

THE VOICE of *Second Church*

United Church of Christ
50 Park Street
Attleboro, MA 02703

May 2023



INDOOR / OUTDOOR YARD SALE
MAY 13TH, 9:00 AM TO NOON

COFFEE HOUSE, SATURDAY, MAY 13TH, 6 TO 8 PM

ALL CHURCH DINNER, SATURDAY, JUNE 3RD, 5:00 PM

Second Congregational Church of Attleboro, UCC

Reverend Dr, S. William Sencabaugh, Pastor
revdrwill@attleborosecondchurch.org – c: 860-861-5003

William A. MacPherson, PhD., Director of Music

Katrina Lay, Executive Director, Jack & Jill School – 508-222-1149
jackandjill@attleborosecondchurch.org - www.jackandjillattleboro.com

Fred Saunders, Administrative Assistant / Clerk / Curator
BSA Charter Organization Representative, - c: 508-918-0123

Jack Baptist, Sexton

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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

May 2023

Calendar	Outreach & Missions	Jack & Jill	Did You Know?	Family Fellowship	Prayer Shawl	Christian Education	Birthdays	Music Notes	Women’s Fellowship
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Pastor’s Message

In my brief message and lead-in to Communion at the Maundy Thursday service I was trying to convey the closeness of the disciples to Jesus. The idea was that Jesus and his closest disciples were about to share their last meal together. Jesus knew this—but the disciples were all in denial.

On Good Friday, we said our final “good boy” to our beloved dog, Bernie. We did not know the extent of his cancer until we were able to see the Xray on Friday when we made a fairly routine kind of visit to the vet. Bernie had been ‘sick’ for only a few days. We thought we’d bring him in to the vet and they might prescribe an antibiotic and we’d be on our way. Alas, this was not the case, and we were devastated with the news that our little guy was not going to go for a ‘puppy ride’ home with us.

All of us who have had pets have experienced something similar to this. If you have pets now, please don’t dwell on the inevitable—but hug your furry friends a little more. We knew the time would come—someday. We certainly weren’t expecting this on Good Friday. Our hearts are aching. We are randomly crying. Your pastor is eulogizing his dog.

A pet should be like a member of your family. The grief at losing a pet is real. I will not compare losing a beloved pet with losing a human loved one. However, there is a real void in my house now. I feel weird just walking out the door, not beckoning Bernie to go outside to take care of his business before I leave for hours. When I come in after being gone for even five minutes, I miss the welcoming greeter wagging his tail. I even miss checking the usual spots for ‘the accident,’ because I was gone a little longer than I expected. I miss him terribly. On the evening of Good Friday, I cried (okay, I uncontrollably sobbed, with one moment of wailing).

This brings me back to the intense feelings the disciples must have felt on Friday! Jesus, their friend, teacher, human loved one, Messiah was brutally executed. He was gone! No more suppers. No more walks. No more miracles. He was gone! That must have been heart-wrenching. I am sure that they were lost in a fog. Their grief and their tears- palpable. Jesus was taken away on Thursday night. Perhaps they thought, he might beat the rap on Friday. Perhaps this is all a big show. They might just rough him up and release him. On Friday—He died. The dream was over!

On Saturday—nothing. What could they all have been thinking on Saturday? Up until that point, there is only death. The resurrection and the discovery of the empty tomb hasn’t happened yet. There is nothing but profound sadness and the kind of grief that makes you wander around in a state of shock. But then....Sunday comes!

The tears are okay. The pain is not permanent. The chaos will settle into order and the fog will disappear.

Eventually, the disciples arrived at a place where they could eulogize and memorialize the loss of their friend and rabbi—Jesus the Christ. They got to the point where they could step back a little and find meaning in the life of Jesus. It was a life like no other—and its impact would be felt around the world for millennia to come.

Death is not the final word. He lives. Jesus lives in both the metaphorical and literal sense. Take comfort that the victory of life over death has been won for all of us. Yes, all of us.

*In Christian Love,
Rev. Will*

OPEN MIC/COFFEEHOUSE

In May, we will meet on the **Second Saturday, May 13th** from 6 to 8 PM. We will have coffee, tea, lemonade and snacks! Performers are invited to share a story, song, or poem. You are welcome to attend or participate by sharing whatever you would like. You are welcome to listen and doodle or listen and play on your phone. We ask for a \$5 donation (if you can). This is one way to reach out to our community and invite them into God’s space. We look forward to more exciting opportunities in the future!

SERVICE NOTES

The Deacon of the month is Marcia Weidner.

May 7th Fifth Sunday of Easter

Scripture Reading: John 14:1-14

Sermon: "Home: A Field of Dreams"

May 14th Sixth Sunday of Easter

Mother's Day

The Reverend John Fiske will be our guest worship leader.

