



The  
WEATHERVANE

South Britain Congregational Church, South Britain, CT 06487  
203.264.5890 United Church of Christ · “God is Still Speaking”  
October 2018

---

### A TALE OF TWO SEAS

There are two seas in Israel – and the Jordan River flows into both of them. One of the seas is fresh and clear and filled with fish. Its banks are green. Trees abound, and children play on its beaches. This is the clean water of the Sea of Galilee. But further south is another sea. Though the Jordan flows into it, there are no fish, no green banks, no trees or children at play. The water is bad, and even the air hangs heavily in the sky above it. This is the Dead Sea. What makes the difference? The Sea of Galilee receives but does not keep the Jordan River. For every drop that flows in, another is given away. In the other sea, the Dead Sea, the Jordan flows in but not out. Every drop it receives, it keeps. The Sea of Galilee gives and lives. The other sea gives nothing and is aptly called the Dead Sea. Bruce Barton says we are called to be like the living water of the Galilee, generous in our giving, vital and alive.

October is Stewardship month at South Britain Congregational Church. And we need everyone, like the waters of the Galilee, to be generous -- vital and alive – in their giving. We have a wonderful church with a long history of Christian service in our community. Our church is known for its care both for its own members and those beyond its doors. And our music ministry is one of the strongest in town. Our staff is great. There’s a tangible excitement -- you can feel it – as we look to the future. We’re on the go. South Britain Congregational Church deserves our generous support. We want to be financially sound for a new minister coming on board. We need everyone to step up to help.

God does not ask us to give what we do not have. God asks us to know life and vitality by giving generously to his work with what we do have.

Remember the tale of the two seas.

In Christ,

Dave Buchan  
Bridge Interim Minister

## BULLETIN BOARD

**Every Sunday:** Choir, 9 am; Worship, 10 am; Coffee Hour in the Parish House following the service'

**First Sunday:** Communion during worship

**Every Tuesday:** Knit-Wits, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm

Bible Study, 1:00 to 2:00 pm

Master Chorale, 6 to 10 pm

**Every Friday:** AA Meeting, 7 to 8:30 pm

**First Wednesday:** First Wednesday Women's Group, 6 pm (October meeting will be Thursday, October 4)

### October

**Thursday, October 4:** Women's Group on Thursday this month, 6 pm;  
Property, 7 pm

**Friday, October 5:** Men's Group at Sal Graziano's

**Sunday, October 7:** Board of Outreach, 9 am; Worship, 10 am; Sandwich  
Brigade following worship; Blessing of the Animals, 12 pm

**Sunday, October 14:** Faith Formation, 9 am; new members join during the  
service

**Wednesday, October 17:** Deadline for November newsletter

**Thursday, October 18:** Trustees, 7 pm

**Sunday, October 21:** Deacons, 11:30 am

**Wednesday, October 24:** Council, 7 pm

### November

**Thursday, November 1:** Property, 7 pm

**Sunday, November 4:** All Saints Day; Faith Formation, 9 am

**Wednesday, November 7:** First Wednesday Women's Group, 6 pm

**Sunday, November 11:** Finance Committee

**Wednesday, November 14:** Deadline for December newsletter

**Thursday, November 15:** Trustees, 7 pm

**Sunday, November 18:** Deacons, 11:30 am

**Tuesday, November 20:** Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service - St. James Luthern, 7 pm

---

**BIBLE STUDY meets on Tuesdays at 1 pm in the Bassett Room.** Everyone is welcome – no experience needed! Bring your Bible (any version), your questions, and your insights.

**We are looking at the possibility of an evening Bible Study as we get into the Fall. It would be the same topics as the Tuesday morning Bible study but will be in the evening or possibly at supper time. If this is something that you might be interested in, please let Rev. Dave or Ken Bolin know. The time and the day of the week will depend on what best suits those who are interested.**



**PLEASE LET THE CHURCH OFFICE KNOW IF YOU ARE IN OR PLANNING TO BE IN THE HOSPITAL. WE WOULD LIKE TO KEEP YOU IN OUR PRAYERS.**

**THE 2018 FLOWER CHART** is posted in the Gathering Room. There are MANY openings. Sign up for the appropriate Sunday for remembering or honoring a loved one—or celebrating a birthday, anniversary, or other special day. Thank you!



