



March 2020

Newsletter of
Second Congregational Church of Cohasset



THE VILLAGE BEACON

Lent, Holy Week and Easter at SCC

- Wed 2/26 7pm † **ASH WEDNESDAY** – Service in Sanctuary
- Sun 3/01 **1st SUNDAY OF LENT:** Membership Sunday
Ambition (Matthew 4:1-11)
- Sun 3/08 **2nd SUNDAY OF LENT:** Assumption (John 3:1-17)
- Sun 3/15 **3rd SUNDAY OF LENT:** Acceptance (John 4:5-42)
- Sun 3/22 **4th SUNDAY OF LENT:** Awareness (John 9:1-41)
- Sun 3/29 **5th SUNDAY OF LENT:** Amazement (John 11:1-45)
- Sun 4/05 **PALM SUNDAY:** Awe (Philippians 2:5-11)
9:15 am Blessing of the Palms
on the Commons Pond with St. Stephen's
10:00 am Palm Processional & Worship Service
10:15 am Seder Preparation & Easter Egg Hunt
5:30 pm Youth-led Teaching Seder & Potluck Supper
(Youth & CE please arrive by 5pm)
- Thurs 4/09 **MAUNDY THURSDAY**
5:30 pm Soup and Bread Dinner
6:15 pm Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm Tenebrae & Communion
- Fri 4/10 9am-2pm Good Friday – Chapel Open
- Sun 4/12 **EASTER SUNDAY**
7:30 am SonRise Service at Sandy Beach
10 am Angels of Music Easter Cantata
*Director Jin Kim with Konstantinos Papadakis,
the SCC Festival Choir and members of the
Atlantic Symphony Chamber Players.*



**Newsletter of the
Second Congregational Church
Cohasset, Massachusetts**

March 1, 2020

Vol. 33, No. 2

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From the Minister's Study

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. Strive for the greater gifts and I will show you a still more excellent way

From Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 12:12, 31

George Baumgarten, Michael Doherty and I hosted a brunch at the Parsonage after worship last week. It was for individuals who expressed interest in joining Second Congregational Church. We talked about how each of us had come to be at SCC, where we had come from, our religious backgrounds and our experiences with this congregation. As Moderator and Chair of the Deacons, George and Michael shared insights on the practices and processes that guide our communal life. I brought the heritage and history on the United Church of Christ (our specific faith tradition) and Second Congregational, in particular, along with a bit on the foundations for each. It was a really nice gathering, with good food and good conversation that gave us a chance to just be together and, hopefully, to know each other a little better as a result.

Shortly before we ended, with gentleness and a genuine interest in the answer, came the following question: *"So, why would someone decide to become a member of the church rather than simply attend and find ways to be active?"*

That is at the core of the matter, isn't it? Why join? What does membership in this church mean?

There is, of course, the answer from the by-laws: members can serve as officers and vote on matters of concern to the church. And there is the relational response: membership is an expression of commitment to the congregation and the work of the church; the public acceptance of the rights and responsibilities that come with an affirmation of one's faith in the context of a chosen community.

But church membership is more than the practical considerations that come with joining most groups. As in baptism, the decision to embrace full church membership it is an outward and visible sign of an inward and invisible truth. It is an expression of your belief that God is actively engaged in your life and in life of this congregation and that, by grace, your individual and communal journeys are made richer by walking together.

Whether by affirmation or by transferring one's connection from somewhere else, joining a church is a leap of faith. Who knows the future of any human institution? We certainly have a say – a right, a responsibility and a vote – in setting the direction we hope will move us into a future we desire. Individually and with the support of like-minded members we can certainly put forward the approach we think will work best. Our congregational polity ensures democratic rule. But, for us, there is another dimension: the Spirit of the Living God that guides our hearts and our minds.

We are the Body of Christ, of which Jesus is the sole head. We, by faith, are offered and invited to do his work in the world – with and for others and one another, starting right where we are. We are called to seek the greater good; to live as Christ would have us live and love as he would have us love. That is our privilege. And it is generally a whole lot harder than it sounds.

Together, we get to practice; to enjoy the fruits of the Holy Spirit's help and to find that "still more excellent way."

See you in church!

Pastor Karen

PastorKaren02025@gmail.com

781-923-0486 (cell)

Membership Sunday is March 3rd

For more information about joining Second Congregational Church, speak with Pastor Karen, George Baumgarten, Michael Doherty or email Deacons02025@gmail.com



Let Us Pray For:

Kindness in each other, celebrating our differences and coming together in unity.

