



The  
WEATHERVANE

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

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**SUMMER: A TIME TO PRAISE**

*Praise the Lord.*

*Praise the Lord, you that are his servants,  
Praise the name of the Lord. (Ps. 113:1)*

A hawk circles in the air overhead. Yellow buttercups and cheerful daisies mingle by the roadside. A brook meanders in the light and shadow of a lazy summer afternoon. Hickory smoke rises from a barbecue. Summer is a time to relax and renew. It's a time to rediscover the beauty of the world all about us, the smile of God upon us. And in our delight, it just seems natural to praise God, the God who has called all of this into existence and continues his creative work even today.

Delight just has to find expression in praise. People in love praise each other. Readers praise their books. Hikers speak of the beauty of the mountains and the countryside. Whether it's gardening or baseball, we praise what we value, what we consider important, what gives us joy. And we also need to praise God. It's not that God is like some vain person who just has to be complimented or told how good he or she is. That's not the kind of God we find in Christ. It's rather that God is important to us. He has touched our lives, and as such our praise to God is just a natural expression of the joy we have found in his creative love.

The act of gathering for worship on a Sunday morning is a witness that there is more to life than just ourselves here. There is a God of beauty. There is a God who gives us daily life and watches over us, a God who has made us and whom we are called to serve. And it is good for us too. The praise of God opens us up and energizes our daily lives.

Humming birds seek and dart among the blossoms. The crack of a bat sings through the park. The sky is blue and cloudless. May our gratitude to God overflow in praise.

See you in church.

In Christ,

Dave Buchan  
Bridge Interim Minister

## **SERMON SCHEDULE**

June 3 – Life Lessons: Are you Prepared? (parable of 10 Bridesmaids)  
June 10 – Life Lessons: Before You Give Up (parable of the Mustard Seed)  
June 17 – Life Lessons: It's Not Fair – Or Is It? (parable of the Two Sons)  
June 24 – Life Lessons: The Good Samaritan  
  
July 1 – Guest  
July 8 – Guest

## **BULLETIN BOARD**

**Every Sunday:** Choir, 9 am, Worship, 10 am (last day for choir, 6/3 – will resume in September)  
**First Sunday:** Communion during worship  
**Every Tuesday:** Knit-Wits, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm  
Bible Study, 1 to 2 pm  
Master Chorale, 6 to 10 pm (last day for Master Chorale, 4/3 – will resume in September)  
**Every Friday:** AA Meeting, 7 to 8:30 pm  
**First Wednesday:** Women's Group, 6 pm

### **In June**

**Sunday, June 3:** Worship, 10 am; Last day of Choir until the fall); Board of Outreach, 9 am; Faith Formation, 9 am; Board of Hospitality, 11:15 am; Sandwich Brigade following worship; Spring clean up after coffee hour  
**Wednesday, June 6:** First Wednesday Women's Group, 6 pm  
**Thursday, June 7:** Property Committee, 7 pm  
**Saturday, June 9:** All Church Retreat, Bent of the River, 9 am to 2 pm  
**Sunday, June 10:** Finance, 9 am; Deacons, 9 am  
**Thursday, June 21:** Trustees, 7 pm  
**Wednesday, June 27:** Council, 7 pm (if required)

### **In July**

**Thursday, July 5:** Property Committee  
**Sunday, July 8:** Finance Committee, 9 am  
**Sunday, July 15:** Deacons Meeting, 11:30 am  
**Thursday, July 19:** Trustees Meeting, 7 pm  
**Wednesday, July 25:** Council, 7 pm (if needed)

**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.



## **MEN'S GROUP**

The next meeting will be the Annual Picnic at John Erickson's on Friday, July 13. Watch for more details in weekly bulletins.

## **FIRST WEDNESDAY WOMEN'S GROUP**



**The first Wednesday of each month  
6:00 pm  
The Tavern  
(Inside the Heritage Hotel)**

Cost is \$20 per person for a buffet dinner (non-refundable)  
Come for fellowship, laughter and to share a meal together

**You must RSVP and pay prior to the evening  
Sign up and pay during coffee hour**

## **PROPERTY COMMITTEE**



Your Property Committee works very hard to maintain the interior and exterior of all of our buildings – the sanctuary, the parish hall and the parsonage. We paint, we weed, we trim trees and shrubs, we clean, fill holes, dig holes, paint parking lines, screens down, screens up, AC in/AC out, carpets cleaned, supplies purchased. We also make sure that the parking lot is maintained, the lawns are maintained and that major projects, such as upgrading furnaces, is budgeted for and planned. Our buildings may be 'senior', but you would never know it by the condition that they are in. This is all due to the loving care they have received for over 200 years.

