



October 2020

Newsletter of

Second Congregational Church of Cohasset



THE VILLAGE BEACON



From the Minister's Study

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12:2)

The church's challenge – for roughly the last 2,000 years – has been to be relevant, to speak to people where they are, to offer a word of hope and a measure of guidance, to be faithful to God and to be courageous in the face of circumstances beyond our control. And, in the midst of all that, to actually be of some help.

Help to whom? Our members, of course. Those struggling in our midst, whether they feel connected or not. Those whose struggles we perceive from a far, near at hand or across the world.

Phew. That's a lot to take on! And yet, we Christians have considered this to be our lot and our call for all of those 2,000 years.

So, in this year, 2020, a year that has promised to become a curse and a cliché, how are we feeling about that?

I, for one, am having a hard time figuring out how to stay relevant, to speak to people where they are, to offer a measure of hope and guidance, to be faithful to God and courageous in these circumstances in a time when hand holding, hugs and even face-to-face engagement is so very out of vogue.

(continued on p. 2)

From the Minister's Study (continued)

Worship on-line. Sunday School, Confirmation and Youth Group on a screen? Who's prepared for this? Who's receptive to this distanced kind of church?

If you'll allow me a moment of conjecture, I think the answer is "Us."

What an eye-opening moment this has been in the life of the Church and for this church. Across the globe, people of faith have dug deep, pulled hard and reached out. So have we.

When there wasn't a South Shore Arts Festival to support our strawberry shortcake sales, Linda Indek, Linda Campbell, Helene Babiy-Host and a First Parish friend, Dienna Lehner, found a way to serve friends and neighbors and raise over \$10,000 to enable this congregation to keep our ministries strong. Susi Coley transformed her therapeutic art into cards to be used to support the church and encourage others. Crafty Ladies – without clarity about Village Fair plans – are crafting and gearing up for "whatever."

Our youth, tired of Zoom and still remarkably accommodating, jumped at the chance to mask-up and pick up trash on Government Island – part of CLEAN-UP COHASSET on WORLD CLEAN-UP weekend at the end of September. And then showed up for Zoom conversations the following week. And, this last week, in this year of "not like it used to be," it was absolutely wonderful to be part of unloading and laying out Cohasset ASP's annual Pumpkin Patch.

These are not the times we might want. But they are the times that we have. We have a new Confirmation Class and a Youth Group that *wants* to be together in whatever way that is safe. Our children are Zooming together every week to learn and talk about God. Our members are gathering, in-person and on-line, to share joy and concerns and our common commitment to growing in faith and connection. Our outreach to those in the deepest of need is sustained with care and much-needed infusions of cash.

(continued on p. 4)

Newsletter of the
Second Congregational Church
Cohasset, Massachusetts

October 9, 2020

Vol. 33, No. 6

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Thank you!

Stunning flowers presented by the Deacons on behalf of the church in recognition of my 25th Anniversary as an Ordained Minister in the United Church of Christ. I am touched by the kindness and grateful for each of you.

With thanks and blessings,
Pastor Karen



From the Minister's Study (continued from pg. 2)

Our concern for each other is expressed with phone calls, prayers notes, errands and safe, well-distanced visits and walks. And our leadership is working hard to balance safety, comfort, practicality and familiar experiences in their realms and in the policies they set.

Is this what we want to be doing? Not so much. But are we managing? Absolutely. In fact, I think the rich intentionality and deep attention to our shared lives in these challenging moments are exactly what Christ's Church was made to do: to be relevant, to speak to people where they are, to offer a word of hope and a measure of guidance, to be faithful to God and to be courageous in the face of circumstances beyond our control. And, in the midst of all that, to actually be of some help.

Thanks be to God! And to each of you. Please hear my personal and heart-felt gratitude for all that **you** bring to this church.

Pastor Karen



SCC Youth
Service Project

Cohasset Clean-up

Sunday, Sept. 27th



Thank you to Hannah & Connor Nicholls, Will Molloy, Rosie Harrison, Julia Willette, Maggie & Josh Young, Nathaniel Palmer, and William, Henry & Madeline Synnsvedt

SCC Re-Opening

Worship Guidelines

Our goal is to keep you safe while still celebrating our traditions. Our success is based on shared responsibility to each other and, of course, is subject to changing circumstances. Thank you for doing your part.

Wear a mask over your mouth and nose at all times. We'll know you are smiling behind your mask!

Keep your distance. Stay 6' or more apart whenever possible, especially as you enter or leave the sanctuary.