Those undergoing medical testing and procedures.

Those suffering quietly with illness, loneliness or loss.

Those healing in body, mind or spirit, with the help of God and loved ones.

God of Solace and of Strength,

Grant courage for this journey and companions on the way.

May those who long for your help, your guidance and your grace,

Be blessed by your abiding spirit and your unfailing love.

In Jesus' name. Amen.



FLOWER DONATIONS



- | | |
|----------|--|
| March 1 | Given by Judith Bucher in celebration of new beginnings |
| March 8 | by Jen Geoghegan in celebration of Family and Friends |
| March 15 | by Linda Indek in memory of her Dad Scotty Walker's birthday on March 19 |
| March 22 | <i>Open, contact the office if you would like to donate</i> |
| March 29 | by Taffy Nothnagle in Thanksgiving for our church family |

New SCC Working Groups / Opportunity to Engage!

Do you have a perspective on SCC's church worship or the mission of the church that you'd like to share? There are new groups forming at SCC that are eager to hear from you!

At Annual Meeting in early February, the Deacons shared results of our discovery since November to get a better understanding of concerns, issues and conflicts within our church. We've met with members and staff of SCC, with the UCC and some in the community, and identified a nearly universal sentiment that 'This is my church!' and a deep interest from many in helping chart our path forward, specifically to focus on the character of the church and enhance dialog within the church.

Annual Meeting unanimously approved the Deacons' proposal for a **four month plan** February – June 2020 to foster constructive communication toward the mission of SCC with focus on the things that bring us together rather than what keeps us apart, and to form three groups to help execute this plan: Pastor Parish Relations Committee; Worship Working Group and 2020 Committee (see details in the table that follows).

Plan

1. **Target Timeframe.** February 2, 2020 – June 14, 2020.
2. **Accountability.** Church Committee will: 1) perform monthly checkpoints to address findings and proposals by Worship and 2020 Committees, and 2) sponsor a final report-out and discussion with the Worship and 2020 committees in June on findings and proposed courses of action.
3. **Bias to Action.** Start developing and implementing action plans immediately on proposals approved by Church Committee each month.
4. **Communicate** plans via eBlasts and Newsletter. Please feel free to contact Mike Doherty at Deacons02025@gmail.com or any Deacon regarding expectations for these committees and their members.

Pastor Parish Relations Committee	Worship Working Group	2020 Committee
<p>Purpose. The Pastor Parish Relations Committee (“PPRC”) assists in fostering a healthy relationship between Pastor and congregation in order to enhance the effectiveness of the church’s mission.</p> <p>Openings. Two at-large members in addition to three current members (George Baumgarten, Ruth Nedrow and John Campbell.)</p> <p>Meets. Monthly Feb - June 2020, bi-monthly thereafter.</p> <p>Next Meeting. Mid-March.</p>	<p>Purpose. 1) Provide input and guidance to SCC worship service in collaboration with Pastor Karen, and 2) Foster open communication about SCC worship service with members of the congregation.</p> <p>Openings. Three at-large members in addition to one each from Deacons, Music (Pam Delorenzo) and CE (Joanne Lehr).</p> <p>Meets. Four-month pilot: 2x/month in first month, monthly or tbd thereafter. Review, discuss and provide input to plans for upcoming services on a rolling 1-2 month basis.</p> <p>First Meeting. March.</p>	<p>Proposed Charter. Establish a short-term 2020 Committee to revisit findings from Search Team, 2018 Summit, and “Regearment” Day, and to engage with the congregation, as well as those who have become inactive, to re-assess:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Who do we want to become as a congregation? 2) What role does SCC play in the community? 3) What would attract new members to come and inactive members to return? <p>Next Steps. Review proposed charter, agree on timing and scope at March 10 Church Committee meeting.</p>

Questions?