**IN OUR PRAYERS**

Gladys Burdick  
 The Dunn family  
 Ann Ferraro’s sister Katy  
 Edward and Betsy Fleming  
     John’s parents and John  
 Ginni Garis  
 Ginny Geils  
 Joyce Hornbecker  
 Marge Humiston  
 Jonah Locke  
 Nancy Maher

Joan McAleer  
 Char Moll’s mother  
 Gordon Morehouse  
 Margie and Ray Nichols  
     great granddaughter Madison  
 The Pierpont family  
 Audrey Sharpe  
 Judy Simpson  
 Kevin Sullivan  
 Kay Zachos

*To SBCC. . .*

*We pray that we may take this day as a gift from God.  
 Thank you for giving us a place to keep sober one day at a time.  
 – Cheri Panzica*

*Dear Friends of SBCC . . .*

*Our family can’t thank you enough for your continued love, support and prayers. They are living proof on how strong the power of prayer is. Your generous gifts are beyond appreciated and will help our family out. Thank you again from the bottom of our hearts.  
 – Love, Madison and the Barbieri family.*

**IN MEMORIAM**

Joanne Northam Dunn, Carl Dunn’s mother, who passed away in Florida on August 28.  
 James (Jim) G. Pierpont, Sr., who passed away on September 9, 2018.

**APPLE FESTIVAL THANK YOU**



A special thank you to all for a great Apple Festival! It was a fun day for the church and our visitors.

To all who so willingly gave of their time and talent, our sincere appreciation.

- Bud and June Bennett

## CALLING ALL CRITTERS!

On Sunday, October 7, your pets are invited to church at 12:00 pm for a special blessing (you can come too). We can bless stuffed animals too! Pets bless our lives in so many ways; this is our way to acknowledge them and ask God's blessing on them. We'll gather outside the church for a brief service – treats and water will be served. Thanks to Diane Hynd for starting the tradition at this church some years ago.



**ALL SAINTS' DAY** will be Sunday, November 4. Please let the office know if you would like to have someone's name included in the list of the Roll Call of the Faithful Departed for that day. We honor and remember those who have passed on to the Lord within the last year – November 2017 to October 2018.



## FIRST WEDNESDAY WOMEN'S GROUP

We've just completed our first full year of monthly dinner gatherings. Always such a fun evening sharing a meal, laughter and stories. Not bad for a totally informal group that isn't even a committee! Jen Troy's wonderful idea really took off – thank you Jen!

Please - if anyone ever wants to organize something different, or wants to help out with the sign up and coordination, just say so; either would be welcomed.

## MEN'S GROUP

Our next Men's Group meeting will be at Sal Graziano's place on Friday evening, October 5. Mark your calendars and save this date. Sal will be providing the main course and he asks that we bring an appetizer or a desert. More details as the time gets closer. If you know of someone who is not on my list, please invite them and let me know so I can add them to my list. – Ken Bolin





As of September 14, 2018, the South Britain Pastoral Search Committee has received thirty (30) Pastoral profiles. Our official search journey began in December 2017 upon the completion of a church-wide survey. While we had hoped to recommend a pastor for consideration this fall, we have confirmed that our timing of nine (9) months in the search process, albeit slower than each of us would like, is indeed average.

We meet as necessary to process any profiles received, and we endeavor to review each profile with the guidance of the Holy Spirit and with the expectations for a Pastor as revealed in the results of the survey.

This process continues to be a learning experience for each of us as we seek discernment for God's plan for our church. We humbly ask for your deliberate prayers and continued patience.

