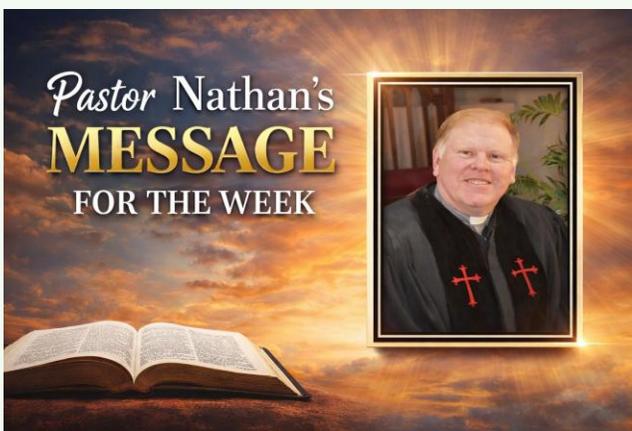


# South Parish Congregational Church UCC

Newsletter • March 26, 2026



## Reflection



*The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Matthew 21:9)*

When the crowds cry "Hosanna to the son of David!" they use the right words, but still miss the point. They have all the right notes and none of the music. They have the theology straight, but they still end up rejecting Jesus and calling for his death (27:20-23). Matthew is striking a familiar note: Knowing the truth is not the same as doing the truth.



**Join us on Sunday, April 12 after Sunday Service, for our next Coffee and Conversation!**

Pastor Nathan will show a brief video from Right Now Media and will lead us in a discussion of the Video's message. Previous conversations have been interesting and very worthwhile.



## Join Us for Palm Sunday Worship 🌿

You are warmly invited to celebrate **Palm Sunday** with us at South Parish Congregational Church UCC.

📅 **Sunday, March 29, 2026**

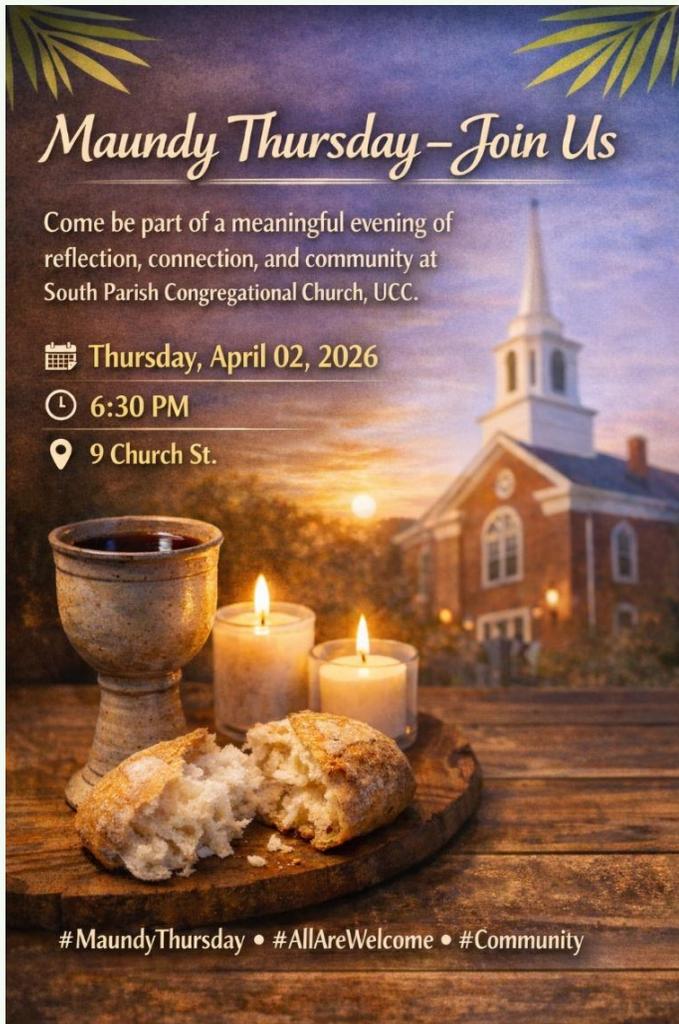
🕒 **10:00 AM**

📍 **9 Church St, Augusta, ME**

Come and experience a meaningful time of worship as we remember Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem—a moment of hope, joy, and reflection as we begin Holy Week together.

All are welcome—whether you are a longtime member or visiting for the first time, we would love to have you with us.

✨ Come as you are. Bring a friend. Be part of the journey.



