date, the Protectors of Animals Youth Group Fundraiser has received the following generous donations:

- Dog and cat food
- Dog and cat treats
- Towels
- Toys
- Training pads
- Office supplies
- Over $150 in cash!

All contributions to this service endeavor will be delivered to the animal shelter at the end of August. Thank you to all who have made this campaign a success! Special thanks to Samantha Consalvo and her friend, Jayda Maloney, for their commitment to this project.

Please note that Sunday morning children’s lessons will resume on Facebook on September 12th.

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: Kelly and Lisa
The 2021 Pandemmy Awards in Review

“All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.” - Psalm 145:10

BEST ADAPTED WORKS:
- The Strawberry Fair was held in June of 2020
- The Strawberry Fair Chuck Wagon in August raised over $5000 for Patricia’s family
- The Pandemic Response Committees was formed in September of 2020
- Payroll Protection Loan was secured enabling all staff to continue receiving full salaries

Recipient: South Congregational Church, East Hartford

BEST ANIMATED WORKS:
- Walking the Labyrinth and Lighting the Way
- Parishioner Appreciation Day
- Chicken BBQ drive thru
- Lawn Chair Bible studies
- Ash Wednesday, featuring the rugged cross prayer ribbon ministry
- Good Friday Labyrinth Experience
- Parking Lot Pantry
- Ice Cream Emergency
- Antique Road Show
- Processing a Pandemic discussion series
- Stories at South
- The return of coffee hour
- The Service Before the Service, featuring congregational singing

Recipient: South Congregational Church, East Hartford

EXCELLENCE IN ELECTRONIC WORKS:
- Weekly Pastoral Missives
- Wednesday Words with Friends
- The Lenten Journey in Pictures
- The View was distributed monthly, without interruption, throughout the pandemic
- SCC newsletter now available to the public on the website
- Visibility has been increased on the SCC Facebook page
- Electronic messages were sent to members and friends that did not have access to computers

Recipient: South Congregational Church, East Hartford
BEST ON-SCREEN WORKS:
• Church in the Cloud via Zoom beginning in April 2020
• Coffee Hour in the Cloud
• Council (and other committee meetings) in the Cloud
• CEFE craft videos presented on YouTube and church school lessons posted via Facebook
• Livestreaming worship from the sanctuary via YouTube beginning in July 2020
• Virtual Thanksgiving Table
• On-line Book Club
• Virtual Soup and Sharing

Recipient: South Congregational Church, East Hartford

OUTSTANDING VISUAL EFFECTS:
• SCC “You. Are. Loved.” lawn signs sold and displayed around town
• Church merchandise was updated and reordered
• Be the Church banner has been delivered and will be displayed on the front of the church

Recipient: South Congregational Church, East Hartford

BEST SUPPORTING ACTORS:
• Birthday Blessings phone calls
• You Are Loved Chalk ministry
• Over 100 Advent bags were assembled and delivered
• 18 Daily Devotionals and Remembrance Breads were delivered
• Over 275 Comfort Hearts were delivered locally
• Countless number of cards were sent to members and friends
• Food baskets and bags of food were distributed to our neighbors in need
• Homemade meals were prepared for Soup Kitchen patrons
• Youth group collected items for Protectors of Animals

Recipient: South Congregational Church, East Hartford

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD:
Honoree: Reverend Al Turner
Church Merch – You Did It!

On behalf of the church Growth Team, I want to extend our thanks for your support of the Church Merch initiative. Through your generosity, together we raised $292 to contribute to our Faith Challenge. This helps offset the deficit we include in our general budget to encourage creative thinking that enhances our life as a Christian community.

Chicken BBQ – A Quick Run Down

The annual chicken BBQ is back as an in-house event with seating in Charrier Hall. If you are uncomfortable dining in, that’s no problem, we will also have a takeout option. There will not be a drive through pickup so you will need to come in to get your takeout. To ensure the safety of everyone, we will adhere to whatever covid-19 protocols are in place at the time of our event.

Tickets went on sale in the crossroads on Sunday, August 15th and will be available there on subsequent Sundays, as well as at the door or by calling the church office. In addition to the chicken the menu will feature a garden salad, pasta salad, corn on the cob, dessert and beverage.

Don’t miss out on this evening of fellowship and a wondrous dinner artfully prepared by our chefs and kitchen crew. Get your tickets today! Still $12.

Fall Festival – October 30

This year our Fall Festival actually occurs on the weekend of Halloween. Although the Growth Team is in the initial planning stages, we wanted you to save the date on your calendar. We are looking forward to hosting this community event after a year’s absence. Look for more details as our plans develop. Your support is much appreciated since it is critical to the success of this event.
Church in the Cloud – Via Zoom

Early during the pandemic Rev. Fredd set-up a Zoom meeting so we could share in a virtual worship service and coffee hour. Subsequently, we established a YouTube channel and livestreaming of our worship service and a return to in-person worship.

Utilization of the Church in the Cloud and virtual coffee hour has fallen off as other options became available so the Zoom offering has been discontinued. We will continue to livestream the worship service via YouTube.

COFFEE HOUR

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 outdoors, weather permitting. Please bring your own lawn chair. In the event of rain, refreshments will be served in Charrier Hall. The sign-up sheet for the months of September and October has been posted on the Church News bulletin board directly across from the library. Please consider hosting a Sunday that you are available. Thank you for your help with this vital component of our Sunday worship and fellowship.

Missions Update

School supplies were taken care of this year, so our Missions dollars went directly to the classroom teachers to help them get ready for a great 2021 start.

