

# **THE VOICE of *Second Church***

United Church of Christ  
50 Park Street  
Attleboro, MA 02703

April 2024



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visit our website**

[www.attleborosecondchurch.org](http://www.attleborosecondchurch.org)

**COFFEE HOUSE & OPEN MIC**  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024, 6 TO 8 PM**

**MAY BREAKFAST**  
**SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2024, 8:00 TO 10:30 AM**

Second Congregational Church of Attleboro, UCC  
Reverend Dr. S. William Sencabaugh, Pastor  
[revdrwill@attleborosecondchurch.org](mailto:revdrwill@attleborosecondchurch.org) – c: 860-861-5003  
William A. MacPherson, PhD., Director of Music  
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[jackandjill@attleborosecondchurch.org](mailto:jackandjill@attleborosecondchurch.org) - [www.jackandjillattleboro.com](http://www.jackandjillattleboro.com)  
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BSA Charter Organization Representative, - c: 508-918-0123  
Jack Baptist, Sexton  
Church Office: 508- 222-4677 Fax: 508- 222-2148  
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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

April 2024

<b>Calendar</b>	<b>Jack &amp; Jill</b>	<b>Did You Know?</b>	<b>Sacred Dance</b>	<b>Prayer Shawl</b>	<b>Christian Education</b>	<b>Birthdays</b>	<b>Music Notes</b>	<b>Women’s Fellowship</b>	<b>OP Singers</b>	<b>Outreach &amp; Missions</b>
Page 5	Page 2	Page 3	Page 3	Page 2	Page 3	Page 3	Page 2	Page 2	Page 4	Page 2

## PASTOR’S MESSAGE

I wonder if on Holy Saturday (the day before Easter)—the disciples had given up hope on that Messiah thing. They saw Jesus being led away to crucifixion. Some even saw him being nailed to the cross. They all knew he died and was laid in a sealed tomb. They must have thought the dream had ended. The man they had followed for 3 years was gone—dead and buried. Easter came and changed everything.

I wonder also if the disciples sat around and thought, “Oh great, now what are we going to do?” This is how I imagine the meeting: Peter got out some parchment and a couple of colorful sharpies and began to lead the group in a discernment process. They needed to come up with a plan. They didn’t know how to worship Jesus Christ. They didn’t know how to be hospitable and inviting to those who wanted to join their new religion. They didn’t know which boards and committees they should have. They needed a Vision Statement! They needed By-Laws!

Jesus tried to empower their leadership and now they had no choice. They had to be the leaders. Jesus was the holy consultant: sharing information, new commandments, parables and teachings. The disciples were supposed to take that information and create and lead a church. Quite frankly, their leader never really told them or taught them how to plant a church. So, they set up an easel and began to brainstorm about what “church” should look like.

Churches need to do this! We have a tremendous advantage! We already have 2000 years of Christian history and tradition to rely on, and our own church has over 320 years of history in this community being the church. However, it takes an incredible amount of faith. Those first disciples must have had awe-inspiring faith to believe that they could take the church to the farthest reaches of the globe and share their message. He invited the disciples to participate in the resurrection. Jesus wants participants. He wanted the disciples to say, “*What’s next?*”

Leonard Sweet, in his book, *The Gospel According to Starbucks*, uses the expression ‘pew-potatoes’ (a play on the expression ‘couch potato’). He speaks of churches where the congregation has become lukewarm, middle of the road, non-risk takers. Pew potato churches are content to be content. Jesus went through a lot for the pew potato types.

It takes **an act of holy boldness** to come back from the dead. It takes an act of holy boldness to leave a church to 11 dense, dim disciples. It takes an act of holy boldness to leave that room and preach the gospel. It takes an act of holy boldness to tell others about **our** faith and **our** church. It takes an act of holy boldness to grow in our spirituality. God loves vigorous and audacious faith.

It is time for us to act and live with holy boldness. It’s time for us to demonstrate a vigorous and audacious faith. Let us live into our Easter faith! He is risen. Let us rise to the occasion.

*In Christian Love,  
Reverend Will*

## Help us, Help you. . .

### Trinity Solar Supports Second Congregational Church

Every time a homeowner has a solar evaluation through our partnership,

- Our Church receives a check for \$100.
- If you have solar installed, we receive \$1000.

***\*You must sign up through our partnership to make sure that the church gets credit.***

<https://www.trinity-solar.com/organization/second-congregational-church/>

Call 203-895-8968 with questions



## SERVICE NOTES

The Deacon of the month is Wendy Oliver.

