

THE VOICE of *Second Church*

United Church of Christ

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Attleboro, MA 02703

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June 2017



WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY GROUP RETREAT SATURDAY, JUNE 10TH

POPS CONCERT – OURE PLEASURE SINGERS

'FLY WITH ME'

SATURDAY, JUNE 17TH, 4:00 PM

Second Congregational Church of Attleboro, UCC

Reverend F. Vernon Wright V, Minister

ruachwrights@msn.com

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Kara Lehane, Executive Director, Jack & Jill School – 508-222-1149

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Amie K. McCarthy, Director of Christian Education

Fred Saunders, Administrative Assistant / Curator

BSA Charter Organization Representative / Blood Drive Coordinator

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Find us on Facebook!

THE VOICE

*We seek to be a church of the open mind, the warm heart,
the aspiring soul and a vision for God's world.*

A monthly newsletter

June, 2017

Outreach & Missions	Women's Fellowship	One Plus One	Jack & Jill	OP POPs Concert	Women's Spiritual Group	Boy Scout Troop 15 Fundraiser	Christian Education	Music & Dance	Calendar
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MINISTER'S MUSE

IMPLICATIONS OF A DEEPER COVENANT

"I really only love God as much as I love the person I love the least." Dorothy Day
During the last Old Colony Association meeting Rev. Dr. Martin Copenhaver, president of Andover Newton Theological School, delivered the keynote presentation. He said that once he had preached a sermon at Wellesley Congregational Church about covenant:

"'You know you are a covenanted member of Christ's Church when you worship with a few people you can't stand.' A new doe eyed member of the church came up to me afterward and said that she doubted very much that she would ever feel that way about *this* church. Five years later she came up to me again and said with a wry smile, 'you know I understand what you were saying in that sermon after all.'"

I appreciated his insight. If we truly adored everyone we worshiped with we would either have just joined a church or Jim Jones would be our pastor. Even if everyone we worshiped with was just like us, I don't know a single person who likes themselves all the

time! In this world of superficial but very broad connections, I fear that we are losing what it truly means to be a community.

The deep covenanted loves of our life are the ones that make us realize that love is not something we have, it is something we do. Sometimes we get it right, sometimes we get it all wrong. Our realization that we are covenanted together makes us realize that we may have another day to get it right.

If we are honest, the manifold nature of God's creation, which pits hungry hyenas against baby antelopes, or paves the way for the possibility of genetic illness, presents us with a sobering reality. And it is this that God, the Old Testament and Christ himself calls us to love"with all of our hearts and all of our mind and all of our strength, and our neighbor as ourselves", not some God of our idle fancy, or a neighbor of our own choosing. Dorothy Day, the tireless human rights advocate who was in many ways the conscience of a nation knew that God's redeeming work was something in process as much as it was promised by Christ on the cross; it requires us to keep working past our disappointments, losses, and angry moments with our neighbors.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT SECOND CHURCH

As a covenant community we are committed to the belief that all people are created equal before God, and that the love of Jesus Christ is inclusive.

We celebrate our diverse congregation, and we welcome persons of any race, gender, age, marital status, family structure, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, ability, and economic circumstance to full participation in our community life and ministry.

We strive to reflect these beliefs in the language and content of our worship and in our lives together.

Sometimes worship is lots of fun, the sanctuary is filled and worship is meaningful. Sometimes people are few, and the Word is challenging. Sometimes we lose dear friends to illness and death. Sometimes there are poignant baptisms. But this church is not like friending or unfriending someone on Facebook; this church is about a covenant that Christ made with us long ago in God's own name. "Where two or more are gathered, I will be present." And this meaningful, sometimes difficult presence is what helps us grow and develop into God's vision, not an ignorantly blissful companionship of like minded sports fans whose franchise is on a winning streak.

Peace, Reverend Vern Wright

LITURGICAL THEMES

June 4 Pentecost Sunday Communion Sunday

Acts 2:1-21

"Fair Winds!"

Join us as we explore the realm of the Holy Spirit together. As sailors say to one another, "fair winds!"

June 11 Trinity Sunday Baptismal Sunday

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

"And God Said that it Was Good"

This week we will reflect on the goodness of creation.

June 18

Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7

"On the Pious and Other Stand up Comedians"

"...and Sarah laughed." When did your sense of vocation seem preposterous to you? You may have been in good company. Who says God has no sense of humor?

