

THE VOICE of *Second Church*

United Church of Christ

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Attleboro, MA 02703

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February 2019



PACK 33 COMMUNITY PINEWOOD DERBY FEBRUARY 2ND

**FAMILY FELLOWSHIP MEATLOAF LUNCHEON
FEBRUARY 17TH, 11:00 AM**

ALL-CHURCH WORK DAY, 9:00 AM TO NOON

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
jackandjill@attleborosecondchurch.org www.jackandjillattleboro.com
Fred Saunders, Administrative Assistant / Curator
BSA Charter Organization Representative, c: 508-918-0123
Jack Baptist, Sexton
Church Office: 508- 222-4677 Fax: 508- 222-2148
office@attleborosecondchurch.org
www.attleborosecondchurch.org
Find us on Facebook!

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

February, 2019

Outreach & Missions	Women's Fellowship	One Plus One	Work Day!	Administration Committee	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Christian Education Committee	Birthdays	Music & Dance	Calendar
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MINISTER'S MUSE

TENDING TO THE LIGHT: AN ANTIDOTE TO BURNOUT



Millennials have made national news lately by wrestling with the term, "burnout generation." Burnout was a condition first described by Herbert Freudenberger to cases of "physical or mental collapse caused by overwork or stress." While this condition is similar to exhaustion, burnout comes when you push yourself past exhaustion; your heart's no longer in your work, you're no longer finding any joy in life- the only thing keeping you going is the morning and afternoon caffeine. The theory is that, due to the decline of unionized labor, competition from foreign workers, and the consolidation of income and opportunity to the one percent, millennials have become the most indebted, "optimized" educated, underpaid, and economically disposable generation in U.S. history. The mantra "Relax, just be happy," which was an option for the Greatest generation, Boomer generation, and Gen. X- who still had weekends to themselves, paid vacations and endless job opportunity, this just doesn't exist as an option for Millennials.

You are not alone however, Millennials! Clergy, police, teachers, nurses, doctors, public defenders, aid workers, and social workers are all susceptible to burn out too. Our commitment to helping others is usually strong enough to move us past our own

physical exhaustion or even the needs of our own families. If we're not careful we become hollowed-out hypocrites and the living anathema to everything we are supposed to embody. But for those of us who do push through and manage to hold on to our souls, there is some wisdom.

For me it really has to do with taking responsibility for tending to the light that set me on my lofty, quixotic goal in the first place. Tending to this light actually has to be a daily goal. And I have to put that goal before the need to soothe, medicate, exercise, or elucidate. I have a daily forty minute meditation or contemplative prayer practice that connects me to the source and in love with the deep. I stay in touch with my "wild" friends from my days living in Boulder or studying in Africa. I make sure I'm participating to the fire in my marriage- that I spend time loving my kids. I have learned along the way that burnout can creep up and seep in like the worst form of zombie virus. I have seen many good colleagues and "noble light questers" fall along the way. I have to remember that bringing hope to others is not about writing this or that book, sermon, article- landing this or that grant, or making this or that community more economically sound- it's about embodying the light I serve.

Though I am a Gen. X'r myself, I think I may understand some of the hardship Millennials face. Burnout is pretty common in my profession. The antidote to burn out is remembering your light and tending to your flame every day. Don't "do" the light, "be" the light. Then no matter how uncertain the job force or social structure may be, by tending to your light, you will be grounded enough to not only "do" the right thing but "be" the right thing.

Yours in Christ, *Reverend Vern Wright*

LITURGICAL THEMES

FEBRUARY 3

Communion – Gathering Sunday

“Trusting your Light
(Even if Its Small)”

Luke 4:21-30

This famous scriptural passage is about Jesus trying to preach in the hostile environment of his own town. Christ reminds us that maybe only a few people have felt or seen your light, but that's okay. Light is light!

