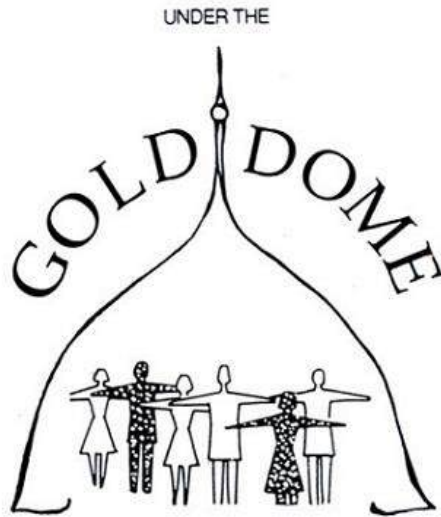


Nov 2024

Southwick Congregational Church
488 College Highway
P.O. Box 260
Southwick, MA 01077-0260
Return Service Requested



*The **Good News** Newsletter of the*
Southwick Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Southwick, MA

Please join us Sundays for Worship Service 11:00 am
and Coffee Hour to follow

Website: [www. SouthwickUCC.org](http://www.SouthwickUCC.org)



MISSION STATEMENT

Southwick Congregational Church is a faithful Christian presence in the community of Southwick since 1773, and we look to the future. We are a diverse and loving congregation, joyfully serving, teaching, and sharing with one another, according to the gifts we have been given.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

We invite you to join us each Sunday for our in-person service at 11:00 am and coffee hour that follows.

OFFICE HOURS

The church office hours are Tue, Wed & Thu 9:30-4.

Leave a voicemail message or an email if you need anything nonemergent after hours.

Rev. Paul has office hours.
If you would like a visit,
please call the church office at
(413) 569-6362 to schedule.
Office Hours by appointment.



VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

Our Facebook page is
Southwick Congregational Church UCC
Please check it out, "like" us, and follow us!!!
Keep track of what our very busy church is doing!

REV. PAUL'S CORNER

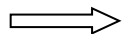
“Many Gifts, One Spirit”

Dear Southwick Congregational Church Family,

We have a lot to be thankful for at Southwick Congregational Church and much to look forward to as well. That includes sharing our building with Southwick Community Episcopal Church (SCEC), the opportunities for ministry at our dinners, Holly Bazaar, Henrietta's Thrift Shop, Ecumenical Services with neighboring churches, and our wonderful partnership with First Congregational Church in Westfield. The End of Summer Worship and Cookout on September 15 exemplifies much of what is going well with us. Truly, the Holy Spirit has been at work at Southwick Congregational Church!

The fact that we can share these gifts, though, needs the reminder that none of this happens on its own. Our beautiful historic building, ministry opportunities, and our numerous extensions of extravagant welcome to the community are all dependent on all of us through our stewardship and participation.

For us to continue what we do to bring the Gospel message alive to our members and the community, we are dependent on the many gifts of time, talent, and treasure of everyone at Southwick Congregational Church. At this time, we ask each of you to think about how you can support the community here at our church. As we prepare the budget for 2025, we ask that you fill out an Estimate of Giving



REV. PAUL'S CORNER, CONT.

card and bring it to church for Stewardship on Sunday, November 17. This will allow our Finance Committee to plan the budget for the coming year.

We call upon the Holy Spirit to breathe into all of us as we prayerfully discern what we can contribute to all our many gifts at Southwick Congregational Church to grow and flourish as we prepare to move into the second quarter of the twenty-first century.

Sincerely,

(Rev.) Paul

Rev. Paul B. Nesbit
Pastor



SEPTEMBER PRAYER LIST

Roberta & Ted K., Eleanor B., Jim R. (Eric N.), Julie & Emilie (Dawn), Emma C., Ron R., Jim & Lisa B. (Patty), Jeanne S., Jane W. (Patty), Robert R., T.J.W., Raymond F., Diane R., Brian C., Chris L. (Robin), Cara C., Sharon W., Owen L. (Melanie), Sarah B. & Susan U. (Patty), Bill M., Jennifer, Paul F. (Deb), Jill (SteveP), Avany, Dick A. (Kirsten), Patricia F., Judy R. (Kristy), Dennis W. (Eric), RobA (SteveP JimP), Scott (Patty), R.J. (Robin), Geneva's family, and Bob B, Elizabeth (Terry), Bobby (Terry), Ashley, the family of Richard P. at his passing (Lorraine), Melanie D.(Dennis & Melissa), the family of Charlie Pratt at his passing, Kim & Jenn (Cynthia), Julie C, Jemma (Robin), Dominic, the family of Norman C., Debbie and Jack B. (Jim), and Angie K. (Kirsten).

Nursing Homes/Assisted Living: Michael C.

**Serving in our Military at home and abroad:
Samantha P.**



The entire page is framed by a decorative border of autumn leaves in various shades of brown, orange, yellow, and green. The text is centered within a white, scalloped-edged area.

