Quips Edition Newsletter



Pastor Nathan's Weekly Message

"By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit."

– Galatians 5:22 - 25

These beautiful verses remind us that when the Holy Spirit is alive in us, the evidence is unmistakable. The fruits—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control—aren't just ideals to strive for, but signs of a Spirit-led life. Let us commit anew to living by the Spirit and following His guidance daily. In doing so, we not only grow more like Christ but also become a blessing to everyone around us. Walking with you in His grace,

Pastor Nathan Richards

Pastor Nathan Richards' Inspirational Video Pick of the Week



One at a Time Kyle Idleman

Description

Nobody grows up dreaming of waking up, going to work, heading home, watching Netflix, scrolling through social media, and then doing it all over again the next day until their last breath. We all want to be used to change the world. We don't want to spend our lives being time-wasters, or space-takers, or binge-watchers, or game-players, or even



or SCAN WITH YOUR CAMERA



You don't have to be whole to be held—God meets you right in your pain.



South Parish Congregational Church is looking for hearts willing to serve as **Deacons**—and yes, yours might be just the right one.

Deacons are the backbone of our ministry—supporting worship, caring for our church family, and helping guide our spiritual journey. But we can't do it without a strong team. Right now, we're in need of helping hands and compassionate hearts to join this rewarding ministry.

Worried about your schedule? Don't be. This role is flexible, and we understand the importance of family time. We'll work around your commitments so you can serve faithfully without sacrificing what matters most at home.

If you've ever felt the nudge to deepen your involvement, to be a steady presence for others, or to grow in your own faith, this is your opportunity.

Speak to Pastor Nathan or a current deacon to learn more. Let's walk this path of service—together.



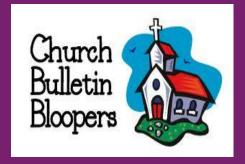
DEAR SOUTH PARISH FAMILY, IN THE BUSYNESS OF LIFE, IT'S EASY TO FEEL SPIRITUALLY DRAINED OR MENTALLY OVERWHELMED. THAT'S WHY SUNDAY WORSHIP ISN'T JUST A TRADITION—IT'S A VITAL PAUSE. A CHANCE TO BREATHE DEEPLY, CENTER YOUR HEART, AND RECONNECT WITH WHAT TRULY MATTERS.

EACH WEEK, OUR SANCTUARY BECOMES A PLACE OF RENEWAL. THROUGH MUSIC, PRAYER SCRIPTURE, AND COMMUNITY, WE'RE REMINDED THAT WE'RE NOT ALONE. GOD IS WITH THE ARE WITH FACH OTHER

WHETHER YOU'RE SEEKING PEACE, CLARITY, STRENGTH, OR SIMPLY A SACRED SPACE TO

SOUTH PARISH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, 9 CHURCH STREET, AUGUSTA, ME JOIN US AND EXPERIENCE THE QUIET POWER OF BEING STILL BEFORE GOD—AND THE

JOY OF GATHERING IN FAITH. YOUR SOUL WILL THANK YOU.



Here is a collection of humorous church bulletin bloopers (typographical errors) ...

- * Evening massage 6 p.m.
- * Don't let worry kill you. Let the church help.
- * Thursday night ... pot luck supper. Prayer and medication will follow.
- * Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church.
- * For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery down stairs.
- * Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.
- * Eight new choir robes are currently needed, due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
- * The Senior Choir invites any member of the congregation who enjoys sinning to join the choir.
- * At the evening service, the sermon topic will be "What is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.
- * This afternoon there will be a meeting in the south and north ends of the church. Children will be baptised at both ends.
- * Tuesday at four there will be an ice cream social. All ladies giving milk please come early.
- * The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the church basement Friday.
- * The Reverend Merriwether spoke briefly, much to the delight of the congregation.
- * The pastor will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing, 'Break Forth Into Joy."
- * Due to the Rector's illness, Wednesday's healing services will be discontinued until further notice.
- * The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the church basement on Friday at 7 p.m. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.
- * The concert held in Fellowship Hall was a great success. Special thanks are due to the minister's daughter, who laboured the whole evening at the piano, which as usual fell upon her.
- * Men's Prayer Breakfast. No charge, but your damnation will be gratefully accepted.
- * This morning's sermon: "Jesus walks on the water". Tonight's sermon: "Where is Jesus?"
- * During this morning's meeting, be sure to smile and say hell to someone new.
- * Ladies, don't forget our rummage sale. Here's a good chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping. Bring your husband along.

