

THE VOICE of *Second Church*

United Church of Christ
50 Park Street
Attleboro, MA 02703

May 2025



**Scan code to
visit our website**

www.attleborosecondchurch.org

**DID YOU SIGN UP FOR THE MAY BREAKFAST THIS
SATURDAY MAY 3RD**

**Jack & Jill Spring Open House & Preschool Art Show
Monday May 12th**

**GET READY FOR SUMMER AT THE
YARD SALE SATURDAY MAY 17TH**

SATURDAY MAY 31ST OURE PLEASURE SINGERS SPRING CONCERT

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

Michele Anderson, Administrative Assistant

Jack Baptist, Sexton

Church Office: 508- 222-4677 Fax: 508- 222-2148

office@attleborosecondchurch.org

www.attleborosecondchurch.org

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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 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

The Seven Deadly Sins and Gilligan’s Island

Years ago, I thought it would be fun to purchase a Bible Study that used the old television program Gilligan’s Island as the basis for learning about the 7 Deadly Sins. After all, I spent countless hours watching the castaways in syndication. Everyone in my generation (GenX, the Latchkeys), was force-fed this program. Seven castaways and seven deadly sins.

So, let’s see if you were paying attention during Lent...

Who is (you can cover over the right side of this list and guess)...

- Lazy.... Gilligan
- Angry... the Skipper
- Greedy... Mr. Howell
- Lust... Ginger
- Envious... Mary Ann
- Gluttonous... Lovey Howell
- Prideful... the Professor

The corresponding virtues of the above sins (in order) are diligence, patience, generosity, chastity, contentment, restraint and humility.

It was my hope to share these Deadly Sins as they are stumbling blocks to our spiritual growth. Likewise, the virtues are ways in which we grow closer to Jesus and God. As you look at the list, what are your stumbling blocks? Perhaps like me, you aren’t consumed by one Deadly Sin, but you deal with each of them in smaller encounters.

People come to church for various reasons. One of the main reasons we hear is that it is supposed to teach morals and values. Look again at the list on the left. Those are exactly the things we are trying to avoid. The opposing virtues are the very things we hope to live out or grow into.

When we lift up, idolize or worship people who manifest any or all of the seven deadly sins- we should expect that morals, ethics and values are put on the back burner. Gilligan’s Island was a goofy, slapstick, lighthearted approach to looking at the personification of the deadly sins. I imagine kids today would scoff at that television program, but in the world of social media—we should ask, who is influencing our children and grandchildren? In the world of divisive biased media—who is influencing us?

Hopefully, this message will inspire you to reflect:

What are the traits that you admire?

What is something that you look for in someone else?

What kind of qualities might you appreciate in an ‘influencer?’

Have a blessed Easter season!
Reverend Dr. Will Sencabaugh

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP FOR MAY/JUNE

The book I have chosen for the next group is *THE UNIVERSAL CHRIST: How a Forgotten Reality Can Change Everything We See, Hope For, and Believe* by Richard Rohr

Richard Rohr is one of the world's most influential spiritual thinkers. The book addresses the relationship between Jesus and Christ. The book is thought-provoking, practical, and full of deep hope and vision. The book is an invitation to contemplate how God liberates and loves all that is.

We will continue to meet on Tuesdays from 6 – 7 pm in the Conference Room. All are welcome. It is a discussion group and not a class—so even if you haven't read the assignment, show up ready to discuss or listen to others speak of their faith and how it relates to the reading.

May 6, 13, 27 (I will be away on the 20th)

June 3, 10, 17

There are copies available in the church office for purchase- \$15

May Coffee House and Open Mic—May 10th

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 May is Deb Hawes assisted by Nancy Tariot

May 4th

Third Sunday of Easter

Scripture: John 1:1-14

Sermon: "Star Wars Sunday"

May 11th

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Scripture reading: Acts 9:36-43

Sermon: "Caregiving 101"

May 18th

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Scripture reading: Revelation 21:1-6

Sermon: "A New Thing"

May 25th

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Scripture reading: Psalm 67

Sermon: "Gracious to Us"

Indoor/Outdoor Yard Sale on May 17, 2025 between 9am to noon.

If you can help, please contact me at 508-699-2738 or

sandrasaunders99@gmail.com.