Annual TURKEY DINNER

Southwick Congregational Church, UCC
488 COLLEGE HWY, SOUTHWICK, MA 01077

Saturday, November 9, 2024

6:00 PM dine in

4:45-5:30 PM carry out

Reservations REQUIRED: Church Office 413-569-6362

OR Email SouthwickUCC@gmail.com

Menu:

Turkey & Gravy

Stuffing

Mashed Potatoes

Green Peas & Butternut Squash

Cranberry Sauce

Rolls

Homemade Apple Crisp & whipped cream

Adults \$22.00 - Kids 12 years old and under \$10.00



HOLLY BAZAAR

Southwick Congregational Church

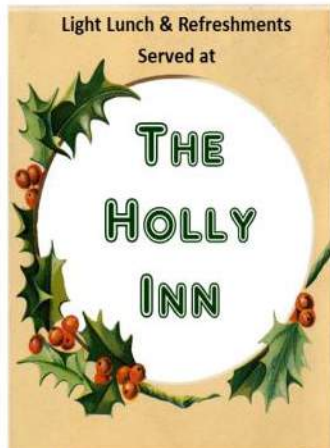
488 College Highway, Southwick, 01077

SATURDAY

DECEMBER 7, 2024

8:30 AM TO 2:30 PM

CRAFTERS BAKE SALE



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 9:30am - SCEC NFH 11am - SCC 3:30pm - OA	28 7pm - BSA#114 Ct 7pm - BSA#114 OFH	29	30 6pm - Cub Scouts 6:30pm - SUCC-SCEC	31	1 10am - Thrift Shop 6pm - OA 7:30pm - AA	2 10am - Thrift Shop
3 9:30am - SCEC NFH 11am - SCC 3:30pm - OA	4 5:30pm - GSA Rm 6,	5	6 6pm - Cub Scouts	7 TDPrep OFF NFH		
				8 5:30pm - GSA help set 6pm - GSA Rm#10	9 10am - Thrift Shop 6pm - OA 7:30pm - AA	10 10am - Thrift Shop 4pm - Turkey Dinner
10 9:30am - SCEC NFH 11am - SCC 3:30pm - OA	11	12	13 6pm - Cub Scouts 7pm - GSA Dickinson	14	15 10am - Thrift Shop 6pm - OA 7:30pm - AA	16 10am - Thrift Shop
17 9:30am - SCEC NFH 11am - SCC 3:30pm - OA	18	19 6:30pm - SCEC	20 6pm - Cub Scouts	21 4pm - Historical	22 10am - Thrift Shop 6pm - OA 7:30pm - AA	23 10am - Thrift Shop
24 9:30am - SCEC NFH 11am - SCC 3:30pm - OA	25	26	27 6pm - Cub Scouts	28	29 10am - Thrift Shop 6pm - OA 7:30pm - AA	30 10am - Thrift Shop

ALL CHURCH MEETING MINUTES

October 10, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Terry Putnam at 5 pm. and opened with a prayer by Rev. Paul. Due to a short notice change in scheduling, the monthly All-Church meeting was only an Executive Committee meeting. Attendees were: Terry Putnam, Rev. Paul Nesbit, Melanie Nitsch, Eric Nitsch, Bob Franzen, Patty Banasik, Karen Brzezinski, Jen Cotto, and Jim Putnam. A motion was made to approve the Executive Committee Minutes from September 26, 2024, which was passed unanimously.

Pastor

Rev. Paul Nesbit was happy to report that Southwick Community Episcopal Church (SCEC) has moved in. He thanked all who helped make this happen. Upcoming dates to keep in mind:

- 10/19/24 – Pasta with the Pastor at First Church Westfield from 4-6 pm
- 10/26/24 – Halloween Party at First Church Westfield – all children invited, 3:30-5 pm
- 11/9/24 – Turkey Dinner fundraiser organized by Patty Banasik – helpers needed
- 11/10/24 – Veterans Day Church Service – area veterans will be invited to attend our 11 am service
- 11/17/24 – Stewardship Sunday & Bell Sunday
- 11/26/24 – Westfield Food Pantry will have a turkey dinner at First Church Westfield and Southwick Congregational is invited to help
- 11/26/24 – Ecumenical Service to be held at First Church Westfield and all area churches are invited
- 12/1/24 – Manger will be on display outside - set-up the day before
- 12/7/24 – Annual Holly Bazaar and Holly Inn – helpers needed

Treasurer

Jim Putnam reported he has completed a good clean transition from Paychex to Quickbooks for payroll processing. He has been working on using the new on-line version of Quickbooks to produce a new and improved monthly financial statement. Our church banking has been switched over to Westfield Bank including CD investments. Our approximate year-to-date deficit is \$12-15,000, as ex-

ALL CHURCH MEETING MINUTES (CONT)

pected.

