

THE PARISHIONERS POST

South Britain Congregational Church

693 South Britain Rd.

Southbury, CT 06488



OUR CHURCH'S MISSION STATEMENT

"To be a dynamic, welcoming, and caring community of Christian faith by weaving the thread of Christ into the tapestry of our lives."



PASTORS LETTER

Dear Church,

March is a busy month this year in the life of our church. We will be hosting the "Lent on the Road" gathering on Tuesday, March 12 beginning at 6:00. I hope you'll come for supper, conversation, and some creative interactive worship.

I am looking forward to my first Holy Week with you all. Holy Week begins on March 24 with our Palm Sunday service. On Thursday, March 28, we will have a Maundy Thursday Dinner Church experience in the Parish House. This worship gathering will begin with supper, include your traditional Maundy Thursday elements, and conclude with the Office of Tenebrae. **Office**, when used in this context, refers to the practice of praying at fixed hours of the day or night. **Tenebrae** is a Latin word meaning shadows or darkness. This liturgy, which has roots in the 7th Century, is characterized by the gradual extinguishing of lights. It is intended to remind the worshiper of Jesus'

abandonment by his disciples and his eventual crucifixion and burial.

Easter Sunday we will celebrate Resurrection Joy with two services. Our 8:00 "Sunrise" service will be in the Memorial Garden adjacent to the church parking lot. A continental breakfast will follow in the Parish House. At 10:00 we will worship in the Meetinghouse with special music and a conclusion to our "What Are You Up To?" Worship Series.

See you in Church!

Faithfully,

Pastor Jeff



A Note on Holy Week Scriptural References to “The Jews”

Originally written by the Rev. Dr. Mary Luti, adapted by the Rev. Jeff Lukens

As Christians, we live under the burden of a sad and violent history of antisemitism, in the sobering shadow of the Shoah (Holocaust), with the painful awareness of current events in Israel/Palestine, and the sharp rise in antisemitic attacks here in the US in recent years. It is important to us to be clear about what our sacred texts mean when they make reference to “the Jews,” especially during Holy Week, when we contemplate Jesus’ death.

When the crucifixion narratives speak of “the chief priests and legal experts,” they are referring to officials who collaborated closely with the Roman systems of oppression, and were viewed with contempt by much of the Jewish community of their time. They should not be identified with the Jewish people of the past as a whole, and

certainly not with Jews in the present.

It may be helpful to recall the cultural context of our Christian scriptures, emerging as they did from a small, originally Jewish community of believers in Jesus as the Messiah. All of the Gospels originated from Jewish communities. Jesus himself, was born, lived, and was crucified as a Jew. Any criticism of other Jews from Gospel writers should be understood as expressing differences of opinion among or about fellow Jews. The gospels’ use of the term “the Jews” therefore, should not be read as a criticism of the Jewish religion, and especially not as a condemnation of an entire people, either then, or now.

It is one of the bitter ironies of history that our sacred texts have been used to justify the persecution of the covenant people, from whom our Savior came, and who are created, as we all are, in the precious image of God.

SPIRITUAL STUDIES

Daytime Bible Study:

Tuesdays at 1:00 PM in the Gathering Room . (There will be no session on the Tuesday following Easter, April 2nd)



SOUTHBURY & WOODBURY LENT ON THE ROAD

February 20

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
294 Main St. S, Woodbury
Rev. Tuesday Rupp
Rev. Marston Price
with Church of the Epiphany Southbury

February 27

Woodbury United Methodist Church
4 Church St., Woodbury
Rev. Herbert Miller

March 5

St. James Lutheran Church
111 Peter Rd., Southbury
Rev. Abby Johnson

March 12

South Britain Congregational Church
693 South Britain Rd., Southbury
Rev. Jeff Lukens

March 19

United Church of Christ Southbury
283 Main St. N, Southbury
Rev. Shawn Garan

Tuesdays

6:00 PM Simple Supper

7:00 PM Worship



During this 2024 Lenten season, let us journey together as people of the Christian faith from many traditions!

You are invited to gather for a simple supper and worship service each Tuesday evening at a different church in our shared community. Come fellowship with new neighbors around the table, experience new sacred spaces, and worship the same God in new or different ways. All people of any faith welcome.

love

DEACONS *Joseph Simpson, Francesca Sergi, Krista Judson, Carl Dunn, Cheri Fickett, John Shepherd, Tracy Watson*

Will be arranging for pictures to be taken of members soon, They will be placed in One-Church. Schedules will be posted and Carl Dunn will handle.