You can also sign up for the May 17th Yard Sale during Coffee Hour.

Start your spring cleaning and bring us the fruits of your labors. We can use dishes, glassware, pots, pans, books, puzzles, toys, grandpa garbage items, tools, jewelry, Christmas items, and small furniture. Women, men, and children accompanied by an adult, may participate. Everybody is Welcome! Please stop by, bring a friend, have Breakfast, buy a May basket to bring to a friend. Come enjoy the yard sale and find a treasure. There are always great books and puzzles and special finds!

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, May 19th 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

Women's Fellowship

Please join us for the 41st Annual May Breakfast on May 3, 2025 between 8am to-10:30am and at the

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 softeners should be used if you wash them. We will collect them until May 18th and deliver them to the nearest drop-off location in Massachusetts.

Contact: janbblair@aol.com



It's incredible how quickly the year has gone by, but it's also such a rewarding time. This is when you really get to reflect and see the impact of all the dedication, care, and hard work poured into each day. Witnessing students grow—not just academically, but also socially and emotionally—is a powerful reminder of the difference teachers make.

The classes are looking forward to all the exciting activities we have planned for May. Our Pre-K students will be taking a walking trip to the Attleboro Public Library and spending some time playing at the nearby playground. Each class is caring for five caterpillars and will have the opportunity to observe their transformation into butterflies, a yearly favorite that never loses its magic!

During the first week of May, we'll be celebrating the incredible teachers at Jack and Jill with a week full of thoughtful activities planned by our wonderful families, including a special teacher appreciation luncheon. This is our chance to show just how much we value and appreciate all the love, dedication, and hard work our teachers put into making each day meaningful for their students. We are so grateful for everything they do!

Mark your calendars! Our Preschool Art Show and Spring Open House will be held on Monday, May 12th from 6:00–7:30 PM. The children have been hard at work creating beautiful pieces of art to showcase, and they can't wait to share them with you. In addition to the art show, we'll also be hosting a Spring Open House and enrollment event for both the upcoming school year and our 7-week summer program. If you know any families who are looking for a preschool program, we'd love for you to invite them to stop by and learn more!

I hope you and your family have a chance to soak in all the beauty that spring has to offer—the vibrant sights, cheerful sounds, and fresh scents that make this season so special.

*Katrina Lay
Executive Director*

Music Notes

CHOIR SCHEDULES

Bell Choir and Adult Choir: NO rehearsals on May 1 and May 8. We will return to a regular rehearsal schedule on Thursday, May 15, and continue on May 22 and 29.

The Adult Choir will NOT sing on Sunday, May 4, but will sing on the remaining Sundays in May (11, 18, and 25).

Looking ahead into June: The Adult Choir will sing on June 1 and June 8 (Pentecost Sunday). The Bell Choir will possibly play in church on June Regular Thursday rehearsals will end for the Bell Choir on May 29 (if we play on June 1), and for the Adult Choir on June 5.

The Adult Choir will not sing on June 15 (Children's Sunday), but will possibly sing on June 22 and 29, with rehearsals at 9:15 a.m. on those Sundays.

Many thanks!

To both choirs for all the time and work that went into Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter; to the Sacred Dancers for Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday; and to the Praise Band for all of your contributions to Saturday Coffee Houses and Sunday worship!

Bell Choir to be featured in a video documentary!

Sheila McKenna's basketball team is the subject of a documentary now in production by prize-winning New York filmmaker Jennie Schweitzer-Bell. Sheila is being featured, perhaps because she's a member of another team: Second Church's Handbell Choir. Ms. Schweitzer-Bell and her assistant will be present at our rehearsal on May 22, aiming the cameras at Sheila, of course, but who knows what or who else? Watch for updates on our road to the Oscars and Sheila's star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame!

*Bill MacPherson
Director of Music*

INTERGENERATIONAL SACRED DANCE

All are welcome to join for Sacred Dance practices on the following Saturdays in May: 10th, 12th, 31st and June 7th. 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

Thanks to everyone who contributed diapers and other supplies for our Baby Shower--I know your generosity is much appreciated.

Thank you also to those who stopped by to talk about Earth Month. We'll continue to provide resources for those who want to learn more about how to be a positive force for change. This month, check out Bill McKibben's Third Act group.

