

# **THE VOICE of *Second Church***

United Church of Christ

50 Park Street

Attleboro, MA 02703

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October 2018



**FAMILY FELLOWSHIP APPLE PICKING**  
**STEERE ORCHARD, OCTOBER 6<sup>TH</sup>, 1:00 PM**

**CHURCH FAIR!**  
**NOVEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>, 9 AM-2 PM**

Second Congregational Church of Attleboro, UCC  
Reverend F. Vernon Wright V, Minister ruachwrights@msn.com  
William A. MacPherson, PhD., Director of Music  
Kara Lehane, Executive Director, Jack & Jill School – 508-222-1149  
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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, 2018

<b>Outreach &amp; Missions</b>	<b>Women’s Fellowship</b>	<b>One Plus One</b>	<b>Jack &amp; Jill</b>	<b>Admin Committee</b>	<b>Martha Circle</b>	<b>Christian Education Committee</b>	<b>Birthdays</b>	<b>Music &amp; Dance</b>	<b>Calendar</b>
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## *MINISTER’S MUSE*

### BUILDING BETTER LIVES AND BRIDGES WITH THE SPIRIT



I am a Trinitarian Christian, but I believe that most Christians could do a better job of being energized by the Spirit and building bridges with non-Christians. Over the period of time in which Christianity became the official state religion of the Roman Empire, the Christianization of Europe, the Crusades, the building of nation states, the Reformation, the colonization of the Americas, Jesus or the Second person of the trinity was what was most emphasized. The thought was sort of like this: “Jesus is Lord. I define his lordship. Do exactly what I tell you and you’ll know Jesus.” In other words, this was an imperial understanding of Christianity revolving around the nucleus of an exclusive definition of that second person of the Trinity: Jesus Christ. Personal encounters with the divine were discouraged and faith was an excuse for military and cultural domination.

Mindfulness of the Spirit can deepen our personal and communal experiences with the Divine. But first we have to undo the colonial notion that Christianity is about adhering to a norm and looking like the right thing. We have to remember that Christianity is really about being inspired and centered on God. In both the Hebrew and Greek origins of the English Bible the word Spirit also means wind and breath interchangeably. It is

only in the world influenced by Germanic languages like English where Spirit and breath are very separate ideas. Yes, the church has many important things to say about the Holy Spirit, but it is also something directly encountered each moment by everything that breathes including birds, bugs, and bees.

How mindful are we of the breath/spirit? Exercise, appreciation of nature, the arts and contemplative prayer build mindfulness of the Spirit. How mindful are we of the breath/spirit in others; do others have access to clean air, deep prayer and exercise? How mindful of the Spirit are we when we insist on work and school conditions that keep people inside all day long and at their desks, deprived of meditation, contemplation, exercise and artistic reflection? I believe that if we paid more attention to the Spirit our lives would be greatly improved.

But I also believe that paying more attention to the Spirit would help us to build better bridges with non-Christians. Korean American contemporary theologian Grace Ji-Sun Kim writes in her influential book, “The Holy Spirit, Chi and the Other: A Model of Global and Intercultural Pneumatology” that we should better explore the similarities between the Western notion of the Holy Spirit and the Eastern notion of Chi and other non-Western perceptions of the Spirit.

I think it’s okay to practice Tai Chi and know that you are learning the movement of the Holy Spirit in your body because Chi means breath/spirit. I think you can find the Holy Spirit in Prana Yoga because prana is a Hindu word for breath/spirit. You can find the Spirit in the Annapanasati Sutra, because this practice is about mindfulness of the life force as it enters and leaves your body in each breath. It is surely there in Muslim and Jewish prayers concerning the ruh and ruach because ruh and ruach mean

breath/spirit in the original versions of the Bible itself. Perhaps with the people we are practicing and learning with we will find opportunity to articulate how our vision of God and Jesus is really a part of this same chi, prana, anapanasati, ruh and ruach? Why stop there? Why not explain your theory of the breath/spirit to an atheist you are gasping for air with while running together up Heartbreak Hill?

Jesus Christ is all important for believers, but Christianity predates imperialism and colonial legacy. Utilizing that other part of the Trinity known as the Spirit can help us build better lives and help build bridges past the walls of nearly 1700 years of imperial Christianity. We all can better encounter the spirit. Indeed many people across the spectrum of world religions and non religions already have.

