

THE VOICE of *Second Church*

United Church of Christ
50 Park Street
Attleboro, MA 02703

April 2025



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visit our website**

www.attleborosecondchurch.org

**SIGN UP FOR THE
MAY BREAKFAST
SATURDAY MAY 3RD**

**DONATE ITEMS FOR
INDOOR/OUTDOOR YARD SALE
SATURDAY MAY 17TH**

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
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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 2025

Calendar	Jack & Jill	Communion Visitation	Sacred Dance	Outreach Missions	Christian Education	Birthdays	Music Notes	Women's Fellowship	Prayer Shawl
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From the Pastor's Desk

Binge Watching is a thing! Before the incredible success of streaming, we might pull out DVD season of our favorite television show that we purchased at a bargain price on Black Friday. Binge watching used to be reserved for rainy miserable weekends. Then the pandemic...and every day felt like a rainy miserable weekend.

So, what have you been binge watching? We made a list in our house of every show, documentary and series that we have watched thus far. Quite frankly, it's both impressive and embarrassing. We even had programs that the different configurations in our house might watch. The wife and I had a show we watched. The daughter and I had a show that we watched. Then we had shows all three of us would watch when we were together.

If you have ever binge watched a television series you know there is a certain pattern. The first season you are getting to know the characters. The writers haven't really developed the characters, but you can see them starting to come into focus. Many people will recommend something and say, "Stick with it. It gets better. It really clicks around episode 5 (or season 2)."

If you watch an entire series, you are half wanting it be over- so you can get on with your life, and simultaneously sad that 'there are only 4 episodes left.' How are they going to wrap it all up?

Then its over! It's over. You need to take a few days to absorb it, and grieve that these characters will never again appear together. You have given them your time, and your heart. You will never learn- what happens next. Then there is the thought, 'there is NO what happens next.'

Back in Jesus' day, they weren't binge watching programs. I think of the three seasons that the disciples spent with Jesus. Good Friday is when the series ends! They have been with Jesus every waking moment (except for the moments when Jesus goes off to pray by himself, or when they were sent off to practice what Jesus was preaching). But they traveled, toured, worked side by side with Jesus for three years. Three years of intense ministry!

When Jesus was crucified on Friday—everyone thought, "that's it." The show is over. It's time to go home. But the season finale of the third year is nothing compared to the fourth season. Granted, it was a limited season, and the series got cut way too short. Jesus comes back for a limited run. But the limited run was just enough to inspire a million spin offs!

After the ascension of Jesus (spoiler alert)- the disciples of Jesus scattered to different lands. They brought the show with them and created their own series.

Don't be sad that it appears the season, or the series is over. The best reunion show of all time is yet to come! Stay tuned...the best is yet to come.

Happy Easter!!!

Reverend Dr. Will Sencabaugh

April Book Discussion Group

We will continue to gather to discuss one of the 7 Deadly Sins and it's corresponding Virtue.

The idea is that this is a discussion where we can all learn from one another.

Here are the topics for each Tuesday...

April 1, Envy & Kindness

April 8, Lust & Chastity

April 15, Greed & Charity

April Coffee House and Open Mic—April 12th

Don't forget- Second Saturday at Second Church! Every month on the second Saturday, from 6 to 8 PM, we host our Coffee House and Open Mic. This is open to everyone! All ages! Come and sing, play, share, read, etc.—it's up to you. Invite a friend, enjoy some community sharing, great snacks and beverages—and it's free. A donation is always appreciated. See you there.

SERVICE NOTES

The Deacon of the Month for April is Charlie Oliver assisted by Jack McKenna.

April 6th

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Scripture: Mark 10:1-12, Matthew 5:27-30

Sermon: "Lust & Chastity"

April 13th

Palm Sunday

Scripture reading: Luke 19:28-40

Sermon: "Greed & Charity"

April 17th

Maundy Thursday

Service at 6:00 PM

April 20th

Easter

Scripture reading: John 20:1-18

Sermon: "Sing! Sing!"

April 27th

Second Sunday of Easter

Scripture reading: John 20:19-31

Sermon: "Holy Humor Sunday"

Women's Fellowship

The Women's Fellowship Meeting is this Sunday March 30 at 11:15, grab a coffee and snack and come to Ladies Parlor. We will have sign-up sheets for the May Breakfast on May 3, 2025 (8-10:30 am), and the Indoor/Outdoor Yard Sale on May 17, 2025 (9am – noon). If you can't make the meeting and you can help, please call me at 508-699-2738 or e-mail sandrasaunders99@gmail.com.

You can also sign up during Coffee Hour starting in April! 😊 Women, men, and children accompanied by an adult, may participate. Everybody is welcome!

Please start cleaning out the closets. We can use dishes, glassware, pots, pans, books, puzzles, toys, grandpa garage items, jewelry, Christmas items, and small furniture. If you have any questions, please call Sandy. If you need items to be picked up just call Sandy!