## Maundy Thursday – Join Us

Come be part of a meaningful evening of reflection, connection, and community at **South Parish Congregational Church, UCC.**

**Thursday, April 17, 2025**

**6:30 PM**

**9 Church St.**

This special service remembers the Last Supper and invites us to reflect on love, service, and what it means to care for one another.

Whether you've been with us for years or are just looking for a place to feel welcomed—you belong here.

♥ Come as you are. Bring a friend.

## Church Trust Funds

**(Update from the Trustees)**

The Trustees will be meeting with the Investment Advisors who oversee the Church investment portfolios at the next scheduled meeting of the Trustees on April 7 at 6:00 pm. Any member of the Congregation that is interested in this part of Church finances is welcome to attend.

**-Dan Petersen, Treasurer**

## Midweek Message from Pastor Nathan (NEW!)



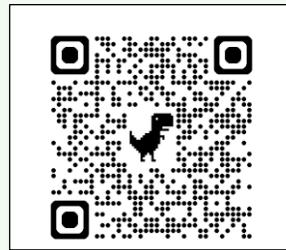
We're excited to introduce a new way to stay connected throughout the week!

As part of our outreach ministry, **Pastor Nathan is now sharing a weekly Midweek Video Message on YouTube.** Each message is designed to offer encouragement, reflection, and spiritual grounding—right when you need it most.

Whether you're at home, at work, or on the go, you can take a few moments to reconnect with your faith and your church family.

### ✨ **What to expect each week:**

- A short, meaningful message
- Encouragement for daily life
- A moment to pause and reflect



### 📺 **Watch this week's message:**

[https://youtu.be/V3\\_IW-Xbpgk](https://youtu.be/V3_IW-Xbpgk)

## Easter Flowers in the Sanctuary



It is the tradition at South Parish to decorate the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday with live, flowering Spring plants.

Plants can be brought on Sunday, March 29 through Thursday, April 2 from 8 AM to noon and left on the table outside the church office. There will be a sign up sheet where you can write whose memory the plants are being donated.

Also indicate if you will be taking your plant home after Easter or leaving it at the Church. Please write your name on the wooden sticks provided. Write a "K" if you plan to keep the plant or a "L" if you plan to leave it. Those left will be transplanted into the church garden.

Looking forward to an Easter brimming over with colorful flowers,  
Deacons' Board

### FOOD PANTRY NEWS

Thank you all for the extremely generous outpouring of support for the pantry these past few weeks. We normally serve about 25-30 individuals/families on distribution day, but this past Saturday we served 53. They thank you! It was very busy, and I scooted back to the main pantry shelves to resupply twice. Inflation, presumably, along with the higher prices for oil, gas, etc. Special thanks to Chris for his help. So, in particular, these items are needed:

Soups: All kinds, particularly hearty ones, and with pop up lids if you can find them.

Ravioios, SpaghettiOs, etc.

Vegetables: Green beans, corn, carrots. In moderation. As a rule not many want them, but I noticed a larger request this past week.

Crackers: Peanut butter snack crackers, Ritz. Granola bars too.

NOT NEEDED at this time, are oatmeal, peanut butter, and sausages, or puddings. We have plenty!



**SCRABBLE TOURNAMENT**  
**APRIL 11, 2026 1PM-4PM**  
 University of Maine at Augusta (UMA) - Fireside Lounge  
 46 University Dr, Augusta, ME 04330

**REGISTRATION FEES**  
 ADULT TEAMS OF 4 - \$40  
 INDIVIDUALS - \$15

**REGISTER HERE**

[lva-augusta.org/scrabble-tournament](http://lva-augusta.org/scrabble-tournament)

**L 1 V 4 K 5**

EMAIL, PHONE, OR MAIL:  
 12 SPRUCE ST, SUITE 4, AUGUSTA, ME 04330, (207) 626-344, [INFO@LVA-AUGUSTA.ORG](mailto:INFO@LVA-AUGUSTA.ORG)  
 ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF KENNEBEC HELPING OTHERS REACH THEIR POTENTIAL

## 2026 Scrabble Tournament

Join us for the 2026 Scrabble Tournament on April 11, 2026, from 1 pm to 4 pm. The tournament will take place at UMA Fireside Lounge at 46 University Drive, Augusta, ME 04330.

### PayPal Payment Links:

[Scrabble Tournament Individual Registration PayPal Link](#)

[Scrabble Tournament Team of 4 Registration PayPal Link](#)

Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library of Kennebec County



We are excited to be a Local Program Partner with the [Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library](#). We have opened doors to a world of imagination and learning for children in our community.

As the world's leading program for giving books to young children, the Imagination Library has proven its impact through years of remarkable achievements. Whether the invaluable time spent reading with a child, or the effects on early childhood literacy factors that have lifelong effects, the Imagination Library has a far-reaching spectrum of impact from both the measurable to the immeasurable.