Even when the path is unclear, trust that God is guiding your steps with purpose and grace. His light never dims—it only waits for you to walk in

A FULL LIFE IN RETIREMENT BEGINS WITH CONNECTION

Studies have shown that staying socially connected in retirement doesn't just boost your mood—it can actually help you live longer and feel better every day. Community, purpose, and friendship are all vital parts of a healthy, fulfilling life, especially as we age.

That's why gathering with others—whether it's over coffee, a shared hobby, or a Sunday morning service—makes all the difference. At South Parish Congregational Church, we believe in creating a space where everyone belongs. Open to all, we're more than a place to worship—we're a family that celebrates together, supports one another, and builds lifelong connections.

Whether you're looking for a place to grow spiritually, share your talents, or simply enjoy some friendly conversation, you are always welcome here.

Let your next chapter be one filled with laughter, purpose, and love.

Come see what it means to be part of the South Parish family.



God's love isn't earned—it's a gift, freely given, steady in the storm and gentle in the calm.

"Being Unhoused Is No Joke!"

Get ready to laugh for a cause at our uproarious **Comedy Fundraiser** benefiting the *Augusta Emergency Overnight Warming Center*—a vital mission of South Parish Congregational Church UCC!

This night of laughter comes with a purpose. All proceeds support our efforts to help neighbors in need find warmth, hope, and a second chance. Enjoy a **cash bar**, try your luck at the **50/50 raffle**, and bid on treasures at our **silent auction**!

Don't miss it—because helping others should feel this good.

Call 207-622-0552 or Beth at 207-242-1620 for more info.

Let's pack the house, lift our spirits, and make a difference together.

COMEDY FUNDRAISER "BEING UNHOUSED IS NO JOKE"

TO BENEFIT THE

AUGUSTA EMERGENCY
OVERNIGHT WARMING CENTER
A MISSION OF THE SOUTH PARISH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC

HOSTED BY BETH SIRABELLA

FEATURING



IAN MacDonald



JOHNNY ATER



JULIE POULIN

FRIDAY JULY 11TH 7-9 PM (DOORS OPEN AT 5 PM)

VENUE- LE CLUB CALUMET 334 WEST RIVER ROAD, AUGUSTA MAINE.

TICKETS \$20/\$25 AT THE DOOR

TICKETS AVAILABLE IN ADVANCE VIA EVENTBRITE OR AT SOUTH PARISH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 9 CHURCH ST AUGUSTA ME.

CALL 207-622-0552 OR BETH SIRABELLA @ 207-242-1620

CASH BAR * 50/50 * SILENT AUCTION

Order tickets https://



Donations Here



https://www.eventbrite.com/e/com edy-fundraiser-being-unhoused-isno-ioke-tickets-1406140787949

Vacationing in Maine? Don't Take a Vacation from Your Faith!

If you're visiting our beautiful state and looking for a place to refresh your spirit, come as you are to

South Parish Congregational Church, UCC in Augusta.

Sunday Worship: 10:00 AM

9 Church Street, Augusta, ME

Whether you're here for the lighthouses, the lakes, or the lobster rolls—there's no better way to start your Sunday than with a warm welcome, uplifting worship, and a reminder of God's presence wherever you go.

All are welcome, always. Come rest in His peace while you enjoy the beauty of Maine.

Food Pantry URGENT APPEAL: OUR SHELVES ARE ALMOST BARE

OUR SOUTH PARISH FOOD PANTRY IS IN URGENT NEED OF YOUR SUPPORT.

The shelves that once overflowed with generosity are now nearly empty-and yet, the need in our community continues to grow. Each can, each box, each donation represents a neighbor fed, a child nourished, a heart lifted. Your kindness has always been the cornerstone of this ministry, and today, we're calling on it once again. Please consider donating nonperishable food items, grocery store gift cards, or monetary support. Every bit counts. Donations can be dropped off at the church during office hours or before Sunday worship at 9 Church Street, Augusta, ME.

Together, we can ensure that no one in our community goes hungry. Let's refill the shelves and restore hope.

With gratitude and love, Your South Parish Church Family





