



THE VILLAGE BEACON

*February - March
2018*

*Newsletter of the Second Congregational Church of
Cohasset*



SCC is getting a new roof !!

Our Church Leadership

Staff:

Interim Minister	Dr. Rev David Stryker
Music Director	Jin Kim
Office Administrator	Cindy Courtney
Custodian	Tony Emanuello
Christian Education Director	William Ketchum

Church Officers:

Moderator	George Baumgarten
Treasurer	Kim Maynard
Assistant Treasurer	Ruth Nedrow
Financial Secretary	Wilma Vanderlugt
Assistant Financial Secretary	Charlene Jackson
Clerk	Jennifer Geoghegan
Historian	Ann Pompeo

Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs:

Deacons	Susi Coley
	David Young
Finance	Paul Carlson
Christian Education	Kristin Voldan
Trustees	Phil Lehr
Outreach	Connie Afshar
Music	Linda Indek
	Steve Parnell
Flowers	Beth Corry
Nominating	*TBD
Search Team	Susi Coley

Delegates:

Open

*TBD: New chairpersons will be determined at committee meetings in February.

Newsletter of the
Second Congregational Church
Cohasset, Massachusetts

February 15, 2018

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FROM THE MINISTER'S STUDY

A Lenten Challenge

Lauren Winner teaches at Duke Divinity School and published her book on faith crisis, *Still: Notes on a Mid-Faith Crisis* (HarperOne, 2012). She has written about Lent: "We will try to go with Jesus into the desert, to devote ourselves.... To self-examination and repentance.... Prayer, fasting and self-denial, and reading and meditation on God's holy Word." Some of us, as a taken on this self-denial, will abstain from something during Lent: we won't eat sugar or chocolate, or dark caffeine or wine. One year, I gave up cheese for Lent. This year, I am giving up anxiety. Lauren has made an important point in that it is not just giving up on sugar or chocolate (or, for me, giving up my favorite candy, "Twizzlers"). As Lent approaches I believe maybe there is something more important than these to give up for Lent, things that can block our ability to be more authentic people and Christians during Lent. So this becomes a spiritual practice that strengthens us personally and our relationships with others, so that we can become compassionate and loving. The question I pose to you is to consider what will free up your **spirit**, your **mind** and your **body** to be able to receive God's grace, love and mercy that is in everyday life.

Three years ago, I facilitated a book study at a UCC church. We read and practiced together the suggestions from Will Bowen's book, *A Complaint Free World* (Harmony, 2007). We took up the challenge of not complaining for 21 days and we found many positive results among parishioners such as a new lightness of being and a positive appreciation of others and life.

Will Bowen's book has sold over 7 million copies! People in more than 80 countries who have taken the

“Complaint Free” challenge, trying to go 21 consecutive days without complaining, criticizing, judging others, or gossiping, and in so doing forming a new, positive habit.

During this Lenten Season, which begins on Ash Wednesday (February 14), I would like to challenge you (and myself) to give up complaining for 21 days. I believe that doing this could help us lighten our spirits and keep us from the heavy weight and burden of judging ourselves as well as others. I think this will help us to be present in our personal relationships, family, friends, colleagues, and our faith community.

Why 21 days? Research indicates it takes 21 days to break a habit or to reinforce a new one.

A purple Complaint Free bracelet or ring is worn and if the person accidentally verbalizes a complaint, the bracelet needs to be switched to the other wrist for a further 21 days. Definitely a challenge!

Let us consider what this world would mean every day of Lent as we stay mindful of not complaining or judging every single day of this Lenten period.

If you would like to hear more about Bowen’s congregation and this idea and new practice/behavior and results, please have a conversation with me.

If you hear someone else who is wearing a purple bracelet complain, it’s okay to point out their need to switch the bracelet to the other arm, BUT if you’re going to do this, you must move your bracelet first! Because you’re complaining about their complaining.

May our Lord bless all of us on the Lenten journey,
Pastor David



Let Us Pray For:

For Tom Myers

For Tom Horsefield

For Nancy Armstrong

For Patrice Vogelmann

For Steve Parnell

For Werner Diekman

For Rich Silvia

For Edie and her grandson Ezra who

has leukemia and is in intensive care.



FLOWER DONATIONS



Feb 18 Given by Phil & Joan Shockman, in loving memory of their parents.

Feb 25 Given by Martha & Tom Horsefield in grateful appreciation of our church family.

March 4

March 11 Given by Jen Geoghegan in celebration of The new Geoghegan/Coly family home.

March 18 Given by Linda Indek in memory of her Father's birthday, March 19.
Given by the Congregation in celebration of our time together with Pastor David

March 25 Given by the Corry's in celebration of friends and family

Lenten Studies

Ash Wednesday Marks the Beginning of Lent:



The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which is 40 days before Easter Sunday, excluding Sundays during that time. The time is representative of the 40 days of temptation that Jesus experiences in the wilderness. It is a time of reflection, self-study, prayer, fasting, personal discipline, and good works. It is a time of preparation to focus or refocus our lives toward God. Purple is the color of the season.