Speak with a Deacon or email Deacons02025@gmail.com

Michael Doherty, Chair
George Baumgarten, Deacon & Moderator
Tana Carlson, Tina Cline, JoAnn Faust, Herb Marsh, Ruth Nedrow,
Ann Pompeo, Doug Thompson, David Young



We Build Sacred Community

Treasurer's Report -February 2020

<i>Income February</i>	<i>14,508</i>
<i>Income Year to Date</i>	<i>39,295</i>
<i>Expenses February</i>	<i>15,139</i>
<i>Expenses Year to Date</i>	<i>29,590</i>
<i>Operating Fund</i>	<i>74,728.50</i>

Restricted Funds:

<i>Regular reserve</i>	<i>4,818</i>
<i>Memorial Fund</i>	<i>6,318</i>
<i>Money Market reserve</i>	<i>30,235</i>
<i>Fund Raising to Date</i>	<i>185</i>
<i>Total Portfolio</i>	<i>453,995</i>



Sunday Volunteers

Date	Coffee	Greeters	Readers
3/1	Judith Bucher	Deacons	Minister
3/8	Gary & Debbie Anderson's	Herb Marsh	Debbie Anderson
3/15	Jack & Pam DeLorenzo	Herb Marsh	Herb Marsh
3/22	George Baumgarten	Jack DeLorenzo & Herb Marsh	Jack DeLorenzo
3/29	Jen Geoghegan	Herb Marsh	Susi Coley
4/5	<i>Open*</i>	Deacons	Minister

****If interested in hosting, please sign up in Bates Hall***

Christian Education

March

Sun, Mar 1: Sunday
Morning Whirl! Kids (K-5)
Sunday

Evening Youth Group (5-6:15pm)

CASP Meeting (7:30 pm Sanctuary)

Sun, Mar 8: Sunday Morning Whirl! Kids (K-5)
Sunday Evening Youth Group (5-6:15pm)

Sun, Mar 15: Sunday Morning Whirl! Kids (K-5)

Sun, Mar 22: Sunday Morning Whirl! Kids (K-5)
Sunday Evening Youth Group (5-6:15pm)

Fri, Mar 27: Youth Movie Night (7pm Bates Hall)

Sun, Mar 29: Sunday Morning Whirl! Kids (K-5)
Sunday Evening Youth Group (5-6:15pm)



April

Sun, Apr 5: 9:15 am Blessing of the Palms (Commons Pond)
10:00 am Palm Processional to start Worship
10:15 am Seder Lesson / Prep & Egg Hunt
5:00 pm Youth arrive to set-up for All Church
Teaching Seder and Potluck



Sun, Apr 12: Easter Sunday!
7:30 am SonRise Service at Sandy Beach
10:00am Easter Cantata (Sanctuary)



Sun, Apr 19: Outreach Sunday Family Worship
(start of Cohasset Spring Break)

Sun, Apr 26: Sunday Morning Whirl! Kids (K-5)
Youth Service Experience at Rosie's Place
(2:00 p.m. Carpool from SCC)
CASP Meeting (7:30 pm Sanctuary)



Community Blessing of the Palms

Palm Sunday

April 5th at 9:15 a.m.

Cohasset Common Pond



Second Congregational Church and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church are coming together on Palm Sunday, April 5th to share prayers and bless the palms before parading back to our respective sanctuaries for worship in our own traditions.

CE's Annual Easter Egg Hunt will follow, during Church School.

Palm Sunday Evening Seder Experience & Pot Luck Supper



When: Sunday April 5th

Time: 5:30 pm

Where: Bates Hall

The Christian Education Committee and SCC Youth invite you to participate in a Seder experience aimed at helping us to understand what the Jewish Passover celebration commemorates each year. Following an introduction to the Passover customs and traditions we will enjoy a potluck meal with some traditional Passover foods.

Last Names A-G roasted or baked chicken

H-M fresh green beans or roasted potatoes

N-Z dessert

For purposes of pre-planning of tables we will have a sign-up list in Bates Hall prior to April 5th.

Come, learn, celebrate and enjoy!

Outreach News

Spotlight on Interfaith Social Services

Our church supports Interfaith Social Services of Quincy with quarterly donations of \$250. This agency, established in 1947, is a private, non-profit, multi-service organization serving residents of Quincy, Milton, Braintree, Hingham, Hull, Randolph, Weymouth, Holbrook, Cohasset, and Scituate. Its mission is to strengthen family life and to offer assistance to anyone in need. ISS seeks to ensure that individuals and families from all walks of life have access to food, clothing, and counseling. ISS programs include a food pantry serving 400 families, a thrift shop, emergency heating assistance, a Career Closet, counseling for job placement and for family issues, and senior companion programs.



At SCC we are currently collecting small toys to help make **Bunny Baskets** for the children served by the Food Pantry – our basket is in Bates Hall until March 8th.

We also welcome donations of clean seasonal professional clothing and shoes, for both men and women, for the **Career Closet** – these can be left in the back hall of the church, behind the office.

