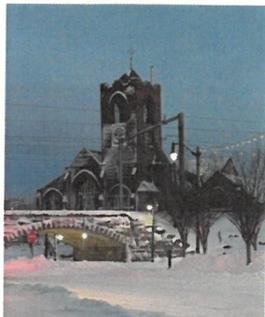


THE VOICE of *Second Church*

United Church of Christ
50 Park Street
Attleboro, MA 02703

March 2026



**Scan code to
visit our website**

www.attleborosecondchurch.org

WATER COLORS & CRAFTERNOON, FRIDAY 3/13 AT 2:30 PM

YOUNG ADULT OPEN MIC, FRIDAY 3/13 AT 6 PM

COFFEE HOUSE & OPEN MIC, SATURDAY 3/14 AT 6 PM

RETIREMENT CELEBRATION 3/15 AT 11 AM

THE CHOSEN DISCUSSION GROUP EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 6:30 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

Michele Anderson, Administrative Assistant

Jack Baptist, Sexton

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

office@attleborosecondchurch.org

www.attleborosecondchurch.org

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram [@attleborosecondchurch.org](https://www.facebook.com/attleborosecondchurch.org)

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

March 2026

Calendar	Jack & Jill	Communion Visitation	Sacred Dance	Outreach Missions	Christian Education	Birthdays	Music Notes	Women's Fellowship	Prayer Shawl Ministry
Page 6	Page 3	Page 4	Page 3	Page 3	Page 3	Page 5	Page 3	Page 3	Page 4

From the Pastor's Desk:

Lent is a time to reflect and prepare. In some ways it has a sense of the past and the future. We should look back on the journey that has led us to this point. At the same time, we need to pause and consider the path ahead. I preached a sermon on February 22 that used a book by Dr. Jonathan Haidt as a springboard for the sermon. While some of the ideas in the book, *The Coddling of the American Mind* may be problematic for some readers, I wanted to share with you a piece that I used for the sermon. Dr. Haidt shares the 9 most common cognitive distortions that people learn to recognize in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy.

In an effort to understand ourselves and each other better—I share them with you here...

EMOTIONAL REASONING: Letting your feelings guide your interpretation of reality.

CATASTROPHIZING: Focusing on the worst possible outcome and seeing it as most likely.

OVERGENERALIZING: Perceiving a global pattern of negatives on the basis of a single incident.

DICHOTOMOUS THINKING: (Black and white thinking) Viewing people or events in all-or-nothing terms.

MIND READING: Assuming that you know what people think without having sufficient evidence of their thoughts.

LABELING: Assigning global negative traits to yourself or others.

NEGATIVE FILTERING: You focus almost exclusively on the negatives and seldom notice the positives. Are you always thinking the 'glass is half empty?'

DISCOUNTING POSITIVES: Claiming that the positive things you or others do are trivial.

BLAMING: Focusing on the other person as the source of your negative feelings; you refuse to take responsibility for changing yourself. It is always someone else's fault.

Everyone engages in these distortions from time to time. If these act as our default setting, we may find ourselves alienated from others. Also, these distortions are impediments to 'critical thinking.'

These cognitive distortions can be a temptation in our thinking, and it takes discipline (and in more extreme cases, therapy) to resist the temptations and retrain our thinking. Again, you may catch yourself or others engaging in any of these cognitive distortions. When you do—acknowledge it—and change course.

The world, our community, as well as families are becoming more fractured. It can be challenging to be prophetic, corrective and practice humility when there are so many strong voices and forces pulling us apart. It is my great hope (and I am pretty sure God's too) that we can recognize a common goal—and ALL will support one another in this awesome mission.

May God continue to bless your Lenten Season!

Peace-

Rev. Will

-I am a pastor and not a trained therapist. I have taken several courses in the field of psychology and pastoral counseling—but I will be quick to refer someone to a certified professional. I would be happy to talk to you about what is written above, but if you feel that Cognitive Behavioral Therapy might be a help to you, I recommend you speak with a professional in that field.

LENTEN BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The book group will continue meeting throughout March. We meet every Tuesday in the Conference Room from 6-8 PM (weather permitting). During the Lenten season we are reading Jim Antal's *Climate Church, Climate World*. All are welcome—discussion is encouraged!

OPEN MIC AND COFFEE HOUSES

We will be hosting our Open Mic/Coffeehouses on the second Friday and Saturday of March.

March 13 and March 14, both from 6-8 pm.

The Friday event is open to all young adult and teen performers! Anyone can attend, but only the younger set can perform. This is open to ALL in the greater Attleboro community.