The season of Lent begins early this year (believe it or not) as we participate in Bates Hall in an Ash Wednesday Service on February 14 from 7:30 – 8:30 pm. Lent, of course, is the season before Easter during which we prepare ourselves, giving us the opportunity to reflect on our lives and to correct the course we may be taking. In his book, *Listening to Your Life*, Frederick Buechner has issued that same invitation in this way: “Listen to your life. See it for the fathomless mystery it is.. In the boredom and pain of it, no less than in the excitement and gladness: touch, taste, smell your way to the holy and hidden heart of it, because in the last analysis all moments are key moments, and life itself is grace.”

Lenten Study:

The Dark Nights of the Soul – Thomas Moore

- Wednesday February 14 Chapters 1-3
- February 28, Chapters 4-7
- March 7, Chapters 8 -11
- March 14 Chapters 12-15



Publication Deadlines Spring 2018.

Beacon:

March 5; April 9; May 7; June 4

Eblast: Thursdays weekly 10:00 AM

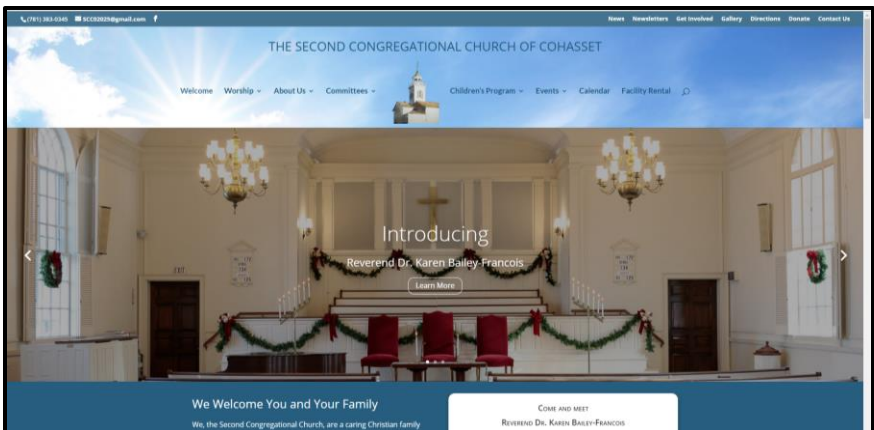
Office Hours: M – F 9 – 2

***Have you seen our new website!!!
Now Live!!***

www.2ndcc.org

“same old address, all new look and feel!”

Are you interested in learning more about our website and how to find all the features?? We will be holding a **“Website Training” on March 7 at 9:30 AM!** If you are interested in attending, please contact Cindy in the office. 781-383-0345



Monthly Volunteers for February/March

Date	Coffee	Greeters	Readers
2/18	The Carlsons	John Dunn & Herb Marsh	Lauren Bellefontaine
2/25	The Coleys	Debbie & Gary Anderson	Jack DeLorenzo
3/4	Taffy & Jeff Nothnagle	Deacons	Minister
3/11	Georgia Carroll		Herb Marsh
3/18	Connie Afshar		
3/25	Abby Greer & Jack Dane	Debbie & Gary Anderson	

Church Elves!!!

I feel a new energy flowing through our church and hoping it gives the SCC Elves a boost. The first craft workshop will meet March 7 in the green chair room at 1:30. I have the supplies for two different projects all ready to go I just need the hands to assemble them. March through June we will meet the first Wednesday of each month, April 4, May 2, June 6. When Santa flies to the South Pole for the summer the Elves close down the workshop and enjoy some free time to travel. In the Fall there will be a new schedule. This is not a big commitment and hour or two one day a month but means a lot to the church. The Village Fair after expenses brought in \$12,000 for the church. This little group contributed to that so give yourself a big pat on the back for a job well done. Hope to see as many of you that can make it and bring a friend. My goal is to outgrow the green chair room and meet in Bates Hall!

Hugs

Elf Linda

PS: Always looking for new ideas so if you have one please bring it

Christian Education and Youth Corner



Christian Education and Youth Corner Beacon Article

Christian Education has been preparing for the season of Lent and Easter by being focused on rituals and sacraments of the church. We learned about communion by baking bread and we were able to watch how communion is practiced in our church by watching it on the monitor downstairs while smelling and eating our bread. The older youths participated in communion

in the sanctuary.

We will be studying Lent and preparing for Easter in the next few weeks. The older youth continue to learn about women in the Bible. For example the little known story of Lydia who was the first convert in Europe and the impact she made on the early church. We hope you can follow along with our lesson plans as they are now posted on our website at: www.2ndcc.org/children
Blessings, Pastor Bill

Reminder for families with young children, our Nursery room is available during Service, with *live Sanctuary, Service video streaming!!*



OUTREACH NEWS

Easter Basket Toy Donations: Thank you for your generous donations of adorable small toys, gifts and stuffed animals! These items will help brighten the 300+ Easter Baskets given to the children of Quincy's Interfaith Social Services food pantry clients!