Food Bank: Tomato sauce is our only need if you care to help.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2  Cheryl Rappolt
   Nathan Vann
4  Jean Foisey
   Chickie Amberg
5  Lois Talbot
7  Robert Handel
8  Erica D’Attilio
   Bob DeCrescenzo
   Lydia Griffin
10  Glo Benson
    Debbi Grote
    Robert Grote
11  Garrett Goh
12  Janet Lynch
17  George Schoen
18  Tyler Gammie
    Polly Gugino
19  Kim Beaver
    Debbie Wall
24  Patrick McNamara
27  Emily Grote
28  Betsy Mace
30  Roland Sayward
We Celebrate With:
–Nick Beaver and Keylee Weston upon the baptism of their daughter, Marlee Elizabeth, on July 11th. Grandmother is Kim Beaver and great-grandmother is Glo Benson.
–Lauren Gammie and her proud parents, John and Sue, upon her graduation from UCONN on July 15th with a Doctorate of Philosophy in School Psychology degree. Dr. Gammie has accepted a position in the Vernon, CT school system as their child psychologist. She is also a professor at Manchester Community College and UCONN teaching online courses.

Our Sympathy Goes To:
–Eddie Klein and wife Lauren Gammie, the Lovett family, and the SW Police Department upon the tragic passing of Officer Benjamin Lovett on July 13th due to a motor vehicle accident. Ben was 26 years old. Eddie was one of his best friends and graduated the police academy with Ben.
–The entire South Church community of faith extends heartfelt prayers for peace and comfort to Charlotte Turner and family on the passing of her beloved partner and our beloved pastor emeritus, Rev. Al Turner, who entered heaven’s gate into God’s eternal care on July 18th. We thank God for Rev. Al’s many years of dedicated service and devoted leadership. Since we cannot ever repay all that he has done to help us become who we are, may we pay it all forward in honoring his life and his lasting legacy. Calling hours were held August 26th with a private service afterwards at South Church.
–Peggy and George Schoen upon the passing of Peggy’s brother, Thomas Atticks, on July 24th in Newcastle, Maine.
–Kevin Martikainen upon the passing of his brother, Toimi Everett Martikainen, age 76, on July 24th. Toimi grew up in South Church. He was predeceased by his parents, Toimi & Madeline, and brother, Richard.
–Debby Wood and family upon the passing of her husband, Bob Wood, on July 25th after a brief illness. A memorial service was held July 31st at South Church.
–The Backus family upon the passing of Myrtle Backus on July 26th. A private service was held August 3rd at Hillside Cemetery, East Hartford.
–The Hallquist family upon the passing of Jessica Gromelski on August 8th. A memorial service was held August 14th at South Church.

Hospitalized/Convalescing:
–Joann & Ernie Dufresne are celebrating Ernie’s recent successful back surgery.
–Jean Barrows is recovering well from a recent partial hip placement surgery due to injuries sustained in a fall.

Of Special Concern:
–Kathy, a close friend of Joann & Ernie Dufresne, is experiencing serious health problems.
–Shirley Sanders is dealing with Covid-19 symptoms.
Continued prayers...

Please keep in your prayers.....

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

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

The steeple lighting for the month of September is in remembrance of Jane Jepsen who would have celebrated her 91st birthday on September 12th, given by her loving family.

The steeple lighting for the month of September is provided by Shirley Berner in honor of her grandson, Carl Berner, who is currently serving in the National Guard in Africa.

Rejoice in hope
Be patient in affliction
Be faithful in prayer
Romans 12:12
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<tr>
<td><strong>29</strong></td>
<td><strong>30</strong></td>
<td>6am - Atwater Martial</td>
<td>6pm - Atwater Martial</td>
<td>10am - Caring Ministry</td>
<td>6pm - Martial Arts</td>
<td>7pm - Cub Scout</td>
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<td>OFFICE CLOSED</td>
<td>7:30pm - AA</td>
<td>11am - Staff Meeting</td>
<td>7pm - Choir</td>
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<td><strong>5</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8am - Martial Arts</td>
<td>6pm - Martial Arts</td>
<td>9am - Preschool</td>
<td>6pm - Martial Arts</td>
<td>BBQ Setup</td>
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<td>Labor Day</td>
<td>6pm - AA</td>
<td>11am - Staff Meeting</td>
<td>6pm - CEFE Meeting</td>
<td>6pm - Chicken BBQ</td>
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<td><strong>12</strong></td>
<td><strong>13</strong></td>
<td>Opening Sunday</td>
<td>9am - Preschool Begins</td>
<td>6pm - Martial Arts</td>
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<td>6:30pm - Hayes</td>
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<td>8am - Martial Arts</td>
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<td>11am - Staff Meeting</td>
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<td>7pm - Choir</td>
<td>7pm - Yard Goats</td>
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<td>10am - Worship</td>
<td>7:30pm - AA</td>
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<td><strong>19</strong></td>
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<td>8am - Martial Arts</td>
<td>7pm - Church Growth</td>
<td>11am - Staff Meeting</td>
<td>6pm - Martial Arts</td>
<td>11am - Wedding</td>
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<td><strong>26</strong></td>
<td><strong>27</strong></td>
<td>8am - Martial Arts</td>
<td>9am - DDNCS</td>
<td>11am - Staff Meeting</td>
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<td>10am - Worship</td>
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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

Effective 8/24/21, a mask mandate has been issued in East Hartford per Mayor Marcia Leclerc. This mandate applies to everyone ages 2 and older within indoor public spaces, regardless of vaccination status. Exceptions to the mandate will be made for persons eating or drinking, those spaced at least 6 feet apart, or those providing written proof of a qualifying exemption, including medical condition, behavioral condition, or disability.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our church and community safe.

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.

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
South Congregational Church is part of the United Church of Christ (UCC) Connecticut

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

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.