The Saturday Open Mic is open to performers of all ages. Last month we had amazing participation and I hope that it continues! This month there is an added twist—we will be tying the event into a Deacon sponsored “Irish Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner!” You can find more details on that event in this newsletter.

Finally—we need your help! The same people tend to sign up to help serve the coffee and the snacks. We really could use some additional folks to come forward. Please consider helping out—it isn't really ‘heavy lifting’. Sign up sheets will be posted in the Fellowship Hall.



Change in Rev. Will's office hours:

Rev. Will's Skyroc Brewery office hours on Thursday evenings from 6 – 7:30 pm will be suspended.

Office Hours:

Tuesday: 8- 9:30 at the church, 9:30 to 11 at the Burgundian

Wednesday: 8 – 11 am, at the church

Thursday: 8-11 am, at the church

He is available most times. If you would like a visit please contact Rev. Will or the Office and an appointment can be arranged. Thank you.

SERVICE NOTES

The Deacon of the month is Charlie Oliver assisted by Nancy Tariot.

March 1st

Communion Sunday/Second Sunday in Lent

Scripture: John 3:1-17

Sermon: “A Not So Random Encounter”

March 8th

Third Sunday in Lent

Scripture: Matthew 6:1-8, 19-24

Sermon: “A Preacher in Sneakers”

March 15th

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Scripture: Romans 6:1-15

Sermon: “By No Means”

March 22nd

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Scripture: Romans 8:6-11

Sermon: “Deep Work”

March 29th Palm Sunday

Sixth Sunday in Lent

Scripture: Matthew 21:1-11

Sermon: “Wave Your Palms in the Air Like You Just Don't Care”



We're eagerly looking forward to the sights and sounds of spring! This season is all about growth, both in nature and in our classrooms, and we can't wait to see all that it brings to Jack and Jill.

As we head into spring, teachers will begin spring assessments and prepare the second round of progress reports. They'll share updates with families during conferences in May. Many of our students are also registering for next year, whether they will be continuing at Jack and Jill or heading off to Kindergarten. It's an exciting time for children, families, and staff alike!

We are also thrilled to launch our biggest fundraiser of the year, Spaghetti Supper and Candy Bingo! We've reached out to local businesses for food donations and North Attleboro High School for student volunteers. We hope you'll join us on Friday, March 20th. There will be two seatings: 4:30 and 6:15. The 4:30 bingo will feature picture cards designed especially for children, and the 6:15 seating will be traditional bingo. Winners will take home candy prizes! Prefer dinner only? You're welcome to join us just for the meal.

We're excited to bring back our Opportunity Baskets as well. Prizes already include tickets to Seekonk Speedway, a stay at Bayside Resort Hotel, passes to Showcase Cinemas, plus a party package from Topgolf and All Around Gymnastics Academy. It's shaping up to be a fantastic evening of food, fun, and community. We truly appreciate your continued support of our school.

Enrollment for the 2026-2027 school year is now open. If you know anyone who may be looking for a preschool home, please send them our way!

Katrina Lay
Executive Director

Women's Fellowship

Save the Dates for our May Breakfast on May 2, 2026, and our Indoor/Outdoor Yard Sale on May 30, 2026. Please let us know what you would like to do.

Start cleaning out your closets! **PLEASE NO MAGAZINES OR BABY TOYS, NO BIG FURNITURE AND NO ELECTRICS THAT ARE OBSOLETE.**

On March 15, 2026, we will have sign ups in Fellowship hall with Tina Middleton for May Breakfast and Yard sale or send e-mail to Sandy at sandrasaunders99@gmail.com or call SANDY AT 508-699-2738 to sign up to help.

Volunteer job for Kitchen: We would like a few people to come forward to get Servsafe Certificates for the Kitchen and Food Allergy Certificate, to help when we are running outside events for the public, like the May Breakfast and the Fair in the fall. At this moment Fred Saunders is the only person with this certificate which is issued for 5 years, and Fred's expires in one year. If you are interested or have any questions you can ask Fred. If you already have a certificate and would share it with us, we would appreciate it! Woman's Fellowship will reimburse you the cost for this when you receive your certificate. We would love to have at least 2 or 3 certified members if possible.

Coffee Hour: We are always looking for people to assist with Sunday Fellowship & Coffee Hour. This includes setting up, serving drinks, bringing snacks to share on the Sharing Table, and cleaning up at the end. Please let me know if you can help. Call Sandy at 508-699-2738, or email sandrasaunders99@gmail.com, or sign up on the sheet in Fellowship Hall on Sunday.