We are transitioning to a different company for distribution of the Post, Service Videos, and other mass mailers. Contact us immediately if there is a problem with getting the Post, service video, etc.

Keep an eye open for notifications of upcoming events leading up to Easter Services.

OPEN AND AFFIRMING *Judy Grimes, Francesca Sergi, Joe Simpson, Cathy Somers*



March is in honor of women

I honor the divine feminine as it expresses in the world.

Today I honor and celebrate the girls and women in my life and throughout the world. I admire their grace and resilience, and feel grateful for their courage, strength, and caring energy. As I attune myself to the power of the divine feminine all around me, I discover the softness of nurturing and compassion, and the steeliness of protection and determination. Appreciating these qualities expressing all around me, and especially in the women and girls of the world, I am grateful for how the divine feminine influences our shared life. The feminine qualities of intuition and receptivity bring needed balance to a world, so often dominated by action and busyness. I bless the divine feminine as it blesses me.

Give her a share in the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the city gates.
Proverbs 31; 31.

Daily Word A Unity Publication March 8 2024

OUTREACH *Chris Dreton, Jean Mitchell, JoAnn Bolin, Lillian Groody, Lynn Plourde, Pam Hein, Cathy Somers, Jodi Mitchell (chair)*

- We will be collecting for the UCC campaign of One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) this month. It is an international campaign that assists people affected by disaster and/or displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, we are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery. Through OGHS we engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women's empowerment.
- It's time for SPRING CLEANING! Please give us your gently used and freshly laundered women's and men's clothing and accessories for our POP UP shop in April. Ask your friends and family too, as we'd like a wide variety of styles and sizes! We hope to get a large turnout from the general public for this sale. The DEADLINE is APRIL 1st, so we'll have time to sort before the sale starts on April 7th.
- We're looking for some new sandwich makers for the Brigade in March. The supplies are provided (except for sandwich bags), the time needed is less than 90 minutes, it's done in the comfort of your own home, and your feeling of satisfaction is priceless! Supplies can be picked up in the Gathering Room any time after noon on March 12th and sandwiches should be returned by 10 a.m. on Sunday, March 17th. Please sign up during Fellowship Hour or email Jodi at jamsouth@aol.com if you can help.
- Thanks all of you, the Pantry Bowl was a smashing success and we have been stocking the pantry regularly as needed! Please keep the jello and puddings coming for the Southbury Food Bank as well.



FAITH FORMATION *Krista Judson (director), Jodi Mitchell (chair), Tracy Watson, JoAnn Bolin*

- Sunday school will meet on the 17th and the 24th. We have some Easter activities planned.
- The book for April is “Saving Cee Cee Honeycutt” by Beth Hoffman. Copies are on hold for us at the library, just ask for the SBCC Book Club book. We’ll meet on Wednesday, April 3rd at 6p.m.

SCHOLARSHIP *Lissa Pine, Francesca Sergi, Gary Tolin, Krista Judson, Judy Grimes, Jeanne Crane-Shepherd*

HEADS UP – SCHOLARSHIP TIME IS HERE...

- Scholarship Applications will be available on SBCC’s website home page, and hard copies in the church office and the Gathering Room, beginning Sunday, March 3, 2024. Applications are due in the church office by Sunday, April 7, 2024. Awards will be presented in church on Sunday, May 12, 2024.



THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

FLOWER COMMITTEE *Cathy Crowdis, Linda Long, Cathy Somers*

- You will see little brown envelopes in the pew racks to contribute towards our Easter flowers in honor or memory of someone. If you are unable to attend church in person and would like to provide flowers, please send a check to the church and let Nancy know what you would like put into the bulletin.
- Many thanks to those who have provided flowers each Sunday to add some of God’s natural beauty to our services.

PUBLIC RELATIONS *Lissa Pine, Francesca Sergi, Gary Tolin, Krista Judson, Judy Grimes, Jeanne Crane-Shepherd*

Don't forget Free Pizza, and Snacks at Tonight's Ping Pong 6:00-7:30 p.m.

SBCC CARD MINISTRY *Marge Mitchell, KathySue Roberts, Chris Dreton, Megan Lukens, Cindy Tolin, Gary Tolin, Barbara Ryner, Judy Pierpont, Sal Graziano*

- If you would like us to send a card to someone within the USA please give us their name, address and the reason for the card, along with your contact information.

