

South Parish Congregational Church UCC Newsletter • June 04, 2026



On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come not to call the righteous, but sinners."

To sacrifice something is to make it holy by giving it away for love. Romantic love is blind to everything except what is lovable and lovely, but Christ's love sees us each with clarity and sees us whole. Christ's love so wishes our joy that it is ruthless against everything in us that diminishes our joy. The worst sentence that love can pass is that we behold the suffering which love has endured for our sake, and that is also our acquittal. The justice and mercy of Jesus are ultimately one.



Description

Most people don't wake up one morning and suddenly realize they are burned out. Instead, burnout happens quietly, one unnoticed step at a time, until motivation vanishes and joy feels distant. In this three-session series, Kari Russo, Jim Kochenburger, Edward Maerkl, and John Bozard demystify the exhaustion that many of us face. She begins by defining the five stages of burnout, helping you distinguish between simply needing a restful weekend and facing a deeper systemic collapse.

[TO LISTEN TO PASTOR NATHAN'S VIDEO CHOICE CLICK HERE](#)

OR SCAN THE QR CODE WITH YOUR CAMERA.





THE PEW CUSHIONS ARE COMING, THE PEW CUSHIONS ARE COMING !!!!
Hallelujah! That is absolutely fantastic news! There is truly nothing quite like the collective sigh of relief (and comfort) that our congregation will make when brand-new pew cushions finally arrive.

A grateful THANK YOU to Mr. and Mrs. Will Whitney and their family for the incredibly generous gift that helped us cross the finish line of raising enough money to replace the pew cushions. The Whitneys are long-time members our South Parish Community. We ALL look forward to enjoying the cushiony comforts during worship. We will keep everyone posted on the progress and when we might be expecting the cushions.



CE: This coming Sunday marks the end of formal classes until the Fall. Please join us after the Church Service to celebrate our wonderful Children and Youth!

There will be cake!

FOOD PANTRY

This month the pantry needs Ramen soup, chicken noodle and tomato soup, baked beans, pudding and bottled water.

Thank You! 😊



The Clerk keeps records of Church Council meetings, provides notice of upcoming meetings as needed, and conducts church correspondence when necessary. If you are interested in learning more about this important ministry of service, please speak with a member of Church Council.

Greeter report of Sunday, May 31, 2026 by Nelson Leavitt

When Pastor Nathan arrived, he said there will be a large turn out today. I didn't know how he knew that because it was about 10 minutes of 10 AM and very few had come through the doors by that time. Then I remembered seeing dark clouds coming in from the west.

I don't know if that is what made the difference. Maybe it was God who helped us out with a large turnout. Anyway, it was a joy to see what happened. Suddenly there was traffic congestion, and when the people came in, I couldn't do much beyond waving a welcome and calling out, "Welcome to South parish church!"

I was able to greet the youngest first-time attendee since last summer. He is the infant grandson of Pastor Nathan. It was wonderful to meet the little boy in the arms of his mom, Pastor's daughter. We have all gotten to know Ethan, and now he has his first BOY cousin! I understand he is very excited about this, since the rest are girls.

The other new person, at least to me, was the daughter of Bob Jordan. It seems she has attended a few times while I was away, so it was my first time meeting her. The meeting was very brief so I can't tell you much information yet.

In the time I have been greeter, this is a list of new people identified by first name, who have joined us. I hope I didn't miss anyone...

Shirley, Patrick and Jack; Jason, Susie, Cole and Aiden; Mariah and Anthony; Pamela and Ellen; Larry & Laura; Andrew; June; Alex; Janine and Doug; Janice and Pamela; Micheal; Ivan; Lexi.

There have been multiple other people who have come to visit us along with family members in addition to this list.