Our next major projects include upgrading the furnace at the Parsonage to natural gas (as we did for the sanctuary) and creating two heating zones, which will save money on heating costs. We will also alter the existing 'grey water' discharge from a dry well to the existing septic system there. Longer term projects will include work on the west side of the parish hall, which desperately needs some wood replaced, then scraping and painting, and doing repair in the parking lot near the drainage grates.

All of this costs money, of course, and we are limited in what we can spend in any calendar year, so many projects get 'bumped' by emerging necessary repairs (like leaks). We keep plugging along so that the beauty and history can be maintained for generations to come. Consider helping out when we have a clean-up day; it is very rewarding – we promise!

**Free South Britain Congregational Church Retreat**

***“Re-Discovering Our Church and Our World  
as a Loving, Forgiving, Serving Community”***

**Saturday June 9, 2018 -- 9 am to 2 pm**

**(note change in time)**

**at**

**Audubon Center at Bent of the River  
185 E. Flat Hill Rd  
Southbury, CT**

**Our own Rev. Dave Buchan to facilitate the day**

**The day is open to all who would like to spend a day of  
Self-Reflection and Prayer**

**Lunch will be provided as well as child care if given advanced notice.**

**RSVP to Sal Graziano ([sjgraz88@gmail.com](mailto:sjgraz88@gmail.com))**

**or South Britain Church (203-264-5890)**

**A NOTE FROM ANN**



I'd like to give a personal standing ovation to our SBCC Choir for an excellent year of wonderful music! You sang us through Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter, and gave it your all! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

We're moving into summer mode and that means that I'll be looking for people to solo, duet, play, sing, dance, etc., during our summer church services. I'd love to see people of all ages volunteer to perform in church. Please let me know when you might be available and what you'd like to perform. I'd be happy to work with you and help you choose music – it would be my pleasure! There are June, July, and August dates available.

## BOARD OF FAITH FORMATION



- How does OUR garden grow?

The SBCC Faith Formation garden is starting to grow. We must be giving it the "right soil..." Be sure to check out our Facebook page for pictures throughout the season to watch our progress. While you are at it, please be sure to "share" as well. All children and youth (through high school) are invited to participate at any time. Also warmly welcomed are church members and friends of all ages who are young-at-heart!

Please contact Amy Smith at [amybsmith1120@gmail.com](mailto:amybsmith1120@gmail.com) or 203-509-5283 if you would like to join us. Thank you to the congregation from the bottom of our hearts for the generous donations that have enabled us to take on this important work!

- 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.
- Looking Ahead: Life Line Screening at SBCC on Monday, June 4.  
For every sign-up your organization generates, we will donate \$25 back to you!  
In order to receive exclusive member pricing and count towards this special program, they **MUST** pre-register by one of the methods below and attend their scheduled screening appointment.

Registrations can be made by...

**CALLING** the pre-registration phone number from **ANY** printed flyer, etc.

**VISITING** [www.lifelinescreening.com/Communitycircle](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/Communitycircle)

**TEXTING** the word 'circle' to **797979**

- **Thank you** to all our church family and friends. What a wonderful service on May 20. God Bless you All!!

## IN OUR PRAYERS

Bud Bennett  
Gladys Burdick  
Bert DeForest  
Ann Ferraro's sister Katy  
Edward and Betsy Fleming  
    John's parents and John  
Joyce Hornbecker  
Jonah Locke  
Nancy Maher  
Joan McAler

Gordon Morehouse  
Margie and Ray Nichols  
    great granddaughter, Madison  
Jim and Judy Pierpont  
Jim and Lissa Pine  
Audrey Sharpe  
Sue Wison  
Sharon Wolf  
Eileen Yade (Eileen Major's mother)



**PLEASE LET THE CHURCH OFFICE KNOW IF YOU ARE IN OR PLANING 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!



We ask for your continued prayers as we humbly seek God's wisdom and guidance. We gather as often as is necessary to discuss pastoral profiles, hold Skype sessions with potential candidates and carry out the steps in our process. We are diligently organizing ourselves to offer the congregation a candidate for consideration within the coming months.

