

**South Parish Congregational Church UCC Happenings**  
**Newsletter Date: November 26, 2024**



**From Nathan’s Richards Desk**

*"... for I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." (Matthew 25: 35-36)*

Compassion is the capacity for feeling what it's like to live inside somebody else's skin. It is the knowledge that comes from our faith that there can never really be any peace and joy for me until there is peace and joy finally for you.

The Gospels depict Jesus as having spent a lot of time demonstrating compassion and healing people. He specifically rejected the theory that sickness was God's way of getting even with sinners (John 9:1-3), but nonetheless, he seems to have seen sin as a kind of sickness. *" Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick ” Jesus said. “I came not to call the righteous but sinners.” (Mark 2:17)*

Jesus' compassion reminds us that compassion is not something we just talk about, or even just pray about, it's something we act upon in our Savior's name.

**Pastor Nathan's Availability**

If you are looking to meet with Pastor Nathan, here are his available times throughout the week:

- Tuesdays: 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
- Wednesdays: 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
- Sundays: After Service

Feel free to reach out during these hours for any pastoral care, or guidance, or to schedule a meeting. Pastor Nathan is more than willing to assist you with your needs and provide support.

**Office Hours Schedule**

**Our office hours are as follows:**

- Mondays: 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
- Tuesdays: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
- Wednesdays: 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
- Thursdays: 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM
- Contact Us: Phone: 207-622-0552 Email: southparish@gmail.com



**Pastor Nathan's Weekly Video Choice**

Every week, Pastor Nathan handpicks an inspiring video from the RightNow Video Library to share with you. These selections are thoughtfully chosen to uplift, educate, and inspire individuals on their spiritual journey.

**Let's dive into this week's choice!**

**This Week's Video:** *“Emanuel God with Us”*

**Duration:** 11 Mins

**Speaker:** J.D. Grear

**Video Summary:** The Christmas story, or Advent, is more than a sentimental myth or a quiet manger scene we use to decorate our living rooms. The Christmas story is the good news of God entering into our darkness. Join J.D. Greear in this four-session series as he takes a deeper look at Jesus as Emmanuel, our Wonderful Counselor, the Everlasting Father, and the great I Am. When you know Jesus, you will realize Christmas is more than a nice story—the arrival of Jesus changes everything.

**How to Access the Video:** Click on the link or copy the link and paste it your browser:

To watch "Emmanuel“ log into your RightNow Video Library account and search for the video title.

If you don't have an account, please click on the Picture or link or Scan the QR Code. <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/join/southparishch>

rightnow MEDIA

# Happy Fall

We've purchased unlimited access to thousands of Christian videos and are giving free access to everyone in our church.



**Get Free Access**

1. Check your email for the invite from RightNow Media.

2. Or scan the QR code here:



android chromecast iPhone & iPad Roku Apple TV fireTV

# *Christmas Poinsettias*



*Christmas will soon be here, and it's time to decorate the Sanctuary with beautiful, colorful Poinsettia plants.*

*Christmas will soon be here, and it's time to decorate the Sanctuary with beautiful, colorful Poinsettia plants.*

*Plants can be purchased at grocery stores, Lowe's, and Home Depot at very reasonable prices.*

## *Delivery Instructions:*

- Please bring your flowers in during the week of December 15th.*
- They can be dropped off on Sunday, or between 8 to 12 from Monday to Thursday.*
- The last day to drop them off will be Thursday, December 19th.*
- They can be left on the table outside the church office.*

## *Labeling Instructions:*

- Write your name and the name(s) of those in whose memory the plants are being donated on the list provided.*
- On the popsicle stick, write your last name and a "K" if you will be taking your plant home, or an "L" if you plan to leave the plant at the church. The stick should then be placed in the dirt in the plant pot.*

*Thank you so much for your participation!*

*The Deacons' Board*

## *Seeking Sunday Service Deacons*

We are seeking dedicated individuals to serve as Deacons for our Sunday services. If you have a heart for helping and wish to contribute to our worship community, we would love to hear from you!

Don't hesitate to get in touch with Donna or any of the Deacons for more details.