### INITIATIVE UPDATE FROM THE MINISTER

I just wanted to update you about the progress of some of the new and newer initiatives at Second. We are currently formulating plans for our contemporary worship service, working together with established youth groups, nearing completion on a strategic plan and in the process of initiating new house and street ministries. All of these initiatives are designed to increase vitality and unity in our church. We could still use your valuable input and energy.

**Contemporary Service:** The creation of a contemporary worship service became a priority of our church after our work with the UCC cross roads/new beginnings project. We learned that the population surrounding our church community does not have a significant appreciation for traditional forms of church worship and music. We endeavored to create a new service by experimenting with different music and worship styles in our church service for a couple of years. Two years ago we started a Sunday evening contemporary service. Last year, in order to capitalize on the confirmation class and give more flexibility to our praise band, we held the contemporary service every other Saturday. During the September council meeting we will decide when to hold our Contemporary service.

**Youth Group:** I am in the process of creating periodic youth group planning with Central Congregational and Old Town. I think that fun outings and getting to know other UCC area youth is important.

This said we no longer have a formal youth group of our own capable of meeting every Sunday. Amanda Middleton is no longer working with us as our youth director. We also do not have many youth in our church willing to forgo extra-curricular projects scheduled on Sundays for the sake of Sunday service. After all, many of these activities can mean the difference of getting into college or not.

If you have a youth with you, I encourage them to join in with the adults for service. I realize they may make funny faces at you, but remind them Worship, like spinach is an acquired taste. Besides, what better way to learn to love worship than when you are a young adult! Studies show that youth group programming doesn't really do anything to increase worship attendance in later years because people are shocked to find that real church doesn't have ice-breakers, co-ed sleepovers, and basketball games. Also we can use the help of youth to pass out bulletins, read scripture, light the candles and sing in the choir or join the contemporary worship praise band.

Remember this too can help your youth get into college. A demonstrated record of community service and faith engagement of your youth is often more valuable than being a swim or soccer star because these are a dime a dozen these days anyway. I mean aside from fundamentalists, who goes to church these days? Raising an open minded Christian youth who can still think scientifically will set your family apart for sure!

If your youth doesn't understand the sermon have them talk with me during Coffee Hour. The blanched look on my face will probably be worth a few laughs. Also they may develop a taste for theology. That's exactly what my parents encouraged me to do in my youth group-less First Congregational Church of Jaffrey when I was growing up. I looked forward to asking the minister the most difficult question I could think of. Extra points go to anyone who can make me blush and stammer. This would be considered karmic payback.

**Strategic Plan:** Yes I know we have budget problems and we cannot sustain current levels staffing and programming indefinitely. To this end the church leaders crafted a mission statement and are now working toward a vision statement, strategic plan and action plan that will help us prioritize programs and draft a budget that will reflect our shared values. We are about 3/5 of the way there. If you have specific questions please get in touch with Glenn Weidner of the Administration Committee who is lending us his considerable expertise as a facilitator.

**House and Street Ministries:** Many churches including our own tend to focus on managing the institution. But doing this exclusively can damage a church. This is because the Church isn't about a place it's about a people. Our goal to create five new house and street ministries is designed to get people in our church more excited and connected to one another. So far we have one new house ministry and two new street ministries in the making. So as you can see we have plenty of room for other exciting ideas!

Our new house ministry is being offered by Glenn Weidner. Though we have not yet set a date, he wants to host a "spirit jam" at his house. He wants to gather everyone who can whistle, plunk a string, shake a maraca, or sing Madonna songs in the shower to come to his house some evening to have fun "jamming out." Sounds like a hoot to me... perhaps even a hootenanny!

Diane Osborne has created a new kind of "street ministry." She wants to get the families with children together for outings to build community and get a better sense of how to make our Christian Education program stronger and more responsive to the needs of our families. The first meeting is on Oct 6<sup>th</sup> at the Steele Orchard.

Victoria King wants to create a street ministry that would provide clean socks, underwear, toiletries, and perhaps used cold weather clothing to the homeless. The Outreach and Missions Committee is looking into the idea to help Ms. King carry-out this idea.