Sandy Saunders
Treasurer

sandrasaunders99@gmail.com
508-699-2738

Music Notes

CHOIR SCHEDULES

The Bell Choir and the Adult Choir will have regular rehearsals on March 5, 19, and 26. There will be no rehearsals on March 12. The Adult Choir will sing on all the Sundays in March (March 29 is Palm Sunday).

Looking ahead to the beginning of April and Holy Week: April 2 is Maundy Thursday. The choir will sing that evening. Following the service, as is our usual practice, there will be short

rehearsals for both Bells and Adult Choir for Easter music. Both groups will be playing/singing on Easter Sunday, April 5.

Bill MacPherson
Director of Music

Intergenerational Sacred Dance

Sacred Dance practices will be held on March 7th and 14th and all are welcome to join! 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 is interested in joining or has any questions, please let me know at (508) 409-7919. Hope to see you then!

Diane Osborne

OUTREACH & MISSIONS

This month we recognize that needs don't stop at the borders of our local cities and towns. On March 15 we will be collecting for One Great Hour of Sharing, which is a Special Mission Offering of the United Church of Christ that supports partners worldwide with ministries that fund health, education, and agricultural development, emergency relief, refugee ministries, and both international and domestic disaster response. Look for the special envelope in your Sunday Bulletin (we will accept donations any time during the month).

Thank you to all who supported our Eagle Scout collection in February; as always, your help is greatly appreciated.

Finally, our Crafternoon in March (second Friday, 2:30) will focus on making May baskets for the May breakfast. Come to help or come for the great company--or both!

Paula Foresman

Christian Education

Excited to start off the March VOICE with the announcement that with the amazing support of our congregation, we did exceed both the \$1,000 and 300 food item goal set by the Sunday School. Our final totals were \$1,403.45 and 380 food items! Thank you so much for supporting our children youth in their endeavors to support our local community.

Following Souper Bowl of Caring in the month of February we also began learning about Lent and had a fantastic

Mardi Gras Pancake Lunch. Since gratitude to the Christian Education committee and all the additional volunteers who helped with the Souper Bowl Tailgate and the Pancake Lunch. Your cooking efforts, sharing of snacks, decorating spaces, and just being together in community inspire me every day.

As we continue into Lent with the younger class we will wonder about *Last Things* with help from the Growing in God's Love curriculum as well as our ring of the day Lenten devotionals.

Christian Education Committee: Our meeting this month will be on March 1st. If anyone is interested in joining our committee, offering their time as a classroom volunteer, or would like to help with Family Fellowship events please contact me anytime or join us for a future meeting.

Palm Sunday Processional

We will begin practicing for the Palm Sunday Processional after worship on March 15th and 22nd. On Sunday March 29th the Sunday School will participate in our Palm Sunday worship service with the Intergenerational Sacred Dancers. Participants are asked to arrive on the 29th by 9am to get into costumes which will be provided.

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 at (508) 409-7919 or Diane.osborne713@gmail.com

Diane Osborne
Chair of Christian Education

COMMUNION VISITATION TEAM

The Communion Visitation Team continues to visit folks who are unable to attend services. We're happy to visit your home for fellowship, regardless of whether you choose to take communion. We will certainly wear masks and observe all precautions necessary. You may communicate with Michele in the

church office or Cathy Giannetti, Ralph Giannetti, Karen Slawson, Marcia Weidner and Roberta Zarrella, who are part of the team.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

PSM will meet on Monday, March 16th, 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

Volunteer Opportunity

Horton Center UCC Camp

For the last two summers I have had the absolute joy of serving as a volunteer summer camp counselor for Horton Center, a UCC camp and retreat center in the White Mountains which is part of the NH UCC Conference. At the camp we shared amazing experiences with campers exploring the outdoors and our faith in a truly inspiring setting with the most amazing staff.

I had such a wonderful experience that this summer I am going to serve as a Dean for a week, which is the lead volunteer for an age unit. Part of my role as Dean is to recruit counselors for my session – Middlers on the Mountain which will be held the last week of June. If you are interested in volunteering for Middlers or are available other times this summer please ask me any questions you have about the experience and sign up to join the Volunteer Info Session with Horton Center Director Tivvi Parre on March 19th from 7-8pm. Details on how to sign up for the info session can be found at <https://www.hortoncenter.org/volunteer>

Preview of what else you can find on the Horton Center website: Counselors are crucial members of the team that makes each Camper feel welcome, safe, and free to explore new things! Counselors are led by volunteer Deans, and supported by Horton Center's Summer Staff. Counselors lead activities, co-lead Faith Discovery Groups, sleep in cabins with Campers and other Counselors, and connect with amazing Campers who look up to them.