Take advantage of our new hand sanitizer stations and, in using the restroom, please use the supplies provided to prepare for whoever may come next.

If unwell, please stay home! We also live-stream on YouTube. Go to our website to connect: www.2ndcc.org

Dress for the weather We're maximizing ventilation in accordance with [CDC guidelines](#) by keeping the windows open.

Fill out the "Welcome" card you received on entering the church. Leave it and the pen in your pew after service. It's easy. It's quick. And it is required by the State of Massachusetts COVID protocols.

Hands-free Offering using the basket as you come in. Donations will be blessed during the service but we will not be passing the plate. Also, consider on-line or mail in giving.

Enjoy the beautiful organ and piano music. There is no choir until we can accommodate them safely. Coffee Hour is also on hold. (Sorry!) Children and youth programs are on-line. See our website for details: www.2ndcc.org

And, finally:

Be patient. Like you, we're all trying to do our best.

SCC RE-Opening (continued)

The SCC Re-Opening Working Group has also established guidelines for church meetings and small groups who may want to be in-person at the church. Those guidelines will be presented at Church Committee on Tuesday, 10/13, and will be available in full on the church website after that.

In rough summary, Bates Hall is the only available meeting space. As with our worship guidelines, participants must stay distanced and the windows must be open. No food may be served. Masks and hand sanitizing are required and everyone is asked to wipe down surfaces they touch with supplies that are provided.

For in-person church meetings a Zoom option is recommended for committee members who prefer an on-line option. Bates Hall is equipped and technical support is available.

Very importantly, all meetings must be scheduled in advance, with a designated group leader and prompt reporting of meeting participants.

Hope this helps! And, again, thank you for your support.

SCC Re-Opening Working Group

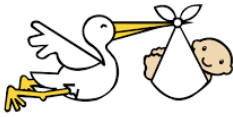
George Baumgarten, Phil Lehr, Michael Doherty, Linda Indek, Paul Carlson, Jack Creighton, JoAnne Lehr, Pam DeLorenzo, Tina Cline, Pastor Karen

HELP WANTED

Ushers needed for in-person Sunday worship. Volunteer on the back of your weekly sign-in card or see any Deacon.

Thanks!





Some current and some belated **Congratulations!**

Kim & Steven Maynard are grandparents!

Are excited to announce the arrival of their first grandchild, **Madeline Rose Maynard-Gracie!** Born to **Amanda Maynard** and **Doug Gracie** on 9/19, she weighed 6lbs 12oz, 19.5 inches long.

Connie & Nadir Afshar have a second pair of grand-twins! And these two came early, too. Born to parents **Yasmine (Afshar)** and **Patrick Ryan** and brother, **Ollie** (2 ½), at the end of August, **Ruby Jane** and **Sadie Adele Ryan** were born at 28 weeks, weighing less than two pounds each. The whole family is doing well and has been grateful for all the prayers.

Phil and JoAnne Lehr became grandparents a bunch of months ago... just in time to have the whole country (and the SCC publishing desk) shut down. **Oliver Arthur Lehr** was born to parents, **Christine Cheever** and **Rob Lehr**, on March 18, 2020.

Barbara Buckley's 5th grandchild, Olivia Willis, was born December 10, 2019, to parents **Jennifer and Ryan Willis** and brother, **Joey** (3).

Helene and Greg Thornton are also due our belated celebration. Their grandson, **William Ryan Womble,** was born to **Leslie Thornton** and **Ryan Womble** of Dallas, TX, on September 4, 2019.

Jonathan Bailey-Francois is proud to announce the birth of his niece, **Maeve Leigh Francois-Bruck** at 2:25 p.m. on October 8, to parents **Danielle Francois** and **David Bruck**... making Jon's Mom and Danielle's "Other Mother," Pastor Karen, a grandmother, too!





We Build Sacred Community

*Treasurer's Report
August - September 2020*

	<u>Aug. 2020</u>	<u>Sept. 2020</u>
<i>Income for Month</i>	14,440	7,986
<i>Income Year to Date</i>	117,251	126,262
<i>Expenses for Month</i>	15,825	19,381
<i>Expenses Year to Date</i>	139,319	159,360
<i>Operating Fund</i>	45,879	33,996
<i>Payroll Protection Loan</i>	29,255	29,255

<i>Restricted Funds*</i>	<u>Aug. 2020</u>	<u>Sept. 2020</u>
<i>Regular Reserve</i>	4,864	4,390
<i>Memorial Fund</i>	8,316	8,317
<i>Money Market reserve</i>	55,272	55,293
<i>Fund Raising to Date</i>	10,010	10,510
<i>Total Portfolio</i>	459,874	tbd

*investment information for Sept. is not available as of this printing.



