

This week's  **Happenings**



South Parish Congregational Church

CONNECTING FAITH • COMMUNITY • MISSION

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

MATTHEW 5:16

Faith in Action.  Hope in Community.  Love in Service.

INSIDE THIS WEEK

 <p>PASTOR'S WEEKLY MESSAGE Encouragement for the week ahead</p>	 <p>WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY Join us for worship and fellowship</p>	 <p>MISSION SPOTLIGHT See how God is working through our church</p>	 <p>COMMUNITY NEWS Updates, stories & ways to get involved</p>	 <p>UPCOMING EVENTS Mark your calendars!</p>
 <p>FOOD PANTRY Helping our neighbors in need</p>	 <p>VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES Many hands. One mission.</p>	 <p>CELEBRATIONS Birthdays, anniversaries and special moments</p>	 <p>PRAYER REQUESTS We pray together</p>	 <p>CALENDAR See everything happening this week and in the weeks ahead</p>

You Belong
HERE 

 9 Church Street
Augusta, Maine
 (207) 622-0552
 www.southparishchurch.org



JOIN US!
 Sundays
10:00 AM
All are welcome!
Come as you are.

STAY CONNECTED
 facebook.com/southparishchurch
 Watch our services on YouTube



"Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord."

PSALM 31:24



Here's what's happening in the life of South Parish and how God is working through our church this week.



SPCC Worship This Sunday

Sunday July 12th 10:00AM

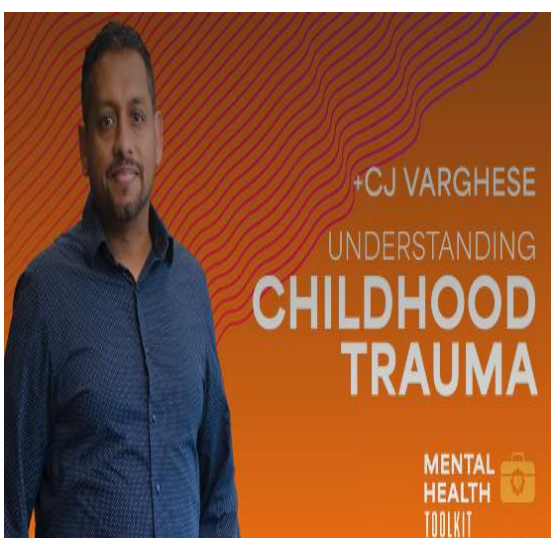
9 Church St. Augusta Maine.



Pastor's Weekly Message and Video

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. (Mark 1:1)

As most everyone knows now, Gospel means Good News. What is both Good and New about the Good News is the wild claim that Jesus did not simply tell us that God loves us even in our wickedness and folly and wants us to love each other in the same way and to love him too, but that if we will let him, God will actually bring about this unprecedented transformation of our hearts. Jesus lives on among us not just as another haunting memory but as the outlandish, holy, and invisible power of God working not just through the sacraments, but in countless sometimes hidden ways.



Click on the picture to watch



Or scan the QR code:

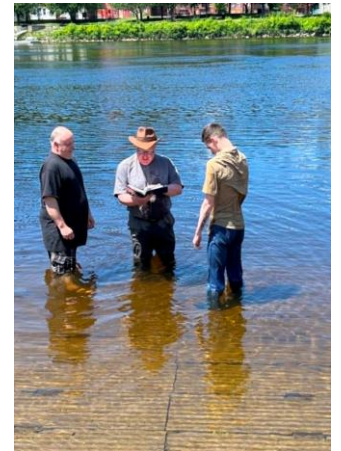
Description

In this session of the Mental Health Toolkit, we discuss Childhood Trauma—what is childhood trauma, what can it look in its various forms, how do we support others who may be experiencing childhood trauma, whether they are in our families, our friend circles, our workplace, or our church community, and when do we need to seek help from a counselor, whether for ourselves or to intercede on behalf of someone else.



