Senior Pastor’s Message

in-ten-tion-al: adjective; done on purpose.

Loved ones:

In 1989, when I was in my early twenties, someone recommended that I read Steven R. Covey’s *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People.* At that youthful age and stage of life, I’m sure that I thought I could figure out the subject for myself by trial and error (lots of errors it turns out). Thus, I didn’t heed the recommendation.

Nowadays, I find myself circling back to learn lessons that were lost on me given my lack of humility, open-mindedness and willingness. For example, Covey suggested years ago that one of the keys to achievement (in any endeavor) is “not to prioritize your schedule but to schedule your priorities”. Which is what it looks like to be intentional – to do something on purpose…and with purpose.

Last month, Lisa G. and I had a conversation about whether it’s possible to make the secular celebration of Thanksgiving more spiritual. We wondered together: “Can we endeavor to make the national holiday somehow more holy?” Of course, we can! By the way, the original New England tradition consisted of days of fasting and thanksgiving for fruitful harvest. Plural! So, we’ve devised a sequential celebration starting Sunday, November 21st through Thursday, November 25th – *Five Days of Intentional Thanksgiving* – in the hope that giving thanks with resolve and purpose will be an elevating experience.

The sermon for November 21st is informed by two texts that will ground us in gratitude. *Philippians 4:4-9* conveys the following exhortation: “Do not worry about anything, but in everything prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” *Colossians 3:12-17* contains several habits for holy living, including: “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.”

Thereafter, we’ll walk together toward Thursday guided by a series of priorities one day at a time until we meet via Zoom to exchange ideas and insights (see the CEFE page for additional details). Mark your calendars…it’s scheduled to be a fruitful time!

Meanwhile, be blessed and be a blessing.

Faithfully,

Rev. Fredd
Church Council Meeting Summary – Meeting held October 19, 2021

Review of prior Minutes & Correspondence: August 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>All Saints Day</td>
<td>Sunday, October 31st</td>
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<td>Fall Cleanup</td>
<td>Saturday, Nov 6th/Rain Date Nov 7th</td>
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<td>Stewardship Sunday</td>
<td>Sunday, November 14th</td>
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<td>Thanksgiving Basket Preparation</td>
<td>Thursday, Nov 18th</td>
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<td>Thanksgiving Basket Pickup</td>
<td>Saturday, Nov 20th</td>
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<td>Christmas Basket Preparation</td>
<td>Thursday, Dec 16th</td>
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<td>Christmas Basket Pickup</td>
<td>Saturday, Dec 18th</td>
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Treasurer’s Report:
- Balance @ $11,577
- Pledging at 64.4% vs. budget of 75%

Staff Reports:

Pastor Report:
- New member reception held October 10th
- Update of hearing devices was suggested – Deacons to investigate further

UCC Report: No Report

Christian Education and Faith Enrichment (CEFE) – Lisa Griffen (Written Report)

Additional Comments:
- Lisa provided an update on a seminar attended: “Small Church, Big Mission” – 1 hour seminar with a link that can be shared for those interested!

Board Reports:

Deacons: Written Report

Additional Comments:
- Chili supper fund raiser to be held October 30th – 39 orders received so far.

Missions:
- Missions to add to $79 collected from CEFE pumpkin painting to allow for up to $300 of Goodwin book orders
- Angel tree planned this year

Trustees:
- Sink hole near front entrance of church driveway under investigation

Church Growth:
- Habitat for Humanity held Saturday, October 16th
- Boxes of candy to be delivered for Goodwin school Halloween party – Thrivent grant to cover expenses
- Reception for 4 new member October 10th – new photo taken!

Stewardship
- Campaign theme, Proverbs 11:24 “One gives freely, yet gains even more”
- Letters to be mailed Oct 25th

Old Business:
- Lyman Orchards and Ashley pie sales to be held in October as a fundraiser in support of Nursery School
- Nominating Committee will continue work to ensure all 2022 Board and Committee positions are filled

New Business: None

Next Meeting planned for November 16th at 7:00 p.m. in Church Library and ZOOM

Respectfully submitted, Maureen Miller Council Clerk
“Gratitude is the beginning of wisdom. Stated differently, true wisdom cannot be obtained unless it is built on a foundation of true humility and gratitude.” Gordon B. Hinckley

Five Days of Intentional Thanksgiving: Beginning Sunday, November 21st through Thursday, November 25th you are encouraged to ponder and practice a series of ideas—a different idea each day. We will focus our collective attention on the blessings of kindness, counsel, courage, scripture, and nature. On Thanksgiving morning at 10:00am, we will gather at the Virtual Thanksgiving Table (hosted by Lisa G.) to compare notes and share our personal experiences and reflections. A zoom link will be sent prior to the event.

