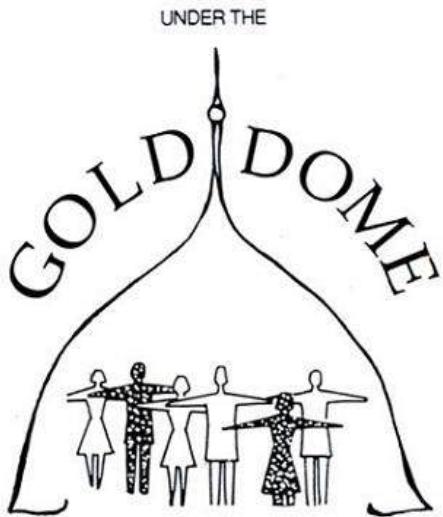


# January 2026

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



*The Good News*letter 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](mailto:revpaulnesbit@gmail.com)  
 to arrange.



### VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

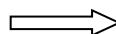
Our Facebook page is  
**Southwick Congregational Church UCC**  
 Please check it out, "like" us, and follow us!!!  
 Keep track of what our very busy church is doing!

## Gift-Giving

What did you get for Christmas? This was always a question we asked as kids when we returned to school or saw each other during the holidays.

Gifts were fun to receive as we would try to guess what was inside each package. What we didn't realize was that not everyone was on the same level of income and some gifts were nicer than others. I could not understand why Santa did not bring those items to our house. When I was older, I understood the financial limitations we had in a family with six children.

The subject of gifts has been on my mind lately. This is important with the coming of Epiphany on January 6 as we celebrate the gifts brought by the Magi. We may not have gold, frankincense, and myrrh, but we have other gifts we can offer our church. While it is important that we offer our financial support, I now turn our attention to the gifts we can offer our church community. Maybe you have a background in finance, building and grounds, education, music, or a host of other areas that may need attention at our church. Perhaps you have a talent that has been hiding that could be of good use to our church community.



## REV. PAUL'S CORNER, CONT.

The Christmas Hymn “In the Bleak Mid-Winter” has a verse that reads

*What can I give Him, poor as I am?  
If I were a Shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a Wise Man I would do my part,  
Yet what I can I give Him, Give my heart.*

As we enter 2026, I hope that all of us can take a few moments to ponder, reflect, and pray on what gifts we have to offer our church community. It may be the gift of simply being present or praying for us from home. Whatever you have to offer, we know it will be from your heart.

Blessings on your New Year! May it be filled with health, happiness, and good will.

Peace and love,

*Paul*

Rev. Paul Nesbit, Pastor



## **JANUARY 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., Karen B., Sierra P (Steve & Cynthia), Amy P. (Rev Paul), Ann B. (Robin), Angie K. (Kirsten), Mark, Judy L. (Jim), Sean W. (Robin),**

**All who have been affected by recent events** (Amherst fire, floods, shootings, etc), **Joan B** (Flo), the family of **Kristen P** (Janice), **Jen B** (Patty), **Joyce, Jasmine** (Terry) **Stewy J.** (Jim), **Langevin Family** (Rev Paul), **Treasure** (Dom), the family of **Earl C** at his passing (Jenn), and the family of **Karl Z.** at his passing.

