

THE VOICE of *Second Church*

United Church of Christ

50 Park Street

Attleboro, MA 02703

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October 2020



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Find us on Facebook!

THE VOICE

We warmly welcome everyone to celebrate God’s love by joining in dynamic worship, creating genuine community, and serving all with justice and respect.

A monthly newsletter

October, 2020

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MINISTER’S MESSAGE

“I have loved you with an everlasting love...” -Jeremiah 31:3

As they moved between the rows of gravestones, he asked his daughter if she knew what they meant.

“They are there so families can find their relatives?” she answered with uncertainty in her voice.

“True, true” her dad responded, chuckling. “But it’s more than that. It’s because these people once lived. Even though there are names and dates and sayings on the gravestones, after a while no one alive will remember any of the people buried here. But we show respect for them because they lived. And these granite monuments last a very, very, long time and represent eternity. But even they will crumble into dirt. Everything must finally die,” he said sadly.

She leaned in and put her arms around his waist. “But you won’t die, soon, will you?” she asked, sincerely, looking up into his, now reddened eyes.

“I have no plans to! But I’m not in charge of that,” he said, returning her embrace.

For a minute they were silent, looking around at the stones and trees whose leaves hung on defiantly in the face of those early days in October.

Her dad broke the silence. “You know...” he said smiling, “I can’t really die, anyway.”

“What do you mean, daddy?”

“Well, there’s something bigger than death, something stronger, still. Do you know what that is?” he asked, raising both eyebrows.

“God?” she answered.

“Yes. But remember, the...”

“...It’s love! It’s love, isn’t it?” she interrupted, excitedly. "Love is more than this. I remember! God is Love and nothing can separate us from God’s love."

“Yes! You are so smart!”

“Think about it...” he said, moving one arm in a sweeping motion as if to collect all the names and dates around them. “Every one of these people was once loved by someone. There was a day when their loved ones gathered around these spots to bury their grandparents, friends, moms and dads, brothers and sisters, sons and daughters. They would have cried and cried, knowing they would never again hold them again in this life. But even though most of these people are now forgotten by us, they are still loved by God and because of that, they can never truly be forgotten.”

“They can never really die,” she whispered, as if trying to keep this one, big secret just between the two of them.

In the quiet, he gently held her head close to his side, occasionally swallowing up her unbroken hair in his large hands while she kept her arms locked around his waist, this father and daughter, alone and keeping vigil for the remembered dead. Soon, a strong wind, rude and proud and blustering, arrived to shake loose a cluster of leaves from a nearby tree. Unyielding, these first fruits of autumn shot upward in an attempted escape before gravity arrested them and so began a reluctant, but inevitable waltz downward, toward the earth.



BOARD OF DEACONS

Our Lead Deacon this month is Marcia Weidner. Contact any Deacon if you are interested in being a liturgist. We'd love to have your help.

IN-PERSON SERVICES AT SECOND CHURCH

The Church Council has formed a committee to review the items needed to start in-person services at Second Church. Please be patient as we need to address many issues to keep everyone SAFE within our Church.

Many facets are being considered from hand sanitizers to signage to social distancing within the Sanctuary. We miss seeing everyone and are anxious to return to worship in our Sanctuary. However, please know the time we are taking to plan will keep everyone safe when we do return.

*Respectfully submitted
Maria Smith, Chair*

FROM THE PRAYER GROUP

The prayers that are normally submitted on cards during the Sunday service are passed on to this small group, and we continue to pray for the individuals, families, and issues that you have mentioned. If you would like to ask for prayers during our time out of the sanctuary, please email them to cw.oliver@comcast.net, or phone Wendy at 508-226-2319, or submit them to Pastor Wayne at pastorwayneearl@gmail.com. We treat these requests as confidential.