**April 7** Second Sunday in Easter

Holy Humor Sunday - Communion

Scripture: John 20:19-31

Sermon: "Tommy the Twin"

**April 14** Third Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Luke 24:36b-48

Sermon: "Don't Shush the Spirit"

**April 21:** Fourth Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Psalm 23

Sermon: "Earth Day"

**April 28:** Fifth Sunday of Easter

Scripture: John 15:1-8

Sermon: "Abide"

## OUTREACH & MISSIONS



During the month of April, all are invited to participate in collecting items for a

city-wide baby shower spearheaded by First Baptist Church. The shower will take place on April 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:30 at First Baptist. Any additional details will be posted as I receive them. The list of items needed are for babies up to one year old:

- diapers and wipes
- baby clothes, mittens, socks
- bibs
- towels
- blankets
- soft baby toys

All items should be **unwrapped**.

Other April events listed in the City of Attleboro's community events calendar that might be of interest (look there for additional details):

**Habitat for Humanity April Education Class, Thursday, April 4, 2024**

**Keep Attleboro Beautiful Clean Up Day, Saturday, April 13, 2024**

**Spring Fling - Downtown Attleboro, Saturday, April 20, 2024**

*Paula Foresman*

## Jack & Jill School

Spring is finally here! This time of year is full of growth and adventure. The weather is getting warmer, and we are able to enjoy the outdoors more.

Our school curriculum literally comes alive in the spring; we will have butterfly habitats, lessons on wiggly worms and life cycles of plants and frogs! The preschoolers love this time of year and the teachers do too! They have worked hard all year at getting the daily routine down, fine tuning their self-help skills and are really inquisitive about the outside world. This is the time of year when preschoolers really start to blossom!

Our first ever Show and Dinner to Go was a success! We had many families here dancing and moving; it was a great Saturday for the Jack and Jill community! Thank you to the church community who so generously purchased opportunity basket tickets! The opportunity baskets continue to be a favorite for all, and we had many alumni families stop by to get tickets.

Enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year has been great! All classes have limited availability. We are receiving inquiries on a daily basis! I love being able to connect with new families and share all the wonderful things about Jack and Jill. If you know anyone looking for preschool, please send them my way.

The Early Childhood Community of Attleboro will be hosting a Family Fun Fair on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> 9:30 AM to 11:30AM. Jack and Jill will have a table there. Please feel free to share this with families throughout Attleboro. This is a free event and will be held at Attleboro High School in the cafeteria.

Thank you for your continued support of this wonderful preschool!

*Katrina Lay, Executive Director*

## 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. Cathy Giannetti, Ralph Giannetti, Karen Slawson, Marcia Weidner and Roberta Zarrella are part of the team.

## MUSIC NOTES

### CHOIR SCHEDULES

The Bell Choir and the Adult Choir will rehearse at regular times on Thursdays, April 4, 11, and 25. There will be **NO rehearsals** on Thursday, April 18 (school vacation week).

The Adult Choir will sing on all four Sundays this month. The Bell Choir will decide on their next performance date at an upcoming rehearsal – but pencil in May 19, Pentecost Sunday.

*Bill MacPherson*  
*Director of Music*

## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Spring is here! The May Breakfast is going to be on May 4, 2024, 8:00 to 10:30 am. Signups are going on now; sign up at coffee hour with Jen Turcotte or e-mail her please!

We need cookies for baskets, no nuts or peanut butter please. You may drop off during the week, from 9-1, Friday morning, May 3<sup>rd</sup> by 10:30, or Thursday night during bells or choir, side door, leave in kitchen please, put note on them "for Baskets." Thank you!

On May 18<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 to 12:00, we will have our Indoor/Outdoor yard sale in Fellowship Hall and, weather permitting, the Parking lot! We need people to set up on Monday through Thursday the week before the yard sale, starting at 10:00 in the morning, if you can stay, please bring your lunch, and enjoy fellowship as we put in as many hours as possible. For Saturday we need volunteers to staff tables and pack items. You may e-mail Sandy at [sandrasaunders99@gmail.com](mailto: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!

*Sandy Saunders for Women's Fellowship*

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

PSM will meet on Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. in the Ladies Parlor. Shawls are a tremendous comfort to individuals experiencing a loss or other traumatic event in their lives. New members are always welcome. Please join us. Contact me if you have questions. Roberta Ferguson. *Roberta Ferguson*

## INTERGENERATIONAL SACRED DANCE

Sacred Dance practices will be held all Saturdays in April. If you would like to be a part of movement in worship all ages are welcome to join the intergenerational sacred dancers. We gather at 9:00 am on Saturdays for about 45 minutes of stretching, learning new dances for worship, and a little bit of just “fun dance.” If you or your child has any questions, please let me know at (508) 409-7919 or [de\\_saunders@hotmail.com](mailto:de_saunders@hotmail.com).