Cohasset Food Pantry: We are collecting BREAKFAST CEREAL and SOUP during the month of February. Please place the cereal and soup in the large plastic blue bin in the church foyer.

Father Bills Homeless Shelter: Ronnie & Mary Goodwin will be purchasing, preparing and serving dinner at Father Bill's on Saturday, March 3. If you would like to volunteer please contact them at thegoodwin@aol.com.

Sunday, May 6 is the Mother's Day Walk for Peace in Dorchester. Join our 'Compassionate Cohasset' team in this important annual march!



A special tribute was held at fellowship following our annual meeting January 29, to honor Martha Horsefield for her many years of service to our church family as our beloved church clerk!

Thank You Martha!!

A Time for Everything

There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity
under the heavens:

Ecclesiastes 3

Reverend Dr. Karen Bailey-Francois, of Ellington, CT, was unanimously called to be SCC's 18th Settled Minister on Sunday January 28th. A two month transition period that allows both ministers to wrap up duties in their respective positions in Cohasset and Ellington.

As we enter *Lent on Ash Wednesday, February 14th* this transitional time is quite fitting for the season. Our congregation is afforded the opportunity to engage in a 4 week Lenten Study with Pastor David, attend a special Sunday Service send-off, to be followed by welcoming Pastor Karen on Palm Sunday. Below, important dates are highlighted for your convenience:



February 14th - Ash Wednesday Meditation and book study

7:30 Bates Hall

March 11th – A joyful celebration of our time together, with song and worship, special guest, Bermuda Billy Byron

March 13th - Pastor David and Pastor Karen will work together for the week

March 18th - Pastor David's farewell service followed by special coffee hour

March 25th - Palm Sunday and Pastor Karen's first Sunday as settled minister

April 1st - Easter Sunrise Service and Easter Cantata

SPECIAL OLYMPICS POLAR PLUNGE - 2018

POLAR PLUNGE for SPECIAL OLYMPICS
The Madness starts early this year, on
Saturday, February 24th, when the 20th
Annual Polar Plunge for Special Olympics
MA takes place at Nantasket Beach in Hull,
one of 8 SO Plunges taking place this winter.
The Plunge at Nantasket is always the



biggest and best! Hopefully, the winter storms are gone, but the water is always way too cold! Your fellow Church members Connie Afshar, John Dunne, Jody Loughlin, Steve Myers, Jay and Jeff Nothnagle, and Doug Yeager have been fundraising and preparing for the “Big Chill!”, and several other SCC members have “said “ they will join in.

Thank you to so many of you who have already donated to the Plunge, and it’s not too late for others to help (or to join us* and Plunge, too!). You can donate securely on line at <http://nantasketplunge.kintera.org>. Sponsor a participant, enter a name and Search, or you can mail a check payable to “SOMA” to any of the Plungers, or to South Shore Mariners c/o Nothnagle, 36 Atlantic Ave., Cohasset, MA 02025. * You can also register to Plunge at this website.

Then on Saturday, the 24th, come on over to the Mary Jeannette Murray Bathhouse for the costume parade at 11:15, and the Plunge at noon (to 12:03!). It is over *very* fast as 500+ brave (mad?) plungers do a banzai charge into the surf, and come out cheering!

Parking is always tight, so plan on coming early for coffee and goodies, and then stay for chowder, pizza, and ice cream (after the Plungers have been fed). It promises to be a wonderful day and another very successful fundraiser for the 12,000 athletes of Special Olympics MA. We thank you again for your loyal support on behalf of all our athletes.

Notes From our Church family.....

Thanks to everyone for your assistance, calls, prayers, cards, and more during Rich's recent medical crisis. We were fortunate to have all of you, the Cohasset EMTs, many doctors, two hospitals and our great family. It does take a village! Rich is doing well with his new pacemaker, and continues with testing, monitoring and follow ups. We appreciate you all!
Fondly,


Marsha and Rich Silvia

From the family of Louise Smullen.....

To all of the "crew,"
Thank you for setting up
Bates Hall, baking, and serving
for Mom's service. It
was great! You all have
it very together.
Fondly
Ch

SCC CALENDAR

February - March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Inter-Generational Service Bill Ketchum	OFFICE CLOSED		7:30 Deacons	7:30 Choir		Polar Plunge
25	26	27	28	March 1	2	3
Guest Minister: Amanda Howland				7:30 Choir		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Confirmation 11:30	Beacon Deadline 		9:30 Website training 7:30 Trustee 7:30 Outreach	Beacon published 7:30 Choir		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Finance 11:15		7:30 Church Committee		7:30 Choir		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Farewell Pastor David			7:30 Deacons	7:30 Choir		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Palm Sunday Welcome Pastor Karen				7:30 Choir		

Second Congregational Church

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