

November 25, 2025



DEAR SOUTH PARISH FAMILIES,

I'M SO GRATEFUL FOR EACH OF YOU—PARENTS, KIDS, GRANDPARENTS, AND FRIENDS—WHO BRING LIFE AND ENERGY TO SOUTH PARISH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH. YOU MAKE THIS PLACE NOT ONLY HOLY, BUT JOYFUL, WELCOMING, AND FULL OF LOVE.

FAITH ISN'T JUST SOMETHING WE TALK ABOUT—IT'S SOMETHING WE LIVE OUT TOGETHER. THAT'S WHY JESUS SENT HIS DISCIPLES IN PAIRS: SO THEY COULD SHARE NOT ONLY THE GOSPEL, BUT ALSO THEIR LIVES. IN THE SAME WAY, OUR CHURCH THRIVES WHEN WE SHOW UP FOR ONE ANOTHER, WHETHER IT'S THROUGH WORSHIP, HELPING AT AN EVENT, OR SIMPLY BEING PRESENT FOR A NEIGHBOR.

WORDS MATTER, BUT ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER. WHEN FAMILIES GATHER, WHEN CHILDREN LAUGH IN THE PEWS, WHEN MEALS ARE SHARED, AND WHEN WE SUPPORT EACH OTHER THROUGH LIFE'S UPS AND DOWNS—THAT'S WHEN FAITH BECOMES REAL. THAT'S WHY WE NEED COMMUNITY, AND WHY SOUTH PARISH IS SUCH A GIFT. TOGETHER, WE ARE THE BODY OF CHRIST, LIVING OUT GOD'S GOOD NEWS IN WAYS THAT OUR KIDS CAN SEE, FEEL, AND GROW INTO.

I LOOK FORWARD TO ANOTHER YEAR OF WORSHIP, SERVICE, AND CELEBRATION WITH ALL OF YOU—AND TO WATCHING OUR CHILDREN LEARN WHAT IT MEANS TO BE PART OF A LOVING, FAITH-FILLED COMMUNITY.

WITH GRATITUDE AND BLESSINGS,

REV. NATHAN RICHARD

November 25, 2025

Pastor Nathan

Video of the
Week



Description

Every story matters, but it can be difficult to open up and share our scars in the process of telling that story. In this series, you'll find a safe and encouraging space to uncover your gospel story and bring it to light. Be inspired by the film *Miracle Matt*, discover and develop your own story, and build community by studying it with others. Get ready for one of the most life-changing series you've ever experienced because it's the power of God within your story that will be realized.



Scan QR Code to
Watch

[Click Here to
Watch](#)

Greeter update of Sunday, November 23, 2025

Five new people came into the Church this Sunday.

Linda and Rolf Lund came all the way from Wisconsin to enjoy being with his brother Mike and to hear Mike sing in the choir. Oh my goodness, he and Mike look so much alike! What an honor to Mike Lund, who is cherished by members of this Church.

Three people came to honor long time member Gail Appleby for whom we remembered in memoriam. They are Linda & Art, and Sarah, Gail's great niece. The history of Gail's involvement and work for South parish church is written up on a supplement to the church bulletin. Most of us don't remember Gail being in the church because she had been sick and absent for many years. History shows she contributed greatly.

This greeter was a bit overwhelmed by the accolades shown in a centerfold write-up.

Then, I remembered that it is by the Glory of God that each and every one of you found your own way to Church, and that I am not responsible for your decision. That is between you and the Lord. I am just here working in God's name and to His Glory. It is my prayer, and that of the members of the church, that you find the connection with God that you were searching for.

Nelson Leavitt

November 25, 2025



Holly Mart Christmas Luncheon

Warm up your holiday season with a delicious meal and cheerful company in the Marge Grover Room! Join us on Saturday Dec. 6 from 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM.

Menu Highlights

Choose Haddock Chowder or Turkey Vegetable Soup.
Served with rolls, beverage and dessert.

Sweet Holiday Desserts

Choose from:
Whoopie Pie, Pumpkin Pie, Fruit Crisp

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We are looking for a few volunteers to help serve and clean-up the Holly Mart Luncheon on Dec 6.

Please contact Cindy Sloma via the Church Office.

Thank you.

November 25, 2025



HOLLY MART

Sign-up sheet available at Church on Sunday or email me at lindsandy50@gmail

SCHEDULE FOR DONATION COLLECTION

Friday December 5th from 4PM-7PM
(we will also be setting up, sorting and pricing items)



Holly Mart!

SATURDAY, DEC 6TH
9 AM - 1 PM

SOUTH PARISH CHURCH
9 CHURCH ST AUGUSTA

Something for Everyone!

JEWELRY, HANDMADE ITEMS & CRAFTS, BOOKS & PUZZLES, ART, WREATHS, CHAIR MASSAGES, RAFFLES, , HOME DECOR, COOKIE WALK, BAKED GOODS, BREAKFAST BAR AND LUNCH AVAILABLE, AND MUCH MORE!

• PIE AUCTION WILL BE HELD AT 10 AM

WE WILL ALSO HAVE A KIDS CRAFT TABLE WHILE YOU SHOP!