*Wendy Oliver, Marcia Weidner, and
Priscilla Jane Huston.*

THANKSGIVING IN THE KITCHEN... SORT OF

We all miss the fun, fellowship, tastes, smells and treasures of our annual Church Fair. While we can't have our usual blowout this year, the Women's Fellowship is putting together a plan for a pickup and pay selection of some of our favorites sometime in November. Watch for word coming out in the next couple weeks where you will be able to pre-order apple pies, soups and selections of preserved food from Ruthie's Pantry.

MUSIC NOTES

ONLINE WORSHIP

Our live-streamed services on Facebook that began in July are still continuing. "Broadcasting" from the church sanctuary is generally going smoothly. We've ironed out the initial kinks and have established a smooth Sunday morning routine. Intermittent problems lately, such as stuttering video feeds, are mostly internet- or Facebook-related – not surprising given the traffic-clogged digital highways these days. Thanks to all the volunteers – Deacons, videographers, and liturgists – for their help in producing the services!

A SOCIALLY DISTANCED BELL CHOIR?

Several of us have had conversations about starting up a small bell choir. It would consist of around a half-dozen ringers, masked and playing from individual tables placed at a distance from each other. We would perform relatively simple arrangements that could be learned quickly and would not require the detailed, close coordination of our usual bell repertoire. There are commercially available arrangements for 4-6 ringers, and/or I could arrange short pieces for such a group. We might consider having rehearsals before the live-streamed services on Sunday mornings, perhaps 9:00-9:30. If you've not talked with me already, let me know if you'd be interested.

INTERGENERATIONAL SACRED DANCE

The Intergenerational Dance Group will be having some informal virtual dance hangouts this fall. Details will be sent directly to participants. If you are interested in joining us please contact me at (508)409-7919 or de_saunders@hotmail.com.

Diane Osborne

OUTREACH & MISSIONS

The Food Pantry will be "open for business" to Attleboro residents on **Monday, October 26th** in Fellowship Hall. The volunteers distributed bags of food 19 families in August. Thank you for your generous donations of money and supplies. Spaghetti sauce, cereals, real fruit juices, tuna, spam, peanut butter, hearty soups, detergent, toiletries, female hygiene products, and bathroom tissues are always welcome. The drop-off site is in the church office or kitchen for the time being. Contact: Betsey Pray, rlpbpp@verizon.net.

The Family Café is temporarily closed. Contact: Linda Wiswall, wiswallinda@gmail.com.

Our driveway plant sale, affectionately called "Pics & Pots" was a great morning of fellowship and fun. We received **\$125** for Ben Macomber's beautiful artwork and **\$395** for all of the donated plants. Reverend Wayne Earl greeted all of our customers warmly and lent a hand with our labors. The advertising efforts of Jamie Reiley and Fred Saunders paid off. Thank you to all who gave of their time, energy, transportation, and well labeled tools, dried flowers, perennials, & houseplants.

We are running a can & bottle drive this month to help out the North Attleboro Animal Shelter (508) 699-0128. Please drop off donations at: Cedar Road, North Attleborough, MA 02763. They could also use dog & cat food, clean old blankets/bed spreads & towels.

The next Outreach and Missions Committee meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, October 18th**. We have been taking care of business together by group e-mails, Zoom, and gatherings at Capron Park, and the church driveway.. Contact: Janet Blair, janbblair@aol.com.



CURATOR'S CORNER
 Would you believe that Second Church was once home to a Roman Catholic parish?

Honest and true! At the turn of the twentieth century this area was experiencing a rapid growth due mostly to the burgeoning jewelry industry. Many of these new people were from the French speaking parts of Canada, our neighbor to the north. Virtually all of these folks were Catholic and, naturally, looked for a place to worship. Eventually, the Fall River Diocese granted permission for a new church that was to be named Saint Joseph parish. Now they had a parish but no building to worship in. The Reverend Napoleon Messier who was stationed in New Bedford was appointed as the new pastor. He was warmly welcomed by our church and was granted the use of the white church for masses.

