

THE VOICE of *Second Church*

United Church of Christ
50 Park Street
Attleboro, MA 02703

October 2024



**Scan code to
visit our website**

www.attleborosecondchurch.org

COFFEE HOUSE, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12TH, 6 TO 8 PM

JACK & JILL FALL FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19TH, 10:00 AM

DEACONS' ALL CHURCH CHICKEN DINNER!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19TH, 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

October 2024

Calendar	Outreach & Missions	Jack & Jill	Women’s Fellowship	Family Fellowship	Prayer Shawl	Christian Education	Birthdays	Music Notes	All Church Dinner!
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Pastor’s Message

What do you get when you take your patriotism and your religion too far? You get Christian Nationalism. Obviously, I don’t believe that either patriotism or religion are bad things—in fact, they can be very good things. However, when the two are combined and taken to the extreme, it can be destructive. It can, and has, led to violence in our country.

Currently we are reading and discussing, *A False White Gospel: Rejecting Christian Nationalism, Reclaiming True Faith, and Refounding Democracy* by Jim Wallis in our book group (which meets Tuesday nights from 6 -7 pm). No doubt, this book will raise the ire and ruffle a few feathers. As a Christian pastor—I’m okay with that. Mainline churches can no longer sit idly by while conservative churches set the political agenda—which they are. (Megachurches tend to be conservative and because of their larger numbers wield more influence.)

The purpose of this book group or a sermon series is not to divide our congregation. My hope is to unite us using the words of Jesus “that they may all be one,” (John 17:21) or the words of Paul, “for all of you are one in Christ.” (Gal. 3:28)

In the first chapter of the book, the author uses 6 passages from the Bible that call us to be the kind of Christians Jesus would want us to be. Evangelical churches used to hand out WWJD (what would Jesus do) swag. Well, let’s do what Jesus would do—seriously! The 6 passages should be posted in every sanctuary, Sunday school classroom, and uttered from the lips of every person who claims to be a Christian. These should be OUR guiding passages, our bedrock beliefs, our core values!

The fact that there are six passages is not lost on me. When we talk about homosexuality and the Bible—interestingly, there are only 6 passages that address this—in the entire Bible. In certain circles they are called the “clobber passages” because conservative churches have been using those six passages to shame and marginalize people for 2000 years. (By the way, that’s only 6 out of 31,102 verses in the Bible.) Those 6 passages have been memorized, internalized and weaponized by Christians. They have been so ingrained in the Christian culture that it is almost impossible to convince people that these passages have been misinterpreted and taken out of context—and that Jesus never even spoke on the matter.

What if there were 6 passages that became the test or rule for Christians? What if we, memorized, internalized and (yes) weaponized 6 passages that spoke of Jesus/God’s affirming love, extravagant welcome and amazing grace?

During the month of October and November, I will be preaching sermons on those 6 texts. After this upcoming sermon series, you will be equipped with all the scripture you need to offset opposing opinions. If you can live out these 6 passages—then you will live the Christian life and be a blessing to your family, friends, church and community. What would Jesus do? 6 passages of love, grace and mercy. It’s what he said and did.

Genesis 1:26
 Luke 10:25-37

Matthew 5:9
 John 8:32

Matthew 25:31-46
 Galatians 3:28

*In Christian Love,
 Reverend Will*

SERVICE NOTES

The Deacon of the month is Jack McKenna.

October 6: Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

World Communion Sunday!

Scripture Reading: Luke 10:25-37

Sermon: "Setting the Table"

October 13: Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture Readings:

Old Testament: Genesis 1:26

New Testament: Mark 10:17-31

Sermon: "Fill in the Blank: The first will be ___ and the last will be ___"

October 20: Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture Reading: John 8:31-38

Sermon: "True or False - Decide!"

October 27 Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture Reading: Matthew 25:31-46

Sermon: "Multiple Choice:

Will You Pass the Test?"



NOW HIRING: Administrative Assistant, part-time (16 hrs./wk.). Maintain office, correspondence, digital resources; assist pastor, committees, and congregation as needed. Proficiency with Microsoft Office required. Visit attleborosecondchurch.org to view the full job description. Submit cover letter and résumé by email to office@attleborosecondchurch.org or by regular mail to Second Congregational Church, 50 Park St., Attleboro, MA 02703.

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.

Women's Fellowship

Coffee Hour is happening after church and the church family is enjoying this time, catching up with friends and making new ones. We need help trying a new way to run coffee hour. Sandy will train you on whatever step you would like to try!

Step 1 - Set up for coffee hour begins at nine.