June 25

Matthew 10:24-39

"Serving Without Fear"

Being Christ's disciple has consequences. Sometimes you may have to make difficult choices. But fear has no place in the realm of God...

BOARD OF DEACONS

The lead Deacons this month are Paul and JoAnn Slaney. Contact any Deacon if you are interested in being an usher one Sunday. We'd love to have your help. Call Ralph Giannetti the night or two before at 508-226-4618 and let him know if you need a lift.

New telephone directories are published on at least an annual basis. If you require an updated directory, speak with a Deacon or contact the church office. These directories should be treated with confidentiality.

Communion Visitations continue each week to our shut-ins. If you are unable to attend church and would like to receive communion, please notify Reverend Wright or the church office and arrangements for a visit will be

made. Our visits offer a special time to quietly partake in Communion, offer up prayers, and know your church family is with you.

Behavioral Covenant

*Adopted by Second Church in 2003
Under the Walking in the Way project*

We will treat each other with **love of Christ**.

We will **listen carefully** to another person, without interrupting.

We will recognize and **respect opinions different than our own**, listening to understand, but not necessarily agreeing.

We will **be truthful and direct** in our communications, speaking respectfully with candor about **our own feelings and thoughts, not those of another**.

We will **intentionally affirm the positive** in communicating with one another.

We will agree on a process and, in covenant, we will all work together as the Body of Christ to use the process to work toward an outcome, implementing our conclusions with action.

We will have the courage to bring up the concerns we have directly or with the help of another person, so that the issues can be dealt with swiftly.

Thank You

Thank you all for your beautiful sympathy cards, and especially for the personal notes that were so uplifting and strengthening for me at that difficult time.

Helen James

And again...

I would like to thank everyone for all the kindnesses sent my way during my ongoing illness. Our congregation is so special. The cards, calls, and prayers have been most welcome and have brightened my days.

Thanks so much, Elaine Killough

MARTHA CIRCLE

Martha Circle will meet on Tuesday, June 13th at 12:30 pm. A light luncheon will be served. This is open to all women of the church, and it's a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new ones. Give me or the church office a call if you are interested but not yet on our call list or if you have any questions. *Linda Wiswall*

MUSIC & DANCE

CHOIR SCHEDULES

Regular rehearsals have ended for the year. The first rehearsals in the fall will, as usual, be on the Thursday after Labor Day, September 7th.

The Hand Bell Choir will play in the morning worship service on June 4th, Pentecost Sunday. The warm-up / rehearsal will begin at 8:30 a.m.

The Adult Choir will sing on June 4, 18, and 25 – but not on June 11 (Bill is away).

Thanks!

To all our musicians for a great year of music-making. Thanks also to Amie for planning a terrific service on Children's Sunday (and congratulations to Jessie!). Tara, Joe, and John added a lot of energy with their playing and singing. The kids, under Cathy Giannetti's direction, were super! It was a lively morning!

Big event this month Mark your calendars!

Pops Concert by Oure Pleasure, Saturday, June 17, to benefit the Organ Restoration Fund. See further information elsewhere in this issue of the VOICE.

Bill MacPherson, Director of Music

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The May Breakfast and Indoor Yard Sale went well. Many thanks to everyone for helping in these two events.

The next Women's Fellowship meeting is June 4th at 11:15am; hope to see you.

We will talk about helping the Music Committee do a fundraiser for the organ restoration fund.

The Holiday Fair will be here before we know it. During the summer, when you are cleaning out, think of us by collecting items for Grandma's attic. We also need new items for the Knit Goods Table, and keep making those delicious jams, jellies, candy, homemade TV dinners, pet table supplies, etc. We will need new items for our Silent auction table as well. Please let me know if you have something to donate to this table. Thank you for helping us to support our church. *Sandy Saunders, Treasurer*

Women's Spirituality Group

WSG is pleased to invite all the women of the church to join us for a one-day retreat on Saturday, June 10th from 10 am to 2 pm at the Oak Knoll Wildlife Sanctuary, 1417 Park St. in Attleboro. The retreat is free with a potluck luncheon to be shared. Our leader will be Rev. Dr. Ruth Shaver. The theme is *Friendship*.

"No one has greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends," Jesus tells us in John 15:13 (Common English Bible). What makes a friend worthy of laying down one's life to save that friend? The Bible has much to teach us about the value of trusted companions for life's journey, especially the journey of discipleship that we as Christians are called to make. Literature and cinema use the theme of friendship extensively and we will also explore the relationships that anchor some of our favorite movies and books.