On April 12, 2025, we will have a May Day Basket workshop from 5-6 pm in Fellowship Hall prior to the Coffee House! April Novo created a video online that you can watch at <https://youtu.be/RPcKZlokUwI?si=UcPo-fG0akSpphI1> and she will be here to help us learn. The Coffee House will be afterwards from 6-8, if you would like to stay.

We always need help for Sunday Fellowship & Coffee Hour. Please see the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall to serve coffee, bring snacks to share for the Sharing Table, or clean up at the end. I wear several hats. I enjoy doing God's work, but I need your help. Please come sign up for Coffee Hour, May Breakfast or the Yard Sale. If you can sign up for one, you are helping to continue these traditions. If you can sign up for more than one, that would be great! It is very good fellowship and you get to know our Church Family! God be with you!

*Sandy Saunders
Treasurer*

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.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

PSM will meet on Monday, April 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 Prayer Shawl Ministry will be making 36"x36" knitted & crocheted baby blankets for Project Linus, <https://www.projectlinus.org/>. Project Linus began in 1995 after Karen Loucks was inspired to make blankets for her local children's cancer center. Since then, Project Linus has expanded to include children who are seriously ill or traumatized in many ways. The Boston Chapter needs new handmade blankets to donate to children at local area hospitals and to other children in need of comfort. We would love your participation and fellowship to make this Spring donation happen. If you need assistance, instructions, tools, or yarn please let us know. Blankets should be made with acrylic yarn. No fabric

Music Notes

CHOIR SCHEDULES

The Bell Choir and the Adult Choir will rehearse at the regular times on April 3, 10, and 24. The rehearsals on April 17 for Easter Sunday (April 20) will take place following the Maundy Thursday service.

The Adult Choir will sing on all four Sundays this month. The Bell Choir will play on Easter Sunday.

*Bill MacPherson
Director of Music*

INTERGENERATIONAL SACRED DANCE

All are welcome to join for Sacred Dance practices on the following Saturdays in April: 5th, 12th, and 26th. We gather at 9am 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. Hope to see you then!

Diane Osborne

Outreach & Missions

NEWS:

-The new shelter on Park St. is scheduled to open April 1st; we'll provide more info when we have details from AAIC.

-In March we delivered five Empowerment Coats to AAIC to be given to those who are "living rough."



-Crafternoon will take place on April 11th at 2 pm. No talent required. 😊
For the month of April, the spotlight will be on two areas: collecting items for our baby shower which will take place on **April 27 in Fellowship Hall at 2 pm;** and celebrating **Earth Day 2025.** Here's some background:

1) What kind of baby shower is this, anyway? Well, it's not your typical "party games" kind of gathering. There are two organizations we'd like to assist in supplying young families with the supplies they need for babies and toddlers. So all through April we'll be collecting items (not only diapers and wipes, but also **crib sheets, formula, clothing, baby food, etc.**) to be given to the Attleboro Young Parent Living Program and to the Literacy Center. On the 27th, **you are invited** to enjoy fellowship and refreshments with members and friends of Second Church and First Baptist Church, while you learn more about how these organizations work within the community.

2) April 22, 2025 marks the 55th Earth Day Celebration. But we're going to celebrate every Sunday in April (because one day a year is not nearly enough to pay attention to our stewardship of this planet). Each Sunday, we'll have a table in Fellowship Hall where you can learn more about positive steps you can take to care for our earth. Gardening better, reducing plastics, conserving energy...and much more. Each week we'll have new tips for you--we hope to suggest more actions than any one human can do, but enough that everyone can act in at least one new way to heal the world!

Paula Foresman

Christian Education

Welcome as we step further into our Lenten journey, we have great things in store and hope you will join in the fun!

A few Reminders for class structure this year:

Toddlers through Pre-K and Elementary age are meeting together. 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 year, this class for younger learners will meet **every** Sunday including on the first Sunday of the month during our Communion service. In April we will continue engaging in learning about Lent through the Bread of Life curriculum from Illustrated Ministry. We will break bread together, seek to be nourished in body and spirit, and rise to

softeners should be used if you wash them. We will collect them in April and deliver them to the nearest drop off location in Massachusetts.

Contact: janbblair@aol.com



Spring Has Arrived!

Spring is finally here, bringing growth, adventure, and warmer days that let us enjoy the outdoors even more!

Our school curriculum truly comes to life this season. We'll be exploring butterfly habitats, wiggly worms, and the life cycles of plants and frogs! The preschoolers absolutely love this time of year—and so do the teachers! After months of mastering routines and self-help skills, the children are more curious than ever about the world around them. This is the season when preschoolers truly bloom!

A huge thank you to everyone who purchased Opportunity Calendars in March. We are looking forward to drawing winners each day this month.

Enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year is going strong! Classes are filling up quickly, and we continue to receive new inquiries daily. I love connecting with new families and sharing all the amazing things about Jack and Jill. If you know anyone looking for a preschool, please send them my way! We are also looking forward to another 7 weeks of summer preschool!