**Conclusion:** As you can see the church is busy planning, strategizing, and exploring exciting things. But we always have more room for you to help us come up with new ideas to spread more love and light to the world.

Yours in Christ, *Reverend Vern Wright*

## LITURGICAL THEMES

### OCTOBER 7

#### World Communion Sunday

#### “The Advantage of Oneness”

#### Genesis 2:18-24

The sermon and liturgy will focus on the Genesis admonition to be one flesh. Though it is a command given to Adam and Eve before the fall, Communion is in some ways the resolution of the fall as we partake in “Christ’s flesh”. We will look at how the pursuit of oneness can overcome alienation.

### OCTOBER 14

#### “Courage for Justice”

#### Mark 10:17-31

One of the challenges of being a church is that we are kind of like one big family. Nothing is more gauche at a family table than taking about politics or religion. People tip-toe around certain people knowing if so and so doesn’t have a good time no one has a good time. No one wants to offend the “big cheese”. People cut the ends off the ham before putting it in the oven “because it was always done that way.” In truth the teachings of Christ are radical and would be threatening to any family. The fact is a church is not always comfortable. If it is, it’s probably not really a church.

### OCTOBER 21

#### “A Life of Service”

#### Mark 10:35-45

The theme for this Sunday focuses on Christ’s teaching to serve. Greatness is determined by those who serve the most.

### OCTOBER 28

#### Reformation Sunday

#### “With Jesus as our Priest”

#### Hebrews 7:23-28

As we enter reformation Sunday we think about what it means to have a direct, unmediated relationship with Christ.

## BOARD OF DEACONS

Our Lead Deacons this month are Charlie & Wendy Oliver. Contact any Deacon if you are interested in being a

liturgist or usher on a Sunday or sign up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. We’d love to have your help. Call Ralph Giannetti at 508-226-4618 and let him know if you need a lift.

### Thank You

Thank you everyone for your prayers and kind words. Thank you for the cards and visits, food and gifts. Thank you again for thinking of me in this difficult time.

*Your friend in Christ,  
Jeannine Sousa*

## WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP

### THANKSGIVING IN THE KITCHEN

### CHRISTMAS IN THE PARLOR

Saturday, November 3, 2018

9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Our annual Church Fair is fast approaching – just a little more than a months away! We hope you have been saving up small household items and tools for Grandma’s Attic/Grandpa’s Garage as well as toys, recent release books (no magazines or text books), DVDs, jewelry, games and puzzles. Unfortunately, we are not able to accommodate large items, furniture, computer or stereo equipment, bikes or clothing). Please call the Church office if you have a question about an item. Items may be left inside the back door to Fellowship Hall on the stairs to the stage.

For those of you canning/preserving your garden bounty (pickles, relishes, jams/jellies, etc.) over the summer, please consider making donations to Ruthie’s Pantry. Empty jars can be donated as well. Craft items and knit goods will also be graciously accepted.

We are preparing for another terrific Silent Auction for our Fair this year. If you have a special item or talent that you think would work, please speak with Fred or Sandy Saunders.

Small pots of two- to five-inches are needed to create variety for the plant table. Many of the plants slated for the

fair have thrived this summer -- with hand watering -- and need to be divided. Call Anne or Henry Reiley at 508-222-6146 or the church office to arrange for pickup or delivery.

If you have any suggestions for our Fair, please feel free to call Sandy Saunders or, better yet, attend our next Women’s Fellowship meeting. We’d love to hear from you!

Our annual Fair is an all-Church event and we need everyone’s help to make it successful. A representative from Women’s Fellowship will be in Fellowship Hall at coffee hour each Sunday in October with a list of opportunities. **Please stop by – we are sure to have an opportunity for you!**

We will hold a planning meeting on September 30<sup>th</sup> after the morning service. All women of the church are welcome!

*Women’s Fellowship Exec. Committee*

## ONE PLUS ONE

One plus One is a group of adults who meet to share Christian fellowship. It is open to all members and friends of the congregation and is a great way to get to know new people and catch up with old friends. Everyone is welcome!