[Register Your Child](#)

[Follow Us on Facebook](#)



## Veterans And Community Connection Expo

Join us for a **FREE Veteran and Family Expo**

**Veterans and Community Connection Expo**  
**Augusta Armory, 179 Western Ave., Augusta, ME.**

Veterans, Survivors, Service Members & accompanying family members will be able to learn about benefits available through state, federal & community resources.

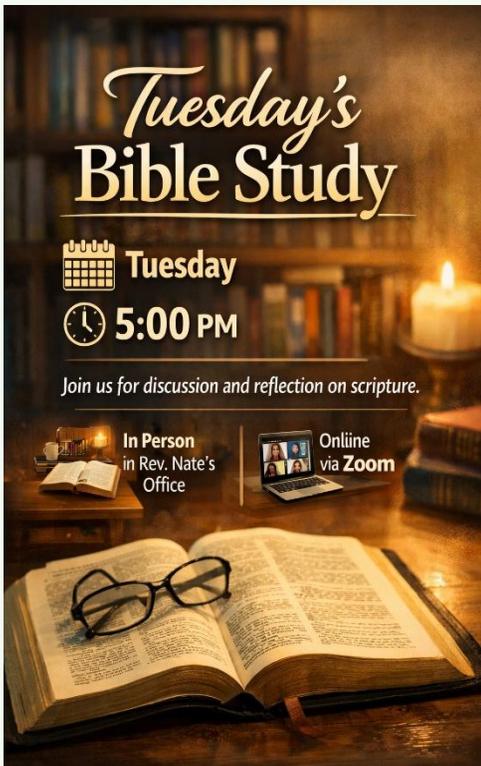
\*Indoor Event  
 \*Giveaways and music

**APRIL 4th** **10AM - 2PM**

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), American Legion, American Red Cross, Augusta Elks Veteran Committee, Bureau of Motor Vehicles, Disabled Veterans of America, Disability Rights Maine, GoMaine, Health Affiliates of Maine, Honor Flight of Maine, House in the Woods, Jeeps4Vets, Maine Adaptive/Veterans No Boundaries, Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services, Maine Career Center Veterans Team, Maine Department of Corrections, Maine Irreverent Warriors, Maine Paws for Veterans, Maine Veterans' Homes, Maine Veterans In Need, Marine Corps League Department of Maine, Martin's Point Healthcare, Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), Military Women's Memorial, Mission Working Dogs, Northern Star Lodge No. 28, Pine Tree Legals Veterans Unit, Pineland VAST, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Quilts of Valor, Sisters In Arms, Spurwink, Travis Mills Foundation, University of Maine at Farmington, University of Southern Maine Veterans Service Team, Vet2Vet, Veterans Benefits Administration, Veterans Forward, Veterans Inc., Veterans Uplward Bound, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Veterans Health Administration, Volunteers of America Northern New England, Wellness Mobile, Western Maine Transportation, Wounded Warrior Project, and many more!

Disclaimer: The sharing of any non-VA information does not constitute an endorsement of products or services on the part of the VA.

## Bible Study



### Tuesdays Bible Study

📅 Tuesday

🕒 5:00 PM

Join us for discussion and reflection on scripture.

You may attend:

- **In person** in Rev. Nate's office
- **Online via Zoom**

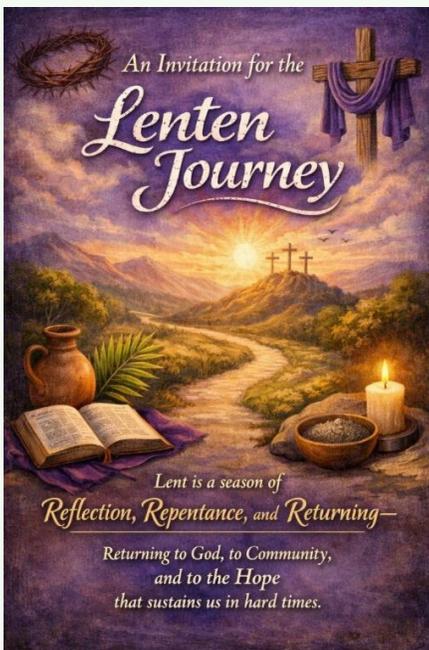
Let's walk through these hard times together, grounded in faith and strengthened by love.