You can revel in the chance to re-read or re-watch a favorite book or movie before we gather. If you'd like suggestions for books or movies to enjoy that feature interesting friendships before the retreat, please feel free to contact Ruth at revdrruthucc@icor1348.com or 814-206-8192.

For more information about the retreat or the Women's Spirituality Group, please speak with Marcia Weidner, 508-222-5422. Please join us for a time of study, reflection, and yes, *building friendships*.

OUTREACH & MISSIONS

The Food Pantry distributed bags of food to 20 families this month. Our Pantry continues to be actively patronized, so please remember the food pantry when you shop for groceries. The next distribution is June 26th (fourth Monday of the month) 4-6 p.m. Spaghetti sauce, canned Ravioli and Beef-A-Roni, dry cereals (especially children's), rice, real fruit juices, tuna, peanut butter, hearty soups, toiletries, detergent, and bathroom tissue are always welcome. The drop-off site is in the Ladies Parlor with the Deacons each Sunday or in the Kitchen anytime. Contact: Betsey Pray, rlpbpp@verizon.net.



Volunteers Needed:

Attleboro's Expo for the Senses will be held from noon to 5:00 pm on June 10th at Capron Park. We need some people to take a shift serving strawberry shortcake. We need YOU to step up and represent your church – many hands make light work. And the rewards will be very tasty!

The next Family Café will be **Wednesday, June 14th** in Fellowship Hall. Volunteers to set-up, prepare food, serve beverages, greet, work with children, clear tables, break down tables & chairs, or wash pots & pans are needed any time between 4 and 6 pm.

The Boston Pride Parade is Saturday, June 10th, starting off from Copley Square at noon. If you would like to participate on behalf of Second Church and march with other Massachusetts UCC churches, please contact Joe or Dianne Ordog at 508-226-2019. Rhode Island PrideFest takes place on June 17th. While we will not have a booth this year, we have made a donation on behalf of the Church. Second Church also advertises each year in the "Pink Pages", a directory of LGBTQ friendly businesses and churches.

Over the past month, O&M made a regular donation to the Attleboro Area Interfaith Collaborative (formerly Council of Churches) as well as donating an auction item for their fundraiser. We prepared 42 hygiene kits and 27 school kits for refugees for delivery to Church World Service.

Thanks for everyone's *exceptional participation* in this collection!

The next Outreach & Missions meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, June 4th** at 11:15 am in the Ladies Parlor.

Scout Troop 15

Troop 15 is teaming up with the Epilepsy Foundation New England with a clothing drive from now until June 26th. Please donate any clean, unwanted clothes, shoes, or linens. You will be helping a great cause and helping our boys have the adventure of their lives: a high-adventure backpacking trek up Mt. Katahdin. Donations may be left in the drum by the piano in Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour or any time.

One plus One

Save Saturday, June 24th for our Annual Cookout hosted by Bob and Marsha Richardson, 12 Lockwood Street, Warwick, RI (401)738-2198. Your callers will be asking you to donate a large appetizer, salad, veggie dish, or dessert. Bring your best stories, a comfy lawn chair, bug repellent and favorite beverage. Campfire songs are welcome. Their house is located near Rocky Point, which has a scenic, walkable trail that overlooks Narragansett Bay. Their home is also in close proximity to Oakland Beach where one can get an early summer fix of clam cakes, lobster rolls, doughboys, or ice cream at Iggy's Restaurant. The Richardsons also have a pool if you want to take a quick dip. If you don't show for this extravaganza, you will automatically be elected onto the 1+1 Board next year.

Seriously, call the church office if you are not on our call list but would like to attend. *Colin Blair*

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

It's hard to believe that the 2016-2017 Faith formation year has come and gone. Throughout the year our pre-k through 4th graders have studied the heroes of the old testament, learning the stories that are the foundation of our faith. While our middle school and high school youth group worked to develop a better understanding of the addiction epidemic that has grasped our country and discover ways to be present to those that may be suffering from addiction.

Along with their biblical and social justice studies the children and youth

have also explored what it means to discern and live into God's unique vocational call for each of us. This culminated in the children's Sunday worship service in which the children and youth led the worship honoring the volunteers that led them on their faith journey this year along with honoring Jessie Macomber for her 60 years of volunteer service at Second Church.