Please join us at Colin & Janet Blair’s sprawling estate at 20 Orlando Lane, Attleboro MA on **Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM.** for a potluck supper and cookout (rain or shine). Grilled chicken, soda, and coffee will be provided. Volunteer to prepare an appetizer, side dish, or dessert when your caller reaches you. Bring a lawn chair, your favorite beverage and some great ideas for 1+1 events throughout the year: plays, festivities, sports, guest speakers, etc.

Tentatively, we are looking to attend a play (“Inherit the Wind”) at the Attleboro Community Theatre on October 13<sup>th</sup>, a pizza party after the Church fair on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, and our traditional holiday feast before we get too far into the winter. If you are not on our call list and would like to join us, give Colin Blair a call at (508)226-5457

or drop him an email at [colincb@aol.com](mailto:colincb@aol.com).

## MARTHA CIRCLE

Martha Circle will meet on Tuesday, October 16, 2018 at 12:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. Please bring a bagged lunch. Coffee, tea and dessert will be provided. All women of the church are welcome. If anyone has any questions or needs a ride please contact Linda Wiswall or the church office.

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The PSM will meet on Monday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 in the Ladies' Parlor. Our ministry is approaching its one the on thousandth shawl since starting over 12 years ago. Shawls continue to be of 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*

## MUSIC NOTES

### CHOIR SCHEDULES

There will no rehearsals of the Bell Choir and Adult Choir on Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, and the Adult Choir will not sing on Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. Otherwise, rehearsals will be held at the regular times on other Thursdays: Bells, 6:30-7:30 pm; Adult Choir 7:30-9:00 pm. And the Choir will sing on all other Sundays in October.

### Welcome to New Choir Members!

A warm welcome from the Bell Choir to Derek Hall, and from the Adult Choir to Marcia Weidner and Kat Wright! To others who have considered joining, the beginning of our choir year is the perfect time. We'll welcome you too!

### Organ Anniversary: Save the Date!

Almost 50 years ago, in December 1968, our organ was dedicated. That event will be celebrated on Saturday, November 17, at 4:00 pm. The program will include a talk and demonstration about how the organ works, some solo organ pieces and choral music, and the recognition of donors to the renovation fund. Light refreshments will follow. Mark your calendars and invite your friends from the community!

### Organ Renovation Update

We've entered into another phase of the renovation/restoration project. In early

September, technicians removed the inner workings of the Swell division (played from the top keyboard) and have taken them back to the shop for replacement of bellows leather and valve seals. The parts and pieces will be put back in place in 2-3 weeks.

Meanwhile, the rest of the organ is playable, and there still plenty of pipes - more than any other instrument in the city! - connected with the other two keyboards and the pedals. The organ can still play loud, soft, and in between. But the (currently unplayable) Swell division does include many of the more interesting colors - which is part of its function within the total instrument - so the organ might sound a little more monochromatic for the next few weeks.

No further work will be done until at least next spring, so that the instrument remains completely functional during the Christmas season, and also because the organ shop will get busy with pre-Christmas and pre-Easter tuning visits to their many client churches. Further stages of our renovation project will take place at intervals over the next 12-18 months. This was planned from the beginning, is written into the contract, and accommodates the schedules of both Second Church and Andover Organ Co.

*Bill MacPherson.*

### Organ Restoration Fund Dedications

If you contributed to the Organ Restoration Fund and did not list "in honor of" or "in memory of" but would like to add that now for our plague to be posted in November, please contact Fred in the office to include the dedication. Contributions may still be made as well!

*Wendy Oliver*

## INTERGENERATIONAL SACRED DANCE

All are welcome to join our Intergenerational Dance program as we resume practices Saturday Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> at 9am in the Sanctuary. Whether you have classical dance training or just like to boogie on the dance floor we would love to have you join us. If you have any questions please let me know at 508-409-7919 or [de\\_saunders@hotmail.com](mailto:de_saunders@hotmail.com).

*Diane Osborne*

## OUTREACH & MISSIONS

At our September meeting Bill Bixby

made a wonderful presentation about his wife's aunt who worked with the interned Japanese Americans in WWII and served in India. She helped open schools there. Bill would like to share copies of a book written about her; truly an inspiration to us all. What ministries would you like to get started?

