

November 2025

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



*The **Good** 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 to meet with him,
please call the church office at
(413) 569-6362 or email him at
revpaulnesbit@gmail.com
to arrange.



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

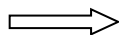
“Many Gifts, One Spirit”

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 card and bring it to church for Stew-



REV. PAUL'S CORNER, CONT.

ardship on Sunday, November 16. 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,

Paul

Rev. Paul B. Nesbit

Pastor

ANNOUNCEMENTS

-Rev Paul says, "There are people in need of winter hats, scarves, and gloves. If you are in a position to donate new, used, items, please see me."

-Office will be open TDay week only Mon/Tue 11/24,25.

-November 30 is joint service here in Southwick.

-December 5, Sanctuary, Blues to Advent to Christmas Concert 5-6pm, sponsored by Southwick Community Episcopal Church.

-December 6 is the Holly Bazaar.

-December 13 is the Cookie Sale.

-December 20, 6pm, Ecumenical Blue Christmas Service at Second Congregational Church Westfield.

NOVEMBER PRAYER LIST

Roberta & Ted K., Jim R. (Eric N.), Julie, Emilie & Ted (Dawn), Emma C., Ron R., 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), Jennifer (Deb), Jill (SteveP), Avany, Dick & Lynn A. (Kirsten), Patricia F., Judy R. (Kristy), Dennis W. (Eric), R.J. (Robin), Ashley, Melanie D. (Dennis & Melissa), Kim & Jenn (Cynthia), Julie C, Jemma (Robin), Dominic, Pat M., Lorraine B., Mike D. (Lori), David S. (Robin), Sarah (Karen), Selwyn W., Robyn (Terry), Heather H. (Jen), Karen B., Sierra P (Steve & Cynthia), Heidi (Julie), Lainey (Lee), Amy P. (Rev Paul), Ann B. (Robin), Angie K. (Kirsten), Mark, Judy L. (Jim), Lori & John at the passing of Traci, Heidi W (Judy), Sean W. (Robin), All who have been affected by recent events (Amherst fire, floods, shootings, etc), Joan B (Flo), Nancy O (Flo), the family of Kristen P (Janice), and Jen B (Patty).

Nursing Homes/Assisted Living: Michael C., and Julie C.

Serving in our Military at home and abroad: Samantha P., and Samuel H.

Annual TURKEY DINNER

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

Saturday, November 15, 2025

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 \$24.00 - Kids 12 years old and under \$10.00

HOLLY BAZAAR

Southwick Congregational Church

488 College Highway, Southwick, 01077

SATURDAY

DECEMBER 6, 2025

9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM

CRAFTERS BAKE SALE

Light Lunch & Refreshments

Served at

**THE
HOLLY
INN**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					31	1
					Halloween	10am - Thrift Shop
					10am - Thrift Shop OFF	12pm - Farm Parade
					6pm - OA	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Daylight Saving Time	6pm - GSA Rm6-10	Election Day	9:30am - Office Open	9:30am - Office Open	ThrfShp CLOSED	10am - Thrift Shop
9:30am - SCEC NFH		9:30am - Office Open	6:30pm - Cub Scouts	6:30pm - GSA OFH	6pm - OA	
11am - SCC		6pm - BSA OFH	7pm - GSA Rm3			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9:30am - SCEC NFH		Veterans Day	9:30am - Office Open	9:30am - Office Open	10am - Thrift Shop OFF	10am - Thrift Shop
11am - SCC		9:30am - Office Open	6:30pm - Cub Scouts		6pm - OA	6pm - Turkey Dinner
		7pm - BSA OFH				
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9:30am - SCEC NFH	5pm - GSA Rm6-10 6:	8am - Food CoOp OFH	9:30am - Office Open	9:30am - Office Open	10am - Thrift Shop OFF	10am - Thrift Shop
11am - SCC		9:30am - Office Open	6:30pm - Cub Scouts	6:30pm - GSA OFH	6pm - OA	
		7pm - BSA OFH				
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9:30am - SCEC NFH		9:30am - Office Open	9:30am - Office Open	Thanksgiving Day	Black Friday	10am - Thrift Shop
11am - SCC		6pm - BSA OFH	6:30pm - Cub Scouts	9:30am - Office Open	10am - Thrift Shop OFF	
					6pm - OA	
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
9:30am - SCEC NFH	6pm - GSA Rm6-10	9:30am - Office Open	9:30am - Office Open	9:30am - Office Open	10am - Thrift Shop OFF	9am - Bazaar
11am - SCC		6pm - BSA OFH	6:30pm - Cub Scouts		5pm - Blues to Advent	10am - Thrift Shop
			7pm - GSA Rm3		6pm - OA	