And don't forget about our Project Linus project (see previous Voice).

In May, as the good weather is hopefully upon us, stay tuned as we hope to begin our brand new church walking group. And Crafternoon meets again on Friday, May 9. All skill levels are welcome!

Paula Foresman

Christian Education

All those April showers are starting to fade into memory as May flowers bloom, hope that you are also feeling the new life and hope of Spring and Easter!

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 May we will finish learning about Lent and Easter 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 share God's generosity with the

world. We will also begin our preparations for Children's Day worship June 15th. 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 Attleboro's Spring Fling event! We had lots of fun creating crafts, seeing again some families we welcomed at the Pumpkin Stroll, and learning about other community organizations we may partner with in the future.

Also, thank you to those who participated in the Second Church tradition of Palm Sunday Processional and Easter worship service!

Save the Date for Children's Sunday – June 15th! More details to come in 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

ONE PLUS ONE

All are welcome to join us for our **Annual Summer Kick-Off Cookout.**

When: Saturday, June 14, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.

Place: Russell & Betsey Pray's home, 61 Wheaton Drive, Attleboro, MA 02703.

Cost: \$5 per person to offset the hosts' food expenses.

Bring: Lawn chairs, bug repellent, and a generous food item. Please tell your "caller" what you will be bringing (an appetizer, casserole, salad, dessert, or soda).

Contact: If you are not on our calling list, please get in touch with Janet Blair, (508) 226-5457 or janbblair@aol.com with any questions.

"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

Oure Pleasure Singers

The Oure Pleasure Singers will perform their spring concert 'Earth Song', with a message of harmony in diversity.


The spring concert performance is on Saturday May 31st at 7pm. Tickets will be available starting in early May through Charlie Oliver at opsingers.weebly.com



1	Chris Janson Dawn McCarthy Ella Saunders Alex Sawyer
2	Pam Middleton
5	Roberta Ferguson
8	Christina Renoni
11	Steve Withers, Jr.
13	Bret Brown Jessie Macomber
14	Isaac Stuen
17	Bob Richardson
18	Diane Findley
22	Saga Ferrant Ben Macomber Zach Ramsay Chris Saunders Nick Saunders
24	Sandy Saunders
26	Ted Moxham
27	Zoe LaClair
30	David Keith



May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 9:00 AM Naps Rug Cleaning 7:00 PM Troop 34 Meeting	2	3 8:00 AM 41st Annual May Breakfast!
4 10:00 AM Worship/ Communion/Sunday School 11:15 AM Christian Education Committee Meeting	5	6 6:00 PM Book Study The Universal Christ	7 5:30 PM The Chosen Discussion Group 6:30 PM Cub Scout Meeting	8 7:00 PM Troop 34 Meeting	9 2:00 PM Crafternoon	10 9:00 AM Intergenerational Sacred Dance Practice 6:00 PM Coffee House & Open Mic
11 8:30 AM Outreach & Missions Committee Meeting 10:00 AM Worship/ Sunday School 	12 yard sale preparation 6:00 PM J&J Art Show & Open House	13 yard sale preparation 6:00 PM Book Study The Universal Christ	14 yard sale preparation 10:00 AM Communion Visitation Meeting 5:30 PM The Chosen Discussion Group 6:30 PM Cub Scout Meeting	15 yard sale preparation 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	16 yard sale preparation	17 9:00 AM Indoor/Outdoor Yard Sale!
18 10:00 AM Worship/Sunday School	19 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 PM Facilities Committee Meeting	20	21 5:30 PM The Chosen Discussion Group 6:30 PM Cub Scout Meeting	22 6:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Troop 34 Meeting 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	23	24 9:00 AM Intergenerational Sacred Dance Practice
25 10:00 AM Worship/Sunday School 11:15 AM Church Council Meeting	26 Voice Deadline Memorial Day - Office is closed 3:00 PM Food Pantry Distribution	27 6:00 PM Book Study - The Universal Christ	28 5:30 PM The Chosen Discussion Group 6:30 PM Cub Scout Meeting 7:00 PM PFLAG Meeting	29 6:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Troop 34 Meeting 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	30	31 9:00 AM Intergenerational Sacred Dance Practice 12:00 PM Home Music School - Recital 7:00 pm Oure Pleasure Spring Concert