The folks at St. Joseph's soon purchased a property at the corner of South Main and Maple Streets for their new home. The original plans called for the entrance to be on Maple Street and for several years it was. I have seen a picture of that church when it was only what is now the basement. As funds were raised, the main church was erected. Unfortunately, St. Joseph's has passed into history and the building is now occupied by a different religious group.

St. Joseph's church was not the only group that we welcomed, some years ago the Spanish Church used our chapel for services until they too found their own home. Many will remember that the lighthouse church was in the chapel several years before that.

Ted Moxham, curator

Jack and Jill Pre-School is a very happy place to be! We are pleased to welcome 10 BRAND new families to our wonderful community this school year. We also welcomed some new siblings. Our fantastic team of 5 educators has been busy creating routines for the children. The children have become comfortable wearing masks and are excited to show off their masks each morning! Our first days brought minimal tears and lots of smiles albeit behind their masks. Our parents have been very appreciative of our transition process. The personal tours, playground days, and our virtual orientation days gave children and parents the time to develop relationships with one another and their child's teacher. Parents feel that our small class sizes are just right for this school year.

Our Board of Directors developed a number of creative fundraising ideas that the families and church community can participate in without all of us gathering in a large group. Some of the events you can look forward to are a Jack and Jill T-Shirt design contest, a virtual pumpkin contest, a virtual family yoga day, and some restaurant nights as well. More information will follow soon.

We are working to create different enrichment activities within Jack and Jill. We are working on this due to outside visitors not being able to visit the school this year.

We have limited availability in our programs and offer rolling admissions to families. Please feel free to visit our website at www.jackandjilllattleboro.com for more information and to read about what's happening from week to week.

*Warmly, Katrina Lay
 Executive Director*

While the return to school has been different this year, I pray that your families and all the educators and school staff you work with are finding ways to make it a positive and valuable experience.

In October we will continue virtual Sunday School at 9am via Zoom exploring The Lord's Prayer. Resource packets including mystery envelopes, activity sheets, and Take Home sheets for adults to extend faith formation through the week have been distributed to our younger friends, and Zoom details have been shared directly to families only to ensure a safe and secure opportunity to connect. If you or anyone you know would like to join us please contact me at (508) 409-7919 and I will happily add them to our distribution.

Youth: We were so excited at the beginning of 2020 to have Tara, Victoria, and John volunteer to work with our youth to re-imagine our youth programming. Unfortunately, as with many aspects of our lives, March brought great change to our lives. This fall we are looking forward to bringing our collective energy back together and we are in the process of determining a time and format for youth programming. Please fill out the following short survey to help guide us as we make decisions about programming. We will do our best to take everyone's preferences into consideration.

<https://forms.gle/ehguPfi3fiXQeuQ77>

As always, if you have any questions or ideas please feel to reach out to me via email, call, text, or FB messenger. I will do my best to reply within 24 hours if I'm not immediately available.

Diane Osborne
de_saunders@hotmail.com
 (508) 409-7919

October Birthdays

OCTOBER CALENDAR

Cub Scouts

2	Jenny Sprague
3	Walter LaMay
4	Andrew Lindley Diane Osborne Curtis Priesing
5	Jessica Miller
9	Claus Croatto Harry Lancaster
10	Debbie Parziale Rich Renoni
11	Kevin Beck
15	Brianna Orrall
16	Charles Smith
17	Janet Blair
18	Bill MacPherson
19	Lucy DePatsy
20	Deb Beck Cindy Brodeur Sharmon McCaughey
21	Caleb Iocco Jim Valentine
22	AJ Renoni
24	Roger Bourdeau Rick Lunt
25	Avery Laramee
27	Marcia Weidner
28	Bill Bixby
29	Donna Bliss Frank Sousa
30	Linda O'Connor
31	David Renoni

Each Sunday Service, 10 AM,
Live Streamed on Facebook.
Profile Team Virtual Meeting,
October 1st, 7:00 pm.
Columbus Day, October 12th,
Office is closed.
J&J Board of Directors Meeting,
October 14th, 6:30 pm
Facilities Committee Zoom Meeting,
October 19th, 7:00 pm.
Profile Team Virtual Meeting,
October 15th, 7:00 pm.
**November Voice Deadline,
October 20th**
Administration Committee Zoom
Meeting, October 20th, 7:00 pm
Food Pantry Distribution,
Oct. 26th, 3:00 to 5:00 pm
Church Council Zoom Meeting,
October 25th, 11:30 am.