To fill out a form use the QR code at the right, or the link below,
<https://app.onechurchsoftware.com/sbcc/forms/29> , or call the church office at 203-264-5890 .



MEMORIAL GARDEN *Lainie Jedlinsky, Krista Judson, Bud Bennett, Ralph Kubista & Sharon Stiles and John Shepard.*

Come and visit the memorial garden!

It's located at the rear left of the parking lot.

A pleasant place to sit and remember.

Reservations are open, just call the office.

A nice place to have plaques to help others remember you & your loved ones forever.

HOSPITALITY

We are looking for some soups , salads & desserts for our “Lent on the Road” series, March 12th. SBCC is hosting and we are providing the Simple Supper.

We are also looking for soups and salads for the Maundy Thursday meal that will precede the Worship Service on March 28th. Please call Cheri Fickett ((203) 770-6950) or send an email to cherifickett@me.com if you can help. Questions? Contact the church office ((203) 264-5890.

Thank you , Cheri Fickett

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

David Karraker

This photo taken at Jeff's installation shows a man who is deeply committed to his music, and his church. You learned to play the five string banjo that can only be played right handed, even though you are left handed. You sing from the heart, and I suspect the songs you write come from the Holy Spirit.

You add your voice to the men's section in the choir, and when you join your wife in the sanctuary, both of your voices make beautiful music.

Thank you both for blessing us,
KathySue Roberts



Hugh (Hughie) Humiston

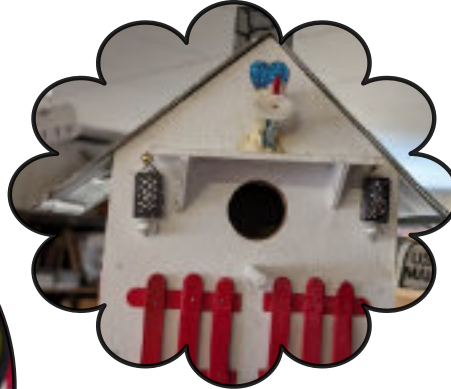
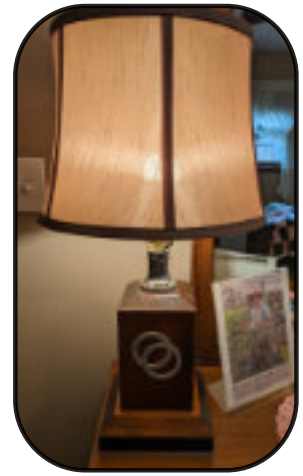
Hughie has been slowing down recently. At 95 years old he doesn't spend as much time in his tidy (not) little workshop.

Here is a collection of items he continues to make or has worked on over the years.

- Bolo's
- Holiday Badges
- Name Tags
- Bird Houses
- Whirligigs
- Hymnal Place Holders
- Candy Sleds
- Lamps

He still after all these years hands out holiday badges at his appointments, and church.





Consider showcasing someone in the Parishioners Post by sending an article to Nancy Kerley sbcc_secretary@yahoo.com.

If you need assistance please contact Joe Simpson pr@southbritainchurch.org or calling at 203-206-4652

Moments in Life*Happy moments, praise God.**Difficult moments, seek God.**Quiet moments, worship God**Painful moments, trust God**Every moment, thank God**Submitted by KathySue***Pancake Supper**

A winter snowstorm may have postponed our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper but it didn't stop SBCC from opening its kitchen and doors to the community on President's Day. We served up hundreds of plain and blueberry pancakes and the renowned Laurel Diner hash to 160-plus hungry families and friends. The Gathering Room was buzzing with good conversation and laughter. The free will collection raised just under \$1,000 for the Food Bank and a stack of non-perishable food items to stock our food pantry.

Many hands make light work and we extend a sincere THANK YOU to all who volunteered, participated, and just joined us to share a meal and conversation. It was a blessed evening.

Laurie Hornbecker, Jodi Mitchell, Francesca Sergi, & Cathy Somers





NORMA C.	WILLIAM & FAMILY	LISA
LIZ	DICK	CARL, LAURIE'S BROTHER
JUDY M.	BOB P.	

- Teen who died after attack in bathroom in Oklahoma. (Nex Benedict)
- Quinn's Bone Marrow transplant in March.
- Wonderful blessing to have Krista back with us at SBCC, and Krista's joy in being back with SBCC family and friends!
- Audrey & Don Sharp, celebrating their 51st Anniversary.
- Joy for the Schupack's new granddaughter, Millie.
- Thankful for successful pancake supper for our community.



