
The Parishioners Post

South Britain Congregational Church
693 South Britain Rd.
Southbury, CT 06488 (203)264-5890

Founded 1766

October 13, 2020

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."



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I hope by now you all know that this time of year is by far my favorite. Autumn is (for me) the loveliest of the seasons. The colors, the cool air and the smells are all part of what I love. It has been many years since we lived in New England for this season and I missed it so much.

When I think about this time of year, I think about it more and more as it historically being a time of harvest. We as a culture have moved away from our agrarian roots. Moving away from those roots we have lost a bit of the classical meaning of harvest time. This change has happened because of the technological leaps in terms of transportation and our understanding of how things grow. Now we can have vegetables and fruits year-round that were only available at certain times in the past, if they were available at all. Harvest time, this time of year used to be the time that there was so much abundance. Out of that overflow and plenty came a unique joy. It was a unique joy that came from being aware that in that moment you had so much. Harvest time was the one time of year that you did not have to worry about saving or conserving. It was the time that the cellar was full, and food abounded. Harvest time was the one time that that one could feel secure, and out of that feeling of security people were freed to share with neighbors, friends and families. Harvest time bred a spirit of generosity.

Well, brothers and sisters, our God is the God of the harvest! Every single day with God is one in which we have this harvest joy! Following Jesus is a life that is not marked by lack but by super saturation of all the blessings that God has to give. I think there are times where we get caught in the mental trap of our Christian faith being that of restriction, or that believing in our God is based mostly on what we cannot do or have. Yet our God is a God who gives and gives abundantly. David in Psalm 23 says that his cup is filled to the brim, spilling over! David knows that God gives more and more! Just when we think he couldn't give anymore God gives beyond our wildest dreams. God provides for us and we need eyes that see the vast abundance that surrounds us. Then out of this we joyfully give and share because God provides for us in such big ways.



Let us adopt this mentality as we go forward into this wonderful season.

As always if you have any questions or need anything, I am here for you all.

Blessings,

Pastor Malcolm

Psalm 23:5 you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Pastor Appreciation October 12th

Each year a day is named in October to appreciate pastors. This year it may be particularly important to lift up this date. It has been a hard year. "As we move into the fall we are also moving into the 7th month of this pandemic. It takes a toll on all of us with an impact on clergy and leadership who are not only trying to develop powerful worship, engaging community and meaningful social action, but are also standing in the middle of many different needs, health concerns, longing, feelings, questions, opinions and posturing. It is the most difficult place to be. Be gentle with each other".

So, in recognition we presented Pastor Malcolm Carr a card of appreciation and a gift card allowing him to relax out with his family hopefully.

Bible Study:

Evening Bible Study began September 24th at 7:00 P.M. This bible study will meet twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Thursday. The next meeting will be October 22nd. We will meet in person in the Gathering Room (Zoom is available for those interested and not comfortable with in person). If you are interested, please email Pastor Malcolm. pastor@southbritainchurch.org

All the creatures:

We will be having a virtual *Blessing of the Animals* service this year. It is a service where we *witness to God's and the Church's love, care, and concern for creation. It is a time that we recognize our mutual interdependence with God's creatures and the Church's witness of stewardship of creation is strengthened. All are welcome to participate even if you do not have a pet or animal to be blessed.*

Please join us via Zoom on Sunday October 18th at 12:00 P.M.

Please email Pastor Malcolm and he can send you the link and information.

ZOOM MTG.

Topic: SBCC Blessing of the Animals

Time: Oct 18, 2020 12:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

APPLE FESTIVAL:



The online portion of the Apple festival is complete, and the last pie has been delivered! I would like to extend a special thanks to the following people who went above and beyond by coming back for the second round of apple piemaking:

Pastor Malcolm, Jean Dunn, Chuck Crowdis, Curt Perry, Cathy Somers, Sal Graziano, Ken Bolin, Beverly Stoddard, Pam Hein, Jean Mitchell, Francesca Sergi, Marti Swift, Nancy Gubbiotti, Judy Pierpont, Krista Judson, Sta Chekas., Lillian Groody, and Eileen Davis.

Together we survived the Great Apple Crisis of 2020 and baked 60 pies for an additional profit of almost \$1,000 for the Apple Festival!

This included a donation of 20 pies from a long-time Southbury couple to the Southbury Police Department.