The Food Pantry distributed bags of food to families on September 24, after we went to press. Please remember the Food Pantry when you shop for groceries. The next distribution is on October 22<sup>nd</sup> (fourth Monday of the month) 4-6 p.m. Spaghetti sauce, Chef Boyardee canned Ravioli and Beef-A-Roni, dry cereals (especially children's), rice, real fruit juices, tuna, hearty soups, jellies, 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 during the week. Contact Betsey Pray, [rlpbpp@verizon.net](mailto:rlpbpp@verizon.net) with any questions.

The Family Café: 26 people were served on September 12<sup>th</sup>. The next Family Café will be held on Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> in Fellowship Hall. Volunteers to set-up, prepare food, serve beverages, greet, work with children, clear tables, break down tables & chairs, or wash dishes are needed anytime between 4 and 6 p.m. Contact Linda Wiswall, [wiswalllinda@gmail.com](mailto:wiswalllinda@gmail.com).

Neighbors in Need Mission <http://www.ucc.org/nin/> fliers will be in our church bulletins on Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. Please give what you can in the provided envelopes.

Looking ahead to December, we contacted the Attleboro Interfaith Collaborative to inquire how we might support some of their efforts. If you are a smart consumer and follow sales, please keep in mind that this year for our "Mitten Tree" we will be collecting new ADULT underwear in all sizes and styles. Please place your donations in festive gift bags with handles to hang on the tree in December.

The next Outreach and Missions Committee meeting is scheduled for Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:15 a.m. in the Ladies Parlor. *Janet Blair*

## CROP HUNGER WALK

The Attleboro Area CROP Hunger Walk will be held on Sunday October 21 at 1:00 pm going from La Salette Shrine to

the City Center and back (registration at 12:30pm). CROP Hunger Walks support the international relief and development work of Church World Service, which includes relief for those impacted by recent hurricanes and wildfires. Additionally, the CROP Hunger Walk will support the efforts of the Food n' Friends Kitchens of the Attleboro Area Interfaith Collaborative to eradicate hunger in our own community. You may pick up registration materials for the walk during the coffee hour after worship from Wendy Oliver or John Fisk. The easiest way to receive sponsorships is through on-line registration at <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/attleboroma/>

Thanks, John Fisk

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Many thanks to all who helped to make our Rally Day Service and Cookout a wonderful time to reconnect with members of our church family!

For October we are looking forward to more time with our new Shine Curriculum in Sunday School and also to our first **Family Fellowship** event of the year, apple picking! We will be picking apples on Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm at Steere Orchard in Greenville, RI. If you are interested in joining us at the orchard please RSVP to the church office by Wednesday October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

I have included some detail below about the lessons we will be sharing in Sunday School this month and some tips on how to continue the discussion with your children at home. Please note that Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> will be a Gathering Sunday for our families to experience worship and Communion together. The nursery will be open for our friends 3 and under.

### October 14<sup>th</sup>.

#### Acts 8:4–8, 26–40: “Philip and the Ethiopian official”

Here are some ways to nurture faith at home based on this week’s story.\* (1) Read Acts 8:30–35. Who helps you understand the Bible? (2) Philip met an interesting traveler. What interesting people have you met on a trip? (3) Take turns filling in the blank: “The good news is for \_\_\_\_ (name of person).”

**Did you know?** What is a chariot drawn by four horses called? <quadriga>

**Prayer for the week:** *God, give us the courage to share the good news about Jesus with everyone we meet. Amen.*

### October 21<sup>st</sup>

#### Exodus 2:23–3:22: “Moses and the burning bush”

Here are some ways to nurture faith at home based on this week’s story.\* (1) Read Exodus 2:23–25. Tell about a time you cried out to God for help. (2) Draw a bush. On the branches write ways your family can follow God this week. (3) Tell about a place that is holy ground for you. **Did you know?** What four Hebrew letters make up the name for God revealed to Moses? <“yod” Y, “he” H, “waw” W, “he” H>