Step 2 - After church serve coffee, tea and hot chocolate.

Step 3 - After coffee hour - clean up.

Step 4 - Donate a treat for the sharing table.

Please come enjoy this time with us. Sign up by the serving table or call Sandy at 508-699-2738.

Our Annual Church Fair is fast approaching! **November 9th** will be here before we know it! We hope you have been saving up gently used toys, recent release books, (no magazines or textbooks, please), CD's, DVD's, jewelry, games and puzzles, household items and items for Grandpa's Garage. If any items are large, please save them for the spring yard sale if you can. Call the church office if you have any questions. Items may be left inside the back door on the stage steps.

The first day to sign up to serve at the fair is Oct. 6, 2024, or you may e-mail Sandy, and let her know where you would like to work. (sandrasaunders99@gmail.com.) or call 508-699-2738.

For those canning/preserving your garden bounty (pickles, relishes, jams +

jellies ,etc.) over the summer, please consider making donations to Ruthie's pantry. Empty canning jars may be donated as well. Craft items and knit goods will also be gratefully accepted.

We are preparing to another terrific silent auction for our Fair this year. If you have a special item or talent that you think might work, please speak with Sandy or Fred Saunders or call the office.

Our Annual Holiday Fair is an All-Church Event, and we need everyone's help to make it successful. Come and shop and be sure to tell your family, friends and neighbors!

Another opportunity to help in preparation for the fair is to join with Jessie Macomber for her apple pie making workshop on Saturday, October 26th, from 9am to noon. Please call or e-mail Sandy if you would like to help: 508-699-2738,

(sandrasaunders99@gmail.com).

Sandy Saunders, treasurer

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

PSM will meet on Monday, October 21st 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*



The 2024-2025 school year at Jack and Jill has started on a high note, filled with exciting changes and fresh faces! Following a last-minute teacher change, we are thrilled to welcome Mrs. Alyssa Mackenzie to our team as our Mixed Age teacher. She joined Mrs. Haynes, and they are working wonderfully together. The students and staff are settling into their routines, friendships are forming, and the hallways are filled with smiling faces.

In addition to our growing staff, the Board of Directors has been hard at work revamping our fundraising and

community outreach efforts to better support the needs of Jack and Jill families and the Attleboro community. We are excited to announce new events for the upcoming school year—stay tuned for more information as we roll them out!

Our first major fundraiser of the year, the annual **Fall Festival**, is scheduled for **Saturday, October 19th**. This beloved event will be held outdoors, weather permitting. "Pumpkin Passports" will go on sale starting Monday, October 7th, for \$10 each. Every child aged 2 and older will need a passport to participate in the festival activities. If you'd like to purchase a Pumpkin Passport, feel free to email or call the school starting in October.

We are all looking forward to a full and exciting year at Jack and Jill! Be sure to check out our weekly blogs on our website, jackandjillattleboro.com, for regular updates.

Finally, we still have limited availability in our classes. As always, we are grateful for your continued support and are proud to provide a nurturing and fun preschool experience for the families in our community!

Katrina Lay, Executive Director

Music Notes

CHOIR SCHEDULES

The choirs have a regular Thursday rehearsal schedule this month: Bell Choir, 6:30-7:30; Adult Choir, 7:30-9:00. New members are always welcome. This is an optimal time to join, at the beginning of the season and before we begin preparing for Advent and Christmas. Just come to a rehearsal!

The Adult Choir will sing in church every Sunday in October (6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th). At an upcoming rehearsal, the Bell Choir will set a date to play, probably in late October or early November.

*Bill MacPherson
Director of Music*

Intergenerational Sacred Dance

Sacred Dance practices will continue throughout the month of October. All are welcome to join! 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 9:00am 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. We hope to see you there!

Diane Osborne

OUTREACH & MISSIONS

October (specifically, the first Sunday in October) is the time when all of us can participate in the national "Neighbors in Need" program of the UCC. This year the Neighbors in Need theme is "Mental Health Justice For All!" This year's focus is on Mental Health Justice to foster conditions in which the human rights and well-being of people with mental health challenges are respected.

One-third of October's offering will support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds will be used by Justice and Witness Ministries to provide grants to UCC churches and organizations as well as supporting a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

While many churches, including us, will collect this offering on October 6, 2024, as part of World Communion Sunday, it's worth noting that contributions to this cause will be accepted on any Sunday in October.

Paula Foresman.