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

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

2	Nathan Cimelus	13	Brad Lewis
	Steve Hanna	14	R. Nathan Lewis
3	Scott Marciniec	15	Jennifer Bass
4	Emily Hayden	17	Cynthia Shaw
6	Craige Wilds	19	Jennifer Naylor
8	Maggie Lavoy		Joe Simpson
	Michael Schaake		Karen Zarcone
9	Jayden Flick	23	Edna Bookstaver
10	Nichole Guertin	24	Robert Isbell
	Robin Stiles		Carly Markward
	Rich Warner		Mark Riefenhauser
	Sarai Wilds	25	Scott Schaake
	MaKenzie Zeno		
11	Michael Aldo		
	Joyce Hornbecker		

## JULY BIRTHDAYS

1	Catie Hanna	7	Jean Dunn	21	Tanya King
2	Gwenn Brinley	8	Harrison Wilds		Jean Mitchell
	Susan Grobnagger	9	Roger Tashjian	22	Judy Grimes
	Krista Judson	10	Ken Bolin	24	John Watson
	Beverly Stoddard	11	Lee Rushton	25	Kimberly Hein
3	Kathy Ostar	13	Amy Dunn	26	Parker Thomas
4	Owen Troy	14	Madeleine Wuest	27	Sue Bennett
5	Joan Taylor	15	Sharon Stiles	28	Shen-Yee Lecko
	Sue Valenti	17	Kay Zachos	31	Laura Bennett
6	Glenn Mackbach	18	Joanne Seymour		Beth Miller
	Samantha Mackbach	20	Ed Wildman		
	Richard Schoonmaker				

## BOARD OF OUTREACH

The Outreach offering will honor men this month in honor of Father's Day. We will be collecting monetary donations and donations of men's underwear and socks( new in package only please) for the St Vincent DePaul homeless shelter in Waterbury. At this time, we are not collecting any other type of clothing. Thanks for your support.

The Outreach Committee's July/August offering will also be for Whiskers Pet Rescue. Whiskers is a no-kill animal rescue organization in Connecticut with an adoption center in Southbury. They are a 501(c)(3) non-profit charity made up entirely of volunteers committed to helping and caring for animals who have been abandoned, injured, abused or neglected. They are a hard-working group of people with a huge passion for helping our whiskered friends. They rescue and adopt out hundreds of pets each year, placing them in loving forever homes. Whiskers receives no state or federal funding and is run completely by volunteers so all the money raised goes directly to the care of the animals. In addition to the offering,

Outreach will be accepting donations of the following items from Whiskers "Wish List": Purina One Dry Cat Food (indoor advantage), Purina One Dry Kitten Food (healthy kitten formula), Fancy Feast Canned Kitten Food, Canned Adult Cat Food (any kind), KMR Powder (kitten milk replacer), Nursing Bottles for Newborn Kittens, Yesterday's News Cat Litter (or any brand of paper litter), Paper Towels, Heavy Duty Black Garbage Bags (30-33 gal), Tall Kitchen White Garbage Bags (13 gal), Dawn Dishwashing Liquid (blue), Liquid Laundry Detergent, Bleach, Cat Toys, Gift Cards (PetSmart, Walmart, Stop & Shop, LaBonnes, etc.). A bin will be set up in the Gathering Room to accept donations.

A THANK YOU . . .

*Dear Board of Outreach,*

*On Saturday, May 19th I walked a 5k for NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness). Two friends of mine lost their sons to suicide due to their mental illness. Thank you so much for supporting my walk with your generous donation in honor of Mental Health Month. Over 90% of the funds raised by the Walk go to support the signature programs that NAMI provides, at no charge to participants. – Sincerely, Christina Lewis*

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### APPLE FESTIVAL - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2018- 9 AM to 3 PM

Please mark your calendar now for this important church event.

Sign-up sheets for various festival jobs will be displayed the middle of June.



White Elephant - Books - Accessories and the Mostly Men rooms will begin receiving items at that time as well.

This is a happy time at SBCC - Please plan on joining the fun!!!



## 2018 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS



SBCC was blessed once again to provide the following sixteen recipients with financial assistance to pursue a particular area of study:

Olivia Cody, Lasell College, Mathematics  
Natalie Dahl, Ramapo College, Nursing  
Tatyana Graziano, Iona College, Business/Marketing  
Maggie Lavoy, Southern CT ST University, Art  
R. Nathan Lewis, Western Governor's University, Computer Science  
William Miller, UMASS, Amherst; Physics  
Allison Mitchell, Drexel University, Epidemiology  
Heather Mitchell, UCONN, Academic Center for Exploratory Students  
Joseph Naylor, Endicott College, Actuarial Science  
Keri Riefenhauser, Worcester State University, Occupational Therapy  
Michael Schaake, UCONN, Mechanical Engineering  
Jason Troy, Coastal Carolina University, Marketing  
Owen Troy, University of New Haven, Accounting  
John Watson, Jr., Pace University, Digital Cinema & Film Major  
Harrison Wilds, University of New England, Biology & Chemistry  
Hunter Wilds, Merrimack College, Health Sciences

### **CONGRATULATIONS AND MUCH SUCCESS TO ALL!**

The Scholarship Committee:

June Bennett, Judith Bookis, John Erickson, Deborah Hull, Beverly Stoddard and Marti Swift.  
Special thanks to Dennis Jedlinsky, Treasurer.