## *Christian Education Update for Advent and Christmas*

***Advent and Christmas are fast approaching! Here is the Sunday School schedule through December:***

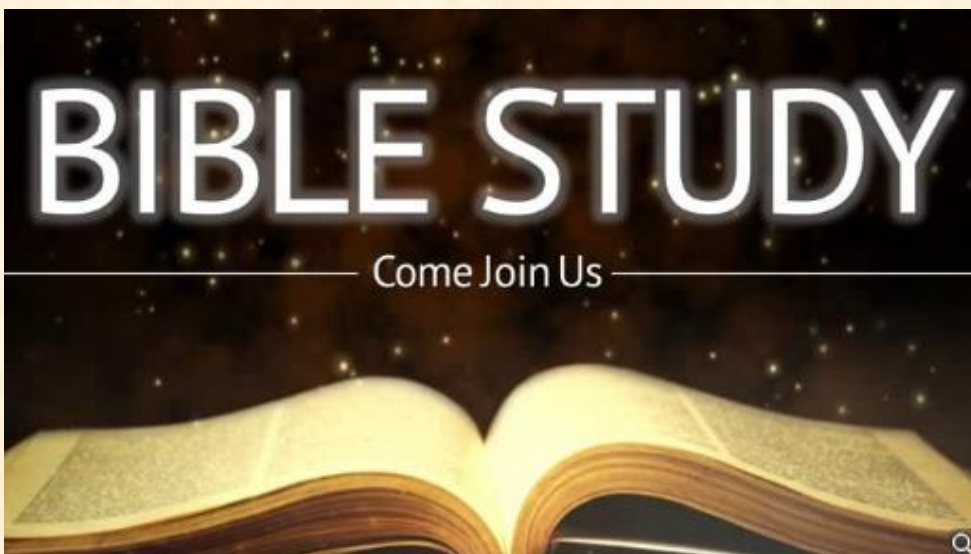
- *Sunday, December 1st: Family Sunday (no Sunday School. Pew packs with activity sheets will be available)*
- *Sunday, December 8th: Advent teachings and Christmas Pageant prep*
- *Sunday, December 15th: Advent teachings and Christmas Pageant prep*
- *Sunday, December 22nd: CHRISTMAS PAGEANT*
- *Sunday, December 29th: Family Sunday (no Sunday School. Pew packs available)*

*The pageant requires some costumes and rehearsals. If the kids who want parts could attend on the 8th and 15th, that would be great. If they can't, please let Heather or Kathy know. We can always use non-speaking parts such as angels and shepherds. Only the narrators have a lot of speaking parts. Other roles are important, but they have minimal lines, so no worries for the kids.*

*Family Sundays around the holidays allow the teachers to enjoy some family time of their own.*

*Thank you for being so understanding.*

*Best regards, Kathy Petersen, CE Chair*



### ***Bible Study Group***

- *Date & Time: Every Tuesday at 5:00 PM*
- *Location: Join our Adult Bible Study every Tuesday at 5:00 PM, either via Zoom or in person with Pastor Nate.*
- *For the Zoom link, please reach out to Kathy Petersen or Marcel in the Office*



**Welcome to the Holly Mart Event! Join us for a day filled with fun, food, and festivities.**



**Come join us at the Holly Mart Event for a day full of joy and community spirit!**

### **Breakfast Bar**

Start your day with a delicious at our **Breakfast Bar** from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM. Enjoy a variety of freshly Baked Muffins, donuts, and pastries with hot coffee, tea, and drinks

### **Cookie Walk**

Indulge your sweet tooth with our **Cookie Walk**. Sample an array of homemade cookies and take home a selection of your favorites.

### **The Pie Auction**

Join us for the main event, **The Pie Auction**, led by the charismatic Auctioneer, Pastor Nathan. Bid on freshly baked pies, while supporting a great cause.

### **Lasagna Luncheon**

Don't miss our **Lasagna Luncheon** from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Enjoy a hearty and delicious meal featuring homemade lasagna and side dishes and Homemade Apple Crisp.

### **Popcorn Stand**

Grab a snack at our **Popcorn Stand**—perfect for munching on as you explore the event.

### **Kids Craft Table**

Let your little ones unleash their creativity at the **Kids Craft Table**. A variety of fun and engaging projects await them.

### **White Elephant Table**

Discover hidden treasures at the **White Elephant Table**. You never know what unique and quirky items you might find!

### **Silent Auction**

For those who enjoy a quieter bidding experience, check out the **Silent Auction**. Browse through an assortment of items and place your bids discreetly.

### **Raffles**

Try your luck with our **Raffles**! Enter for a chance to win exciting prizes throughout the day.

### **Wreaths, Puzzles, Crafts, and More**

Explore a variety of booths featuring **Wreaths, Puzzles, Crafts, Jewelry, Books, Plants**, and much more. There's something for everyone!

### **Music**

Enjoy live music during lunch to keep your spirits high and your feet tapping.

**Come join us at the Holly Mart Event for a day full of joy and community spirit!**



## *Food Pantry Update*

**Thank you all for your incredible generosity and ongoing support! Your donations have made a significant impact, and many people were deeply grateful at last the Saturday's distribution.**

**For the next few weeks, we are specifically in need of baked beans, crackers (small sleeves are preferred), granola bars, ramen soups, canned salmon, and individual cereal cups.**

**With heartfelt gratitude, as always.**

### *Augusta's Project Fresh Start Seeks New Location*



*Augusta's Project Fresh Start, a nonprofit organization, is in need of a new location to continue its mission of providing donated home furnishings, kitchen appliances, dishes, and other necessities to those in need.*

*The organization is losing its current warehouse at 352 Civic Center Drive in Augusta and is seeking about 3,000 square feet of free or affordable space in or near Augusta.*

*Project Fresh Start has been helping over 500 families annually by providing essential items, and the need for these items is greater than ever as people struggle with high prices. The organization is dedicated to giving people a fresh start, such as single mothers going through a divorce or immigrants establishing households in the area.*

*If you have space to offer or ideas for donations, please contact Project Fresh Start at 207-530-6142 Sue Gayne, Church Council President.*





## **South Parish Nursery School Colley Hill Candles Fundraiser**

**November 21st through December 10th**

Support South Parish Nursery School by participating in our annual candle fundraiser. This year, we're partnering with Colley Hill Candles to offer a delightful selection of fall and winter fragrances that are perfect for the holiday season.