Christian Education

Many thanks to all who helped us enjoy a fun-filled September! With Rally Day, Blessing of the Backpacks, and our Family Fellowship Hike it was such a wonderful time together! If you didn't get a chance to register for Sunday School, you can do it at any time of the year by requesting a form from a teacher or a member of the CE Committee.

World Communion Sunday: On Sunday October 6th, all are welcome to join us to celebrate at Christ's table. The younger Sunday School class will be meeting during the first part of worship and rejoining the congregation in worship for Communion. They have been learning about Communion throughout the month of September and

are looking forward to participating together with our church family.

A few reminders for class structure this year:

Toddlers through Pre-K and Elementary age will be combining as one classroom to start off the year. Students 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. NEW! This class for younger learners will meet **every** Sunday including on the first Sunday of the month during our Communion service. During the month of October this class will be learning about the history of Second Church, including a tour of the kirkyard. Teachers: Diane, Tina, and Nicole

The Middle and High School youth class have chosen to focus their next few units on Faith through the lens of Food and Friendship. The teachers coordinate a schedule with the youth balancing classroom time and worship time. Teachers: Tara and Andrew.

Family Fellowship

Attleboro Downtown Trick or Treat:
Updated Date On Saturday October 19th, from 2-5pm the city of Attleboro will be holding the third annual downtown Trick or Treat. We had a great time as a pumpkin stop the last couple years and look forward to participating again. All are welcome to help hand out candy, take a stroll around to visit the other participating organizations, and certainly to donate. Look for the candy box in the Narthex beginning in October. Such a great way to be part of our downtown community!

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 anytime throughout the year.

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*

October Birthdays

4 Diane Osborne
Curtis Priesing
5 Hunter Flick
7 Jessica Rice
9 Dan Galasso
Harry Lancaster
10 Debbie Parziale
Rich Renoni

11 Kevin Beck
16 Charles Smith
17 Janet Blair
18 Bill MacPherson
20 Deb Beck
Sharmon McCaughey
21 Caleb Iocco
Jim Valentine
22 AJ Renoni
24 Roger Bourdeau

Rick Lunt
25 Avery Laramee
27 Marcia Weidner
29 Donna Bliss
Frank Sousa
30 Linda O'Connor
31 David Renoni



 **All-Church Dinner!**
Hosted by the Deacons

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Saturday
October 19th
5:00 PM
\$10/person

roast chicken ~ mashed potato
vegetarian option ~ salad

RSVP to Ralph Giannetti
ralphgiannetti@gmail.com

All Church Dinner! The Board of Deacons will present an All-Church Dinner on Saturday, October 19, 2024, at 5:00PM. Roast chicken, mashed potatoes and a vegetarian option will be served. Cost will be \$10/person. Please RSVP, in person to Ralph or at ralphgiannetti@gmail.com. Come for a great meal and wonderful fellowship.

O C T O B E R 2 0 2 4

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:00 PM Book Study 7:00 PM Goff Board Meeting	2 6:30 PM Cub Scout Meeting	3 6:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Troop 34 Meeting 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	4	5 9:00 AM Intergenerational Sacred Dance Rehearsal
6 10:00 AM Worship/ Communion Sunday School World Communion Sunday Neighbors in Need	7	8	9 10:00 AM Communion Visitation Meeting 6:30 PM Cub Scout Meeting	10 6:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Troop 34 Meeting 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	11	12 9:00 AM Intergenerational Sacred Dance Rehearsal 6:00 PM Coffee House & Open Mic
13 10:00 AM Worship Sunday School 11:15 AM Christian Education Committee Meeting	14 <i>Columbus Day - Office is closed</i>	15 7:00 PM Administration Committee Meeting	16 6:30 PM Cub Scout Meeting	17 5:00 PM Board of Deacons Virtual Meeting 6:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Troop 34 Meeting 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	18	19 9:00 AM Intergenerational Sacred Dance Rehearsal 10:00 AM Jack & Jill Fall Festival! 2:00 PM Downtown Trick-or- Treat 5:00 PM All Church Dinner
20 10:00 AM Worship Sunday School	21 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 PM Facilities Committee Meeting	22	23 November Voice Deadline 6:30 PM Cub Scout Meeting 7:00 PM PFLAG Meeting	24 6:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Troop 34 Meeting 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	25	26 9:00 AM Intergenerational Sacred Dance Rehearsal 9:00 AM Apple Pie Making for Fair
27 10:00 AM Worship Sunday School 11:15 AM Church Council Meeting	28 3:00 to 5:00 PM Food Pantry Distribution	29	30 6:30 PM Cub Scout Pack Meeting	31 6:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Troop 34 Meeting 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal		

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