



Thinking about coming to church... or coming back? You're welcome here.

At South Parish Congregational Church UCC, we know that everyone comes to faith and community in their own way and in their own time. Some have been part of a church for years. Some have been away for a long time.

Some have never stepped inside a church at all.

Wherever you are on life's journey — you are welcome here.

Our church family is a place of open hearts, caring community, and authentic belonging. Come as you are. Bring your questions, your hopes, your doubts, your joys. There is a place for you at our table.

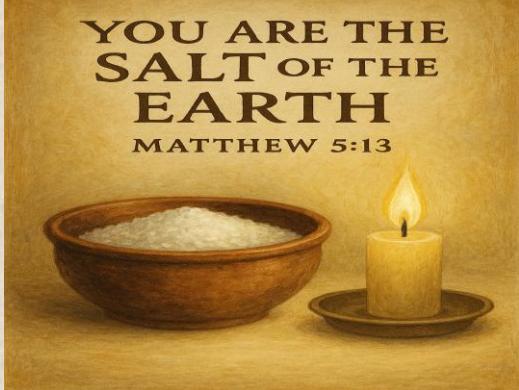
If you're interested in learning more about our church or joining our community, we would love to meet you.

All are welcome. Always.

**Pastor
Nathan's
Weekly
Message**



**YOU ARE THE
SALT OF THE
EARTH**
MATTHEW 5:13



***"You are the salt of the earth."* (Matthew 5:13)**

Matthew's readers/disciples are not challenged to try harder to be salt and light, but are told that as followers of Jesus they are salt and light for the world. The scripture calls the reader not to more self-exertion, but to believe Jesus' words and to accept and live out the new reality it has already created in the call to discipleship. Disciples of Jesus are what they are, not because of inherent potential that they are called upon to recognize and develop, but by Jesus' own word.

**PASTOR
NATHAN'S
Video of the
Week.**



[Click Here to Watch](#)
Or click the QR
Code with camera.



Whether we realize it or not, shame affects every aspect of our personal lives and vocational endeavors. It seeks to destroy our identity in Christ, replacing it with a damaged version of ourselves that results in unhealed pain and brokenness. But God is telling a different story for your life. Psychiatrist Curt Thompson unpacks the soul of shame, revealing its ubiquitous nature and neurobiological roots.

He also provides the theological and practical tools necessary to dismantle shame, based on years of researching its damaging effects and counseling people to overcome those wounds.

Thompson's expertise and compassion will help you identify your own pains and struggles and find freedom from the lifelong negative messages that bind you. Through this course you can rewrite the story of your life and embrace healing and wholeness as you discover and defeat shame's insidious agenda.

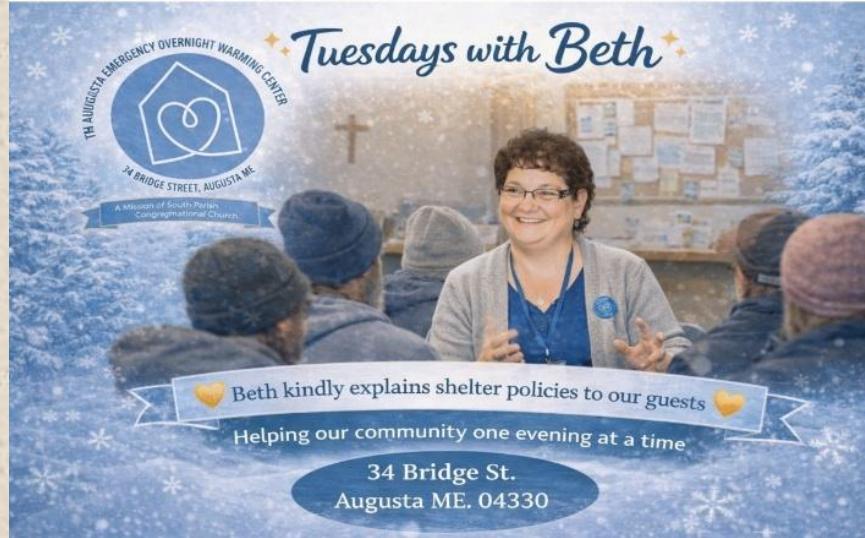
Pantry Donation Request 



Ravioli is one of the most popular canned food items at the **South Parish Congregational Church Food Pantry**, and our shelves are running low.

If you're able, we are gratefully accepting **donations of canned ravioli** to help support individuals and families in our community. This simple meal makes a big difference for those who need it most.