THOUGHTS:

- ✓ ***The Essence Gospel of Peace*** ○ ***"Beside the river stands the holy tree of life. There doth my father dwell, and my home is in him. The heavenly father and I are one."***

-submitted by Bambi Engelman

- ✓ ***Our Faith, Our Vote*** ○ ***Bridge Conference Minister the Rev. Don Remick writes: Our Faith, Our Vote, in our tradition is not about guiding you in how to vote or for whom you should vote. Rather it is about encouraging you to put your faith into action by casting your vote ... It is about standing in the presence of God and doing what you believe God calls you do to. If we believe in living the Love and Justice of Jesus, then voting is both a civic and spiritual duty.***



submitted by Francesca Sergi

- ✓ ***Halloween Memories*** ○ ***When I was a child, everyone's Halloween costumes were always homemade, and thank goodness my Mom was not only creative, but could sew! The only 'store bought' portion of the costume might be a mask, but only if nothing else would work. My Mom and one of my Aunts (usually dressed as hobos) would walk us kids up and down the street here in South Britain, and in those days, the town population was about 5,000, so you pretty much knew everyone who lived here. My other Aunt would decorate the vestibule of her house (the big white one by the bridge) and it was always a popular spooky stop. One year she dressed up like a fortune teller and had a light under an upside-down fishbowl and would tell your scary fortune if you were brave enough to go in through the fake cobwebs. There was no chance of just ringing a bell, getting candy, and moving on. Every person had to study you and then try to guess who it was under that wonderful costume. There was no fear of eating the caramel apples you might get at Schielke's house or the cookies from Mrs. Pierce's. One woman would always have us come in for hot cocoa and cookies and we'd sit at her dining room table, anxious to get on to the next house, but knew better than to try to leave before we had sat there and finished our snacks and thanked her. Halloween on South Britain road could easily take two or more hours and we only went from the bridge to this church and then back on Library Road to make sure we hit the Condon's and the Tarbox and Platt homes. I have wonderful memories of both the costumes and how much fun we had every year. A far simpler time.***

-submitted by Cathy Somers

OUTREACH:

- **Coat Drive**

Our annual coat drive will begin now and run through November 22nd. Gently used, clean winter coats will be collected in the gathering room and then delivered to the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Shop for distribution.

-submitted by Cathy Somers

- **Food Bank Shelf**

The Southbury Food Bank has re-opened their doors for delivery of donations. Since SBCC has committed to keeping the cream soup and chowder shelf full, and the cooler weather just calls out for a cup of soup, please pick up an extra can or two when you're shopping and drop it in the basket in the narthex.

Thank you!

-submitted by Cathy Somers

- **October's Outreach offering will once again go to UNICEF**

"Our annual UNICEF drive is underway and will continue throughout October. UNICEF boxes are available for pick-up in the church narthex and the Gathering Room, or in the church office on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings. Please bring your filled box back to church on Sunday, November 1, or mail a check payable to SBCC and marked 'UNICEF' to the office by that date. Thank you for supporting this effort which benefits the world's most vulnerable children."

The familiar orange UNICEF boxes will be available in the narthex throughout the month of October. Please feel free to take one home, fill it, and return it on Sunday, November 1. Those not attending worship may submit their gift by November 1, clearly indicating UNICEF, by whichever means they give to the church.

The Outreach Committee thanks the members and friends of SBCC for their generous support of UNICEF.

-submitted by Jean Dunn

- **Christmas**

Outreach is working on a special project for Christmas this year (shhh it's a surprise). Want to participate? We need solid colored Christmas ornaments (plastic or glass) in red, orange, yellow, green, blue, pink, and purple. Solid ornaments only please. Dig out those storage bins and take a look and see if you have any, you'd be willing to donate. We will be using these on October 25th after church. We promise you will love the finished product!

-submitted by Chris Dreton

- **Whiskers Pet Rescue**

Outreach was able to donate five bags of cat and kitten food to Whiskers Pet Rescue PLUS a \$300 cash donation. Thank you to everyone who helped make a better life for our furry friends. Whiskers was so appreciative of the generosity from our church.

(Photo: Caroline Abate, Founder and Director and Christopher Cantley, Volunteer)



-submitted by Chris Dreton

- **Domestic Violence Awareness**

Items needed for donation to Safe Haven are gift cards, toiletries, sanitary items, hats, gloves, scarves, diapers, and wipes. Remember October is **Domestic Violence Awareness**.

-submitted by Francesca Sergi, Jodi Mitchell

o SOFIA and Southbury Clergy will be sponsoring an Interfaith Service and Discussion on Domestic Violence. Please email bnaisisters@gmail.com for the zoom link.