Celebrations

Rejoicing in New Life Through Baptism



A Special Day at the Kennebec River
Sunday, June 28, 2026, was a day to remember as our church family gathered along the banks of the mighty Kennebec River to celebrate both a baptism and an infant christening.

Shortly after noon, Shannon, our new Christian Education Director and daughter of Pastor Nathan, entered the river alongside her Partner, Thomas Crane, carrying their infant son, Atticus Michael Crane. Joining them in the water was Church Deacon Rob, serving in his official capacity for SPCC.

In this beautiful service of faith and dedication, Thomas was immersed in baptism, publicly professing his commitment to follow Christ. Young Atticus was lovingly sprinkled in a dedication ceremony, symbolizing his family's promise to raise him in the knowledge and love of the Lord.

What a blessing it was to witness two generations being brought before God in the same service—one making a personal declaration of faith and another being dedicated to a future guided by God's grace.

Moments like these remind us of the importance of family, faith, and the church community walking together through every stage of life. We thank God for Thomas, Shannon, Atticus, and all who gathered to celebrate this special occasion.

Please join us in praying for the Crane family as they continue their journey of faith and service to the Lord.



Celebrations

Rejoicing in New Life Through Baptism



Riverside Immersion Baptism at the Kennebec, What a beautiful day of worship, fellowship, and celebration along the banks of the Kennebec River as we witnessed two more public declarations of faith through baptism.

God continues to grow our church family in His own perfect way. Family, friends, and church members gathered by the water to celebrate as Jason and Cole Arbour were immersed by Pastor Nathan, publicly professing their faith and commitment to follow Christ.

The occasion was especially meaningful for longtime church member Jean Rocque, who beamed with joy as she watched her daughter Susie's husband, Jason, and grandson, Cole, take this important step in their walk with the Lord. Jean's husband, Dave, shared stories from his morning trout fishing on the river, a reminder of the many fishing stories Pastor Nathan often weaves into his sermons.

The day also brought to mind Jesus' call to His first disciples:
"Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

— Matthew 4:19

Just as fishermen cast their nets in faith, we are called to follow Christ and share His love with others. We rejoice in the lives changed, the faith proclaimed, and the continued growth of God's family here at Riverside. Please join us in congratulating Jason and Cole and praying for them as they continue their journey with Christ.



Community News



Project Fresh Start



Urgent Need: Air Conditioners for Local Families
Project Fresh Start is seeking working air conditioners for neighbors who are struggling in this extreme heat. Several families are in desperate need of cooling right now.

If you have a unit you're no longer using — window or portable — please consider donating.

- 📞 Call 207-480-1007 to arrange drop-off.
 - 📍 Drop-off location: 12 Spruce Street, Augusta, Maine
- Your kindness can make someone's home safe.



Bridging the Gap, Augusta, Maine

We received a terrific donation today! Thank you! 😊



Farmers' Market at Mill Park

Come Shop From Neighboring Farms and Businesses at The Augusta Farmers Market! Located right in the heart of Augusta, Maine and year-round. Join us every Tuesday to shop for local, fresh, quality delicious products from the area's best local vendors. You can find anything from fresh vegetables and meats to fresh-baked breads and other baked goods, fruit, spices, flowers, honey, and maple syrup from our farms and kitchens! Come visit our tight-knit community of small, local Maine businesses and farms!

Mill Park. 1 Water Street, Augusta, Maine. 2pm - 6pm



Prayer Requests

Prayer Requests

The power of prayer should never be underestimated, and the community is here to support you by joining together in faith.

e-mail your prayer request to SouthParish@gmail.com or call 207-622-0552

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." – Philippians 4:6



Pet Pantry



🐾 A Special Thank You to Tina Woodward and the Waterville Tractor Supply Team! 🐾

The Amy Buxton Pet Pantry at South Parish Congregational Church extends our heartfelt thanks to Tina Woodward, Store Manager, and the entire staff at Tractor Supply in Waterville for their incredibly generous donation of dog and cat food.