Also, if you or a loved one would like to get in on the fun of attending camp or a retreat check out <https://www.hortoncenter.org> for details on upcoming sessions and sign up for the New Camper info session on March 26th from 6:30-7:30pm.

Much appreciation for your consideration to this calling,

Diane Osborne

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

SOUP FUNDRAISER

On **Saturday, March 14th**, there will be a Soup Fundraiser from 11:30am-1:30pm. Cost is \$10 per person for a bowl of soup, roll/bread and 2 cookies. Dine in or take out.



**The Chosen Discussion Group
Meets Weekly on
Wednesdays at 6:30 pm**





- 1 Jack Baptist
Clinton Ferguson
- 3 Mark Robinson
- 4 Natalie MacDonald
- 5 Jean Phillips-Currier
- 7 Ginny Bassler
- 9 Joan Lepper
- 10 Chris Saunders
- 12 Kevin Goulding
- 13 Steve Withers, Sr.
- 15 Carole Baker
Jack McKenna
Mary Quimby
- 17 Drew Sencabaugh
- 18 Priscilla Jane Huston
- 19 Glenn Weidner
- 22 Mary Goldzung
- 23 Read Omohundro
- 25 Joel Hauerwas
- 27 Mike Edwards
- 28 Connie Bozzi
Ralph Giannetti
- 29 Jean Garrott
Andrew Osborne
- 31 Lucy Hogarth
Betsey Pray
Ruth E Shaver



Friday March 13th at 2:30pm

**Corned
Beef &
Cabbage
Dinner**



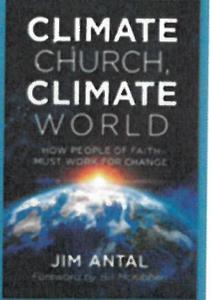
Host: The Board of Deacons
Date: Saturday March 14th
Time: 4:30 pm
Cost: \$10/person
Reservations Required
Deadline March 10th



Host: Jack & Jill Preschool
Date: Friday March 20th
Seatings: 4:30 or 6:15 pm
Cost: \$12/Adults
\$5/Children 2-12yr
Reservations Required
Deadline March 6th