The zoom link is easily available, just ask Marcel in the office, or talk with/email Kathy Petersen

[\(dkpete04330@aol.com\)](mailto:dkpete04330@aol.com)

**Everyone is welcome — whether you've studied the Bible for years or are just curious.**

## An Invitation for Lent



**Lent is a season of reflection, repentance, and returning— returning to God, to community, and to the hope that sustains us in hard times. As we walk this sacred season together, many people around us may be longing for comfort, meaning, and connection, even if they don't yet have the words for it. Sometimes, the most faithful thing we can do is extend a simple invitation.**

**Know someone who could use encouragement? Invite them to join you this Sunday.**

**A friend, a family member, a neighbor—your**

🕯️ Sunday Service | 10:00 AM

📍 South Parish Congregational Church UCC

📍 9 Church Street, Augusta, ME

👉 Reach out with intention

👉 Invite with humility and love

👉 Walk alongside someone this Lent

May this season be one where God uses our small acts of faith to bring light, healing, and hope.

*Thank you for being a welcoming, Lenten people.*

**Augusta Emergency Overnight Warming Center**  
*Current Needs*

Thanks to our community, our shelves are **FULL** of clothes! Now, we need the following items:

Snacks	Trash Bags (White - Tall Kitchen)
Laundry Pods	Trash Bags (Black - 33 Gallon)
Trash Bags (White - Tall Kitchen)	Paper Towels
Paper Towels	Toilet Paper
Lysol / Disinfectant Spray	Coffee
Powdered Creamer & Sugar	Disposable Coffee Cups
Tissues	Ibuprofen

**Monetary Donations Urgently Needed!**

Mail checks to:  
 Augusta Emergency Overnight Warming Center  
 9 Church St,  
 Augusta, ME 04330

Or Donate Online: [CLICK HERE](#)

*Thank you for your support & generosity!  
 Together, we can keep the center open for those in need.*

THE AUGUSTA EMERGENCY OVERNIGHT WARMING CENTER  
 34 BRIDGE STREET, AUGUSTA ME

**DONATIONS DROP-OFF LOCATIONS**

**SOUTH PARISH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OFFICE**  
 9 CHURCH ST, AUGUSTA  
 MONDAY – THURSDAY  
 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

**WARMING CENTER (BEHIND THE CHURCH)**  
 34 BRIDGE ST, AUGUSTA  
 DAILY  
 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY!

**Augusta Emergency Overnight Warming Center – Current Needs**

The Augusta Emergency Overnight Warming Center continues to provide a warm, safe place for our neighbors during the cold months. Because of the incredible generosity of our community, many people have found comfort, care, and support during difficult times.

We are especially grateful for the outpouring of clothing donations. Thanks to the kindness of so many in our community, our shelves are currently full of clothes, and we are truly thankful for that generosity. At this time, we kindly ask that no additional clothes, blankets, or sheets be donated.

However, there are several everyday supplies that help us keep the center running smoothly and comfortably for our guests.

**Current Needs:**

• Snacks	• Laundry Pods	• Trash Bags (White – Tall Kitchen)
• Trash Bags (Black – 33 Gallon)	• Paper Towels	• Toilet Paper
• Lysol or Disinfectant Spray	• Coffee	• Powdered Creamer
• Sugar	• Disposable Coffee Cups	• Tissues
• Ibuprofen	•	•

In addition to these supplies, monetary donations are very much needed to help keep the center open and operating.

Checks can be mailed to:

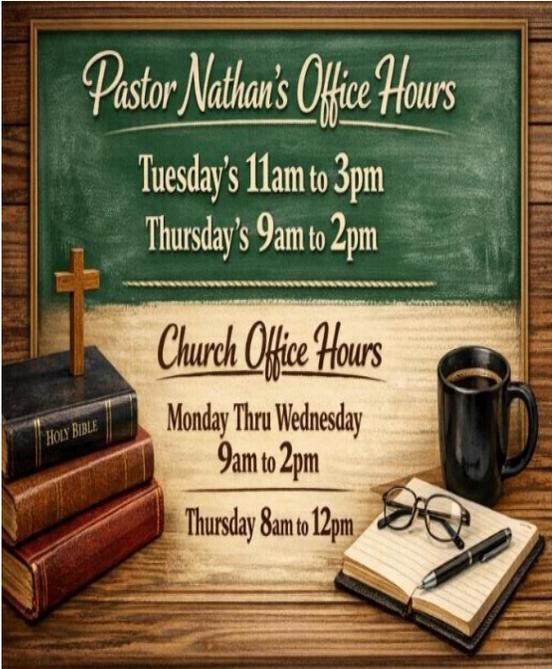
**Augusta Emergency Overnight Warming Center**  
 9 Church Street  
 Augusta, ME 04330

You may also donate online by clicking the link [here](#) or scanning the QR code.

