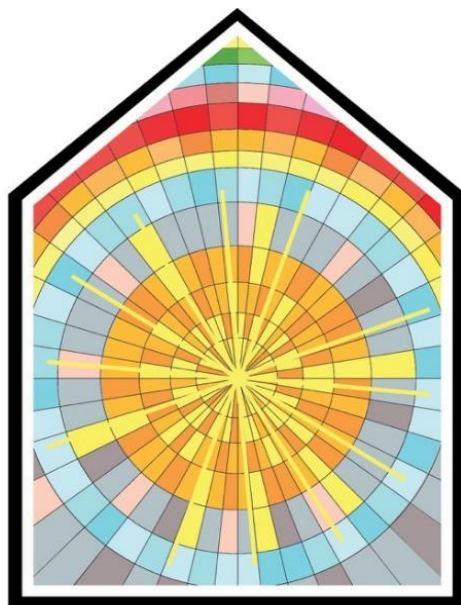


Welcome to
South Congregational Church, UCC
1301 Forbes St. East Hartford, CT 06118



SOUTH
Congregational Church

East Hartford, CT

August 4, 2024

Interim Pastor
Minister of Music
Coordinator of CEFE

Proper 13 (Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost)

The Reverend Paul Goodman
Jeff Cregeur
Lisa Griffen

† Please stand in body or spirit

Meditation

Silence is not merely the absence of speech. It is not something negative; it is “something” in itself. It is a depth, a fullness, a peaceful flow of hidden life. Everything true and great grows in silence. Ladislaus Boros, “God is with Us”

Prelude

Jeff Cregeur, Minister of Music

Welcome and Announcements

† Passing the Peace

Call to Worship

Keith Benson

Lay Reader: Everyone faces adversity.

People: We are resilient, as God is with us.

Lay Reader: How do we turn pain into purpose.

People: If we live in faith, God will help us achieve remarkable things.

Lay Reader: Live with an open heart, in kindness, in love, and being alive.

People: Loving changes us, keeps us going, changes the world.

† Gathering Hymn *Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore* Chalice Hymn #342

Prayer of Invocation

In Unison

We adore and love you Lord our God. It is a wonderment that when you made us you put your Love in each of us. Then you gave us Jesus to show us how to live, and use our Love to better our lives and the world. And when things get particularly difficult, and they do, Jesus has left us the Holy Spirit to guide us, to give us encouragement and strength; to remind us that we are Yours, and that You will never leave us to face adversity alone. You are our amazing God, who we praise and worship this morning and every day. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Dr. Kelly Littlejohn, Jr.

Offertory Sentences

Keith Benson

We are a people of faith, who believe in the goodness of our God. We are a people of caring, who want to help others in this troubled world. We are a people with generous hearts, who know we have been given much and want to give in proportion to what we have been given. If you have not already left an offering in the plate as you came in this morning, you are invited to leave your offering of gratitude in the plate located in the Narthex as you leave this morning’s service. Let us give God our praise!

† Offertory Hymn *My Hope Is Built* Chalice Hymn #537

† Doxology *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* Chalice Hymn #46
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

† Prayer of Dedication In Unison
Giving and loving God, we dedicate our offerings in faith, that You will see that they are used to better our world. We pray that those who need and receive our gifts will use them in praise to You. We humbly pray dear God, the true giver of all that is good, with gratitude for this lovely Church that cares and does what it can for people in need. Amen.

Scripture John 21:1-6 Pew Bible Page 883

Sermon “Don’t Give Up” Rev. Dr. Kelly Littlejohn, Jr.

Communion Hymn *Come, Share the Lord* Chalice Hymn #408

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation

Communion Prayer of Dedication

Lord’s Prayer

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.

Words of Institution

Sharing of The Bread and The Cup

(Please hold the bread so that everyone may eat together – a symbol of our unity in Christ. The cup may be drunk as the Spirit moves you – symbolizing our individual relationship with Jesus.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving In Unison

We give thanks to you, O God, for the gifts of your table, for love that heals and forgives, that calls and sends. In that love, send us out. In that love, make us new so that we might be bread for each other and light for the world. Amen.

† Sending Hymn

Shall We Gather at the River

Chalice Hymn #701

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Kelly Littlejohn, Jr.

Postlude

Jeff Cregeur, Minister of Music

This Sunday's Service Volunteers:

-Ushers: Celia Collins and Linda Russell

-Lay Reader: Keith Benson

-Deacons for the month of **August:** Jean Foisey and Linda Russell

-Audio Visual: Chuck Pelletier and Bob Handel

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

The logo features the word "Welcome" in a large, elegant, green cursive font. Below it, the words "to Our Church" are written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. The text is surrounded by decorative green leaves and vines, with some leaves appearing to be part of the letters themselves.