On May 2nd, Interfaith Social Services is sponsoring a **Stop the Stigma 5K Walk** to raise awareness of mental illness and addiction. In the late summer, they organize a back pack drive for needy school age children and at Christmas they seek gifts for families.

Outreach Sunday will be April 19th

Our guest speaker will be Scituate resident Rich Bonanno of the Rolling Wave Foundation. Many of you may know him as the “Bicycle Man.” Mark your calendars. This is the Sunday after Easter.



This Year's Lenten LOVE Offering will go to Save the Children in support of Syrian children in crisis. You will find LOVE envelopes in the pews through the Lenten Season, ending on Palm Sunday. Donations can also be made by mail with the words "Lenten LOVE Offering" in the memo line. Thank you.



The Cohasset Food Pantry is gearing up for Easter! Please watch for the Outreach Easter Tree on the table in the lobby. Take an "Easter Egg" and bring back to church a corresponding gift card from Stop 'n Shop or Shaw's supermarkets for the Cohasset Food Pantry. These gift cards will be used to supplement the fixings of an Easter Dinner provided for every family served by the Cohasset Food Pantry.

Other Upcoming Events:

Father Bill's (Doug Yeager) on Saturday, March 7th from 3 – 6 p.m.
Mother's Day Walk for Peace – Sunday, May 10



Cohasset Community Dinner

Tuesday, March 3rd at 5:00 p.m
Willcott Commons

The Senior Center. Cohasset High School students and the Senior Center welcome one and all to a delicious dinner and good conversation. Singles, families, young and old, all are welcome. Dinner is \$5 person and reservations must be made by Friday, February 28th, by calling 781 383-9112.



Calling all SCC Elves!

Believe it or not it's that time of year when you should get a jingle in your step and start working on things for the 2020 Village Fair. I'm hoping that many of you are working on "your one of a kind" project. These winter months are the perfect time to do it before Spring arrives and you find yourself outside working in the garden and planning summer vacations.

The Village Fair workshops are beginning in March. We will meet the first and third Wednesday morning of each month ending in June before summer vacation begins. Please mark your calendars on **March 4** and **18 at 9:30 am** for a morning of fun. No need to bring anything just a smile.

Remember you do not have to be artistic or crafty. All pieces are provided for the projects we work on. Come give us a try and I think you will be pleasantly surprised how crafty you turn out to be. Looking forward to seeing new faces and catching up with everyone old and new. See you all in the Green Chair Room @9:30 on Wednesday, March 4.



Building Community Partners

Coffee & Conservation

Join local environmental experts for lively, entertaining and educational conversations about a wide range of conservation issues.



Please help us reduce waste:
Bring your own mug!

Sunday, March 1st
at 1:30 p.m.

Second Congregational Church
43 Highland Ave, Cohasset



Cohasset Garden Club

Tuesday, March 24, 2020

9:00 am – 12:00

Bates Hall



Safe Harbor Parent Coffees

Facilitated by Alison Bryan, LMHC

9:15 a.m. at Second Congregational Church



Tuesday, March 10th

Tuesday, April 14th

Coffee provided by Seabird

SHARE EXPERIENCES ~ EXCHANGE PARENTING IDEAS ~ ASK QUESTIONS

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND:

PARENTS, ARE YOU FEELING PREPARED FOR THE TEEN YEARS?

GUIDING GOOD CHOICES®

Gain The Skills To:

- + Set Rules & Boundaries
- + Communicate Openly
- + Bond With Your Child
- + Manage Conflict
- + Identify Risky Behavior



This Workshop Will Give You The Tools To Help Face The Challenges Ahead!

2020 SPRING WORKSHOP DATES

MORNING SESSION 9:30-11:30AM -OR- EVENING SESSION 5:00-7:00PM

TUESDAY, MARCH 17TH

TUESDAY, MARCH 24TH

TUESDAY, MARCH 31ST

TUESDAY, APRIL 7TH

Light Breakfast/Dinner will be provided to all participants. \$15.00 fee includes all materials for participation in the Guiding Good Choices Parent Workshop.

FACILITATORS:

ALISON BRYAN, LMHC &
NICOLE BALASCHI, MPH

LOCATION:

SECOND CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF COHASSET
43 HIGHLAND AVE. COHASSET, MA 02025

Second Congregational Church

43 Highland Ave

Cohasset, MA 02025

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