South Church Got Talent is Back! Date and time to be determined. In the meantime, warm up your voices, tune up your instruments, shine up your dancing shoes and consider participating in this exciting South Church variety show. Brainstorm with your friends, pool your creative resources and sign up in the Crossroads if you are planning to participate. We can’t wait to be wowed by your performances! ☺

The SCC Book Club will begin reading Learning to Walk in the Dark, by Barbara Brown Taylor, sometime in early November. While it is often easy to recognize God’s light when life feels free of burdens, Taylor encourages us to examine the lessons that emerge in times of darkness as well. The Book Club will meet every Tuesday, from approximately 1-2 PM. Most of our meetings have been held over Zoom, but we have transitioned to in person gatherings three times in the past month. If interested in joining the Book Club, kindly contact us at cefe@southucc.org or the church office.

Please note that Sunday morning children’s lessons continue to be available on Facebook.

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
In Case You Missed It:

**The Wisdom Hoop:** Displayed proudly in the narthex, the Wisdom Hoop is a visible and touchable reminder of our shared commitment to live under the influence of wisdom. We encourage you to take time to read the colorful ribbons and the blessings that have been shared by members of our church family.

**Comfort Heart Testimonials:** Over 345 knitted Comfort Hearts have been distributed since the initiative began in February. This ministry of love and compassion has elicited the following responses from patients, hospice workers and friends.

- “My mother has stage four cancer and will not go to sleep at night unless her Comfort Heart is under her head, acting as a pillow.”
- “I held my Comfort Heart through every one of my cancer and radiation treatments.”
- “I have a hospice client who must be touching her Comfort Heart every moment of every day. If the heart falls to the floor, she begins crying until it is returned safely to her hand.”

A special thank you to all members of the South Church community that continue to support this important and meaningful work.

**Pumpkins and Paperbacks:** God’s love continues to blanket the East Hartford community through another “You. Are. Loved.” initiative. Over 28 pumpkins and gourds were painted with this message of acceptance and are currently displayed on the South Church property and also distributed throughout the town. (Salmon Brook, Riverside, Manchester Manor, the Library, Police Station, Firehouse and Senior Center.) Additionally, $89.00 was raised to buy books for the Goodwin Elementary School Library. Congratulations to both our artists and generous donors!
FALL CLEANUP

Our annual Fall Cleanup is scheduled for **Saturday, November 6th at 9:00am.** Rain date will be Saturday, November 13th. Many hands are needed to keep South Church looking beautiful. Please bring your rakes, tarps, wheelbarrows, leaf blowers, chainsaws, pruners, rags, cleaner, etc. to assist with the cleanup.

**Thursday, November 18th**
- Packing about 100

**Looking for Volunteers**
See or call Lisa H. at 860.568.0171

**Saturday, November 20th**
- Unloading 120 frozen turkeys: 10:00-11:00am
- Organizing drive-by pickup: 1:00-3:00pm

Interested in Choir?
If you’re interested in joining the Chancel Choir please contact Jeff Cregeur via email at music@southucc.org
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. The sign-up sheet for the months of November and December has been posted on the Church News bulletin board directly across from the library. You may also contact the church office to sign up. Please consider hosting a Sunday that you are available. Thank you for your help with this vital component of our Sunday worship and fellowship.

Our Sympathy Goes To:
–The Baker family upon the passing of Avis Baker on October 21st. Services were held on October 29th.

Hospitalized/Convalescing:
–Liz Costa-Mayerson is recovering from recent surgery.

Of Special Concern:
–Nimmi Baker is experiencing some general health issues.
–Marilyn Flood, Jane Fowler’s mother, is experiencing health issues.
–A1C Samuel Goh who was recently deployed to the Middle East with the US Airforce.

Please keep in your prayers…..

Dave Abbott  Veona Cashman  Charlie Goding  Beth McCashland
Rev. John Adams  Eleanor Cooley  Barbara Guthrie  Beth McGinnis
Gloria Alf  Liz Costa-Mayerson  Mary Ann Higgins  Barbara Slocum
Jean Barrows  Eugenia Dansinghani  Barbara Hooker  Rev. Will Thayer
Georgi Beers  Bill Fagan  Ivy Lehmann  Debby Wood

Andrew, grandson of Margie Articolo
Rita Barnard
Mayland Clark, friend of Barbara McNamara
Maureen Kosha, friend of Margie Articolo
Dick McCarthy, member of the Rotary Club
Addyson Murphy, great-granddaughter of George and Peggy Schoen
Carol Poehnert, friend of Maureen Miller
Roseann Russell, friend of Debbie Wall
Dorothy Smitko, sister of Margie Articolo
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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. 

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 
Vanessa Kelman 17 Jim Hall  29 Gary Fowler 
Barbara Slocum 19 Laura Benigni  30 Dave Caruso 
Keith Benson 6 Arthur Bradbury 
Mary Ann Higgins 7 Felix Piersa 
Elizabeth McCashland 20 Dan Werkheiser 

THANK YOU VETERANS

The offices will be closed November 26-27th for Thanksgiving.

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.