-submitted Francesca Sergi



Interfaith Service and Discussion
Special Guest: Louisa from Safe Haven
Wednesday, October 21 7:00 PM Via Zoom
Sponsored by SoFIA - Southbury Faith In Action

Participating Houses of Worship:

B'nai Israel
Sacred Heart Church
South Britain Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



**Please email bnaisisters@gmail.com
for the Zoom link**

• **Needy Fund**

Many of the mechanisms used by the Needy Fund in the past will not be able to be used this year due to Covid restrictions. If you would like to help them to provide Christmas to the many children in town who otherwise would not have one, please reach out to the Needy Fund at sbyneedy@gmail.com to **take a child, volunteer to help sort and distribute or if you wish to make a monetary donation..**

Help Us Help Southbury

Planning has begun for the Annual Holiday Gift Drive for Southbury Children!

Here's how you can help:

- Volunteer to sponsor a child (buy clothing in specific sizes for a specific child)
- Organizing a gift drive in your neighborhood, family, office, social or religious group.
- Support the cause with a monetary donation. A check made out to Southbury Needy Fund and mailed to PO Box 72 Southbury CT 06488 is always appreciated!
- Volunteer to help sort and organize donations in late November/Early December. We will have more details on Covid protocols.

Link:



-submitted by Cathy Somers

- Outreach gives a great big THANKS to the Knit-wits for their generous donation to October's Sandwich Brigade. They provided us with all the extras we needed to fill the 200 bagged lunches we made for GWIM.

-submitted by Jodi Mitchell

FAITH FORMATION:

- Our community garden has finished producing for the Southbury Food Bank for the season. We will be closing the garden shortly until next spring.
 - A special note of thanks goes out to Roger Tashjian for his assistance and expertise this season as well as Krista Judson, Cathy Schade, and Tracy Watson for their tireless gardening efforts.

-Submitted by Amy Smith

- Our church garden maybe done, but our rock garden is in progress. Another Sunday of painting rocks and we will be able to put the garden together outside the parish hall by the end of October. If you



have four or five flat river rocks, please let me know. Need them to for larger flower petals. Thank you all who have contributed to our project.

- Special thanks to my fabulous artists Aila and Olwyen Carr and Anna Lowell.

Dear God, Bless all our children, young and old, here at SBCC and in the world. May your Love and guidance continue to help them feel peace. In your holy name

Amen

-submitted by Krista Judson

- Faith formation will once again be supporting Wreaths Across America in November. We will support its mission to "Remember, Honor, and Teach" by collecting donations for wreaths, as well as volunteering to lay wreaths on December 19 here in Southbury. Wreaths are still \$15 each.
 - Outreach has generously donated \$75 to fund our first five wreaths!
 - To donate: during the month of November, simply hand or send in your check (in any amount, it does not have to be \$15) with "wreaths" in the memo line. If you wish to contribute cash, please use an envelope marked "wreaths." At the end of November, we will order the wreaths on behalf of SBCC. Please let Amy or Krista know if you would like to sponsor a wreath in honor of a special person so we can add that information to our order.
 - To Volunteer: Wreaths Across America day is December 19, 2020. We will have more information about volunteering as it becomes available. This is an extremely rewarding and solemn experience. We hope you will consider joining us this year.

-submitted by Amy Smith

PERSONNEL AND PASTOR MALCOLM

- The Personnel Committee in conjunction with Pastor Malcolm have conducted both zoom and in-person interviews of candidates. Next steps will be reference and background checks and we hope to have someone join the staff as our new Administrative Assistant soon!

-submitted by Cathy Somers

THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

- Eugene (Gene) Clair passed away on October 11th, one day after his 103rd birthday.
 - Please keep Bettye and their daughter Cindy in your prayers.
 - Please pray for: Jack, the family of Andrew Guthrie, Pat, David, Zachariah, Chad, Bert, Eileen
 - For all frontline workers, medical personal, firefighters, police, and those serving our country in the armed forces.

Bulletin Board

If you would like to submit an article, birthday, anniversary, prayer request for the Parishioners Post please send us an email along with pictures to pr@southbritainchurch.org

NOTE:

If you know someone that is missing out on the Parishioners Post because they do not have access to email, please drop a note to Cathy Somers so we might include them in our mailing.

• OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Please wish them a very "Happy Birthday" (we are using a new database for Birthdays, if there are errors or omissions please contact pr@southbritainchurch.org)

Lynn Plourde	10/9	Chuck Crowdis	10/18
Eugene Clair	10/10	Gladys Burdick	10/23
Laura (Beard)	10/11	Rita Ericsson	10/28
Leonard Beard	10/11	Trevor Ferraro	10/29
Dave Ferraro	10/13	Patricia (Pat) Johnson	10/29
Christina Lewis	10/13	Marge Humiston	10/30
Jim Locke	10/13	Don Lang	10/30
Heather Mitchell	10/15	Beverly Crane	10/31

• ANNIVERSARIES:

- Ed and Jennifer are celebrating our 26th wedding anniversary on October 16.
- Ken and Joann Bolin are celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary on Nov 7.