Thank you for your continued generosity and for helping us care for our neighbors. 



Tuesdays with Beth Anne Sirabella want to take a moment to recognize and appreciate Beth, whose compassion and steady presence mean so much to everyone at the Augusta Emergency Overnight Warming Center.

By day, Beth is a dedicated nursery school teacher and the Director of South Parish Nursery School at 9 Church Street, bringing years of experience, patience, and care to young learners. By evening, she brings those same skills—often part-time and mostly as a volunteer—to our warming center.

One of the many ways Beth supports our guests is through "Tuesdays with Beth." As guests gather, Beth uses her teaching background to clearly and respectfully explain our policies and the reasons behind them. What might sometimes feel strict at first becomes easier to understand when Beth explains that these rules are in place to protect everyone's safety, dignity, and well-being.

Her calm, caring approach helps build trust, reduce anxiety, and create a sense of understanding and community. We are deeply grateful for Beth's generosity, her time, and the heart she brings to our center—both on Tuesdays and beyond. Thank you, Beth, for all you do.

Julia Stone, Director and Rob Flannery, Manager



Support Our Own & Enjoy a Great Night Out!

We're proud to share that our talented church pianist, Marcia Gallagher, is performing live on February Wednesday nights February 11th and the 25th at Slate's in Hallowell! 207-622-9575

Come enjoy Marcia's beautiful music while savoring comfort food specials—a perfect midweek treat with great food and great company.

Slater's | 163 Water St, Hallowell, ME Wednesday nights in February Live music: Marcia Gallagher Bring a friend, enjoy a meal, and support local talent—we hope to see you there!

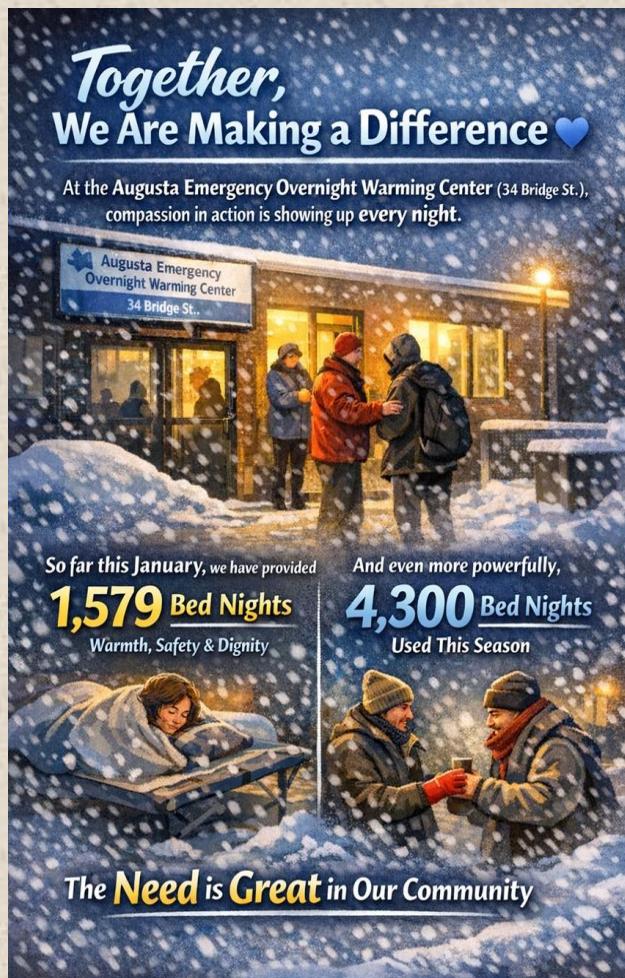


Every day, our community shows incredible compassion. Donations of warm clothing, snacks, and personal supplies continue to make a real difference for our guests at the Augusta Emergency Overnight Warming Center.

Today, a woman delivered beautifully crocheted hats, gloves, and mittens made with love for those experiencing homelessness. She and her friends use their craft to meet real needs and they're not alone. Several groups of caring crocheters have been helping keep our guests warm with handmade items that carry dignity and kindness.