Mark your calendars! The Early Childhood Community of Attleboro is hosting a Family Fun Fair on Saturday, April 5th, from 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM at Attleboro High School in the cafeteria. Jack and Jill will have a table there, so feel free to spread the word! This free event is open to families throughout Attleboro.

Thank you for your continued support of our wonderful preschool!

*Katrina Lay
Executive Director*

share God's generosity with the world.
Teachers: Diane, Tina, and Nicole.

The Middle and High School youth class will continue meeting on the second and fourth Sunday. They have been exploring the theme of creation with the resource '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 and Andrew.

Many thanks to all who volunteered for and attended our annual Mardi Gras Pancake Brunch in March. It certainly was a wonderful time for feasting and fellowship!

In the month of April, we will be participating in the citywide Spring Fling at the Balfour Riverwalk on Saturday April 12th. We will be offering a free spring craft activity and invite you all to volunteer for a timeslot at the event. It is a wonderful opportunity to share with the community what makes Second Church so special.

Palm Sunday Processional: We will begin practicing for the Palm Sunday Processional after worship on Sunday March 30th and April 6th. It is an easy and joyous dance to get started with if you'd like to try out Sacred Dance. Save the Date for April 13th when we participate in worship. All ages and dance experience levels welcome!

Save the Date for Children's Sunday – June 15th! More details to come in the May and June VOICE as our Sunday School children and youth will begin planning for this special day next month. 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 didn't get a chance to register for Sunday School, you can at any time of the year by requesting a form from a teacher or member of the CE Committee.

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

Diane Osborne
Chair of Christian Education
Diane.osborne713@gmail.com
(508) 409-7919

"The Chosen" Discussion Group

"The Chosen" Discussion group has organized itself and will continue its meeting on Wednesdays, at 5:30 in the church parlor. And if, at any time, anyone has questions about the group please feel free to ask me. Shalom, shalom!

Jim Flaxington



April Birthdays

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Connie G Eckart
Jamie M Reiley |
| 3 | Ken Hill
Steve J Smith
Linda L Wiswall |
| 4 | Leslie Baptist
Thomas H Smith
George I Spatcher, Jr. |
| 8 | Vicki V Buttrick |
| 9 | Rick F Bassler, IV |
| 12 | Julie M O'Connor |
| 13 | John D Nuovo |
| 14 | Debra L Hazen |
| 18 | Lynn B Candelet |
| 19 | Bill R Armstrong, Jr. |
| 20 | Emma C Goulding |
| 22 | Bob H Frye, Jr. |
| 25 | Aksel Stuen |
| 28 | Joe A Ordog |
| 30 | Julie A Cusack |

April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:00 PM Discussion of Envy & Kindness	2 5:30 PM The Chosen Discussion Group 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 Practice 9:30 AM Family Fun Fair at AHS
6 10:00 AM Worship/Communion Sunday School 11:15 AM Palm Sunday Processional Practice	7	8 6:00 PM Discussion of Lust & Chastity	9 10:00 AM Communion Visitation Meeting 5:30 PM The Chosen Discussion Group 6:30 PM Cub Scout Meeting	10 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	11 2:00 PM Crafternoon	12 9:00 AM Intergenerational Sacred Dance Practice 11:00 AM Attleboro Spring Fling Balfour Riverwalk 5:00 PM May Day Basket Workshop 6:00 PM Coffee House & Open Mic
13 Palm Sunday 8:30 AM Outreach & Missions Committee Meeting 10:00 AM Worship Palm Sunday Processional Sunday School	14	15 6:00 PM Discussion of Greed & Charity	16 5:30 PM The Chosen Discussion Group 6:30 PM Cub Scout Meeting	17 6:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 PM Troop 34 Meeting	18	19
20 Easter 10:00 AM Worship Sunday School	21 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 PM Facilities Committee Meeting	22 7:00 PM Administration Committee Meeting	23 6:30 PM Cub Scout Meeting 7:00 PM PFLAG Meeting	24 Next Month's Voice Deadline 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 Practice
27 10:00 AM Worship Sunday School 11:15 AM Church Council Meeting 2:00 PM Baby Shower	28 3:00 PM Food Pantry Distribution	29	30 6:30 PM Cub Scout Meeting			

APRIL EVENTS

FAMILY FUN FAIR

AT ATTLEBORO HIGH SCHOOL

SATURDAY APRIL 5TH

CRAFTERNOON

FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH

SPRING FLING AT BALFOUR RIVERWALK

MAY DAY BASKET WORKSHOP

COFFEE HOUSE & OPEN MIC

SATURDAY, APRIL 12TH

PALM SUNDAY PROCESSIONAL

SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH

MAUNDY THURSDAY

THURSDAY, APRIL 17TH

EASTER

SUNDAY, APRIL 20TH

BABY SHOWER

SUNDAY, APRIL 27TH