• UP-COMING MEETINGS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Trustee	10/15	7:00pm	Zoom
Finance	10/14	3:30pm	Zoom
Public Relations	10/14	7:00pm	Gathering Room

• REMEMBER

- *Flowers:* Please remember to call the church office if you will be placing flowers in the church for the Sunday service (203)264-5890
- *Reservations for Sunday service:* Please call the church office at (203) 264-5890 and press #5 to leave your name, phone number and the number in your party. You will receive a call back if capacity has been reached.
- Masks and social distancing are required. When you arrive; temperatures will be taken, hand sanitizer will be provided at the entrance, a mask if you have forgotten, and you will be escorted to your seat.

• LaBonne's

- We are continuing to collect LaBonne's receipts. If you shop at either the Watertown or Woodbury LaBonne's Market, please save your receipts. The church gets back 0.5% of whatever you spend. The box is located in the Gathering Room for receipts.

• **APARTMENT FOR RENT**

- Jodi has an apartment for rent on or about November 1st (no later than Nov.8th) and I wanted to post it here before I put it out to the general public. The address is 31 Purchase Brook Rd, the first house on Purchase Brook Rd. It's the left-hand side of the duplex and the neighbor is a single dad with his kids a few times a week. There are 3 bedrooms and 1 bath. If anyone would like more information, please email me at jamsouth@aol.com

-submitted by Jodi Mitchell

• **LITTLE RED WAGON**

- Kathy Sue was looking for a wagon to haul her garden/bird supplies as well as haul garden organic matter to the pile. Please email kathysue6@aol.com

-Gracias, KathySue

• **SUCCESS IN SCHOOL**

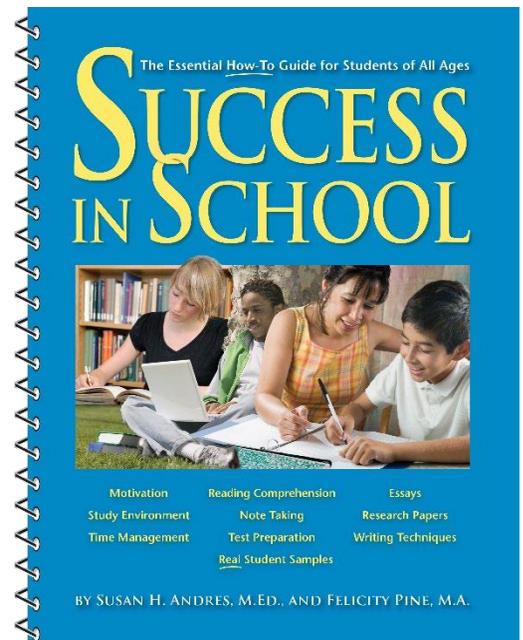
I am the coauthor of a book, *SUCCESS IN SCHOOL: The Essential How-To Guide for Students of All Ages*, published by Rowman & Littlefield, Education Division.

It is a **study skills book** that teaches how to improve READING COMPREHENSION, NOTE TAKING, TIME MANAGEMENT, TEST PREPARATION, ESSAY WRITING and more. It is written in a step-by-step format with real student samples and examples that illustrate the instructions. It's for PARENTS, TEACHERS, and TUTORS who want to help their students; OLDER STUDENTS may use it independently.

If you or someone you know might be interested, **May I send A COMPLIMENTARY COPY?**

If you like the book and think it could help you or someone else, we will send you a way to "like" it and review the book.

[My email address: fpine@liveandlearnconsulting.net](mailto:fpine@liveandlearnconsulting.net)



-submitted by Lissa (Felicity Pine)

• **Sue Torrey (Living an Unremarkable Life?)**

- I'm going to finish my patchwork quilt for the homeless juhthhhst in time...! I may need more yarn and will visit The KnitWits with a flourish!
- We finished our front walkway and painted our front door. ○ I'm buying pumpkins for the first time in years (cuz I think they're a waste, typically!).
- Celia is teaching at Brass City Ballet and working at Maggie McFly's in Southbury.
- **Oh, Don and I celebrated (...?) our 30th wedding anniversary back in May with (thank you, Covid) ... takeout. "CONGRATULATIONS"**