Christmas Cookie Sale

Southwick Congregational Church

Old Fellowship Hall

488 College Highway (Under the Gold Dome)

Southwick, Massachusetts

Saturday, December 13, 2025

8:30 am - 1:00 pm

\$10 a pound





An Ecumenical Blue Christmas Service

First Congregational Church of Westfield * First United Methodist Church UCC Second Congregational Church * Episcopal Church of the Atonement * Southwick Congregational Church * The Albert and Amelia Ferst Interfaith Center

6:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 20, 2025 at:

UCC Second Congregational Church

487 Western Avenue in Westfield (by Westfield State University)

The holidays can be difficult - the stress, strain, and commercialization take their toll on everyone. This year, the pandemic may be over, but the holidays can still be challenging. Those who are grieving or suffering may find it an especially shallow season.

The Ecumenical Blue Christmas Service is for those who are struggling. In lieu of the usual urgency to be "festive," this service offers a time of worship that is meant to embrace us wherever we are in life. This night is an invitation into a moment of respite, of quiet and solemn prayer, of gentle song and intentional silence, seeking to find God in the midst of it all.

If you find the holidays difficult, this service is specifically for you. Whoever you are, and wherever you are on your faith journey, we want you to join us! December 20th at 6:00 p.m. – UCC Second Congregational Church

For More Information, Contact Pastor Barb – Pastor@SecondChurchWestfield.org

ALL CHURCH MEETING

October 12, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Terry Putnam at 12:05 pm following church services and fellowship and opened with a prayer by Rev. Paul. A motion was made to approve the September 14th All-Church Committee Minutes which was passed unanimously.

Pastor

Rev. Paul reminded us of upcoming event dates:

October 26th – combined service held in Westfield

November 15th – Annual turkey dinner

November 30th – combined service held in Southwick

December 6th – Annual Holly Bazaar

December 13th – Annual Cookie Sale

Area churches are working to regionalize youth group meetings for Grades 6-12 and our church is invited to participate. They will be held at First Congregational Church in Westfield. A drumming event is being held Oct 12th at First Church and there is an upcoming contemporary music service to be held. Paul will be away at a retreat in West Cromwell, CT, on October 16th and 17th.

Treasurer

Jim Putnam reported all bills are paid and payroll is all set. The church received a notice from an abutter (Dunkin' Donuts) seeking to install an additional light pole on their property during their renovations. No objections were mentioned by the church body.

ALL CHURCH MEETING (CONT)

Buildings & Grounds

Eric Nitsch reported he is seeking quotes for snowplowing the church property for this winter. He is awaiting a quote from Dave Wetherell. The quote from Tynic Landscaping was very high. There was a discussion of how to notify the snowplower in the event the church services are canceled due to a weather event.

Christian Ed

No report

Music

No report

Deacons

Dawn Turgeon reported the committee will be gearing up for the holiday season and making plans.

Finance

Melanie Nitsch thanked Rev. Paul for the article in the October Gold Dome called “An Attitude of Gratitude” as that will be the theme of Stewardship this year. Finance will be making plans for the annual upcoming drive and is asking members, as always, to give thoughtful consideration to their pledge amounts this year. Rev. Paul requested vision insurance termination for 2026 and Melanie will follow-up on this.

Pastoral Relations

Bob Franzen stated they had nothing new to report.

New Business

Bob Franzen requested signage be put up to help

ALL CHURCH MEETING (CONT)

people using our building to know which doors need to be kept closed and those that need to remain open during the upcoming heating season. Melanie will follow-up with Joseph.

Rev. Paul offered a thank you to Mike Pitoniak for removing and cleaning the various air conditioners in the building.

Cynthia Lydiard inquired about recycling plastic ware to reduce waste and the response was that we will try our best not to be wasteful.

A motion was made and passed to adjourn the meeting at 12:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Melanie Nitsch, Clerk

COMMUNITY TABLE

Starting Feb 2026, every other month, SCEC is coordinating making and serving food at the Community Table in Westfield, working with our church. Rev Paul will have a meeting in January 2026, date to be determined, for those interested in helping out.

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

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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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