



The
WEATHERVANE

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

TIME TO REPLACE THAT SPARK PLUG!

Spring is here, and the lawn will need cutting. It's time to change the oil and the spark plug in the mower for the new season. The car is also due for an oil and filter change. The bushes need to be trimmed. I've got to remember to replace the filter in the furnace and the light bulb in the bathroom.

Wouldn't it be great if the grass only grew several inches and stayed at that level all summer – or if crab grass and weeds stayed dead all season? Wouldn't it be wonderful if one tank of gas or oil change lasted a life time?

Wouldn't it be great if one religious experience or one time at worship were all it took for a full Christian life?

I don't know if that would be great or not. But it's not the way life is. As Phillips B. Smith has put it, we wear out, run down, break down, and are in a constant state of change and renewal. Why then do a lot of people think they can “make it” spiritually on only one tank of gas in a life time?

A good lawn or mower or car or house takes a lot of loving care to be at its best. The same is true of our spiritual lives. St. Paul says that we are to grow “until all of us come to the unity of the faith..., to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ” (Ephesians 4:13).

Weekly attendance at Sunday worship is one way we can care for our spiritual growth. This May our services continue at 10:00 A.M. See you in church.

In Christ,

Dave Buchan

SERMON SCHEDULE

May 6 -- Moses as Leader

May 13 – Life Lessons: How Does Your Garden Grow

May 20 – Youth/ Scholarship Sunday

May 27 -- Memory

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 May

Wednesday, May 2: First Wednesday Women's Group at "The Tavern" in the Heritage Inn, 6 pm

Thursday, May 3: Property Committee, 7 pm

Friday, May 4: Men's Group meets at Leo's in Southbury at 6 pm

Sunday, May 6: Board of Outreach, 9 am; Faith Formation, 9 am; Sandwich Brigade following worship; Deacons, 11:30 am

Sunday, May 13: Finance Committee, 9 am

Tuesday, May 15: Staff Meeting, 3:30 pm

Wednesday, May 16: Combined June/July newsletter deadline

Thursday, May 17: Trustees, 7 pm

Sunday, May 20: Children's Sunday; Scholarship Awards presented during worship; Annual Meeting, 11:30 am

Wednesday, May 23: Council, 7 pm

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given of the Annual Meeting of South Britain Congregational Church, set for 11:30 am Sunday, May 20, 2018, in the Gathering Room of the Parish House. The order of business will include the re-election of officers, board and committee members from the June 11, 2017 Annual Meeting, with elections to fill any vacancies. The proposed budget for the July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019 Fiscal Year will be presented for approval by members. The Council and the Nominating Committee have recommended that the Bylaw which requires a fixed number of members on each committee be suspended for the 2018-19 church year. This is not a permanent change and will require the approval of the congregation at the Annual Meeting. No other changes to the Bylaws have been recommended. Annual reports of boards and committees will be presented. Members and friends are welcome to attend; only members may vote. A potluck luncheon will precede the meeting. Please bring a dish to share. The Board of Christian Education will provide dessert and coffee.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Hein, Clerk

In June

Sunday, June 3: Worship, 10 am (Recognition of Teachers during the service); Last day of Choir until the Fall); Board of Outreach, 9 am; Faith Formation, 9 am; Sandwich Brigade following worship

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 3 pm

Sunday, June 10: Finance, 9 am; Deacons, 9 am

Tuesday, June 12: Staff Meeting, 3:30 pm

Saturday, June 16: Church Retreat: *Re-Discovering Our Church as a Loving, Forgiving and Serving Community*", 9 am to 3 pm

Thursday, June 21: Trustees, 7 pm

Wednesday, June 27: Council, 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.



MEN'S GROUP

The next meeting will be on May 4. 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

A NOTE FROM ANN

We welcome Doug Myers to play for the service on Sunday, May 27, in celebration of Memorial Day Weekend. Here is Doug's bio, featured on his website: dougmyersmusic.com. Check his website for more information and for samples of his playing! Doug is the brother of our own Sue Torrey.

Doug Myers Trumpet and Horn Soloist

Doug Myers started his brilliant career at age 18 by performing in symphony orchestras – from Milwaukee to Norway to Hong Kong. After years of acclaim for his solo work with these groups, he is now devoted exclusively to the solo literature for trumpet, as well as for the newly-developed piccolo French horn, or Corno da caccia.

Mr. Myers is a noted Bach trumpet and horn specialist. He has performed with virtually every important Bach group in the United States, including the Bach Aria Group, the Berkshire Bach Society at Tanglewood, the Bethlehem Bach Orchestra, the Emmanuel Bach Orchestra (Boston) and the Winter Park Bach Festival (Florida).

Doug has participated as a soloist around the world in festivals from Germany to Norway to California. He has also appeared as soloist with dozens of national and international orchestras.

As a Baroque scholar, he has uncovered new works by Bach and his contemporaries. He has edited several works for publication and is Past President of the New England Bach Society.

Mr. Myers has played for kings, queens, princes and princesses, presidents and heads of state, and is now available to play for YOUR audiences!

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AN IMPORTANT DATE TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR.....

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2018

THE APPLE FESTIVAL RETURNS WITH FUN FOR ALL!

COFFEE HOUR

A chance to 'catch up' and make new friends

Coffee hour brings us together socially after worshipping together each Sunday. Don't be afraid to add your name to the sign-up board for one Sunday – it's easy! Even though a board or committee is assigned responsibility for each month, *anyone* in the congregation can sign up to provide coffee hour. If you've never done it before, just reach out to any 'old timer' for help; it really takes two people to pull it off anyway. Anyone you ask will work with you.