May 21st Seventh Sunday of Easter

Scripture Reading: John 17:1-11

Sermon: "Go into the World"

May 28th PENTECOST!

DON'T FORGET TO WEAR RED.

Scripture: Acts 2:1-21

Sermon: "Learning a New Language"

ALL CHURCH DINNER

The Board of Deacons will be sponsoring an All Church Dinner on Saturday, June 3, 2023, at 5:00pm. Please make your reservations through the Church Office (508-222-4677). There will be a free-will offering to offset cost, suggested at \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for age 10 and under. Chicken Cacciatore will be served along with salad, bread and dessert.

PLEASE JOIN US

FOR A TIME OF FUN AND FELLOWSHIP.

COMMUNION VISITATION TEAM

The Communion Visitation Team continues to visit folks who are unable to attend services. We are happy to come to your home for a time of fellowship, whether or not you wish to take communion. We will certainly wear masks and observe all precautions necessary. You may communicate with the Church Office or call Wendy or Charlie Oliver at 508-226-2319 to schedule a convenient time. Cathy Giannetti, Ralph Giannetti, Marcia Weidner and Roberta Zarrella are also part of the team.

Wendy Oliver

Women's Fellowship

I would like to thank everyone who help out at the May breakfast; every job is important. Thank you for volunteering!

On May 13th, from 9-Noon, we will have our yard sale in Fellowship Hall and (weather permitting) the parking lot. We need people to set up during

the week before, starting at 10 in the morning. Bring a lunch if you can stay and enjoy fellowship as we put in as many hours as we can. On Saturday we need volunteers to staff the tables and pack the items. You may e-mail Sandy at sandrasaunders99@gmail.com, call 508-699-2738, or sign up at coffee hour.

It is time to start bringing your items in for the yard sale. Please leave them in the back hall by the stage door. Thank you. Any questions call me or send an e-mail.

Coffee Hour is a wonderful time to have fellowship. If you would like to make a special treat to share with your church family, homemade or store bakery, it is much appreciated. Everybody seems to enjoy having fellowship, a cup of coffee and a bite to eat. Please sign up at coffee hour. We also just need two people that would like to sign up to pour the drinks, you can sign up at coffee hour or call me.

*Thank you again,
Sandy Saunders*

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

PSM will meet on Monday, May 15th at 2:00 in the Parlor. Shawls are a tremendous comfort to individuals experiencing a loss or other traumatic event in their lives. New members are always welcome. Contact me if you have questions.

Roberta Ferguson



I can't believe we are in the last weeks of this school year! It has been a wonderful school year where we made lots of memories.

This is an amazing time to be an educator. We are able to reflect on how much growing the students have done since September. We are able to see how much of a difference teachers make in young children's lives.

The classes are excited for May field trips and in house enrichment programs. Our Mixed Age class will be

going on a walking field trip to the fire station. Pre-K 1 will be taking a walking field trip to the library. Pre-K 2 and Enrichment will be enjoying a visit from Mystic Aquarium.

We are looking forward to celebrating the adults in our lives this month! We will be celebrating all the wonderful teachers at Jack and Jill during the first week of May with different activities planned by the families, including a teacher appreciation luncheon. We will be honoring Mother's Day and Father's Day by joining together for a nature walk.

Plans for our preschool graduation are underway. We have 31 children moving on to kindergarten! We will be holding a graduation ceremony on Wednesday, May 31st at 6:30PM for family and friends to attend. We will again be hosting graduation at The Newell Shelter at Capron Park. We have asked guests to bring a canned good as a donation to the Second Church Food Pantry.

We are excited to offer a full day Pre-K option for next year and families are excited too! We have been registering families for the 2023-2024 school year. Both of Pre-K classes are fully enrolled but we have limited openings in Mixed Age, Enrichment and the 3's class. If you know of anyone looking for preschool next year, please encourage them to call me at 508-222-1149!

I hope that you and your family are able to enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of spring this month.

Katrina Lay, Executive Director

Music Notes

CHOIR SCHEDULES

Rehearsals for both Bell Choir and Adult Choir will be held at the usual times on May 4th and 25th. There will be no rehearsals on May 11th and 18th.

The Adult Choir will sing in church on May 7th, 21st, and 28th, but not on May 14th. Bell Choir will decide on a performance date at an upcoming rehearsal.

*Bill MacPherson
Director of Music*

INTERGENERATIONAL SACRED DANCE

I am so grateful to all the dancers and congregants that joined in worship as we presented the Palm

Sunday Processional and “*Here I am, Lord*” on April 23rd! Feeling how the spirit moves us to share with you all in worship fills my heart every time. You can also look forward to some fun, prayerful movement shared in the Children’s Day worship service on June 11th, but we are now on a break for Saturday rehearsals until the fall. All are welcome to join us!