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

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



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	28	29	30	31	1	2
Paul OUT 9:30am - SCEC NFH 11am - Sthwk Joint		9:30am - Office Open 6pm - BSA OFH	New Year's Eve Ofc CLOSED 6:30pm - Cub Scouts	New Year's Day Ofc CLOSED	10am - Thrift Shop OFF 6pm - OA	10am - Thrift Shop
	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:30am - SCEC NFH 11am - SCC	6pm - GSA Rm6-10	9:30am - Office Open	9:30am - Office Open 6:30pm - Cub Scouts	GSA OFH 6:30-8:00 pm 9:30am - Ofc OPEN 5pm - GSA Rm10	10am - Thrift Shop OFF 6pm - OA OFH	10am - Thrift Shop
	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:30am - SCEC NFH 11am - SCC	6pm - GSA Rm6-10	9:30am - Office Open 6:30pm - BSA OFH	9:30am - Office Open 6:30pm - Cub Scouts 7pm - GSA Rm3	9:30am - Office Open 5pm - GSA Rm10	10am - Thrift Shop OFF 6pm - OA	10am - Thrift Shop
	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:30am - SCEC NFH 11am - SCC	Martin Luther King Jr.	9:30am - Office Open 7pm - BSA OFH	9:30am - Office Open 6pm - SCEC Rm3 6:30pm - Cub Scouts	9:30am - Office Open 5pm - GSA Rm10 6:30pm - GSA OFH	10am - Thrift Shop OFF 6pm - OA	10am - Thrift Shop
	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:30am - Joint 9:30am - SCEC NFH	6pm - GSA Rm6-10	9:30am - Office Open 6pm - BSA OFH	9:30am - Office Open 6:30pm - Cub Scouts	9:30am - Office Open 5pm - GSA Rm10	10am - Thrift Shop OFF 6pm - OA	Thrift CLOSED 11am - Funeral OFH,
	31					

## HOLLY BAZAAR 2025 NOTES

### Holly Bazaar 2025

Thank you very much to everyone involved with this year's Holly Bazaar and Holly Inn held on December 6th . We had a lot of shoppers in the morning, slightly less so in the afternoon. Great lunch choices were served by Patty Banasik and Company and I heard lots of compliments!

We maintained our profits at about \$2,000 as in past years. Special thanks go out to Joseph in the church office for all his emails, letters, and phone calls for organizing the vendor list. Also, Chris, our custodian, set up the tables and chairs and did clean-up after the event.

The Episcopal Church was able to set back up by 5 pm that afternoon. The raffle table run by Joyce Hamilton adds some excitement to the event with winners drawn the next day during coffee hour after our church service. All donations by the vendors and church members are very much appreciated!

Thanks also to the bakers for the church table and my helper Melissa as we sold lots of thrifted items. I'm sure you noticed the beautiful wooden ornaments made by Brian Colton and painted by Debbie Finney!

Remember to save for the church any holiday items no longer wanted as you clean up your own holiday decorations. We can sell them next year!

Melanie Nitsch

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Annual Meeting** of Southwick Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, of Southwick, Massachusetts, will be held immediately following the service Sunday February 15, 2026 in Old Fellowship Hall. Please be there to express your thoughts and support our church. There will be a POT LUCK luncheon; bring something if you can, but fear not if you cannot.

-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.”

-Joint Service January 25th, in Westfield, at First Congregational Church, starting at 9:30 am.

## 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.

## 2026 JOINT SERVICE SCHEDULE

Date	Where	Remarks
January 25	Westfield	Last Sunday
February 22	Southwick	Last Sunday (First in Lent)
March 22	Westfield	4th Sunday due to Palm Sunday
April 2	Westfield	MAUNDY THURSDAY
April 26	Southwick	Last Sunday
May 31	Westfield	Last Sunday
June 28	Southwick	Last Sunday
July 26	Westfield	Last Sunday
August 30	Southwick	Last Sunday
September 27	STANLEY PARK	End of Summer Celebration
October 25	Southwick	Last Sunday



## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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

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

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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](mailto:RevPaulNesbit@gmail.com)

**Church Website:** [www.southwickucc.org](http://www.southwickucc.org)

**Office e-mail:** [southwickucc@gmail.com](mailto:southwickucc@gmail.com)

**Facebook:** Southwick Congregational Church UCC

**You Tube:** Southwick Congregational Church

<b>Staff:</b>	Choir Director/Organist	Roberta Kowal
	Custodian	Christopher Robin Roberts
	Administrative Assistant	Joseph Stiefel



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