Arrive by 9:00 or 9:15, provide the 'goodies', juice for the kids, milk and half and half. Work with someone who has done it before to put the table cloths on the tables and start the coffee perking and tea water heating. The experienced person will show you where everything is stored and how to make the coffee. All you have to do is smile, pour coffee, and meet some new people. Then just clean up when coffee hour ends and you are on your way!

BOARD OF FAITH FORMATION

There is a lot of excitement in Faith Formation this month! The youth group has a plot in the Community Garden at Settlers Park in Southbury this year. We will be growing food for the food pantry from spring, through the summer, and into the fall. Work will begin on this project at the end of April. If you would like to join us or contribute to our project, please contact Amy Smith at amybsmith1120@gmail.com for more information.

As we continue to examine our Faith Formation format, we will have one of our youth preparing and leading a multigenerational discussion after church in the Parish House on Sunday April 29. We hope many will join us in a lively discussion! Topic to be announced. In the meantime, please do not forget to share your own personal Lord's Prayer with Krista Judson for our bulletin board. You do not have to put your name on it. There are forms on the bulletin board to help you if you are stuck!

Mission!!! We will be taking this year off from mission trip but we are planning a trip for next spring to Washington DC. The trip will again include service projects through Youth Service Opportunities Project (YSOP), and will end with a visit to the recently opened Museum of the Bible. The trip is intended for middle school, high school and young adults ages 13 and up. We joyfully welcome members, associate members, and friends on this trip.

While the trip is still a long way off planning has already begun; many of the logistics will depend on the number of people participating. If you think you may be interested, please contact Amy Smith or email at amybsmith1120@gmail.com. We will add you to our contact list as and keep you updated as our plans develop. Fundraising will be very important to making this trip possible and will begin very shortly. Do you have any household or outdoor chores you would like to hire a teen to help out with???

Peace,
Amy Smith, Faith Formation Committee

IN OUR PRAYERS

Gladys Burdick
 Bert DeForest
 Ann Ferraro's sister Katy
 Edward and Betsy Fleming
 John's parents and John
 Karen Erickson and John Erickson
 Declan Georgette, Laurie Hornbecker's
 grandson
 John Grugle and family
 Joyce Hornbecker

Jonah Locke
 Nancy Maher
 Joan McAleer
 Gordon Morehouse
 Margie and Ray Nichols
 great granddaughter, Madison
 Jim and Lissa Pine
 Sue Wilson
 Sharon Wolf
 Eileen Yade (Eileen Major's mother)



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!



MAY BIRTHDAYS

1	John Lecko Sue Sullivan	12	Shawn McGrath Erik Ohngemach	19	Ricardo Cruz Ed Naylor
3	Geoff Beard Bud Bennett Barbara Biedermann Pam Hein	14	Ann Ferraro Marge Mitchell Kelly Zabluskas	24	Todd Thompson
4	Harriet Harrison	15	Kathleen Blersch Jacob Hartman	25	Micah Locke
5	Dennis Mitchell	16	Jim Pierpont	26	Alexa Lecko Dan Marciniec
7	Jeanne Crane-Shepherd	17	MacKenzie Hartman Zachary Hartman	27	Cheri Panzica
8	Greg DeWitt	18	Greg Kuehn	29	Dick Sherwood Seth Warner
9	James Corby		Cheri Fickett	30	Cheryl Smith
10	Kaitlin Sullivan			31	Mark Mitchell
11	Rebecca Beard				

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 3pm

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)

or South Britain Church (203-264-5890)

A NOTE FROM THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE ...



Due to the never ending winter weather, the ‘all church’ cleanup day will be scheduled for some time in early May. Watch the Sunday bulletin or the Web site for the date and details.



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

BOARD OF OUTREACH



Mark your calendars for Thursday, May 24th to join us for a meal at the Southbury Friendly's restaurant in Heritage Village. On that day 20% of all proceeds from all meals, take out orders, and items from their freezer will be given to SBCC. However, you **MUST** have a voucher to give to your server for us to receive any money. We will be distributing the flyers/vouchers all month via email, and we'll print some and give them out at services and at coffee hours. Please feel free to spread the word and distribute vouchers to friends and family so they can join us. We will earmark the proceeds to purchase the backpacks and school supplies we will be needing for the fall. This will take the place of the usual July/August Outreach Offering we usually have for these items. In this way, we will not have to wait until mid August to know what our budget is and we will have all summer to purchase the necessary items. Let's fill the place with SBCC members for the dinner meal!

In honor of Mother's Day, our annual Diaper Drive for GWIM will be held throughout the entire month of May. The purchase of diapers is not covered by food stamps and is a big burden to families in need. There will be a collection box in the narthex and all money donated through our green envelopes will be used to purchase diapers. All sizes, other than newborn, are welcome. Thank you for your support.

A fun time was had by all at our first Women's Stop n Swap! We've already had requests for us to do it again, so we will pick a date in the fall for another swap. We raised \$240 and

supplemented it with \$60 from our budget to donate to Safe Haven of Waterbury. The leftover clothing went to the thrift shop at the Church of the Epiphany, and the thrift shop at the Brookfield Congregational Church.

The One Great Hour of Sharing collection totaled \$700! The canned soup total for April was 35 cans. We hope to bump it up to 50 cans per month on average so please help us to reach our goal! We did not hold a Brigade in April. Instead we donated the supplies for GWIM volunteers to make 200 sandwiches. We will have our next Brigade on Sunday, May 6th during coffee hour.

Upcoming Events

June:

Collection of men's new in package socks and underwear for the St. Vincent dePaul homeless shelter in Waterbury.