Diane Osborne

OUTREACH & MISSIONS

Calvin and Lyra spearheaded Second Church’s April 22nd effort to “Keep Attleboro Beautiful”; we had a good turnout and spent the morning collecting trash in our assigned Pleasant Street area. Thanks to them and to everyone who helped, for inspiring us to be better stewards of our surroundings.

The newly formed, to-be-named Women’s Group met in April; Sylvia’s soup and Sharman’s photography were very much appreciated. Discussion took place about naming and better defining the group and its activities. There’s still time to get involved and have your ideas heard. The next meeting will be at Paula Foresman’s house in May (date and time yet to be determined--it’s a busy month!). Look for an update by email and Facebook.

Betsy Pray and Linda Wiswall continue to hold the fort on the last Monday of every month distributing food from our Food Pantry, and we are grateful for their hard work.

Thank you, Sue Jansen, for an update of our Outreach and Missions Bulletin Board: I asked for help, and she came through with flying colors!

And speaking of asking for help: we are still in need of someone who could attend a Zoom meeting of the Attleboro Area Self Sufficiency Coalition at 8:00 am the first Wednesday of every month. Janet Blair has been doing this, but we’d love to involve others.

*In Christian Love,
Outreach and Missions Committee*

Christian Education

Family Fellowship Baking: Many thanks to everyone who joined us for the Easter Cookie Baking Family

Fellowship hangout on Holy Saturday. All went home with many yummy treats and a few trays of cookies were also shared with the Coffee House that evening, what a special day!

Keep Attleboro Beautiful: Lyra and Calvin would like to say a big thanks to all who participated in the Keep Attleboro Beautiful clean-up. We were a bit surprised by just how much needed to be done in a small stretch of nearby Pleasant Street but enjoyed our ability to make an impact showing God’s love in our community.

Family Fellowship Spring Hike: All are invited to join us for a picnic and hike at Oak Knoll on Park Street on Sunday, May 28th. Following Pentecost worship, we invite you to bring your favorite brown bag lunch and comfortable shoes for some time feeling the Holy Spirit move amongst us outside. Light Rain plan – bring a raincoat! Heavy Rain plan - we’ll enjoy our picnic lunches and some fun activities of the Holy Spirit in Fellowship Hall!

Volunteers Needed: During the months of May and June, we need at least one volunteer a week on Sunday mornings to assist with our Littles class while our faithful volunteer Sue recovers from becoming the bionic woman. There is a signup sheet in the nursery, and you can also contact me directly if you are available for a week or more! This program has grown substantially this year from an average of 2-3 kids to nearly 10 kids registered in this age range, and I promise it may just become your favorite place to visit on a Sunday morning.

Sunday School: Toddlers through Pre-K may be dropped off beginning at 9:45 in the Nursery for our Littles Program for stories, songs, and crafts that support building a foundation of their faith. We will not be offering Nursery drop off for infants at this time but welcome families with babies to be together in worship, the Conference Room, or the Nursery. Students in Kindergarten and up are welcome to sit with their families for the first part of worship and will join their teachers in the Narthex when noted in the bulletin. If you know of a new family that would like to build community, explore faith,

and seek compassionate justice, please feel free to invite them to join us throughout the year for rolling Sunday School registration. For the first Sunday of the month, May 7th, we will have a Gathering Sunday and Communion.

Sunday School May 14th, 21st, 28th

In Sunday School this month we are continuing our creation of a mosaic of God’s love capturing all the ways we see and share God’s love with others. We will seek to support each individual student’s faith by unearthing parts of our past, deepening our understanding of today’s world, and acting towards a more sustainable future fueled by God’s love. We will be building a vision for the future of the church from the child and youth perspective to be unveiled on Children’s Sunday in June. Building the vision may be a bit messy so please plan your clothing accordingly.

If you have any questions, ideas, or would like to volunteer please feel to reach out to me.

*Diane Osborne,
Chair of Christian Education
de_saunders@hotmail.com
(508) 409-7919*



- 1 Chris Janson
Derek Janson
Dawn McCarthy
Ella Saunders
Alex Sawyer
- 2 Pam Middleton
- 5 Roberta Ferguson
- 8 Christina Renoni
- 11 Steve Withers, Jr.
- 12 Gladys Brander
- 13 Bret Brown
Jessie Macomber
- 14 Isaac Stuen
- 15 Joan Blais
- 17 Bob Richardson
- 18 Diane Findley
- 20 Lorraine Lunt
- 22 Saga Ferrant

Ben Macomber
Zach Ramsay
Chris Saunders
Nick Saunders

24 Sandy Saunders
26 Ted Moxham
27 Zoe LaClair
30 David Keith

Did You Know?