FEBRUARY 10

“Expanding your Light
(When your Passion Becomes
Contagious)”

Luke 5:1-11

Jesus uses some boats belonging to fisherman to teach the crowds on the shore. They oblige, fishing while he teaches. He then instructs them to move out a little farther. They catch so many fish the boat is nearly sinking. Jesus says I will make you fishers of men. What happens when our passion becomes contagious to others?

FEBRUARY 17

Reverend John Fisk will be with us. Reverend Wright is planning a brief vacation for this Sunday.

FEBRUARY 24

“Realizing Your Light
(When Your Love Becomes Justice)”

Luke 6:27-38

In this passage about loving your enemies (anyone can love your neighbor or family- but only the very special can love their enemy), is really important for the faithful. This Sunday I will relate this to the "Loving-Kindness" prayer in which one actively imagines and embodies the light of loving-kindness in the world.

TBA NEW MINISTRIES FOR FEBRUARY

There are a couple of new "house ministries" starting soon. Charlie Oliver is planning a book study at his house. Ben Macomber will be teaching an art class about the spiritual dimension of creativity at the Fellowship Hall. Stay tuned to your bulletins and Facebook for more information.

BOARD OF DEACONS

Our Lead Deacon this month is Marcia Weidner. 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.

HELP IS NEEDED TO BRING PEOPLE TO CHURCH ON SUNDAY MORNINGS.

Please call Ralph Giannetti at 508-226-4618 if you can pick someone up before and bring them home after church.

PLAY BALL. The Board of Deacons will be serving an Opening Day Luncheon, after service **on Sunday, March 31, 2019.** Typical baseball park fare will be served. A Free Will offering is suggested. The Deacons will be wearing baseball caps from their favorite teams. The congregation is asked to do the same. (Gee, I wonder how many Red Sox hats we will see!). Stay tuned for more information.

FLOWER COMMITTEE

GOT WAX? After several Easter and Christmas seasons, we have an

First meeting of the Second Church Book Club: Friday, March 8th, 7:00pm, at the home of Charlie & Wendy Oliver, 11 Thayer Farm Road, Attleboro. Bring a snack to share. RSVP: 508-226-2319 or cw.oliver@comcast.net.

Subject: Gregory Boyle's "Tattoos on the Heart – The Power of Boundless Compassion".

About \$11 on Amazon.com. I will make a few copies available, if you need one. Here is a synopsis;

Father Gregory Boyle began to preach in a part of Los Angeles where gang violence led to murder and hopelessness. Using his Jesuit training to address these problems, he welcomed ALL people to Mass, founded a school for gang members kicked out of public school, and established a non-profit business to create employment opportunities for gang members looking to change their lives. Each chapter discusses moral lessons Boyle learned from them.

At this meeting we will agree upon a theme for the club, choose a name for it, and decide how often to meet. Be prepared to suggest the next book.

My goal: share books which help us relate better to and care more about our fellow humans. I hope we will enrich our spiritual lives, no matter how we individually choose to define that. **ALL ARE WELCOME!** Charlie Oliver

abundance of white, off-white and colored candles. If there is anyone in the congregation that is crafty (or knows someone) and would have a use for leftover candles of good quality, please see Fred Saunders or Cathy Giannetti. **There are MANY of them!**

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

2018 & 2019 PLEDGE REMINDERS

As of December 31, 2018 we met our overall 2018 budget projections for pledge receipts. However, we encourage anyone who has not yet done so to fulfill your pledge for 2018. Also, if you have not yet made your pledge for 2019, we beg that you do it as soon as possible so that we can finish our budget for 2019 and continue our church missions and good deeds.

*Colin Blair on behalf of
the Administration Committee.*

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Coffee Hour: It is becoming more and more difficult to find volunteers to host Coffee Hour on Sunday mornings. We run the risk currently of having to skip

this time of fellowship on some upcoming Sundays. If you can help us keep this going strong please sign up during Coffee Hour or call Sandy Saunders at 508-699-2738. Your help with this mission is crucial to the vitality of our congregation.

It's time to start planning the May Breakfast, April 27th, and the Indoor Yard Sale, May 18th. As you start your spring cleaning, keep the Yard Sale in mind. Speak with Sandy or Fred Saunders if you have questions about a donation.