Welcome to Our Church

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. We also encourage you to speak with the pastor.

Please place gifts and offerings in the collection plates located in the Narthex either before or after worship.

Rev. Dr. Kelly Littlejohn, Jr.: Born in Asheville, North Carolina, I am the oldest of three siblings. My early childhood spiritual formation was instilled in me by my grandmother, Fanny Lyles, in Jenkinsville, South Carolina. Her Christian modeling throughout my academic preparation motivated me to continue my education. I graduated from Benedict College (B.A. in Social Work), 1975; University of Connecticut (MSW), 1982; Hartford Seminary (M.R.E.) 1984, Andover Newton Theological Seminary (M.Div.), 1987; United Theological Seminary (D. Min.), 1995, and Hartford Seminary (D. Min.) 1997.

In 1985, I received ordination for Ministry by the late Rev. Earl Wesley Lawson, the late Pastor Baptist Churches of Connecticut (Robert Roberts). In 1986, I was called to Pastor the Blue Hills Baptist Church. I also was Pastor of New Beginning Baptist Church (Hartford, CT), Third Baptist Church (Enfield, CT) and First Baptist Church (Wallingford, CT).

Additional Pastoral experience includes traveling to: Japan to participate in a clergy seminar (Is Jesus the Son of God?), Jerusalem in 1994 with Hartford Seminary Faculty/Doctoral Students to dialogue on Palestine Liberation. One of my memorable experiences occurred in 2018-2019, traveling with 85-100 volunteers to LaRomana, Dominican Republic, preaching both summers at the host Maranatha Church and serving on the evangelism team. Many souls were won for Christ.

My accomplishments would not have been successful without having my wife, Minister Shirley Littlejohn, beside me. We are blessed to have three children, four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

COMMUNITY
SUNDAYS 
AT SOUTH CONGREGATIONAL
August 11: 10:45-11:45am

We are excited to be writing notes of affirmation and encouragement to be included with our school supplies donations for the students at O'Connell School.

Please consider joining us as we aspire to complete 300 notecards for distribution! All are welcome to participate! We look forward to partnering with you in service to our shared community. Thank you in advance for your support of this outreach initiative.

ONLY ONE MORE TO GO...

Our MOSAICS season is quickly coming to a close. Join us on Saturday, August 24th at 7:00 p.m. to welcome **The New London Big Band**, a full-bodied, 17-piece jazz orchestra! Led by trombonist and composer Sean Nelson. This band plays a mix of classic jazz standards, upbeat dance tunes, original music by band members, and regularly features instrumental and vocal soloists.

This concert will be held in Charrier Hall, so wear your dancing shoes! Appetizers and beverages will be provided at no additional cost!

Help us wind up the season in a BIG way by inviting your friends and family for a fun night out!

As in previous years, Charlotte Turner has graciously offered one of her beautiful paintings for a raffle. You may purchase raffle tickets at the door the night of each concert, or in the Crossroads on Sundays. The winner's name will be revealed at our last concert.

Concert tickets are \$20.00 each and will be sold in the Crossroads or at the door the night of each performance.

The MOSAICS concerts are dedicated in loving memory of Rev. Al Turner. It was through the generosity of contributions made to the Memorial Fund in his memory that this concert series began in 2022 as a way to enhance the music program here at South Church. We are excited as our third year gets underway and hope our church family joins us for another summer of music.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Continued Prayers are Needed for...

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

Andrew, grandson of Margie Articulo

Linda Bandecchi, aunt of Bryan Denman

Mary Anne Barrett, sister of Liz Costa Mayerson

Mayland Clark, Mayland Clark Jr., Krista Clark, and Gail Lopez, friends of Barbara McNamara

Allison Cornelius, stepdaughter of Gary Fowler

Judy Dunn, neighbor of Debbi Grote

Barbara Hitchcock, mother of Bryan Denman

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

Liam Stickley, mother is a close friend of Sue Gammie

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

This Week at South Church

SUNDAY, August 4

8:00am – Martial Arts/Basement

10:00am – Worship Service/Communion

MONDAY, August 5

OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY, August 6

6:00pm – Martial Arts/Basement

7:30pm – AA/Rms 9&10

THURSDAY, August 8

6:00pm – Martial Arts/Basement

FRIDAY, August 9

5:30pm – Hayes/Rms 9&10

SUNDAY, August 11

8:00am – Martial Arts/Basement

10:00am – Worship Service

10:45am – Community Sunday/Charrier Hall

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

The office is closed on Mondays during July & August



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