March	Timothy Schaaake	1
	Rob Crowdis	8
	Michaela Hartman	15
	Curt Perry	16
	Judy Pierpont	20
	John Watson Jr.	20
	Maggie Blersch	24
	Barbara Ryner	26
	Anna Lowell	26
	Debbie Hull	27
	Tom Lavoy	27
	Rob Mitchell	27
	Brenda Beard	28
	Brian Lang	28
	Jesse Shepherd	30
	Tracy Watson	31

Please help us to keep the birthday list current by calling the church office and letting Nancy know any corrections or additions that need to be made. (203-264-5890)

CALENDAR

Every Week

Sundays:	Worship, 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour, 11:00 a.m.
Tuesdays:	Knit-Wits, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Bible Study, 1:00 p.m.
Fridays:	AA Meeting, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Every Month

1st Sunday	Outreach Committee, 9:00 a.m.
2nd Sunday	Finance Committee, 9:00 a.m.
3rd Sunday	Deacons (following services)
1st Wednesday	Faith Formation 5:30p.m.
1st Wednesday	Stewardship 7:00 p.m.
3 rd Wednesday	Trustee's Meeting 7:00 p.m.
4th Wednesday	Church Council, 7:00 p.m.
1 st Thursday	Property, 7:00 p.m.
2 nd Thursday	ONA, 10:00 a.m.
2 nd Thursday	Public Relations, 5:30 p.m.

A poster for a 'Ping Pong and Pizza' event. The title 'PING PONG' is in large blue and red letters, with 'AND PIZZA' in smaller blue and orange letters. Below the title are two ping pong paddles (one red, one black) and a pizza. The event details are listed below: 'FRIDAY, MARCH 8', '6:00 - 7:30 PM', and 'ALL AGES & ABILITIES'. A small text box describes the benefits of table tennis. The location and contact information for South Britain Church are at the bottom.

PING PONG
AND PIZZA

FRIDAY, MARCH 8
6:00 – 7:30 PM
ALL AGES & ABILITIES

Table tennis raises the heart rate, strengthens muscles, mobilizes joints, sharpens reaction times, improves hand-eye coordination, helps with balance and coordination, and it's fun!

SOUTH BRITAIN CHURCH
Parish House Gathering Room
693 South Britain Rd | Southbury CT
203-264-5890

Small Business Seminars
**BUSINESS PLANNING
 AND FINANCING**

MARCH 13, 2024
12:00-1:15pm

Free but
 registration
 required

Lunch by
 The Local
 Gourmet



SOUTHBURY TOWN HALL, 501 MAIN STREET SOUTH, ROOM 205
www.southbury-ct.org/Small-Business-Seminars

 **Newtown Savings Bank**
 The Power of Local

Let's Grow Your Money
SOUTHBURY
 CONNECTICUT

 GROWING TOGETHER

SOUTH BURY
 PARKS & RECREATION

**SPRING
 EXTRAVAGANZA**

Saturday, March 23 | 11am - 2pm
 Sensory Friendly Session | 10am - 11am
561 MAIN STREET SOUTH | SOUTHBURY, CT

*Please bring a non-perishable food item for the Southbury Food Bank.
 Sponsored in part by Planet Fitness of Southbury!*





SPRING & HOLIDAY CRAFTS, ACTIVITIES AND A CANDY HUNT

HOLY WEEK
@SOUTHBRITAINCHURCH

Sunday, 3/24 @ 10 am - Palm Sunday

Thursday, 3/28 @ 6 pm - Maundy Thursday
 -Dinner Church with Holy Communion & the Office of Tenebrae

Sunday, 3/31 @ 8 am- Easter Sunrise
 -in the Memorial Garden adjacent to the Church Parking Lot
 -Continental Breakfast to follow in Parish House

Sunday, 3/31 @ 10 am- Easter Worship
 -Festival Worship with Special Music & Holy Communion

SOUTH BRITAIN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
 AN OPEN & AFFIRMING CONGREGATION OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 693 South Britain Rd (RT 172) | Southbury, CT
southbritainchurch.org

South Britain Congregational Church
 AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

693 South Britain Rd | Southbury, CT 06488
southbritainchurch.org
 203-264-5890
pr@southbritainchurch.org