**Prayer for the week:** *God, you know our pain and our suffering. You walk with us. We are grateful. Amen.*

### October 28<sup>th</sup>

#### Exodus 4: “Moses accepts God’s call”

Here are some ways to nurture faith at home based on this week’s story.\* (1) Read Exodus 4:10–14. Why didn’t Moses want to go to Pharaoh? (2) Moses said, “Send someone else.” When have you wished to get out of something? Why? (3) Aaron helped Moses when Moses couldn’t do the job alone. Tell about someone who helps you with difficult tasks. **Did you know?** Ancient Egypt depended on the waters of the Nile. The southernmost headwaters of the Nile are in what African country? <Rwanda>

**Prayer for the week:** *God, give us courage to speak the truth in all situations. Amen.*

We are always looking for volunteers in the classroom and the nursery. Please sign-up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall or contact me at 508-409-7919

or [de\\_saunders@hotmail.com](mailto:de_saunders@hotmail.com).

Diane Osborne

## ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Pledge receipts for 2018 are below budget projections. While we were tracking well for the first two months of 2018, the 4 Nor’easters we had in March adversely affected pledge receipts. We got back on track by the end of July, but pledge receipts wilted under the onslaught of summer heat in August. We encourage you to look at your pledge giving this year and please try to catch up if you have fallen behind.

Did You Know? Amazon.com shoppers can help raise funds for Second Church by using Amazon Smile and designating Second Congregational Church of Attleboro as your charity to receive donations. By so doing, The Amazon

Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible purchases to the Church. A direct link to the Church’s page can be found below where you can log on using your Amazon sign-in information. At that page you can also learn more about Amazon’s Smile program by selecting the link “Learn more about Amazon Smile” below:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/04-2137237>

Colin Blair

On behalf of the Administration Committee



Jack and Jill Pre-School is a very happy place to be! We are pleased to welcome 33 BRAND new families to our wonderful community this school year. Our fantastic team of 10 educators has been busy creating routines for our children and families. Our first days brought with them some tears, but even more smiles. Our new parents have been very appreciative of our transition process. The personal tours, playground days, and orientation day gave children and parents the time to develop relationships with one another and our team of educators. Knowledge is power and by offering these activities BEFORE the first day of school we can assuage many fears.

We are happy to report that we are able to continue to offer enrichment programming through Oak Knoll Wildlife Sanctuary, Tunes for Tots and Martial Arts with Sensei Michael this fall. Any extra opportunity that we can bring to the children only enhances their Jack and Jill experience. Mr. Chuck Opdycke will also be happily returning as our weekly reader to the 4/5 year old classes once a week!

We are currently in the planning stages for our Annual Fall Festival to be held in Fellowship Hall in October. We will be selling pumpkin passports for \$8.00 apiece that give children the opportunity to take part in several fall themes crafts, enjoy a snack and play a few games. This event is a wonderful way to allow families to get to know each other and enjoy some time with their children!

In order to communicate effectively

with parents we have added another mode of communication for parents to receive important updates this year. We are using the Remind app, where parents can sign up to receive text alerts when there is something to share. This is a fast, easy and free way to increase the communication between home and school!

Thank you for your continued support of our school!

We currently have limited openings in our AM 4's class, our Enrichment class and 3's. If you know of anyone interested in pre-school, please feel free to have them call Kara at 508-222-1149

*Warmly, Kara Lehane*

### A Note From Our Seminarian

Greetings to all the members and friends of Second Church; as I get settled into the routine of my final seminary year I wanted share a little about where my journey has taken me so far this year. As many of you know, this spring and summer have been a transition time for me. But, what this spring and summer has also given me is many opportunities to find my presence and voice in ministry. As the spring came to a close and summer began I began my transition from being the Christian Education Director of Second Congregational Church to the Pastoral Intern at First Congregational Church in North Attleborough. While I embraced the change and welcomed the challenge of stepping into a new role, I found myself not only stepping into a new role at First Congregational Church, but also taking on some pulpit filling for the Rev. Sarah Weaver at Rehoboth Congregational Church as well and I helped cover a mentors maternity leave at First Christian Congregational Church in Swansea, as the Rev. Holly Norwick welcomed her beautiful daughter into the world earlier than expected. Throughout the summer I was able to find my pastoral presence within different congregational settings, learn how to observe and listen to the needs of the congregation as a whole, while keeping myself spiritually grounded and centered. And throughout all that I was blessed to be invited to officiate at my first baptisms at First Christian.