Bridging the Gap Monthly Report

MAY 2026

TOTAL UNDUPLICATED INDIVIDUALS REACHED IN 2026 TO DATE: 2,415

TOTAL INDIVIDUALS REPORTING "NO PERMANENT RESIDENCE": 105 (An increase of 4 since last month)

SERVICE STATISTICS FOR MAY

Addie's Attic

- Total Households served: **263** (same month 2025: 322 = 18.3% decrease)
- Total unduplicated individuals served: **964** (same month 2025: 1066 = 9.8% decrease)

Basic Essentials Hygiene Pantry:

- Total Households served: **277** (same month 2025: 348)
- Unduplicated individuals served: **1,009** (same month 2025: 1,603= 37% decrease)
- Percentage of individuals who are New Mainers: **36.17%**
- Total New Mainers served **365** (same month 2025: 441 = 17% crease)

RESOURCES, SUPPORT AND CENTRALIZED HELPING FUND (CHEF):

Our Resources, Support and CHEF Program Leader is Sarra Maddocks. Her email is btgchef@gmail.com. Her phone number is 207-530-0184.

The Resource Department handles multiple calls a day. The nature and outcome of each call is different. People might be directed to a different or additional resource; asked to call back with more information so BTG can better assess and assist; or BTG might agree to assist financially. BTG often works with other funding sources to fully meet a request that is beyond what BTG can support alone. When other agencies' funds are depleted, BTG must be even more discerning.

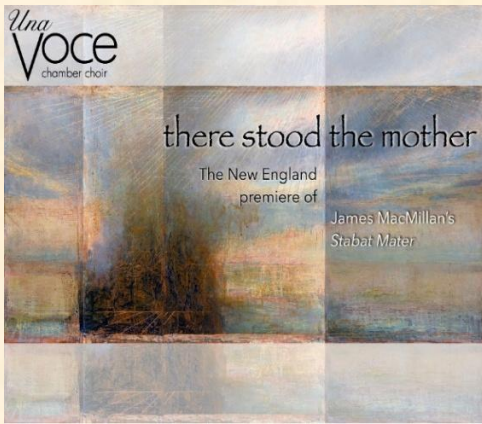
Number of calls/emails/walk-ins received: **60+**

Number of individuals directly served: **44**

Note: The number of individuals served represents hands-on cases, sometimes in collaboration with another program/agency, and/or BTG supported the individual financially. It does not represent the number of individuals who simply received a pamphlet or phone number.

MAY ALLOCATIONS FOR CENTRALIZED HELPING FUND (CHEF):

MAY 2026	AMOUNT	YEAR TO DATE 2026	YTD AMOUNT
Recovery Housing		Recovery Housing	\$ 1,500.00
Rooming House		Rooming House	\$ -
Rental Assistance	\$ 1,050.00	Rental Assistance	\$ 6,447.36
Security Deposit		Security Deposit	\$ 948.00
Housing Other (Hotel)		Housing Other (Hotel)	\$ 196.20
Utilities	\$ 1,534.11	Utilities	\$ 3,593.06
Heating Assistance		Heating Assistance	\$ 2,440.50
ID/Birth Certificate		ID/Birth Certificate	
Car Repairs		Car Repairs	\$ 410.89
Gas	\$ 40.00	Gas	\$ 390.00
Taxi/Concord/Greyhound		Taxi/Concord/Greyhound	\$ -
Phone/Phone Service	\$ 48.48	Phone/Phone Service	\$ 48.48
Food Card		Food Card	\$ -
Other	\$ 337.85	Other	\$ 486.19
MONTHLY TOTAL	\$ 3,010.44	YEAR TO DATE TOTAL	\$ 16,460.68



Una Voce Chamber Choir to Present New England Premiere of James MacMillan's *Stabat Mater*
A powerful and rarely performed modern masterpiece comes to Bowdoin College this June 12 @ 7 PM
Brunswick, Maine

Brunswick, Maine — Una Voce Chamber Choir (UVCC) proudly announces *there stood the mother*, a landmark June performance featuring the New England premiere of *Stabat Mater* by acclaimed Scottish composer James MacMillan. The concert will take place in the exceptional acoustics of Studzinski Hall on the campus of Bowdoin College.