If you are interested in helping our Pack 33 with their annual popcorn fundraiser or if you have *any* questions about what is going on with Scouting at Second Church, please give me a call or drop me a note and I can get you connected

Thanks!

*Fred Saunders
Charter Organization Representative*



Daily Lectionary Scripture References -October 2020 (Year A)

Thurs. Oct. 1

Psalm 19
Exodus 23:1-9
Colossians 2:16-23

Fri., Oct. 2

Psalm 19
Exodus 23:14-19
Philippians 2:14-18; 3:1-4a

Sat., Oct. 3

Psalm 19
Exodus 23:10-13
John 7:40-52

Sun., Oct. 4

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
Psalm 19
Philippians 3:4b-14
Matthew 21:33-46

Mon., Oct. 5

Psalm 119:49-56
Deuteronomy 5:1-21
1 Peter 2:4-10

Tues., Oct. 6

Psalm 119:49-56
Deuteronomy 5:22-6:3
2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Wed., Oct. 7

Psalm 119:49-56
Deuteronomy 6:10-25
John 11:45-57

Thurs., Oct. 8

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Exodus 24:1-8
1 Peter 5:1-5, 12-15

Fri., Oct. 9

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Exodus 24:9-11
James 4:4-10

Sat., Oct. 10

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Exodus 24:12-18
Mark 2:18-22

Sun., Oct. 11

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 32:1-14
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Philippians 4:1-9
Matthew 22:1-14

Mon., Oct. 12

Psalm 97
Exodus 32:15-35
Jude 17-25

Tues., Oct. 13

Psalm 97
Exodus 33:1-6
Philippians 3:13-4:1

Wed., Oct. 14

Psalm 97
2 Kings 17:7-20
John 6:25-35

Thurs., Oct. 15

Psalm 99
Exodus 33:7-11
3 John 9-12

Fri., Oct. 16

Psalm 99
Exodus 31:1-11
1 Peter 5:1-5

Sat., Oct. 17

Psalm 99
Exodus 39:32-43
Matthew 14:1-12

Sun., Oct. 18

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 33:12-23
Psalm 99
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

Mon., Oct. 19

Psalm 63:1-8
Exodus 40:34-38
Revelation 18:1-10, 19-20

Tues., Oct. 20

Psalm 63:1-8
Numbers 12:1-9
Revelation 18:21-24

Wed., Oct. 21

Psalm 63:1-8
Numbers 13:1-2, 17-14:9
Matthew 17:22-27

Thur., Oct. 22

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Deuteronomy 31:14-22
Titus 1:5-16

Fri., Oct. 23

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Deuteronomy 32:1-14, 18
Titus 2:7-8, 11-15

Sat., Oct. 24

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Deuteronomy 32:44-47
John 5:39-47

Sun., Oct. 25

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
Deuteronomy 34:1-12
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 22:34-46

Mon., Oct. 26

Psalm 119:41-48
Numbers 33:38-39
James 2:8-13

Tues., Oct. 27

Psalm 119:41-48
Exodus 34:29-35
James 2:14-26

Wed., Oct. 28

Psalm 119:41-48
Deuteronomy 26:16-27:7
Matthew 19:16-22

Thurs., Oct. 29

Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
Joshua 1:1-11
Romans 2:17-29

Fri., Oct. 30

Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
Joshua 2:1-14
2 Peter 2:1-3

Sat., Oct. 31

Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
Joshua 2:15-24
Matthew 23:13-28