As the church prepares for the summer months, the children and youth are excited to experience putting what they have learned in faith formation into practice as they worship and explore their faith formation with the entire community. Our nursery will remain open through the month of June, but Faith Formation and youth group will cease until Rally Day.

As we look forward to next year, our children and youth will continue to discern what it means to live into God's unique vocational call, as well as continue their journey through the bible as they walk with Jesus Christ and the early Christian to discover the roots of the Christ faith and the development of the early church.

The Christian Education Committee would like to say thank you to everyone who volunteered to be a part of the faith formation of our children and youth, as well as the parents for their commitment to our program. We look forward to seeing everyone in the fall.

Shalom, Amie K. McCarthy
and the Christian Education Committee

MEMBER IN DISCERNMENT

To the members and friends of Second Church,

I would like to say a very big thank you for your continued support as I approach the halfway mark of my seminary career. The 2016-2017 academic year has been an amazing journey as I studied some of the most influential theologians in Christian history, developed an understanding of what it means to live into God's vocational call, explored different models of evangelism, as well as engaged my creative side as I investigated different forms of creative pedagogy, along with an in-depth study of the history approach to the Old Testament, and UCC polity and history.

This year has challenged me to develop my own theology of what it means to be

called into a vocation, as well as a theology of evangelism that engages the emerging church. While this year presented me with many challenges, my faith, prayer and the support of Second Church have been my strength.

As I continue my path to ordination, I will be completing my field education this summer at First Christian Church, UCC in Swansea, MA under the supervision of Rev. Dr. Holly Norwick while preparing to return to Boston University School of Theology for my 4th semester of seminary. I will be studying spiritual care, systematic theology, and the Gospel of John. I am excited to be entering the last half of my seminary journey, while also taking the time to enjoy and absorb everything seminary can teach me about pastoral ministry.

I would like to say thank you to the members and friends of Second Church. You have been a source of great support as I continue to discern where my call into ministry will take me. I look forward to continuing this journey with all of you by my side.

Peace and wholeness to each of you,

Amie K. McCarthy



We are very busy wrapping up another wonderful year of memory making below the stairs. ☺

Above and beyond all of their regular responsibilities, the teachers have spent their Spring attending conferences and taking courses to develop their teaching repertoire further.

The teachers were celebrated in early May with a beautiful appreciation luncheon. The parents in our program worked together to host a yummy luncheon. It was a wonderful opportunity to take a break and reflect on our year thus far.

The Dads will soon enjoy their event with their children. This year our Fun With Fathers Event will be held at Oak Knoll Wildlife Sanctuary. The children and their fathers will enjoy a guide led hike on Thursday, June 1st at 6:00 PM.

We are graduating 34 children from our program this year. Our commencement exercises will take place on THURSDAY JUNE 8th. Admission price is one canned good to support the Second Congregational Church's Food Pantry.

We are offering 2 weeks of summer camp this summer. Week One is entitled "Little Scientists" and Week Two is "Drama Camp." We will also be offering a Kindergarten Readiness Camp from 8/21-8/24 for children who have graduated from our program and are headed off to Kindergarten in the Fall. The curriculum will include a review of Kindergarten readiness skills and experiences with some of the things they will be doing in the fall. We do accept children who have not been a part of our program for the K Camp if you know of anyone who might be interested.

We are beginning to plan events for our **70th Anniversary** to be celebrated during the 2018-2019 academic year., Please spread the word far and wide, our first planning meeting will be held in the Jack & Jill office on Monday, June 26th at 6:30 PM.

We do have limited openings available in our programs for the fall, so please, send your friends our way. I can be reached at 508-222-1149 or jackandjill@attleborosecondchurch.org for a tour of the program.