To everyone who donates, creates, and supports the Warming Center: your compassion is felt every single night. ❤

Julia Stone, Director

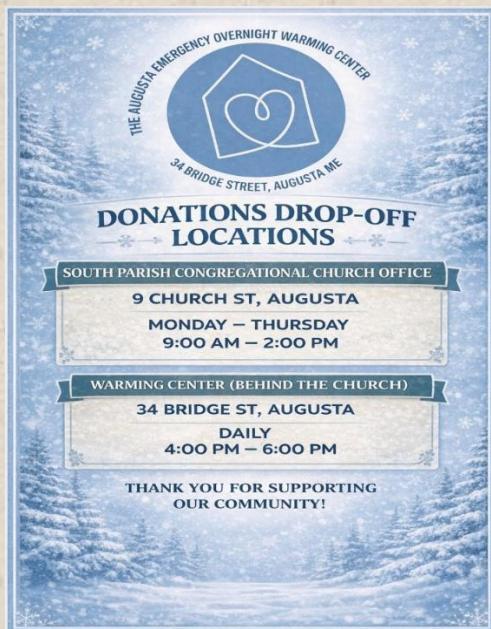
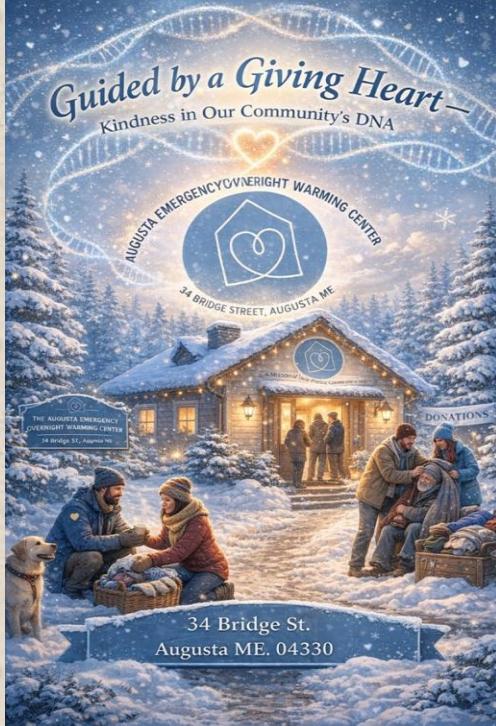


Together, We Are Making a Difference ❤
At the Augusta Emergency Overnight Warming Center (34 Bridge St.), compassion in action is showing up every night.

In January, we have provided 1,579 bed nights, offering warmth, safety, and dignity during some of the coldest and toughest months. Even more powerfully, 4,300 bed nights have been used so far this season — a clear reminder of how great the need is in our community.

We are deeply grateful to the Augusta-area community — our volunteers, staff, partners, and donors — for the incredible hard work, generosity, and care you continue to show. Because of you, neighbors experiencing homelessness have a safe place to rest, warm up, and feel safe.

Thank you for standing with us and helping keep people warm, safe, and supported this winter. ❤ Your kindness truly saves lives.



Guided by a Giving Heart – Kindness in Our Community's DNA

Today, we experienced a beautiful reminder of the compassion that lives among us. A woman came into our shelter with a heartfelt donation — money and clothing to support those in need.

When I asked what inspired her generosity, her answer was simple and powerful: "I'm a nurse... helping people is in my DNA."

Her giving heart shines through in everything she does, and today she chose to extend that kindness to our community.

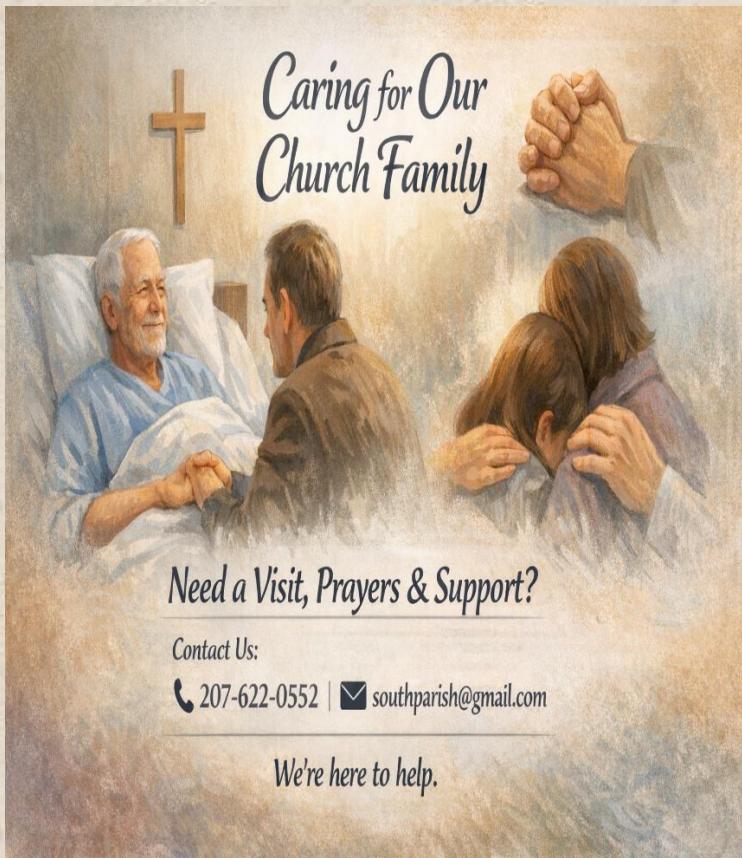
We are deeply grateful — not only for her donation, but for the example she sets. Her act of kindness reflects the same spirit shown by so many others who support our mission. Each person who gives, in any way, carries the same giving heart within them.