### **Choose from 12 Fall & Winter Fragrances**

Explore a wide variety of scents that capture the essence of the season. These candles not only make great gifts but also help in supporting our school's activities and programs.

### **How to Order**

1. **Visit the Website:** Place your order online at <https://www.colleyhill.com/>
2. **Shopping Cart Note:** During checkout, be sure to write "South Parish Nursery School fundraiser and Child's name" in the notes section. This ensures that a portion of your purchase supports our school.

Thank you for your support, and happy shopping!

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings 9 Church St. Augusta, Me

Open Meetings are available to anyone interested in Alcoholics Anonymous program of recovery from alcoholism . Non-alcoholism may attend open meetings as observers.

### OPEN RECOVERY IS A PROCESS



### Upcoming events



**Trustees Meeting**  
Date: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of Every Month  
Time: 6:00 PM  
Location: (Marge Grover RM)

**Church Council Meeting**  
Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday Of Every Month  
Time: 6 PM  
Marge Grover Room

**Deacons Meeting**  
Date: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Every Month  
Time: After Church Service  
Pastor's Office

### Upcoming events



**Men's Breakfast:**  
Date: Every Thurs  
Time: 6:30 PM  
Location: South Parish Congregational Church (Marge Grover RM)

**The Amy Buxton Pet Pantry**  
Date: 2nd Saturday of every Month  
Time: 9 - 10 AM  
South Parish Congregational Church

**Community Suppers**  
Date: 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Saturday of Every Month  
Time: 4:30 to 5:30 PM  
SPCC 9 Church St.

**Holly Mart**  
Date: Saturday Dec 7th  
Time: 8 Am to 2:00 PM  
Location: South Parish Congregational Church 9 Church St. Augusta

November 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
03 GS United Methodist 8-9:30am SPCC Sunday Worship 10 am - 12:00pm	04 AA Meeting 7- 8am AA 12-1pm Bridge Club 1pm Line Dancing 6pm	05 AA 7-8:15am AA 12-1pm Bible Study 5pm Trustees Meet 6pm	06 AA 7-8am AA 12-1pm Green St UMC 4-9pm	07 AA 7-8am AA 12-1pm	08 AA 7-8 am AA 12-1 pm	09 Community Supper 4:30-5:30 pm
10 GS United Methodist 8-9:30am SPCC Sunday Worship 10 am - 12:00pm Recycled Shakespeare 1- 4pm	11 Veterans Day AA Meeting 7- 8am AA 12-1pm Bridge Club 1 pm Line Dancing 6pm	12 AA 7-8:15am AA 12-1pm Bible Study 5pm	13 AA 7-8am AA 12-1pm Green St UMC 4-9pm	14 Men's Breakfast at 6:30 am AA 7-8 am AA 12 pm-1 pm	15 AA 7-8 am AA 12-1 pm	16 Community Supper 4:30-5:30 pm Pet Pantry 9-10 am
17 GS United Methodist 8-9:30am SPCC Sunday Worship 10 am - 12:00pm Shakespeare Play 12 -5pm	18 AA Meeting 7- 8am AA 12-1pm Bridge Club 1pm Line Dancing 6pm	19 AA 7-8:15am AA 12-1pm Bible Study 5pm Church Council 6:00pm	20 AA 7-8am AA 12-1pm Green St UMC 4-9pm	21 Men's Breakfast 6:30am AA 7-8am AA 12pm-1pm	22 AA 7-8am AA 12-1pm	23 Community Supper 4:30-5:30pm  Shakespeare Craft Fair
24 GS United Methodist 8-9:30am  SPCC Sunday Worship 10 am - 12:00pm Recycled Shakespeare 1 - 4pm	25 AA Meeting 7- 8am AA 12-1pm Bridge Club 1-3pm Line Dancing 6pm	26 AA 7-8:15am AA 12-1pm  Bible Study 5pm	27 AA 7-8am AA 12-1pm Green St UMC 4-9pm  Community Thanksgiving Dinner 4-8pm	28 	29 AA 7-8 am AA 12-1 pm	30 Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Augusta. 9am to 6pm Casserole Crew 9-12
Dec 1 GS United Methodist 8-9:30am SPCC Sunday Worship 10 am -	Dec 2 AA Meeting 7- 8am AA 12-1pm Bridge Club 1 pm Line Dancing 6pm	Dec 3 AA 7-8:15am AA 12-1pm  Bible Study 5pm	Dec 4 AA 7-8am AA 12-1pm Green St UMC 4-9pm	Dec 5 Men's Breakfast 6:30am AA 7-8am AA 12pm-1pm	Dec 6 AA 7-8 am AA 12-1 pm	Dec 7  Community Supper 4:30-5:30 pm