Committee Members: Carl Dunn, Dave Ferraro, Krista Judson, Ian Lowell, Jennifer Naylor, Francesca Sergi and John Shepherd

### **THE NATHALIE THOMPSON MATCHING FUND CAMPAIGN**

I want to sincerely thank all of you who donated to this campaign ensuring it's overwhelming success. Here are the final totals of the campaign:

<b>Givers</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Campaign Total</b>	<b>\$5195</b>

Breakdown by Fund:

Greatest Need	\$2400
Endowment	175
Faith Formation	150
Hospitality	50
Music	50
Pastor's Fund	95
Outreach	500
Property	100
Scholarship	1550
Knit Wits	25
General Fund	100

I also want to thank Laurie Hornbecker for administratively tracking all this money during the campaign. The matching \$5000.00 donation (in stocks) has been ordered transferred to the church. Bless all of you for your generosity. – Todd Thompson

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

5	Cathy Schupack	15	Heather Mitchell	29	Trevor Ferraro
6	Ivy Walker	16	Amanda Palmer		Patricia Johnson
9	Ken Hanna		Dianne Schoonmaker	30	Marge Humiston
	Lynn Plourde		Amy Schupack		Don Lang
10	Eugene Clair	18	Chuck Crowdis	31	Andrew Cox
11	Laura Beard	20	Robert Lowman		Beverly Crane
	Leonard Beard	23	Gladys Burdick		
13	Charlotte DeWitt	25	Jane McGrath		
	Dave Ferraro	26	Elsie Sanady		
	Christinia Lewis	28	Rita Ericsson		
	Jim Locke		Kim Zeno		

## BOARD OF FAITH FORMATION

- **Youth Group Plans**

Plans for a youth group are in progress for the upcoming year. Please let Amy or Krista know if you want to participate, or have any friends who would like to come check out our group. We are looking to "grow" our group this year. Youth group members do not have to be church members or attend services. The planned format is to include positive service as well as social opportunities throughout the year. Youth group is appropriate for ages 13 and over; however, younger participants are welcome to join us with an accompanying adult. Be on the lookout for upcoming announcements!

- **Feeling Creative. . .**

Evelyn Vargoshe is looking for some help with her wreath making business (Fall and Holiday wreaths). Please contact her at 203-2060-7662 if you are interested.



- **The SWIM 2018 5K HUNGER WALK** will take place in Southbury on October 14. Registration begins at noon and the walk begins at 1:00 pm. Let's be the church and walk together. Registration is \$20 per person and \$50 per family. If interested, contact Krista Judson at 203-264-3728 or [kljudson@charter.net](mailto:kljudson@charter.net).

- **Mission Trip**

If you are interested in joining in the Washington DC mission trip next spring, please let Amy Smith know at [amybsmith1120@gmail.com](mailto:amybsmith1120@gmail.com). or by cell at 203-509-5283. Though it is a long way away, planning starts now and depends largely on having a good idea of how many people will be participating. This trip is open to church members, associate members, and friends, ages 13 and up. We have already had work requests for the "hire a teen" fundraiser, so there are opportunities for fundraising to help defray the cost of this trip. If you are ready to start fundraising, please let Amy Smith know right away so participants can be matched with those requesting some help at home.

- **Faith Formation** is in the process of evaluating its education model. We are planning a series of intergenerational programs to take place in the Parish House after coffee hour. Sessions will be held approximately once per month beginning on September 30. The first topic will be about how we talk to God, and will complement Rev. Dave's series on the Lord's Prayer. We hope many will join us for this interactive opportunity to grow our faith together.
- **Faith Formation** will be taking a special collection on November 11 after the church service in support of Wreaths Across America. This organization decorates veterans' graves in Arlington as well as cemeteries across the country. Our students will also be paired up with a veteran from the congregation to learn about their stories and why they are important. If you are a veteran and want to participate in this special project, please let Amy Smith or Krista Judson know.

### **CAREER DAY EVENT**

Hi! I'm Bella Watson and I'm currently a senior at Pomperaug High School. Every year, we have an event called Career Day, where we invite adults to talk to groups of students about their career field, education, etc. and I am looking for willing people who'd like to volunteer to be panelists.

**Career Day this year is on the morning of November 21, 6:50-9:30 am at Pomperaug High School.**

Please contact me at [phscareerevent@gmail.com](mailto:phscareerevent@gmail.com) if interested. Thank you! I am looking for people in the following fields (there are a lot):



- The arts
- Media
- Business Management & Administration
- Finance
- Construction/Trades (including hairdressing and culinary)
- Military
- Law
- Emergency Response
- Social Work, counseling, and psychology
- Therapy and Rehabilitation
- Medical Professional
- Engineering
- Math/Science/Computer Science

Please contact me if you work in any of these fields and would be interested! Thank you!!