Thank you to everyone whose generosity helps us continue this work. You remind us that compassion truly is part of our shared DNA. ❤️

Julia Stone, Director

Supporting Our Church Family in Times of Need

If you know of a church member who is sick, in need of a visit from the Pastor or deacons, or facing other needs, please let us know. We would be honored to reach out with care, prayer, and support. You may call the church office at **207-622-0552** or email us at **southparish@gmail.com**. Thank you for helping us care for one another as a church family.





Update from the
Official Greeter
Nelson Leavitt

It had to happen sooner or later. On Sunday, February 1, 2025, for the first time, there were no new people coming to Church. Usually during the week following Sunday's Church gathering, I connect with as many of the new people as possible. Since Pastor Nathan was to return after being away for two weeks, I decided to enlarge on the list to contact. I sent emails or texts to all of the new people who I had not seen for a while. There were 10 in all. I did that on Saturday and half of them responded right away.

Some thanked me for reaching out to them. All in all, six out of the 10 replied. Out of the six that replied, all but one came to Church on Feb 1st.

I'm writing you to let you know that people who are coming for the first time are finding a welcoming Church. They are telling me they like South Parish and want to keep coming.

One young man has already decided that he wants to join the Church as a member. That announcement will be made soon.

We realize there are many activities that a person can choose to do on a Sunday. We also realize if they choose Church, then they are looking for more than just a social event. They are looking to fill their need for a connection with God.

You all should be feeling the reward that our service is bringing people to the Lord. And I can tell you, I witness that this is true.

God works through people who love him.

Nelson Leavitt

**We love seeing our members greet new faces
with open hearts and friendly smiles. Thank
you for making our church a place where all
feel welcomed.**

So thankful for our church family and the warm way you welcome new visitors. Your kindness and care help everyone feel at home.



The Amy Buxton Pet Pantry

US\$0.00

 [DONATE NOW](#)



Mission Statement

It is our mission to help our community by providing temporary assistance of pet food to families suffering financial hardships, low income seniors, disabled and homeless individuals.

We believe that by providing pet food many pets can remain in their current home instead of being turned over to our local animal shelter, or abandoned.



TREASURES TO FIND!

9 AM - NOON
INDOOR YARD SALE
EVERYTHING FREE
PROJECT FRESH START
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2026
FRONT STREET, AUGUSTA, ME
FINANCIAL DONATIONS WELCOME
PROJECT FRESH START



South Parish
NURSERY SCHOOL

Discover, Learn, and Grow!

Our program offers a thoughtfully planned environment that sparks curiosity and wonder in every child. We welcome all children ages **3 to 5 years old** ☺

Call today to schedule a visit!
207-620-2312

MEETINGS & EVENTS



Monthly Meetings & Events

- Trustees Meeting – 1st Tuesday • 6 PM
- Council Meeting – 3rd Tuesday • 6 PM
- Green St. UMC Members Meeting – 2nd Tuesday • 6 PM
- Deacons Meeting – 4th Sunday • After Sunday Service
- Pet Pantry – 2nd Saturday • 9 AM