*Diane Osborne.*

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

All are welcome to join us for a Gathering Sunday including Communion on the first Sunday of the month, April 7<sup>th</sup> for Holy Humour Sunday. For Littles and Elementary, Sunday School is held every week unless it is noted as a Gathering Sunday. Please note that there are worship boxes for all ages on the bookshelves in the back of the sanctuary if you would like some quiet activities. Check out the new LCD sketchpads by the boxes, the kids loved trying them out in Sunday School!

**Toddlers through Pre-K** age can 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. As this age group is often toilet training, please let the teachers know what support they might need. Also, this class has a snack most weeks including fruit juice, water, goldfish, or an allergy free option. Please alert the teachers of any food allergies so that we can ensure we provide the right option. We are happy to add to our offerings to meet your child's dietary needs.

Teachers: Sue & Nicole

**Elementary Age 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. In April and May, we will be continuing to explore ways to share God's love with all, learning more about the liturgical year and Pentecost, and preparing for Children's Sunday which will be on June 9<sup>th</sup>. On Children's Day the children and youth will be continuing on the theme of Rev. (3)

Will's Lenten Sermon series by sharing what in the church is meaningful to a tail-end Gen Z or Generation Alpha attendee. Get ready, they have a lot to say!

Teachers: Diane & Tina

**Middle and High School Youth** will be dismissed for classroom time during worship on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays this month. On the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays, the youth will stay in worship and meet with their teachers over coffee hour. In their classroom time, they have recently been discussing choices and will continue exploring the 'Way to Live: Christian Practices for Teens', a series of personal stories that tackle the big question of what a 'good life' looks like.

Teachers: Tara & Andrew.

**Planning for Fall 2024:** We are looking for a new co-teacher for our Littles class for the fall of 2024 and we hope YOU will consider being called to this aspect of sharing God's love. We could not be more grateful for Sue Janson who has been a steadfast Sunday School teacher serving in many roles over the years and she has decided to step back from teaching in the new school year. We'd love to have someone volunteer to be a co-teacher with Nicole, sharing in the lesson planning and weekly joy of caring for our youngest students.

We're also always looking for on-call volunteers who would like to fill in when one of our regular teachers is unavailable on a Sunday morning and we have an open Committee spot, so there are lots of ways to get involved! If you are interested, please speak with Sue, Nicole, or me as we would be happy to answer any questions you have.

*Blessings,*

*Diane Osborne,*

*Chair of Christian Education*

[de\\_saunders@hotmail.com](mailto:de_saunders@hotmail.com)

(508) 409-7919

## Family Fellowship

Many thanks to all who attended our Indoor Campfire and Easter Cookie Baking events in March. Both were full of joy, laughter, and sweet treats and we look forward to building on these opportunities for community in April.

**Keep Attleboro Beautiful:** On April 13<sup>th</sup>, the annual Keep Attleboro Beautiful Community Cleanup will be held from 10:00 am to noon. We are

organizing a group from Second Church, so look out for sign-ups in Coffee Hour for anyone who would like to participate or call the office. All are welcome to join!

**Attleboro Spring Fling:** On April 20<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm, the City of Attleboro will be sponsoring a Spring event in Balfour Riverwalk Park, just a short walk from Second Church. There will be an Earth Day Celebration, face painting, vendor market, and live music. We will be one of many community organizations providing fun spring activities for event attendees. We encourage all Second Church members and friends to attend the event and if you would like to help with our table, please let me know.

*Diane Osborne.*

## DID YOU KNOW?

Why is the Ladies Parlor called just that? Well, to tell the truth, I don't really know. It seems that most everyone who might have known has passed on. There may be someone who knows, and if so I would like to hear from them. In lieu of hard facts I can only speculate. The first thing that comes to my mind is that the church was built at the turn of the last century and women were not empowered with the right to vote. It only seems to reason that that when there was a business or financial meeting it was conducted in the sanctuary and the ladies were excused to the parlor. There were also several other reasons for this banishment; there was a working fireplace in the room. I saw a picture of the room at about that time and it looked very different from the way we see it. There was no rug and there were no stained glass windows. The furniture was a lot different too, very plain and didn't seem to be very comfortable.

Today, bridal parties wait in there until their big entrance and there is that amazing full length mirror for some final checks of flowers and gowns. The Ladies Parlor also happens to be the warmest room because it's the first room to get heat from the furnace.