To the pledge makers, check mailers, e-bankers, contribution givers, fund raisers, talent sharers, extra-mile goers, imagination inspirers, cheer leaders, project tacklers, faith bolsterers and steady friends: This church would not be this church without you. We couldn't be.

Thank you for all that you do!

Flower Donations



Oct. 4	Debbie & Gary Anderson	In loving memory of Gary's parents, Larry and Phyllis Anderson
Oct. 11	Steve & Sandy Parnell	Honoring Jack Ensins, Arthur & Roseann Parnell.
Oct. 18	Brad and Cam Albanese	In joyful celebration of their grandparents Anne and Nelson Majoury's 52 nd and Catherine and Rudy Albanese's 62 nd wedding anniversaries
Oct. 25	The Young & Willette families	In memory of their grandparents Jim and Jessie Gibson and Clark and Gertrude Young
Nov.1	Joe Kinnealey	In memory of his parents Joe & Harriet Kinnealey
Nov.8	Judy & Phil Tedeschi	With prayers for those suffering during this pandemic
Nov.15	Open	
Nov.22	Judith Bucher	In memory of Aubert Vanderlugt on his "would be 90 th birthday"
Nov. 29	Jack & Pam Delorenzo	In loving memory of Enico Delorenzo at the 25th anniversary of his passing



Christian Education



Have you seen our new lawn signs?!

We hope they tell the town how happy we are to offer this great Sunday School program for kids. More than that, we hope they remind YOU to tell your friends and neighbors what a great Sunday School program we offer for kids. Our own kids and theirs!

Children love the characters and the conversations they help start. The ability to “transport” weekly Whirl! Kids lessons to Zoom has strengthened the connections that our students and their families have to each other and to our church.

For more information, contact SCCTeachers02025@gmail.com

Whirl

ALL KIDS SUNDAY SCHOOL

Date	Lead Teacher	Lesson Title
11-Oct	Tiffany Harrison	The Widow and the Judge
18-Oct	Christina Brown	Night and Day Prayers
25-Oct	Susi Coley	Working Together
01-Nov	Kristin Voldan	Pray for Everyone
08-Nov	Susan Pritchard	Ten Bridesmaids
15-Nov	Susi Coley	The Parable of the Talents
22-Nov	Christina Brown	Beginning and End
29-Nov	Joanne Molloy	The Annunciation

All classes meet on Zoom at 11:15 on Sundays. Invitation links sent directly to Sunday School Families. Register at our website, www.2ndcc.org contact SCCTeachers02025@gmail.com to be added to the distribution list. Guest children and families always welcome!



Teach!!! It's easy and fun!
 Recruiting now for December and January







Introducing the 2020-2021 Confirmation Class

**Ayla DeLorenzo ~ Rosie Harrison
Holiday Host ~ Hannah Nicholls ~ Nathaniel Palmer
Henry Synnestvedt ~ Madeline Synnestvedt
William Synnestvedt ~ Joshua Young**

In choosing to take part in the Confirmation program, these students, with the support of their families, make significant commitments to grow in their faith and understanding so that, come June, each may make an informed decision about confirming the vows made for them at baptism and assuming the rights and responsibilities of adult membership in Christ's church.

In return, we ask the members of this congregation commit to:

-  Welcoming them into the work and worship life of the church;
-  Praying for them as individuals and as a class;
-  Inviting them to get to know you personally, as an individual, as a Christian and in your context as a member of Second Congregational Church;
-  Helping them to find their own identity as Christian persons with gifts and ministries to share.

Please make a point of reaching out to these students. And, if you are willing to lead or join in a class conversation, let Pastor Karen know! We meet at 5pm Sunday, on Zoom.

**MAY WE GROWN IN FAITH AND UNDERSTANDING
AS WE ALL LEARN TOGETHER WITH THIS CLASS**

SCC YOUTH

Sunday Evenings from 5 to 6 p.m.

With programs for students in Grades 5 through 12

This year’s youth program is designed to provide a mix of dedicated time for students in Confirmation, peer learning experiences for everyone, fun, fellowship and an opportunity to build-in downtime, as needed, to help balance other demands on students’ time.