Premiered in 2016 by Harry Christophers and the renowned vocal ensemble The Sixteen to widespread critical acclaim, *Stabat Mater* has quickly emerged as one of the most significant choral works of the 21st century. The piece sets the 13th-century Marian text by Jacopone da Todi, exploring profound themes of grief, devotion, and transcendence.

MacMillan's score blends centuries of choral tradition with a strikingly modern musical language, pairing luminous vocal writing with angular, at times visceral, string accompaniment. The result is a deeply moving and immersive experience that pushes performers and audiences alike into the emotional core of the text.

Despite its U.S. premiere in 2019, *Stabat Mater* remains rarely performed outside Europe due to its formidable technical and expressive demands. "This is a state of affairs that we are excited to help rectify," says UVCC Artistic Director Virgil Bozeman IV. "It is a work of extraordinary power and beauty, and one that deserves to be heard more widely."

For this special performance, UVCC will be joined by seventeen of the region's finest instrumentalists, bringing MacMillan's vivid orchestration to life in a setting uniquely suited to its sonic intensity and nuance.

there stood the mother promises to be a compelling event for lovers of contemporary music and choral artistry alike—an opportunity to experience a modern masterpiece in a rare and unforgettable performance.

Event Details

there stood the mother

Una Voce Chamber Choir

June 12 @ 7 PM

If you missed Virgil Bozeman and Dean Stein's interview with Heather McDougall on [Maine Public's](#) State of the Art, click the link to listen below!

Audio courtesy of Maine Public Classical

State of the Art Episode 106: Virgil Bozeman and Dean Stein / Una Voce Chamber Choir Performing MacMillan's *Stabat Mater* (5/31/26)

Host, Heather McDougall

Click the link in our bio or visit www.unavocechamberchoir.org to get your tickets today!

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<h1>June 2026</h1>	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	12pm - AA Meeting 1pm - Bridge Club 6pm - AA Meeting 6pm - Line Dancing	12pm - AA Meeting 5pm - Bible Study 6pm Trustees Mtg	12pm - AA Meeting 4pm Green St 5pm AL-ANON	6:30am - Men's Breakfast 12pm - AA Mtg	12pm - AA Meeting	4:30pm -Community Meals 12Pm - 4:30pm Dirigo Braiders Guild Meeting 7pm - AA	
	7	8	9	10	11	12	
	9am Green St. 10am SPCC UCC	12pm - AA Meeting 1pm - Bridge Club 6pm - AA Meeting 6pm - Line Dancing	12pm - AA Meeting 5pm Bible Study	12pm - AA Meeting 4pm Green St 5pm AL-ANON	6:30am - Men's Breakfast 12pm - AA Mtg Last Day of Nursery School	12pm - AA Meeting	9am - Pet Pantry 4:30 Community 7pm AA Mtg
	14	15	16	17	18	19	
9am Green St. 10am SPCC UCC	4 12pm - AA Meeting 1pm - Bridge Club 6pm - AA Meeting 6pm - Line Dancing	12pm - AA Meeting 5pm - Bible Study 6m Council Mtg	12pm - AA Meeting 4pm Green St 5pm AL-ANON UCLCA 10AM TO 2PM	6:30am - Men's Breakfast 12pm - AA Mtg	12pm - AA Meeting	4:30pm -Community Meals 7pm - AA Mtg	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
9am Green St. 10am SPCC UCC	4 12pm - AA Meeting 1pm - Bridge Club 6pm - AA Meeting 6pm - Line Dancing	12pm - AA Meeting 5pm Bible Study	12pm - AA Meeting 4pm Green St 5pm AL-ANON	6:30am - Men's Breakfast 12pm - AA Mtg	12pm - AA Meeting Fellowship Meeting	7pm - AA Mtg	
28	29	30					
9am Green St. 10am SPCC UCC	12pm - AA Meeting 1pm - Bridge Club 6pm - AA Meeting 6pm - Line Dancing	12pm - AA Meeting 5pm Bible Study					