Your kindness and commitment to giving back to the community will help ensure that local families can continue to provide for their beloved pets during difficult times. Every donation you made represents hope, compassion, and the spirit of neighbors helping neighbors.

We are truly grateful for your partnership and support of the Amy Buxton Pet Pantry. Together, we are making a meaningful difference in the lives of both people and their furry companions.

Please thank Tina and the entire Waterville Tractor Supply team for their generosity and community spirit!

Thank you for helping us continue Amy Buxton's legacy of caring for pets and the families who love them.



Food Pantry

This week we need chicken noodle soup, ramen soup, ravioli's, pudding cups, and small fruit cups.

Thank you so much!



Bible Study Takes a Summer Break

Thank you to everyone who joined us for Bible Study throughout the past year. We have enjoyed growing together in faith, sharing meaningful conversations, and strengthening our walk with Christ.

Our weekly Bible Study is now taking a break for the summer and will resume in September. We look forward to gathering again to explore God's Word, encourage one another, and continue learning together.

Until then, we encourage you to spend time in Scripture, prayer, and worship throughout the summer months.

Watch for details on the September start date in upcoming church bulletins, newsletters, and on our Facebook page.

Have a blessed, safe, and joy-filled summer!

South Parish Congregational Church UCC



GREETERS Report - Nelson Leavitt

Look how God grows our church family in His own Way.

Baptisms #3 & 4 by waters of the Kennebec have brought more new people to witness acceptance of God's Supreme Gift of Love to us all.

Long time Church member Jean Rocque beamed with joy to see her daughter Susie's husband Jason and grandson Cole (Arbour family), being tipped under by Pastor Nathan. Jean's husband Dave told about trout fishing; how he enjoyed his morning before the baptism. It reminds us how Pastor Nathan often uses stories of fishing with his dad as part of the weekly sermons.

It also reminds us of Matthew 4, which quotes Jesus: “18 While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. 19 And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. 20 Immediately they left their nets and followed him.”

Deacon Denise got to serve in a new way as Chairman Rob was unable to be present.

There were other family members and friends not mentioned here, as well as people using the dock for other purposes. God knows all and is in control to see that his Word is spread during an event like this.



Calendar July 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 12pm - AA Meeting	4 4:30pm - Community Meals 7pm - AA
5 9am Green St. 10am SPCC UCC	6 12pm - AA MTG 1pm - Bridge Club 6pm - AA Meeting 6pm - Line Dancing	7 12pm - AA Meeting 5pm - Bible Study 6pm Trustees Mtg	8 12pm - AA Meeting 4pm Green St	9 6:30am - Men's Breakfast 12pm - AA Mtg	10 12pm - AA Meeting	11 9am - Pet Pantry 4:30 Community Meals 7pm AA Mtg
12 9am Green St. 10am SPCC UCC 2pm to 4pm Green St. Come as you are cafe	13 12pm - AA MTG 1pm - Bridge Club 6pm - AA Meeting 6pm - Line Dancing	14 12pm - AA Meeting 5pm - Bible Study 6pm Trustees Mtg	15 12pm - AA Meeting 4pm Green St	16 6:30am - Men's Breakfast 12pm - AA Mtg	17 12pm - AA Meeting	18 4:30pm - Community Meals 7pm - AA Mtg
19 9am Green St. 10am SPCC UCC	20 12pm - AA MTG 1pm - Bridge Club 6pm - AA Meeting 6pm - Line Dancing	21 12pm - AA Meeting 5pm - Bible Study 6pm Church Council	22 12pm - AA Meeting 4pm Green St	23 6:30am - Men's Breakfast 12pm - AA Mtg	24 12pm - AA Meeting	25 7pm - AA Mtg
26 9am Green St. 10am SPCC UCC	27 12pm - AA MTG 1pm - Bridge Club 6pm - AA Meeting 6pm - Line Dancing	28 12pm - AA Meeting 5pm - Bible Study	29 12pm - AA Meeting 4pm Green St	30 6:30am - Men's Breakfast 12pm - AA Mtg	31 1:30pm 12pm - AA Meeting	