Some years ago, it came to my attention that there was once a bell that hung in the steeple of the old 1825 white church. No one seemed to know its' location or even if it still existed. Mr. Augie Schaefer, who almost certainly would have known of its whereabouts, had passed away, so it seemed that my search was over before it had even started. Perhaps Mrs. Schaefer might be of some help. I phoned her, and she told me that Augie once had the bell, but its possession had passed to Rod Nerney, who was formerly my next

door neighbor. Unfortunately, Rod Nerney had also passed, but Alana Schaefer knew that his wife, Lorraine Nerney, was living somewhere down on the Cape, and she just happened to have her phone number. I called and got Lorraine on the first try! She told me that her husband did have the bell at one time, but he had given it to their son Rick. Well, where did Rick live now? He had moved to Virginia Beach, Virginia. I called him. Now remember this all happened on the same night. By chance he was home. Did he still have the bell? No, he didn't, but his father-in-law did have it in his garage in Deerfield, Mass.

The next day Rick called his father-in-law and lucky he did. He was getting ready to take the bell to the junkyard that day. He agreed to return the bell, but we had to come and get it. The next Sunday my dad, the late Al Nelson and, yours truly skipped church (gasp) and

drove to Deerfield. There in a corner of the garage sat our bell all covered with cobwebs and (yuk) spiders. I hate spiders! Well, we cleaned them off and hauled it home. Truth be known, it didn't look much like the bell that hangs in our Narthex today. The yoke was all rusty and the bell itself needed to be sandblasted. I got in touch with Morse and Beggs Monument Company, and they agreed to help us out. They painted the yoke and sandblasted the bell. Unfortunately, there were no inscriptions on it, but we knew it was ours.

In the meantime, Herb Horne completed the task of making the gorgeous cradle that the bell hangs from today. And there you have it, the bell that was almost lost forever, but was saved at the last minute due to my curiosity.
Ted Moxham

Second Congregational Church
50 Park Street, Downtown Attleboro
INDOOR / OUTDOOR
YARD SALE

Saturday, May 13, 2023

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Sale includes house wares,
books, antiques, toys,
collectibles, jewelry,
tools, wall hangings, lamps,
small furniture, Christmas items,
and many odds and ends.**

COME JOIN
THE FUN!

There Always Something Sings

A celebration of song and renewal by
Oure Pleasure Singers, Nicholas Rocha artistic director



*'Tis not in the high stars alone,
Nor in the cup of budding flowers,
Nor in the redbreast's mellow tone,
Nor in the bow that smiles in showers,
But in the mud and scum of things
There always, always something sings.*
- from "MUSIC"
by Ralph Waldo Emerson

It's spring again! Oure Pleasure Singers present a concert that expresses the joy we find in the live performance of song. Our program spans centuries and musical styles with abandon, though it is not quite "everything everywhere all at once." Binding it all together is the Emersonian affirmation that all things high and low sing the praise of creation. Please join us as we travel a road through sorrows and joys, death and rebirth, to affirmation and rejoicing.

Music of Mozart, Monteverdi, Tomas Luis de Victoria, John Rutter, Charles Villiers Stanford, Eric Whitacre, Ron Jeffers, Sarah Quartel, Ernani Agular and more.

And please join us after the performance for light refreshments and a time of fellowship at our traditional "Feasting Table."

Two performances:

Saturday, May 6th at 4:00 PM
Congregational Church of East Hampton
59 Main Street, East Hampton CT

Saturday, May 20th at 7:00 PM
Second Congregational Church
50 Park Street, Attleboro MA

M A Y 2 0 2 3

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 6:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	5	6
7 10:00 AM Worship / Communion	8	9	10 10:00 AM Communion Visitation Meeting	11	12	13 9:00 AM Indoor/Outdoor Yard Sale! 6:00 PM Coffee House & Open Mic
14 Mother's Day 10:00 AM Worship Sunday School	15 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 PM Facilities Committee Meeting	16	17	18 5:00 PM Board of Deacons Virtual Meeting	19	20 7:00 PM Oure Pleasure Spring Concert "There Always Something Sings"
21 10:00 AM Worship Sunday School 11:15 AM Church Council Meeting	22 3:00 to 5:30 PM Food Pantry Distribution	23 7:00 PM Administration Committee Meeting	24 7:00 PM PFLAG Meeting	25 Next Month's Voice Deadline 6:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	26	27
28 Pentecost 10:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM Family Fellowship Spring Hike	29 Memorial Day Office is closed 	30	31			

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