Now as I settle into my roles as a Chaplin Intern at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Pastoral Intern at the First Congregational Church in North Attleborough I have discovered that my

summer of transition, my summer of observing and listening has prepared me well to serve not only as a spiritual companion to those in need of spiritual care in the hospital setting, but also in a more pastoral role in a church that is in the process of dreaming and discovering new ways of being a community that is authentic to who they are.

Under the Supervision of Brian Conley, Staff Chaplin and CPE supervisor at Brigham and Women's Hospital, it is my hope to continue my process of self-discovery, reflection, and development of my own pastoral presence to families and patients in the hospital setting. As I move throughout unit of CPE training I have been assigned to a Cardiology Unit as well as Burn and Trauma unit at Brigham and Women's Hospital.

During my time as Pastoral Intern at First Congregational I will be under the supervision of the Rev. Kelly Thibeault, and will be taking on various pastoral roles which may include leading various parts of worship, offering communion, and/or leading intergenerational faith formation. I am grateful for the opportunity to shadow Rev. Thibeault at a time in the church life when the congregation is dreaming and discovering new ways of being a Christian community that offers opportunities for all of God's Children to deepen their faith as one family.

While I am still wearing multiple hats, one as a Chaplin intern and one as Pastoral Intern, the opportunities I am so fortunate to have been granted are guaranteed to challenge me to better understand myself and further develop my pastoral voice. As my semester continues I look forward to sharing my journey with everyone at Second Church through my Voice articles and, as always, if you wish to discuss my journey into Pastoral Ministry please email me, [amielght@gmail.com](mailto:amielght@gmail.com), at anytime.

Peace and Love.

*Your Member in Discernment  
Amie K. McCarthy*



## October Birthdays

- 2 Jenny Sprague
- 3 Walter LaMay
- 4 Andrew Lindley  
Diane Osborne  
Curtis Priesing
- 5 Jessica Miller  
Linda Smith
- 9 Claus Croatto
- 10 Kim Keane  
Deb Parziale  
Rich Renoni
- 11 Kevin Beck
- 14 JoAnn Slaney
- 15 Brianna Orrall  
Shae Salisbury
- 16 Charles Smith
- 17 Janet Blair
- 18 Bill MacPherson
- 19 Lucy DePatsy
- 20 Deb Beck  
Cindy Brodeur  
Sharmon McCaughey
- 21 Caleb Iocco  
Jim Valentine
- 22 AJ Renoni
- 24 Roger Bourdeau  
Rick Lunt
- 25 Avery Laramée
- 27 Marcia Weidner
- 28 Bill Bixby
- 29 Donna Bliss  
Frank Sousa
- 30 Linda O'Connor
- 31 David Renoni

# O C T O B E R 2 0 1 8

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:30 PM Boy Scouts	2	3 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	4 6:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	5	6 9:00 AM Liturgical Dance Rehearsal 1:00 PM Family Fellowship Apple Picking Steere Orchard
7 10:00 AM Worship / Communion	8 Columbus Day; Office is Closed 6:30 PM Boy Scouts	9	10 5:30 PM Family Café 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	11 10:00 AM Communion Visitation Meeting 6:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	12	13 9:00 AM Liturgical Dance Rehearsal 8:00 PM One Plus One at the Theatre!
14 10:00 AM Worship 2:00 PM Mernin Shower	15 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Facilities Committee Meeting	16 12:30 PM Martha Circle Lunch Meeting 7:00 PM Administration Committee Meeting 7:30 PM Pastoral Relations Committee Meeting	17 6:30 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM PFLAG Meeting	18 6:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	19	20 4:00 PM Mueller Wedding
21 10:00 AM Worship 11:15 AM Outreach & Missions Committee Meeting 12:30 PM CROP Hunger Walk at La Salette Shrine	22 November VOICE Deadline 4:00 PM Food Pantry Distribution 6:30 PM Boy Scouts	23	24 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	25 6:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	26	27 9:00 AM Liturgical Dance Rehearsal 10:00 AM Jack & Jill Fall Festival!
28 10:00 AM Worship 11:20 AM Church Council Meeting	29 6:30 PM Boy Scouts	30	31 6:30 PM Cub Scouts			