November 25, 2025

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

HOLIDAY OUTREACH



We are again supporting a family from Lincoln Elementary School. Tags will be on the tree this weekend—please take one, sign your name and tag number, and return the unwrapped gift with the tag to the office by December 17.

Thank you for sharing kindness this season!

🎄 Missions Committee Holiday Outreach 🎄

The Missions Committee is once again supporting a family from Lincoln Elementary School this year. Beginning this weekend, tags will be available on the tree.

- If you'd like to help, simply take a tag from the tree.
- Write your name and the tag number on the sheet provided beside the tree.
- Return your gift to the office with the tag attached.

I will make sure all gifts are delivered to the school. Please note:

- Gifts must be returned by December 17.
- The school has requested that gifts remain unwrapped.

Your generosity makes a meaningful difference, especially in these challenging times. Thank you for sharing kindness and hope with our neighbors.

CE Update



1. Sunday School will start rehearsing for our Christmas Play on Sunday, December 7th. We will have 2 Sundays to put it together, and then we will present it during Church on Sunday, December 21st. I would dearly love to have all kids possible attend those 3 Sundays, so we can talk about parts, and check costumes. Friends who might like to join in are welcome.

November 25, 2025



2. Next Sunday, November 30th, and the Sunday after Christmas, December 28th, are Family Sundays. This means no Sunday School, and kids may sit with their families. Packets with coloring sheets and activity sheets are available. These Sundays are part of school vacations, so children are often busy, and it gives the teachers a well-deserved break.



2. Rev. Nate will be hosting "Coffee and Conversation" next Sunday, November 30th.

November 25, 2025



Holly Mart:

We would very much appreciate donations of "gently used" books, and puzzles with all the pieces. This is your chance - donate a bunch of books, and buy some new ones!!! Please make sure they are in decent shape, and not ancient or moldy. Children's books are very welcome, as are serious novels, fiction (romance, murder mysteries, suspense/action/spy novels, and Sci Fi/Fantasy are all very popular), non-fiction, and cookbooks would be great.

The best way to get books to us is to drop them off at Church on Saturday, November 29th, from 10 AM to 12 PM. Although they can be dropped off the Friday before Holly Mart, it will make it tough to organize them. I really hope to get in to sort books during the week (and I have KPAC concerts Friday and Saturday evenings, making timing complicated.)

Thank you so much, Kathy Petersen, Book Lover

November 25, 2025



Community Meals with Love and Dignity

Every Saturday at 4:30 PM

Our doors—and our hearts—open wide to welcome neighbors in need of a warm meal and kind company. These gatherings are more than just—they're moments of grace, and shared humanity.

Whether you're joining us for nourishment or offering your hands in service, you are part of something sacred.

Community Meals with Love and Dignity

Every Saturday at 4:30 PM, our doors—and our hearts—open wide to welcome neighbors in need of a warm meal and kind company. These gatherings are more than just food—they're moments of grace, connection, and shared humanity.

Whether you're joining us for nourishment or offering your hands in service, you are part of something sacred.

Monthly Meal Schedule:

- **1st Saturday** Hosted at: South Parish Congregational Church UCC
Served by: Emmanuel Lutheran Episcopal Church
- **2nd Saturday** Hosted at: South Parish Congregational Church UCC
Served by: South Parish Congregational Church
- **3rd Saturday** Hosted at: South Parish Congregational Church UCC
Served by: United Community Living Center
- **4th Saturday** Hosted at: Penny Memorial, 393 Water St.
Served by: Penny Memorial
- **5th Saturday (when applicable)**
Hosted at: South Parish Congregational Church, UCC
Served by: St Michael's & Temple-Beth EL All South Parish meals are held at 9 Church St., Augusta

Let us continue to be the hands and feet of Christ—serving with humility, welcoming with joy, and loving without condition.



CELEBRATE THE SEASON
with
Kennebec Performing Arts Company
Wind Ensemble * Choir * Jazz Band
under the direction of
John Neal * Russell Caverly * Dan Gilbert, asst.
*Featuring a variety of seasonal music and other selections,
plus some special performances!*

Friday * December 5th * 7 PM
Winthrop Performing Arts Center
Rambler Rd. Winthrop

Saturday * December 6th * 5 PM
The William & Elsie Viles Auditorium
Cony High School, Augusta

FREE ADMISSION
Donations Appreciated
This event is supported in part by a grant from
The Onion Foundation
kennebecperformingartscompany.com



**AUGUSTA
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA**

HOLIDAY CONCERT

JINWOOK PARK
CONDUCTOR & MUSIC DIRECTOR

South Parish Church
9 Church St, Augusta

**SATURDAY
DECEMBER 13, 7 PM** - AND - **SUNDAY
DECEMBER 14, 3 PM**

Brandenburg Concerto No. 2
Christmas at the Movies
Nutcracker Suite
Hallelujah Chorus! - featuring Coda Chorus Singers

www.augustasyphonymaine.org
augustasyphonyorchestra@gmail.com

ASO is supported in part by a grant from
The Onion Foundation



Pastor Nathan's 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.