*Ted Moxham*

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | Connie Eckert<br>Jamie Reiley                     |
| 3 | Steve Smith<br>Linda Wiswall                      |
| 4 | Leslie Baptist<br>Thomas Smith<br>George Spatcher |

- 8 Vicki Buttrick
- 9 Rick Bassler
- 12 Julie O'Connor
- 13 John Nuovo
- 14 Debra Hazen
- 18 Lynn Candelet
- 19 Bill Armstrong
- 20 Emma Goulding
- 22 Bob Frye
- 28 Joe Ordog
- 30 Julie Cusack



On April 6<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm, a musical duo named **Deeper Than The Skin** will be providing music and dialogue around issues of racial justice. Tickets may be purchased at <http://murrayuuchurch.org> for \$20.00. Proceeds go to support racial justice issues in the Attleboro community.

Born three days apart, ancestry flowing through the same portal of History, Richmond, VA, Reggie Harris and Greg Greenway are on a pilgrimage together - one that began three decades ago. The racial divisions that are the reality of America started them in two different worlds, but the amazing bonds of music, respect, admiration, and shared vision have brought them together as friends and colleagues. The musical and spiritual blooming of this history has become Deeper Than The Skin, the telling of their stories through words and music. It is a great American story, informative and inspiring in so many ways. Building bridges couldn't be more important at this moment in history. How to face struggles with hope, and even joy, is the gift they have to give.

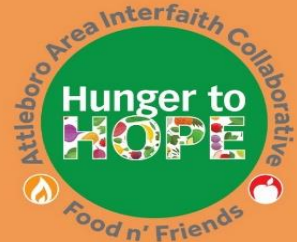


## Save the Date

6 pm, Wednesday, May 8th, 2024  
Lake Pearl, Wrentham

PLEASE JOIN US AT HUNGER TO HOPE -  
AS WE CELEBRATE SPRING AND  
RAISE FUNDS FOR FOOD N' FRIENDS!

ATTLEBOROAIC.ORG



Who knew, when a young J. Kimball Darling was hired in the late 1960's as Second Church organist and choir director, what a great and lasting impact



he would have on the music scene in Attleboro. He guided the church in purchasing our wonderful pipe organ, and established a marvelous choral program that continues to this day under the direction of Dr. William MacPherson. Then, in 1983, Kimball was approached by a group of friends, some of them Attleboro High School graduates who had fallen in love with choral music as members of the award winning AHS "A

Cappella Choir". Kimball and the young singers gathered one evening to sing some madrigals. They decided to make this a regular event, and called themselves "Oure Pleasure", borrowing those words from madrigal lyrics they had just sung.

Fast forward decades! The Oure Pleasure Singers, themselves award winners in WGBH's program "Sing That Thing", have been going strong all these years and are celebrating 40 years of friendship and music making. In May the group will look back over their decades together through songs and stories. The performance, under the baton of director Nicholas Rocha, will be made up of favorite pieces from four decades, so this concert will have something for everyone – from Renaissance music aficionados to Disney fans. The concert will even spotlight some Attleboro area composers.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Saturday, May 18, 2024, at 7:00 PM, right here at Second Congregational Church. After the concert there will be delicious treats in the Conference Room at OP's traditional "Feasting Table."

# A P R I L 2 0 2 4

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:30 PM J&J Teacher Training	2	3 6:30 PM Cub Scout Den Meetings	4 6:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	5	6 9:00 AM Intergenerational Sacred Dance Rehearsal
7 10:00 AM Worship / Communion	8 6:30 PM J&J Teacher Training	9	10 10:00 AM Communion Visitation Meeting 6:30 PM Cub Scout Den Meetings	11 6:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	12	13 9:00 AM Intergenerational Sacred Dance Rehearsal 10:00 AM Keep Attleboro Beautiful Clean Up 6:00 PM Coffee House & Open Mic
14 10:00 AM Worship Sunday School 11:15 AM Christian Education Committee Meeting	15 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 PM Facilities Committee Meeting	16 7:00 PM Administration Committee Meeting	17 6:30 PM Cub Scout Den Meetings	18 5:00 PM Board of Deacons Virtual Meeting	19	20 9:00 AM Intergenerational Sacred Dance Rehearsal 11:00 AM Attleboro Spring Fling Festival
21 10:00 AM Worship Sunday School	22	23	24 6:30 PM Cub Scout Den Meetings 7:00 PM PFLAG Meeting	25 May Voice Deadline 6:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	26	27 9:00 AM Intergenerational Sacred Dance Rehearsal
28 10:00 AM Worship Sunday School 11:15 AM Church Council Meeting	29 3:00 PM Food Pantry Distribution	30				

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