To help with that, here are the combinations of “groups” used in the table below:

- CONFIRMATION – Dedicated class session for Confirmands
- CONFIRMATION & YOUTH GROUP – Both Confirmands and Youth Group for combined program (lesson, conversation, project focus). All are welcome.
- YOUTH GROUP – Non-program sessions for fellowship and fun!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Topic / Focus</u>
13-Sep	CONFIRMATION	Student & Parent Info Session
20-Sep	YOUTH GROUP	Cohasset Clean-up
27-Sep	CONFIRMATION	Confirmation Program begins
04-Oct	CONFIRMATION & YOUTH GROUP	Debate: Science vs. Religion ?
11-Oct	OFF	Columbus Day Weekend
18-Oct	CONFIRMATION	
25-Oct	CONFIRMATION & YOUTH GROUP	
01-Nov	YOUTH GROUP	Something fun – ideas welcome!
08-Nov	OFF	
15-Nov	CONFIRMATION	ALL ARE WELCOME! Bring Friends!
22-Nov	CONFIRMATION & YOUTH GROUP	
29-Nov	OFF	

Outreach News

Outreach Sunday (11/22):

Outreach Sunday will be celebrated on Thanksgiving Sunday, November 22. Our honored guest speaker will be Scituate resident, Rich Bonanno, aka “The Bike Man”, and founder of the Rolling Wave Foundation. Rich is an amazing guy who has donated over 4,000 bicycles (many personally restored by him) as far afield as a homeless veterans’ shelter in Georgia, a Sioux reservation in South Dakota and Haiti. Enjoy reading the following 2 articles to learn how Rich began his philanthropic journey after finding a single mountain bike in someone’s outgoing trash.

<https://www.patriotledger.com/news/20180628/over-3500-bikes-donated-thanks-to-scituate-man>

and later,

<https://scituate.wickedlocal.com/news/20190228/fundraiser-will-support-richard-bonannos-rolling-wave-foundation>

Thanksgiving Sunday (11/22):

Due to the safety protocols of Covid-19, the Cohasset Food Pantry is regrettably unable to receive our traditional annual “In-gathering” of donated food. However, the need is as great or greater than ever so, in lieu of donated food stuffs, the CFP is asking for gift cards to Shaw’s and Stop n’ Shop supermarkets, enabling our Cohasset friends and neighbors to independently shop for their families’ groceries. Please bring your grocery gift cards to church with you on Thanksgiving Sunday.

Wellspring Multi-Service Center Update:

Wellspring Multi-Service Center of Hull, one of the recipients of our church’s quarterly donations, is opening a new center in Weymouth this month to begin to help the needy population of a larger area. This new location is 409 Washington St, Weymouth, Route 53, almost opposite the Chair Fair. They are beginning with a Thrift Shop and are in need of donations of clean, seasonal clothing, home goods, and bric-a-brac to sell. They are receiving

donations 10a.m. to 3p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday, and from 10a.m. to 6p.m. on Thursday and 10a.m. to 12p.m. on Saturday. Since Interfaith Social Services in Quincy is not yet accepting drop-in clothing donations (and this is where our Career Closet goods have always gone), Outreach recommends you take anything you would like to donate directly to this new Wellspring location. Please only give seasonal, clean clothing as their storage space is limited. Once the store is fully operational, Wellspring also plans to begin offering counseling and educational services in Weymouth. Our church wishes them all the best in this new endeavor.

Beirut Disaster Relief Aid:

Through the month of October the Outreach Committee will continue to match the congregation's donations of up to \$400 towards the organization 'Impact Lebanon'. Our assistance will aid the people of Beirut, Lebanon in their recovery from the massive explosion in Beirut's harbor on August 4.

Outreach's Ongoing Initiatives:

Outreach's regular quarterly donations are continuing to go out. These recipient organizations include Wellspring Multi-service Center, Carolina Hill Family Shelter, DOVE, Interfaith Social Services and the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute. However, due to Covid-19 restrictive protocols, our in-person cooking and serving at Father Bill's has been temporarily suspended. We're donating our monthly budget via check in lieu of our personal presence ... and eagerly look forward to resuming our in-person volunteer activity at Father Bill's when it's deemed safe for both the residents and volunteers.

OVER the EDGE:

On Saturday, October 3rd, Phil Lehr went "Over the Edge," rappelling down 22 stories from the roof of the Hyatt Regency in downtown Boston. This event was a "live" rather than virtual fundraiser in support of the 14,000 athletes of Special Olympics Massachusetts.