Finance

Melanie Nitsch thanked Jim for all his efforts with the Quickbooks conversion. The church will be receiving rental income from Southwick Community Episcopal Church as they share space with us, initially for a 6 mo. period of evaluation with monitoring of any increased expenses and utilities on our part. Melanie will attempt to get a new quote for our church insurance policies to compare to what we pay now. Jim has completed the Underwriter's Renewal Questionnaire and the Workers Comp Annual Audit will be completed soon. Quickbooks will be mailing out church employees' W-2 forms in January. Holly Bazaar reservations are coming in.

Buildings & Grounds

Eric Nitsch thanked Bob Franzen for taking care of a lot of building issues over the summer – sink hole repair, parsonage issues, insulation tasks, etc. The Eversource insulation job is now completed and the church received \$11,000 worth of free insulation that was installed. Rev. Paul mentioned more letters were purchased for the church signs. At the Boy Scout/Girl Scout meeting on 10/7/24, the groups were asked to come up with a service project for our church. Girl Scouts will be asked to help with table set-up for the upcoming Turkey Dinner.

Deacons

Patty Banasik reported they were not able to have a meeting this month due to the short notice of this meeting.

Memorial Gifts

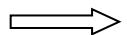
Karen Brzezinski reported working with the Treasurer to change over the Memorial Gift funds to Westfield Bank.

Music

Jen Cotto reported the committee needs to update the organist/choir director contract.

Pastoral Relations

Bob Franzen reported they did not have a summer meeting but one is scheduled for 10/23/24.



ALL CHURCH MEETING MINUTES (CONT)

Christian Ed

No report.

Moderator

Terry Putnam reported that with the SCEC all moved in to New Fellowship Hall, the decision has been made to **NOT** have any scout groups or children meet in the rear half of that hall. They will be able to meet in Old Fellowship Hall or one of the designated classrooms upstairs. The “old” youth group room will need to be cleaned out and B&G will coordinate that with the attic cleanout. Rooms upstairs have now been numbered for ease of identifying them. Our church calendar is now available for all groups to see on our church website (southwickucc@gmail.com). This will help in scheduling and coordinating events. It is planned that some formal ceremonies and some meetings will take place occasionally in the sanctuary.

Eric, Terry, and Rev. Paul met recently with Scout leaders to go over church policies regarding their use of our building. Leaders were very amenable. An important goal is to maximize space in Old Fellowship Hall so some organization and clean-up will need to take place. A motion was made to task appropriate helpers to clean up and organize Old Fellowship Hall in order to maximize the space in that hall. After discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.

The Executive Committee also discussed upcoming contract negotiations for Rev. Paul to take place jointly with First Church Westfield and Southwick Congregational Church.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Nitsch, Clerk



Christmas Cookie Sale

Southwick Congregational Church

Old Fellowship Hall

488 College Highway (Under the Gold Dome)

Southwick, Massachusetts

Saturday, December 7, 2024

8:30 am - 1:30 pm

\$10 a pound



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Helpers needed for the Nov 9 Turkey Dinner, sign up on the sheets at coffee hour.



Historical Society meeting in the Sanctuary Thursday 11/21, 7pm, with a talk about the architect of our church and others in the area. Refreshments afterward in Old Fellowship Hall

Bakers and helpers needed for the Holly Bazaar Dec 7, contact Melanie Nitsch

Bakers needed for the Cookie Sale Dec 14. Contact Robin Sklaski.



COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Moderator:	Terry Putnam	hannahput@yahoo.com	413-569-9283
Buildings & Grounds:	Eric Nitsch	eric.nitsch@gmail.com	413-695-4164
Christian Education:	Kirsten Allhusen	kirstenla@comcast.net	570-762-1313
Deacons:	Patty Banasik	preciousbana@aol.com	413-237-4717
Finance:	Melanie Nitsch	emnitsch@gmail.com	413-454-7043
Memorial Gifts:	Karen Brzezinski	karenbrzezinski@hotmail.com	413-569-6816
Music:	Jenn Hall-Cotto	jenncotto@comcast.net	413-218-5335
Pastoral Relations:	Bob Franzen	bobfranzen@hotmail.com	413-355-3061
Treasurer:	Jim Putnam	Jim-putnam@comcast.net	413-569-9283

Southwick Congregational Church, UCC
488 College Highway; P.O. Box 260
Southwick, MA 01077-0260

Church Office Hours: Tue, Wed, Thu 9:30am-4pm

Church Office Phone: 413-569-6362

Pastor: Rev. Paul Nesbit

Office Hours: By appointment

Rev. Paul's Email: RevPaulNesbit@gmail.com

Church Website: www.southwickucc.org

Office e-mail: southwickucc@gmail.com

Facebook: Southwick Congregational Church UCC

You Tube: Southwick Congregational Church

Staff:	Choir Director/Organist	Robertta Kowal
	Custodian	Christopher Robin Roberts
	Administrative Assistant	Joseph Stiefel



Giver of All Good Things

Giver of all good things, we thank you:
for health and vigor,
for the air that gives the breath of life,
the sun that warms us,
and the good food that makes us strong;
for happy homes and for the friends we love,
for all that makes it good to live.



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