

The
WEATHERVANE

South Britain Congregational Church, South Britain, CT 06487
203.264.5890 United Church of Christ · “God is Still Speaking”
January 2019

NEW BEGINNINGS IN A NEW YEAR

Happy New Year! This is a time to look back, and it is a time to look forward with hope. It is also a time to examine ourselves and to make changes in our lives.

Are there areas of our lives that need change? There is good news for those who would like to make a new beginning. The time is now, and the moment is here. As our old friend Dr. Seuss put it:

Congratulations! Today is your day.
You're off to great places, you're off and away.
You have brains in your head, you have feet in your shoes,
You can steer yourself any direction you choose...

Our faith can help make people new. That was St. Paul's experience, and it can be ours too. He said, “If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new.”

As we enter the year 2019 is there an area of our lives where we need to make a new beginning? God is ready to support us in that venture.

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 (will resume sometime in January)
Master Chorale, 6 to 10 pm
- Every Friday:** AA Meeting, 7 to 8:30 pm
- First Wednesday:** First Wednesday Women's Group, 6 pm (meet in January on January 9)

January

- Thursday, January 3:** Property, 7 pm
- Friday, January 4:** Men's Group meets at Leo's restaurant at 6 pm
- Wednesday, January 9:** First Wednesday Women's Group (note change of date)
- Sunday, January 13:** Finance, 9 am; Board of Outreach, 9 am;
Deacons, 11:30; Sandwich Brigade following worship
- Wednesday, January 16:** February newsletter deadline
- Thursday, January 17:** Trustees, 7 pm
- Wednesday, January 23:** Council, 7 pm

February

- Sunday, February 3:** Board of Outreach, 9 am; Sandwich Brigade following worship
- Thursday, February 7:** Property, 7 pm
- Sunday, February 10:** Finance, 9 am; Deacons, 11:30 am
- Wednesday, February 20:** March newsletter deadline
- Thursday, February 21:** Trustees, 7 pm
- Wednesday, February 27:** Council, 7 pm



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 2019 FLOWER CHART is posted in the Gathering Room. 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
Ann Ferraro and her sister Katy
Edward and Betsy Fleming
 John's parents and John
Ginni Garis
The Geils Family
Joyce Hornbecker
Marge Humiston
Jonah Locke
Nancy Maher

Joan McAleer
Char Moll's mother
Gordon Morehouse
Margie and Ray Nichols
 great granddaughter Madison
Jim and Lissa Pine
Bob Plourde
Kay Zachos

IN MEMORIAM

Linda Marie Geils, who died December 6, 2018. Linda was Ginny Geils daughter-in-law.

UPDATE

The office would like to have everyone update their email address. Please send your current email address to the church office.



Our Search team has decided to pause and more thoughtfully reflect upon our current church needs. There are several groups simultaneously analyzing who we are as a church family, and we believe we should be capitalizing on this energy by pausing our process and re-surveying the congregation through the month of January.

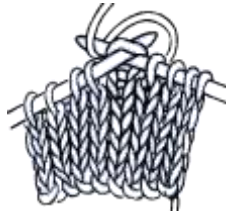
Our initial steps were responsive to the challenges of losing church staff and Pastor Shannon, and we believe that through the establishment of our Personnel Committee process, and we have evolved as a congregation. We have therefore requested that our Ministerial ad on file with Litchfield South be removed for consideration for a brief time giving us the opportunity to re-survey the congregation and edit the Church profile as is necessary.

Please know that we do not take these actions lightly, and rest assured that we are NOT ceasing our search efforts, but rather we are continuing to meet and prayerfully deliberate, while seeking the assistance of Reverend Mike Ciba. We are targeting March 1 to have our revised Ministerial ad and updated Pastoral profile available for consideration by potential Pastoral candidates.

Please be on the lookout for your opportunity to once again participate in our revised church survey.

We ask for your continued prayers. God Bless.

Jennifer L. Naylor, Chair, Carl Dunn, Chaplain, Dave Ferraro, Francesca Sergi, Correspondence Secretary, John Shepherd, Krista Judson & Ian Lowell



A BIG THANK YOU . . . to all who supported our 15th annual Victorian Tea. We had a lot of fun knitting throughout the year, bringing us all much joy and fellowship. It is our hope that we brought that same joy to all who attended.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM
The Knit Wits**

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION

- I want to thank everyone who helped with the Victorian Tea. You all contributed in making it a great success again this year .

Blessings,
Krista

- Faith Formation will offer another intergenerational meeting in January. Date and subject to be announced.

Wishing Everyone in our church family a Merry Christmas and a
Happy Healthy New Year. Thank you for all your support!

Krista and the Faith Formation Committee

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

2	Faith Kuehn	13	Joseph Naylor	23	Derrek Guertin
3	Bob Stiles Jeffrey Thomas	16	John Potz, Jr. Olivia Cody	25	Teresa Nardecchia Linda Long
4	Calvin Peterson	18	Phil Valenti	28	Melissa Agnello Ellie Hanna
6	Fuller Walker Ruth Warner	19	David Schupack Michelle Dahl	29	Susan Mahoney Jillian Cody
7	Tyler Fritzingler Lainie Jedlinsky	20	Jared Isbell Andrew Dahl	31	Judith Cruz Myles Fritzingler
12	Mikalya Flick		Kevin Sullivan		

BOARD OF OUTREACH

Happy New Year! We will be kicking off the New Year with an Outreach Offering for our neighbors in Southbury. This month we will collect donations for the Southbury Fuel Bank which provides assistance to families and individuals in need. We will also be collecting for the UCC Blanket Fund . Special envelopes for that collection will be found in the bulletins, or just mark your check with “UCC Blanket Fund”.

Last month we delivered 279 sandwiches (plus 8 coats) to GWIM. Our Brigade this month will be on the 13th and we would appreciate contributions of jam and creamy peanut butter as our shelves are bare!

Our November Offering for Homes for the Brave brought in \$181 and we supplemented it from our budget to donate \$500 to them. We also allocated \$250 to Simply Smiles an organization we’ve supported in the past. For more information about Simply Smiles please visit simplysmiles.org.

Thanks to your generosity, we provided 25 gift requests for our Angel Tree! Our Fair Trade sales were also very successful, the total is still to be tallied.

FIRST WEDNESDAY WOMEN'S GROUP

The First Wednesday Women's Dinner will be held one week later on **Wednesday, January 9**, 6:00 pm, at The Tavern in the Heritage Hotel. Cost is \$20 (non-refundable), payable in advance. Sign-up during coffee hour and come enjoy the fellowship, laughter and a shared meal.

SLIPPERY SLOPES

SLIP SLIDING AWAY is what we do NOT want you to do when coming to church! As the winter months are upon us, the Property Committee will make every effort to ensure that our parking lots, walkways and ramps are kept free and clear of ice and snow. But we would ask that you stay vigilant and use extra care when walking on the property for services or activities. Safety is our priority. If you see something you feel is unsafe, please let us know as soon as possible.

WEATHER CANCELLATIONS

In the event that worship or other scheduled church activities need to be cancelled due to weather, we will post notices in the following places:



- SBCC website: www.southbritainchurch.org
- Church voicemail: 203-264-5890
- Facebook: South Britain Congregational Church
- WSFB Channel 3: on TV and at www.wfsb.com
- News Channel 8: on TV after 9:00 a.m. and at www.wtnh.com
- NBC Connecticut Channel 30: on TV and at www.nbcconnecticut.com