Weekly Meetings



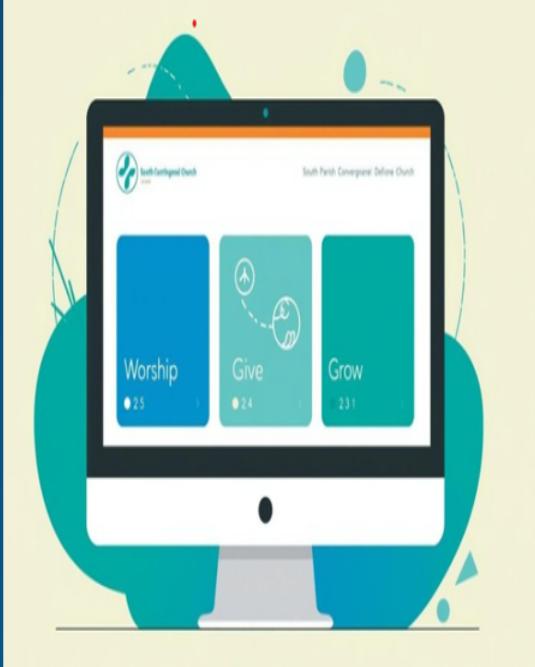
- Bible Study – Tuesdays • 5 PM
- Sunday Service – Green St. UMC • Every Sunday • 9 AM
- Sunday Service – SPCC • Every Sunday • 10 AM
- AA Meetings – Mon–Fri • 12 PM; Mondays • 6 PM; Saturdays • 7 PM
- Community Meals – 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 5th Weeks • 4:30 PM
- Men's Breakfast – Thursdays • 6:30 AM
- Line Dancing – Mondays • 6 PM
- Rehearsal – Green St. UMC • Wednesdays • 4 PM



Stay Connected with South Parish Online

Worship • Learn • Give • Grow

Church Website



Watch Sunday Services Online.
Join us live or catch up anytime!

Links to Watch

YouTube



<https://www.youtube.com/@southparishchurch9971>

Facebook

facebook.com/SouthParishAugusta



Scan the QR codes below or on
our bulletin board to watch!

PASTOR NATHAN'S OFFICE HOURS

Need a moment of prayer, a listening ear, or a friendly hello?



OFFICE HOURS

Tuesdays:
11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Wednesdays:
9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Wed: 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM
Thursday: 7:30 AM – 12:00 Noon

SOUTH PARISH

Church Office Hours

Looking to connect with Pastor Nathan for prayer, conversation, or pastoral care? He welcomes visits during his dedicated office hours:

- ▶ Tuesdays: 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
- ▶ Wednesdays: 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Whether you're seeking spiritual guidance or simply want to say hello, Pastor Nathan is here for you.

Church Office Hours

For general inquiries or administrative support, the church office is open:

- ▶ Monday-Wednesday: 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM
- ▶ Thursday: 7:30 AM – 12:00 Noon

Let's keep building a community of care, connection, and grace, one conversation at a time.

FEBRUARY 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10am - Green St. 10am - SPCC UCC	2 12pm - AA Meeting 1pm - Bridge Club 6pm - AA Meeting 6pm - Line Dancing	3 12pm - AA Meeting 5pm - Bible Study 6pm Trustees Meeting	4 12pm - AA Meeting 4pm - Green St 5pm - AL-ANON	5 6:30am - Men's 12pm - AA Meeting	6 12pm - AA Meeting	7 4:30pm - Community Meals 7pm - AA Meetings
8 10am - Green St. 10am - SPCC UCC 2pm Shakespeare	9 12pm - AA Meeting 1pm - Bridge Club 6pm - AA Meeting 6pm - Line Dancing	10 12pm - AA Meeting 5pm - Bible Study 5pm - Zoom Bible	11 12pm - AA Meeting 4pm - Green St 5pm - AL-ANON	12 6:30am - Men's 12pm - AA Meeting	13 12pm - AA Meeting	14 9am - Pet Pantry 4:30pm - Community Meals 7pm - AA Meetings
15 10am - Green St. 10am - SPCC UCC 2pm Shakespeare	16 12pm - AA Meeting 1pm - Bridge Club 6pm - AA Meeting 6pm - Line Dancing	17 12pm - AA Meeting 5pm - Bible Study 5pm - Zoom Bible 6m Council Meeting	18 12pm - AA Meeting 4pm - Green St 5pm - AL-ANON	19 6:30am - Men's 12pm - AA Meeting	20 12pm - AA Meeting	21 9am - Green St. 4:30pm - 7pm - AA Meetings
22 10am - Green St. 10am - SPCC UCC Shakespeare Group 11:30am Deacon's Mtg	23 12pm - AA Meeting 1pm - Bridge Club 6pm - AA Meeting 6pm - Line Dancing	24 12pm - AA Meeting 5pm - Bible Study 5pm - Zoom Bible	25 12pm - AA Meeting 4pm - Green St 5pm - AL-ANON	26 6:30am - Men's 12pm - AA Meeting	27 12pm - AA Meeting	28 7pm - AA Meetings