Every donation, whether supplies, financial support, or prayers helps us continue offering warmth, safety, and dignity to our neighbors in need.

Thank you for your continued compassion and support of the Augusta Emergency Overnight Warming Center. *Director Julia Stone, Manager Rob Flannery*

Office Hours



**Pastor Nathan's Office Hours**  
**Tuesday's 11am to 3pm**  
**Thursday's 9am to 2pm**

**Church Office Hours**  
**Monday Thru Wednesday 9am to 2pm**  
**Thursday 8am to 12pm**

**3-5:30pm | Buker Community Center**  
 Fresh greens, bread, eggs, meats, honey, and St. Patrick's Day meals!  
 New vendors, CSA shares, and local favorites.  
**EBT/WIC accepted. Bring a reusable bag.**

## Meetings & Events



### Monthly Meetings & Events

- Trustees Meetings – 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month – 6pm
- Council Meetings – 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month – 6pm
- Deacon Meetings – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month – after Sunday Service
- Pet Pantry – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month – 9am

### Weekly Meetings & Events

- Line Dancing Every Monday at 6pm
- Bible Study – Tuesdays – 5pm
- Sunday Service – Every Sunday 10am
- AA Meetings Mon – Fri 12pm Monday Evening 6pm and Saturday 7pm
- ALA-ANON Every Wednesday 5:30pm
- Men's Breakfast Every Thursday at 6:30am
- Swing Dancing Classes Every Thursday at 6:30pm
- Community Meals 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm

## Contact & Giving

### Pastor Nathan's Office Hours

Tuesdays 11:00 AM–3:00 PM  
Thursdays 9:00 AM–2:00 PM

### Church Office Hours

Monday–Wednesday 9:00 AM–2:00 PM  
Thursday 8:00 AM–12:00 PM

**Email:** [southparish@gmail.com](mailto:southparish@gmail.com)

**Phone:** 207-622-0552

**Address:** 9 Church Street, Augusta, ME 04330

**Web:** <https://southparishchurch.com/>

### Give / Donations

Scan the QR code with your camera to give online.



**March 2026**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10am - Green St. 10am SPCC UCC 2pm Shakespeare MG Rm	2 12pm - AA Meeting 1pm - Bridge Club 6pm - AA Meeting 6pm - Line Dancing	3 12pm - AA Meeting 5pm - Bible Study 6pm Trustees Mtg	4 12pm - AA Meeting 4pm - Green St 5pm - AL-ANON	5 6:30am - Men's 12pm - AA Mtg	6 12pm - AA Meeting	7 4:30pm - Community Meals 7pm - AA Mtg
8 10am - Green St. 10am - SPCC UCC 2pm Shakespeare	9 12pm - AA Meeting 1pm - Bridge Club 6pm - AA Mtg 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 Mtg	13 12pm - AA Mtg	14 9am - Pet Pantry 12pm Baby Shower 4:30pm - Community Meals 7pm - AA Mtg
15 10am - Green St. 10am - SPCC Mission Sunday after Service 1pm MG RM Shakespeare	16 12pm - AA Meeting 1pm - Bridge Club 6pm - AA Meeting 6pm - Line Dancing	17 12pm - AA Meeting 5pm - Bible Study 6m Council Mtg	18 12pm - AA Meeting 4pm - Green St 5pm - AL-ANON	19 6:30am - Men's 12pm - AA Mtg	20 12pm - AA Mtg	21 4:30 Community 7pm AA Mtg
22 10am - Green St. 10am - SPCC 11:30am Deacon's Mtg	23 12pm - AA Meeting 1pm - Bridge Club 6pm - AA Mtg 6pm - Line Dancing	24 12pm - AA Meeting 5pm - Bible Study	25 12pm - AA Mtg 4pm - Green St 5pm - AL-ANON	26 6:30am - Men's 12pm - AA Mtg	27 12pm - AA Mtg	28 7pm - AA Mtg  4pm to 6pm Chili Chowder Contest
29 10am - Green St. 10am - SPCC	30 12pm - AA Mtg 1pm - Bridge Club 6pm - AA Mtg 6pm - Line Dancing	31 12pm - AA Meeting 5pm Bible Study				

**South Parish Congregational Church UCC**

9 Church Street, Augusta, ME 04330

207-622-0552 • [southparish@gmail.com](mailto:southparish@gmail.com)

[southparishchurch.com](http://southparishchurch.com)

**Social:** Facebook: [South Parish Facebook](#) • Instagram: [South Parish](#) • YouTube: [South Parish](#)