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 friends. If you'd like to join us in 2019, contact me or call the Church office so we can add you to our 1+1 call list.

After holding three 1+1 gatherings in the fall, we are gathering on March 2nd to attend a comedic play ("Mom's Gift") at the Attleboro Community Theatre. We are expecting to meet again for another play in the spring as well as our June cookout. We're open to other ideas and events too as we go along so don't hesitate to contact me if you see something that looks like it would be a good excuse to get out of the house and have some fun.

Colin Blair at colincb@aol.com or 508-226-5457.



The PSM will meet on Monday, February 11th at 12:30 in the Ladies' Parlor. Our ministry has passed its **ONE 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

Bells and Adult Choir will rehearse on February 7th, 14th, and 28th. No rehearsal on February 21st (public school vacation week). The Adult Choir will sing on the 3rd, 10th, and 17th, but not on Sunday, February 24th. Bells will choose a performance date at a future rehearsal.

ORGAN RENOVATION UPDATE

The technicians from Andover Organ Company are back working on the organ as of mid-January. At the moment, the Swell division (the pipes played from the top keyboard on the console) is unusable because of work being done on that wind chest. The Swell stop motors are being replaced. These are the devices on the wind chest that control the sets of pipes associated with each stop. Once this job is complete, the work on this wind chest will be finished, and the technicians will move on to renovating the other three wind chests, one at a time. Design work is also now being completed on future changes to the stop action within the console. Andover will continue their work until they get into their pre-Easter tuning schedule in March and April.

Bill MacPherson

Beyond the Pipes from November 17th

You can watch it at aacs15.com/SecondCongregationalOrgan

INTERGENERATIONAL SACRED DANCE

All are welcome to join us for Saturday morning practices on February 2nd, 9th, and 16th at 9am in the sanctuary. We are preparing a piece choreographed by

Tara Tetreault to "You Say" by Lauren Daigle to be presented in a contemporary worship service. Whether you have classical dance training or just like to move when the spirit calls you 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.

Diane Osborne

OUTREACH & MISSIONS

The Food Pantry will distribute food to families on Monday, January 28th. Please remember the Food Pantry when you shop for groceries. The next distribution after that is on February 25th, 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, protein bars, 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 with any questions.

The Family Café: 29 people were served on January 9th. The next Family Café will be held on Wednesday, February 13th ♥ 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. Children's book donations, coloring books & crayons are greatly appreciated! Contact Linda Wiswall, wiswalllinda@gmail.com.

The next Outreach and Missions Committee meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, February 17th** at 11:15 a.m. in the Ladies Parlor. *Janet Blair*

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We are looking forward to our next Family Fellowship event; on Sunday February 17th after worship we will hold a special **MEATLOAF LUNCHEON!** All of our church family is welcome to join us for a delicious meal, great conversation, and activities for the young and young at heart!

I have included some details below about the lessons we will be sharing in Sunday School this month. Please note that Feb.3rd 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.

February 10th

Numbers 13–14: “Moving toward Canaan”

Here are some ways to nurture faith at home based on this week’s story. (1) Read Numbers 13:17–20. Why did God send spies into Canaan? (2) Eat grapes. Talk about a time when others disagreed with your ideas. (3) Work together to name twelve brave people.

Did you know? Grapes can be red, black, dark blue, yellow, green, orange, and pink.

Prayer for the week: *God, give us courage to stand up for your truth even when other people don’t agree. Amen.*

February 17th

Deuteronomy 30, 34: “Promised Land dreams”

Here are some ways to nurture faith at home based on this week’s story. (1) Read Deuteronomy 34:1–6. How do you think Moses felt about not going into the Promised Land? (2) What is the highest place you have been? What did you see from there? (3) Moses told the people to “choose life” by loving and obeying God. How can you “choose life” today?