Book Study
**CLIMATE CHURCH,
CLIMATE WORLD**
by
Jim Antal



Tuesday evenings in the
Conference Room 6-7 PM

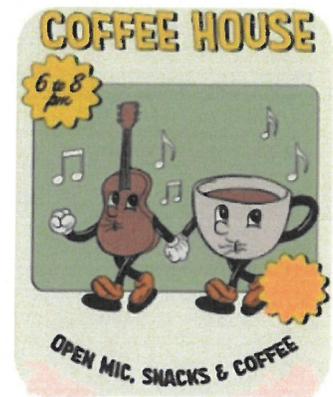
Feb 24 - Mar 24



 **FOOD PANTRY
DISTRIBUTION**

MARCH 2ND *Rescheduled due to blizzard*
3:00PM

50 Park Street
Attleboro, MA
02703
(508) 222-4677

Youth (13-22yr)
Friday March 13th

All Ages
Saturday March 14th



**Second Congregational Church
Events**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:00 AM <u>Worship/Communion</u> <u>Sunday School</u> 11:15 AM CE Committee Meeting 6:00 PM <u>Confirmation Class</u>	2 5:00 PM <u>Rock</u> <u>Voices</u> <u>Rehearsal</u> 6:30 PM <u>Cub</u> <u>Scout Pack</u>	3 6:00 PM <u>Book</u> <u>Study</u> - <u>Climate</u> <u>Church,</u> <u>Climate</u> <u>World</u>	4 6:30 PM <u>The</u> <u>Chosen</u> <u>Discussion</u> <u>Group</u> 6:30 PM <u>Cub</u> <u>Scout Meeting</u>	5 6:00 PM <u>Troop</u> <u>34 Meeting</u> 6:30 PM <u>Bell</u> <u>Choir</u> <u>Rehearsal</u> 7:30 PM <u>Adult</u> <u>Choir</u> <u>Rehearsal</u>	6 5:00 PM <u>Rock</u> <u>Voices</u> <u>Rehearsal</u>	7 9:00 AM <u>Sacred</u> <u>Dance</u> <u>Practice</u>
8 8:30 AM <u>Outreach &</u> <u>Missions Committee</u> <u>Meeting</u> 10:00 AM <u>Worship</u> <u>Sunday School</u> 11:15 AM <u>Annual</u> <u>Financial Church</u> <u>Meeting</u> 11:15 AM <u>Uke Group</u> 2:30 PM <u>Retirement</u> <u>Celebration</u> <u>Patty</u> <u>Kogut, ACM</u>	9 5:00 PM <u>Rock</u> <u>Voices</u> <u>Rehearsal</u>	10 6:00 PM <u>Book</u> <u>Study</u> - <u>Climate</u> <u>Church,</u> <u>Climate</u> <u>World</u>	11 10:00 AM <u>Communion</u> <u>Visitation</u> <u>Meeting</u> 6:30 PM <u>Cub</u> <u>Scout Meeting</u> 6:30 PM <u>The</u> <u>Chosen</u> <u>Discussion</u> <u>Group</u>	12 6:00 PM <u>Troop</u> <u>34 Meeting</u> 6:30 PM <u>Bell</u> <u>Choir</u> <u>Rehearsal</u> 7:30 PM <u>Adult</u> <u>Choir</u> <u>Rehearsal</u>	13 2:30 PM <u>Crafternoon</u> 2:30 PM <u>Color</u> <u>Our World</u> 6:00 PM <u>Young</u> <u>Adult Open</u> <u>Mic</u>	14 9:00 AM <u>Sacred</u> <u>Dance</u> <u>Practice</u> 3:00 PM <u>Corned</u> <u>Beef</u> <u>Dinner</u> 6:00 PM <u>Coffee</u> <u>House &</u> <u>Open Mic</u>
15 10:00 AM <u>Worship</u> <u>Sunday School</u> 11:15 AM <u>Celebration of</u> <u>Retirement</u> 11:15 AM <u>Palm Sunday</u> <u>Processional Practice</u> 6:00 PM <u>Confirmation</u> <u>Class</u>	16 2:00 PM <u>Prayer</u> <u>Shawl</u> <u>Ministry</u> 5:00 PM <u>Rock</u> <u>Voices</u> <u>Rehearsal</u> 6:30 PM <u>J&J</u> <u>Board of</u> <u>Directors</u> <u>Meeting</u> 7:00 PM <u>Facilities</u> <u>Committee</u> <u>Meeting</u>	17 6:00 PM <u>Book</u> <u>Study</u> - <u>Climate</u> <u>Church,</u> <u>Climate</u> <u>World</u>	18 6:30 PM <u>Cub</u> <u>Scout Meeting</u> 6:30 PM <u>The</u> <u>Chosen</u> <u>Discussion</u> <u>Group</u>	19 5:00 PM <u>Board</u> <u>of Deacons</u> <u>Meeting</u> 6:00 PM <u>Troop</u> <u>34 Meeting</u> 6:30 PM <u>Bell</u> <u>Choir</u> <u>Rehearsal</u> 7:00 PM <u>Boyscouts</u> <u>Committee</u> <u>Meeting</u> <u>Zoom</u> 7:30 PM <u>Adult</u> <u>Choir</u> <u>Rehearsal</u>	20 4:30 PM or 6:15 <u>PM J&J</u> <u>Spaghetti</u> <u>Supper &</u> <u>Candy Bingo</u>	21
22 10:00 AM <u>Worship</u> <u>Sunday School</u> 11:15 AM <u>Church</u> <u>Council Meeting</u> 11:15 AM <u>Palm Sunday</u> <u>Processional Practice</u>	23 <u>Next Month's</u> <u>Voice</u> <u>Deadline</u> 5:00 PM <u>Rock</u> <u>Voices</u> <u>Rehearsal</u>	24 6:00 PM <u>Book</u> <u>Study</u> - <u>Climate</u> <u>Church,</u> <u>Climate</u> <u>World</u> 7:00 PM <u>Admin</u> <u>Meeting</u>	25 6:30 PM <u>The</u> <u>Chosen</u> <u>Discussion</u> <u>Group</u> 6:30 PM <u>Cub</u> <u>Scout Meeting</u> 7:00 PM <u>PFLAG</u> <u>MEETING</u>	26 6:00 PM <u>Troop</u> <u>34 Meeting</u> 6:30 PM <u>Bell</u> <u>Choir</u> <u>Rehearsal</u> 7:30 PM <u>Adult</u> <u>Choir</u> <u>Rehearsal</u>	27	28 5:00 PM <u>Piano</u> <u>Recital</u> - <u>Private</u>
29 Palm Sunday 10:00 AM <u>Worship</u> <u>Sunday School</u> 10:00 AM <u>Palm Sunday</u> <u>Processional</u>	30 3:00 PM <u>Food</u> <u>Pantry</u> <u>Distribution</u> 5:00 PM <u>Rock</u> <u>Voices</u> <u>Rehearsal</u>	31 6:00 PM <u>Book</u> <u>Study</u> - <u>Climate</u> <u>Church,</u> <u>Climate</u> <u>World</u>				