Warmly, Kara Lehane

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The PSM will meet on Monday, June 12th at 12:30 in the Ladies' Parlor. Shawls continue to be a tremendous comfort to individuals experiencing a loss, illness or other traumatic event in their lives. New members are always welcome. We will teach you the ropes. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Roberta Ferguson

June Birthdays

2 Mike Cotsalas
3 Derek Hall
4 Ray Turcotte
5 Julia Bozzi
Rob Krauth
Nick Vecchioli
8 Alexis Ladner
9 Ashley Keith
10 Jay Miller, Sr.
Gloria Walsh
11 Jessica Priesing
12 David Bliss
15 David Broden
16 Kara Lehane
18 Ann Haskel
Deb Hawes
Kristin Keith
19 Bob Bliss
20 Karen Girczyc
Dave Webb
22 Audrey Deavellar
24 Laura Hauerwas
Nicole Mernin
25 Eleanor Woodward
26 Dianne Ordog
28 Bette Renoni
30 Bob Follett
Chuck Opdycke

July Birthdays

4 Jayne Kimber White
5 Sheila McKenna
6 Arianna West
7 Shirley Currie
Lyra Osborne
8 Helen James
9 Dee Sawyer
Barb Withers
10 Sharon Reiley
12 Owen Wright
13 Kaitlyn Slaney
14 Diane Robinson
17 Dick Sager
18 Sue Costello
Lorraine Frye
19 Connie Corkum-Williams
Jen Turcotte
20 Dave Ramsay
Lisa Vecchioli
22 Bob Withers
24 George Freeman
Molly Kay
25 Kelly Deslauriers
26 Lynne Case
27 Claudette Newport
29 Paula Foresman
David Vecchioli
30 Stacey Alsfeld
Lynne Holden
Janda Nuovo

August Birthdays

1 Dave Lunt
Maria Smith
Roberta Zarrella
2 Brynn Wright
4 Laila Brodeur
Anne Reiley
5 Tina Middleton
Jackie Sampson
6 Phyllis LaMay
7 Brett Lancaster
8 Trinity West
Kat Wright
9 Amanda Deavellar
Elizabeth Griffin
10 Cathy LaPorte-Jewett
11 Joel Bozzi
12 Mark Bassler
Mason Bourdeau
Gary Middleton
13 Russell Deavellar
Barbara Massey
Paul Slaney
17 Susan Brown
18 Curtis Robinson
19 Debbie Smith
21 Jeff Keane
Kathy Morton
22 Wilma Johnson
Hank Reiley
23 Jeannine Sousa
24 Gail Cupp
Bowie Lancaster
25 Alex Brown
Madi Saunders
26 Kena DiBastiani
Elaine C Killough
Wendy Oliver
30 Paige Reiley
Alex Surowiec



**Straight from their appearance
on 'Sing That Thing'**

Oure Pleasure Singers

POPS!

Christophe Heldbreder, director

Saturday, June 17th, 4 PM

"Fly With Me"



**Oure Pleasure Singers is excited to announce
our upcoming POPS concert!**

Come join us for a fun-filled program
Traditional & Folk Music Hits from Several Decades
Some Surprises (*come and find out!*)

**Second Congregational Church
50 Park Street, Downtown Attleboro
on Route 123 at Route 118**

Tickets \$15 Call 508-222-4677

Light refreshments will be served.

**Proceeds of the performance
to benefit Pipe Organ Restoration
at Second Church**

CALL FRED IN THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR TICKETS

J U N E 2 0 1 7

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 Pentecost 10:00 AM Worship / Communion 11:15 AM Outreach & Missions Committee Meeting Women's Fellowship Meeting	5 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Board of Deacons' Meeting	6 7:00 PM Marketing Committee Meeting	7 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	8 5:00 PM Jack & Jill School Graduation	9 6:00 PM Youth Fellowship Lock-in	10 Youth Fellowship Lock-in 10:00 AM Women's Spirituality Group Retreat at Oak Knoll
11 10:00 AM Worship 11:15 AM Annual Corporate Meeting	12 12:30 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Christian Education Committee Meeting	13 12:30 PM Martha Circle Luncheon 7:30 PM Pastoral Relations Committee Meeting	14 5:30 PM Food 'n Friends Family Café 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	15 10:00 AM Communion Visitation Meeting	16	17 4:00 PM POPS Concert Oure Pleasure Singers
18 10:00 AM Worship	19 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Facilities Committee Meeting	20 7:00 PM Administration Committee Meeting	21 6:30 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM PFLAG Meeting	22	23	24 8:00 AM Scout Merit Badge Class One Plus One Cookout at Richardson's in Warwick
25 10:00 AM Worship 11:20 AM Church Council Meeting	26 4:00 PM Food Pantry Distribution 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Women's Spirituality Group	27	28 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	29	30	

POPS CONCERT – OURE PLEASURE SINGERS

‘FLY WITH ME’

SATURDAY, JUNE 17TH, 4:00 PM