Did you know? According to Deuteronomy 34, how old was Moses when he died? <120>

Prayer for the week: *God, give us wisdom to make good choices. Lead us each day. Amen.*

February 24th

Joshua 1:1–17: “God calls Joshua”

Here are some ways to nurture faith at home based on this week’s story. (1) Read Joshua 1:7–9. Why didn’t Joshua need to be frightened? (2) Talk about where you are going today or all the places you went. In what ways was God with you? (3) Jordan means “down flowing.” Find an online photo or video of the Jordan River.

Did you know? What famous basketball player’s last name is found in Joshua 1:1–11? <Michael Jordan>

Prayer for the week: *God, give us strength and courage for each new day. We know that you are with us. 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.

Diane Osborne



It’s a very exciting time at Jack and Jill as we have opened our registration for the 2019-2020 academic year. Our current families filled one Pre-K class the day our registration opened! It’s so much fun to see how excited people are for their child’s experience here!

This is a very exciting time for the teachers as we begin to see the children blossom. The teachers and children spend the fall months learning the routine and structure of a classroom and getting to know each other. This is the time of the year that we really see their minds begin to grow! They come back after the holiday break physically bigger and ready to roll! It’s a very exciting time to be a teacher. ☺ It’s especially rewarding in the three year old classrooms.

This month we will be celebrating Valentine’s Day with a special Dance for our 4/5 year olds. The children will have a fun opportunity to mingle with students in our other classes as well.

Please mark your calendars for our annual Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser on Saturday March 30th. We would love to have our church community join us for this event. Donations for our opportunity baskets are already flowing in! As always attendees will be served a delicious dinner and have the opportunity to win some amazing prizes! Come one, come all! Look for us during fellowship one in Sunday in March to purchase your tickets!

If you or anyone you know is looking for a pre-school, please encourage them to check out our website at jackandjill@attleborosecondchurch.org or call the school at 508-222-1149!

Warmly, Kara Lehane

ALL CHURCH WORK DAY

The Facilities Committee will hold a work day on **February 16th from 9 am to noon** to address some self-help maintenance and cleanup projects around our beautiful church home. If you can give even an hour of that morning, please wear work clothes and bring work gloves in case there is some messy stuff to be moved. If you have specific skills you know you can contribute please speak with Maria Smith or Fred Saunders so we can be sure to plan on utilizing them.

Thanks, Maria Smith



February Birthdays

- 2 Audrey Libby
Elliot Withers
- 3 Ron Koback
- 4 Hannah Melker
- 8 Liz Hunt
- 9 Prudie Bliss
Ruth Alice Ottmar
- 13 Deb Goulding
- 15 Tara Tetreault
- 16 Samantha Cassidy
- 18 Sue Janson
- 19 Katie Simmons
- 20 Julie Cotsalas
- 22 Will Saunders
- 23 Emily Saunders
- 25 Suzie Bourdeau
- 26 Karen Slawson
- 27 Ryan Johnston
- 28 Anita Chilson
- 29 Keith Priesing

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 9

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Cub Scout Pinewood Derby 9:00 AM Intergenerational Sacred Dance Rehearsal
3 10:00 AM Worship / Communion	4 6:30 PM Deacons' Meeting Boy Scouts	5	6 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	7 6:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	8	9 9:00 AM Intergenerational Sacred Dance Rehearsal
10 10:00 AM Worship 11:15 AM Music Committee Meeting	11 12:30 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30 PM Boy Scouts	12	13 5:30 PM Family Café 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	14 10:00 AM Communion Visitation Meeting 6:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	15	16 9:00 AM Intergenerational Sacred Dance Rehearsal ALL-CHURCH WORK DAY!
17 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Family Fellowship Luncheon! 11:15 AM Outreach & Missions Committee Meeting	18 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Facilities Committee Meeting	19 7:00 PM Administration Committee Meeting	20 March VOICE Deadline 6:30 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM PFLAG Meeting	21	22	23
24 10:00 AM Contemporary Worship 11:20 AM Church Council Meeting	25 4:00 PM Food Pantry Distribution 6:30 PM Boy Scouts	26	27 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	28 6:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal		