



September-October 2021

Newsletter of
Second Congregational Church of Cohasset



THE VILLAGE BEACON



SCC Preservation Project

Work on the Windows
And Railing Restoration
is underway!



Painting Starts September 20!

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

September-October 2021

Vol. 34, No. 5

In this issue...

SCC PRESERVATION PROJECT	1
YOUTH CLEAN-UP EVENT.....	2
FROM THE MINISTER’S STUDY	3
CHURCH COVID PROTOCOLS FOR FALL 2021.....	5
IN OUR PRAYERS	8
FLOWER DONATIONS & CLIPPING REQUEST	9
TREASURER’S REPORT	10
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE & LAUNCH EVENT	11
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	12
OUTREACH NEWS.....	14
CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS	15
CASP PUMPKIN PATCH	15





From the Minister's Study

In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps. Proverbs 16:9

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5

I had thought to start this article with a silly but serious reference to Woody Allen's oft-cited words, as adapted from an old Yiddish proverb: *"If you want to hear God laugh, make plans."* Or perhaps the 18th century Scottish Poet Robert Burns' observation: *"The best laid plans of mice and men often go awry."*

But I am sure that God's not laughing as we stumble into what, by my count, is the *eighth* season of COVID: Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall. Much has changed. Some has not. And, as a community, we have had to respond.

The current variant is more contagious than before. Vaccines tipped the scales in our favor... but there are psychological, physiological, potentially chronological and, sadly, political limits to their effectiveness. Surfaces have come to concern us less. Sharing unfiltered air concerns us more – or, at least in light of all the things we can't really control – we're learning that it should.

Vaccinated people can still be infected with Covid 19. And even if their personal experience is mild or even symptomless, exposed individuals – with or without the vaccine – can pass it on to others.

So, we've tempered our temptation to just "go back to the way things were." We are choosing, instead, to move forward with the way things are... And A LOT of that is exciting and very good.

Church Committee adopted modified protocols to help us ease into our return to worship in the Sanctuary this fall. Our wonderful music programs will resume on September 19th, including the long-awaited return of the choir. There will be coffee and conversation on the Portico after the service and both the Sunday School and Youth Group will kick-off the same day.

Sure, we'll still mask when we're singing or walking around, the doors and windows will be open and we may have to re-learn how to honor each other's comfort and needs for space. Whirl! Kids will continue to meet on Zoom and the Youth Clean-Up Event will be held outside. But we know how to do that. It's familiar. We can even manage a few more months with those self-serve Communion Cups.

What we cannot manage is more time a part. The soul of the church is its people. We long to be back together – to worship, to sing, to pray, to hear each other's joys, concerns and dreams, to bask in the amazing music, to jump into the many great projects at the church and to reach out in service to the world. Many hands, many hearts and many small steps have led us back to this place. It's time for us to regather. That happy, hopeful sound you hear...? Maybe God *is* chuckling a bit – to encourage our remarkable resilience.



See you in Church!

Pastor Karen

PastorKaren02025@gmail.com
(781) 923-0486 (mobile)
(781) 383-0345 (church)

SCC Re-Opening

Resuming services in the Sanctuary starting September 19!

The following reopening policies have been adopted by Church Committee effective September 14, 2021. The policies are based on those in effect in June 2021, with updates noted in *italics*

Sanctuary



1. Masks.

- a. **Masks are required while singing, walking or as directed by Pastor Karen** during service (for example, to help those youth and other attendees that may not be fully vaccinated feel more comfortable.)
- b. **Masks may be lowered or removed while sitting in pews and when not singing** at the discretion of the parishioner, unless otherwise directed by Pastor Karen.

Our policies and individual actions should ensure that any attendee feels welcome and comfortable to wear masks at their discretion.

2. **Hand Sanitizer.** Available but not required. Attendees are welcome to use at their discretion.
3. **Seating process.** Managed exit and entry from Sanctuary is no longer required. No restrictions on use of north and south stairways.
4. **Seat card identifiers.** Cards and attendee tracking are no longer required.
5. **Social Distance.** Encourage continued distancing in pew seating but without barriers and designated seating signs as capacity on Sundays has not typically been an issue.
6. **Windows open.** Continue to open windows for ventilation even during cool or inclement weather

7. **Communion.** Continue to offer pre-packaged plastic juice & bread packets available pre-service at entrance to sanctuary. A self-serve gluten-free alternative is also provided.
8. **Offering.** *Offering plates will be passed during Worship service.*
9. **Plexiglas screens** at Organ, Piano and Pulpit. May continue at the discretion of Pastor Karen, Jin and Konstantinos. *Pastor Karen plans to remove the Plexiglas screen at the Pulpit.*
10. **Hymnals, bibles, envelopes.** These materials will continue to be stored. Words to hymns will be printed in the bulletin.
11. **Fellowship Hour.** *Fellowship Hour will be beverages only (coffee, tea and juice) in disposable containers served from tables just inside Bates Hall, with fellowship encouraged to be conducted outdoors under the portico and in the drive-in front of the Church.*
12. **Choir.** The choir plans to return to Sanctuary on September 19.
13. **Christian Education.** Classes will continue remote via Zoom, subject to the discretion of Christian Education Committee.
14. **Live streaming** via YouTube will continue.
15. **If unwell,** please stay home and feel free to attend via live streaming.

Meetings at SCC

Committee Meetings. Meetings in-person or via Zoom are at the discretion of each committee. If a committee agrees to in-person meetings, a best practice is that committees should plan to accommodate Zoom attendees who may not be able or comfortable to attend in-person. Bates Hall is the recommended location for in person meetings, and it is also set up to accommodate Zoom attendees.

Community group meetings. Groups that have been using the church including Tai Chi and a small AA group may continue their use of the church building.

Requests from new groups will be considered on a case-by-case basis. For those that are approved to use the kitchen, the group must agree to be responsible for sanitizing surfaces that they use after each use.

Use of Bates Hall & Other SCC Facilities

All restrictions are eased on the use of Bates Hall, Library, Green Chair Room, Chapel, classrooms, nursery, offices and restrooms. Covid procedures for use of rooms will be at discretion of persons or groups using these rooms. *For those using the kitchen, surfaces that are used must be sanitized after each use.*

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.



Thank you to all who made this past Summer's Services at the Sailing Club such a wonderful experience. A note of thanks and a donation was sent to express our appreciation for allowing us to use that beautiful space.



Let Us Pray for:

All who are grieving a loss or walking with a loved ones toward the end of life. Please pray in particular for Danny Maynard and his family as he continues in at-home hospice care and for Phil Shockman and his family as they mourn Joan's passing in July.

Those convalescing following hospitalization, surgery or other medical procedures.

Those undergoing medical testing, receiving care or awaiting treatment.

Those seeking to find or sustain their own pace in managing an on-going condition, with particular prayers for Ralph and Susi Coley and their family.

For those who struggle with the challenge of difficult family, work or personal situations.

All who seek to safeguard their own health safety and that of those around them in these still uncertain times.

*God of Solace, Clarity 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

- Sept 12 Susan Pritchard & Diane Dooley in memory of their mom, Eileen Howorth
- Sept 19 Helen Thayer Chapell & Millie Thayer in loving memory of their father, Sherman Rand Thayer
Joanne Winters in memory of Mary Glines
- Sept 26 The Goodwin family in loving memory of Harry & Ruth Goodwin
- Oct 3 Debbie & Gary Anderson in loving memory of Gary's parents, Larry & Phyllis Anderson
- Oct 10 Steve & Sandy Parnell in memory of Sandy's father, Jacob Ensins, and Steve's parents, Arthur & Roseann Parnell
- Oct 17
- Oct 24 The Young & Willette families in memory of their grandparents, Jim & Jessie Gibson and Clark & Gertrude Young
- Oct 31

If you are interested in donating flowers, please contact the office!

Calling Fall Gardeners!

Do you have any herbs that you can share, either potted or cuttings? We would like them for the Village Fair.

Please contact Marsha Silvia if you can help. Thanks so much!





Jeff Nothnagle, Treasurer

We Build Sacred Community

*Treasurer’s Report
July - August 2021*

	<u>July 2021</u>	<u>August 2021</u>
<i>Income for Month</i>	7,850	8,530
<i>Income Year to Date</i>	109,682	118,213
<i>Expenses for Month</i>	18,496	12,748
<i>Expenses Year to Date</i>	129,361	142,109
<i>Operating Fund</i>	83,192	63,869
<i>Payroll Protection grant</i>	29,255	29,255
<i>Payroll Protection Loan</i>	29,460	29,460

<i>Restricted Funds*</i>	<u>July 2021</u>	<u>August 2021</u>
<i>Regular Reserve</i>	1,407	25,601
<i>Memorial Fund</i>	8,367	8,367
<i>Money Market reserve</i>	54,513	54,515
<i>Fund Raising to Date</i>	980	980
<i>Total Portfolio</i>	434,860	tbd

*Investment information for August is not available as of this printing.



Thank you to the many of you who have sent in your gifts and pledges by mail, through your bank or using the on-line giving link on our website.

PLEASE know how very important your giving is to sustain the church. Your generosity sustains our commitment to be the church for today and for tomorrow.

Thank You!

Second Congregational Church of Cohasset

Building for our 2nd 200 years

The Capital Campaign Steering Committee has worked through the summer to ensure that this Fall's launch – and Launch Event – will allow us to move quickly to ensure that we have the money we need to restore our beautiful building for its next 200 years.

Materials have been created and are just back from the printer. Preliminary conversations and appointments for more are already underway – helping to secure early support and financial commitments in advance of the campaign's public launch.

TENTATIVE DATES have been set and plans for the party are beginning. We will provide more information as it is available, but for now, **please set aside Saturday, October 16, with the alternative of Sunday, October 17!** You can expect an experience of good friends, good fun, good entertainment and, we are confident, good news. After all, with all of us working for this common goal, how could it be anything less.

Thank you for your prayers and support!

Capital Campaign Steering Committee

Jeff Nothnagle, Ruth Nedrow, Rick Kielmeyer, Paul Carlson,
John Campbell and Pastor Karen

Christian Education



WHIRL! Kids



Classes

Re-ZOOM

Sunday, September 19 at 11:15

REGISTER NOW!!!

Kids 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.

Weekly classes are led by volunteer teachers and are geared to students in K-5th grade. Materials and Zoom invitations will be provided directly to families so REGISTRATION IS IMPORTANT.

For more information, contact SCCTeachers02025@gmail.com

Teachers Needed!!!

It is easy and fun to lead a **Whirl! Kids** Sunday School class. And don't worry if you don't have much experience with Zoom. Materials and all the support you need are provided. Contact Rick Kilmeyer or write SCCTeachers02025@gmail.com to learn more!

Whirl

ALL KIDS SUNDAY SCHOOL

Date	Teacher	Lesson Title
19-Sep	Christina Brown	In the Beginning
26Sep	Tiffany Harrison	God's Covenant with Noah
03-Oct	Susan Pritchard	Abraham and Sarah
10-Oct	No Class	Columbus Day Weekend
17-Oct	Susi Coley	Rebekah and Isaac
24-Oct	Joanne Molloy	Jacob
31-Oct		Joseph & His Brothers
07-Nov		Joseph in Egypt
14-Nov		Deborah
21-Nov		Pageant Introduction

All classes meet on Zoom at 11:15 on Sundays. Invitation links sent directly to Sunday School Families. If you have not received class materials, please contact SCCTeachers02025@gmail.com And, please, consider signing up to teach. It's easy and it's fun! Thanks.



Outreach News

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the "Fill a Backpack" project for Interfaith Social Services in Quincy. The supplies we delivered from SCC were enough for more than 25 children to get a new start for the school year, and the agency was able to give hundreds of backpacks to their food pantry clients.

Looking ahead to **Outreach Sunday**, scheduled for November 22nd, our guest speaker will be Rich Bonanno of the **Rolling Wave Foundation** in Scituate. What started as one man fixing up one discarded bicycle is now a huge vehicle for helping people locally and all across the country with a multitude of needs from bicycles, clothing, food, and books to home repair. You will not want to miss meeting this inspirational man.

With the **airlift from Kabul** underway, certainly many are wondering how we can help the displaced people who hope to relocate here in the US. We are watching this as it unfolds and would like to hear from church members who know about immediate needs where we can become involved.

FLU CLINIC SCHEDULE

This year all Flu Clinics will be held at

Willcutt Commons by appointment only

Please go to the Town of Cohasset website to sign up for an appointment at: www.Cohassetma.org

10/18/21	10:00 am – 12:00 noon
10/20/21	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
10/23/21	10:00 am – 12:00 noon
10/26/21	5:00 am – 7:00 pm

Flu clinics are for any Cohasset resident over the age of 9 years.

Questions: Contact Mary Goodwin RN

email: mgoodwin@cohassetma.org

SCC Calendar Highlights

Board of Deacons	Fourth (or Last) Wednesday at 7:00 pm
Board of Trustees	As set by Committee Chair
Capital Campaign	Thursdays at 7:00 pm
Choir Rehearsal	Sundays in Sanctuary 9 to 9:30 am
Christian Education	First Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.
Church Committee	Second Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.
Crafty Ladies	Alternating Thursdays at 9:30 a.m.
Finance Committee	First Sundays at 12 noon
Outreach	Monthly Tuesdays as set by Chair
Music Committee	As set by Committee Chair



Cohasset Appalachia Service Project

PUMPKIN PATCH

at Wheelwright Park

Opens Saturday, October 9

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

Volunteers needed to unload truck – Wed, Oct. 6 and Wed, Oct. 20 – and for all sales shifts. Sign up at www.cohassetasp.org/pumpkin-patch/

Second Congregational Church

43 Highland Ave

Cohasset, MA 02025

Office: 781-383-0345

SCC02025@gmail.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage

PAID

Cohasset, Mass.
Permit No. 3