Phil participated again, in this his 8th year, as part of Team "Jay's Tall Friends" in honor of Jay Nothnagle. This year he also dedicated his event in memory of athlete Mark Adams of Scituate, uncle of Rob Lehr's wife Christine. Mark passed away unexpectedly September 28th at age 51.

Special Olympics welcomes donations in honor of Phil's effort either with a check made to SOMA, given to him directly or left at the SCC office, or online at:

<https://fundraise.specialolympicsma.org/participant/Phil-Lehr>



Cohasset Appalachia Service Project

PUMPKIN PATCH

at Wheelwright Park

Opens Saturday, October 10

10 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily through Halloween

Volunteers needed: Sign up at www.cohassetasp.org/pumpkin-patch/

Please Join Safe Harbor Cohasset
for the Town of Cohasset's



Pumpkin
Decorating
Contest

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

WWW.SAFEHARBORCOHASSET.ORG/PUMPKIN

3 WINNERS PER AGE GROUP

Age 2-grade 2, Grade 3-5, Grade 6-8,
Grade 9-12, Age 18+

FREE TO COHASSET RESIDENTS

Registration Limited to First 300 Entries.
Each Participant Will Receive a Goodie Bag.
Safe Social Distancing Practices Required.

IMPORTANT DATES

OCTOBER 15TH & 16TH

Pumpkin Pick Up-Wheelright Park
(N. Main St. ticket required)

OCTOBER 23RD

Drop off Pumpkins-Willcutt Commons

OCTOBER 25TH-29TH

Pumpkin Judging

OCTOBER 30TH

Winners Announced

Cohasset Virtual Youth Center

This is now live on the home page of the Town's website, found toward the bottom right-side of the page. This serves as a central location for all youth-gearred programming/events that are occurring via Rec, Library, Elder Affairs, and Safe Harbor.

<https://www.cohassetma.org/>

Second Congregational Church ~ October 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 10am - Worship @ SCC 11:15am - Sunday School 5pm - Confirmation (on-line) 7pm - CASP (on-line)	28 8am - Tai Chi	29 4:15pm - Outreach	30 8am - Tai Chi 9am - Office by Appt.	1 8:30am - Office Open 7:30pm - CE	2 Season Deadline 8am - Tai Chi 8am - Office by Appt.	3
4 Communion 9:30am - Trustees 10am - Worship @ SCC 11:15am - Sunday School 5pm - Confirmation & Youth Group	5 8am - Tai Chi	6 10am - Crafty Ladies (on-line)	7 8am - Tai Chi 9am - Office by Appt. 5pm - PPRC	8 8:30am - Office Open	9 8am - Tai Chi 9am - Office by Appt.	10 Pumpkin Patch Open 10:00 10am - CASP Pumpkin
11 10am - CASP Pumpkin 10am - Worship @ SCC 11:15am - Sunday School 12pm - Finance	12 Columbus Day Indigenous Peoples' Day 8am - Tai Chi 10am - CASP Pumpkin	13 10am - CASP Pumpkin 7:30pm - Church Cmte	14 8am - Tai Chi 9am - Office by Appt. 10am - CASP Pumpkin	15 8:30am - Office Open 10am - CASP Pumpkin	16 8am - Tai Chi 9am - Office by Appt. 10am - CASP Pumpkin	17 10am - CASP Pumpkin
18 10am - CASP Pumpkin 10am - Worship @ SCC 11:15am - Sunday School 5pm - Confirmation (on-line)	19 8am - Tai Chi 10am - CASP Pumpkin	20 10am - CASP Pumpkin 10am - Crafty Ladies (on-line)	21 8am - Tai Chi 9am - Office by Appt. 10am - CASP Pumpkin	22 8:30am - Office Open 10am - CASP Pumpkin	23 8am - Tai Chi 9am - Office by Appt. 10am - CASP Pumpkin	24 10am - CASP Pumpkin
25 10am - CASP Pumpkin 10am - Worship @ SCC 11:15am - Sunday School 5pm - Confirmation & Youth Group	26 8am - Tai Chi 10am - CASP Pumpkin	27 10am - CASP Pumpkin	28 8am - Tai Chi 9am - Office by Appt. 10am - CASP Pumpkin 7pm - Deacons	29 8:30am - Office Open 10am - CASP Pumpkin	30 8am - Tai Chi 9am - Office by Appt. 10am - CASP Pumpkin	31 Halloween 10am - CASP Pumpkin

Second Congregational Church

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