### **BOARD OF OUTREACH**

On Sunday, October 14, SWIM (Southbury-Woodbury Interfaith Ministries) will be holding its 6th annual Harvest Walk to end Hunger. SBCC has donated \$150 to be a sponsor of the event

and we would love to have some representation at the walk. This year it's a 5K walk along Main Street South in Southbury and begins at 1 pm. Registration can be completed online at [www.swimct.org](http://www.swimct.org) or in person at noon on the 14th. The cost is \$20 per person, with a \$50 family maximum. This is SWIM's only fundraiser of the year, let's help make it a big success!



Start saving your pocket change to donate to the town wide UNICEF collection. Last year we collected a record \$1000 from SBCC to add to the town's donation!

**Neighbors in Need (NIN)** is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. The NIN offering will be received during October.

#### **A special request from Outreach . . . . .**

We collected 25 cans of cream soups and chowders for the Southbury Food Bank in September - an improvement over our August donation of 17 cans. It is time to restock our soup shelf at the Southbury Food Bank. Fall weather has arrived and we are in desperate need of cream soups and chowders. Thanks for your support.

#### **Coat Drive**

Outreach will be doing our annual coat drive for gently used men's, women's, and children's coats and winter hats, etc. throughout the month of October. The deadline is Sunday, October 28. Coats can be put in the room on the right at the bottom of the stairs, or left on the table in the Gathering Room.

### **SBCC WOMEN'S STOP AND SWAP**

**Sunday, November 4 - PM - Gathering Room**

**Step #1**---Clean your closets and drawers for Fall and gather 5-10 gently used articles of clothing, accessories and/or shoes. The items can be appropriate for any season.

**Step #2**---Bring the items to the Outreach table during coffee hour on Sunday, October 21, 28, or November 4. Pay your \$10 fee and we'll put your name and # of items you brought on our master list.

**Step #3**---Come back on Sunday, November 4 at 1pm for the opening of our SBCC closet and enjoy fun, fellowship, and new to you fashions! We will provide light refreshments and a place to try on items.

**\*\*\*\* We will swap items 1 for 1. For example, if you bring in 6 items, you may go home with 6 items.**

**\*\*\*\* all leftover clothing will be donated**

**\*\*\*\* all leftover accessories will be saved for the 2019 Apple Festival**

**\*\*\*\* all proceeds collected will be donated by Outreach**





## WHAT SHALL WE BRING?

Throughout our faith journey, we are extended several invitations. From the invitation to make our confession of faith, to the invitation to care for a sick neighbor, to the invitation to park cars or bake a pie for the Apple Festival, our life in this community of faith is full of invitations.

As we enter into our Annual Pledge Campaign, I would like to invite each of you to consider how you and the South Britain Congregational Church will respond to the variety of invitations we receive.

Jesus invites us to bring all that we are and all that we have when we become a follower, a disciple of Christ. It is a sojourn meant to build God's kingdom here on earth through study, worship, prayer, service and generosity.

Our faithful financial stewardship is one way we are invited to respond to Christ's invitation. Over the next few weeks we will begin an intentional reflection of "What Shall We Bring" as preparation for determining our investment in the mission and ministry of the South Britain Congregational Church. The time of study and reflection will conclude on Commitment Sunday, October 28 . I hope you will be intentional about responding to this important invitation, not only by offering your pledge card during a special portion of our worship service, but to also join in our celebration immediately following.

As our congregation hopes to offer an invitation to a new pastor, it is important that we demonstrate that we are a community of generous and caring disciples. God has done, and continues to do, remarkable things through us and with us – things that matter in our community! Your prayers and your participation are the keys to helping us advance further on the pathway of discipleship.

I look forward to reflecting together on "What Shall We Bring".

Blessings,  
Laurie Hornbecker  
Stewardship Committee Chair