

# The Carillon



STORRS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC

Incorporated 1921

**JANUARY 2024**

**Worship In Person or Online with SCC**

Sunday at 10AM in the Meeting House or via Zoom or YouTube

**Scan QR Code or Access Online Worship activities at**  
<http://www.storrscongchurch.org/worship-online/>.

And in this he showed me a little thing  
the quantity of a hazelnut,  
lying in the palm of my hand, as it seemed.  
And it was as round as any ball.

I looked upon it with the eye of my understanding,  
and thought, "What may this be?"  
And it was answered generally thus,  
"It is all that is made."

I marveled how it might last,  
for I thought it might  
suddenly have fallen to nothing  
for littleness.

And I was answered in my understanding:  
It lasts and ever shall, for God loves it.  
And so have all things their beginning  
by the love of God.

In this little thing I saw three properties.  
The first is that God made it.  
The second that God loves it.  
And the third, that God keeps it.

+ *Julian of Norwich*

<https://www.saltproject.org/progressive-christian-blog/2023/5/1/from-revelations-of-divine-love-by-julian-of-norwich>



*welcoming historic progressive Christian*



Open and Affirming



Accessible to All



A Just Peace Church

## ON THE JOURNEY WITH PASTOR DIANE



Dear Friends,

As January ushers in a new year (cue the ball drop!), Christians enter a new season—the season of light—the season of Epiphany. One of the qualities of this liturgical season is the way in which Christ is revealed to us. Often Christ is right before us, yet we cannot see. Christ can be revealed to us in surprising, often very subtle and small ways. As we move into this season, the earth sleeps under a blanket of snow, cold winds rosy up our

cheeks, some animals hightail it for warmer climes, while others sink into a deep sleep until spring. In whatever form it happens, there is an audible stillness that invites our introspection, our attentiveness for God's presence. For no revelation of Christ is too subtle for God, no epiphany of love too large, or too small, for God. Our work is to notice.

With the Peace of Christ,  
Diane

Enjoy the reading on the cover page by Julian of Norwich, reprinted by the SALT Project:



*Julian of Norwich, an English anchoress who received a vision in 1373, wrote about her experience in Showings or Revelations of Divine Love — the earliest surviving book by a woman in the English language. Here's an excerpt, laid out as a poem for your reading pleasure.*

### SCC Mission

We share in God's love by growing in faith,  
courageously seeking justice, and generously  
caring for all people.

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*The Carillon is the monthly newsletter of*

**STORRS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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## THE PRESENCE OF FLOWERS IN WORSHIP

Flowers are a beautiful way to honor, celebrate or memorialize a person, occasion or milestone. Members and friends of the Storrs Congregational Church provide flowers, at their own expense, for the beautification of our worship space and to share the ‘intention’ they have associated with the flowers. If you’d like to provide flowers for Sunday Worship, see the updated instructions below or on the “Flower” sign up bulletin board in the Parish House next to the courtyard doors near the elevator.

Often, throughout the year, our Deacons provide the gift of flowers to those friends and members suffering loss and in need of comfort. If you would like to participate in this ongoing ministry of thoughtful compassion, you may:

- a) choose to donate flowers you’ve purchased for a Sunday worship service for distribution, or
- b) provide a monetary donation to the **Flower fund** via check payable to ‘SCC’ with ‘Flower fund’ in the memo line or electronically using the QR code to access our webpage and ‘One Time online’ giving option.



### Instructions for Providing Sunday Flowers

**Reserve a Date.** Contact the office or sign up on the dated **Flower Chart** across from the ‘What’s Happening...’ bulletin board in the Parish House.

**Provide the intention.** The week you’ve signed up to provide flowers, you will receive an email asking for the intention you’d like included with the Sunday worship service. Please reply to the email **with the intention to be shared** and if you’d like to have the **flowers distributed by the Caring Ministry** or if you’d like to **take them with you**.

**Providing your own flowers,** or using a florist **other than** Stix ‘n’ Stones? Please ensure delivery to the Meeting House by **9:30 AM on Sunday**. Vases are available, if necessary.

**Ordering flowers from, Stix ‘n’ Stones?** Call 860-878-8597 or visit the shop located at 1029 Storrs Road, Storrs, CT by the Wednesday before your Sunday date. Identify yourself as calling for a Sunday arrangement for Storrs Congregational Church. We have entrusted this local florist with a key to the church for a stress free delivery option. **The minimum order amount for delivery is \$50 (remind Kelly at Stix ‘n’ Stones that this is an ‘SCC’ delivery).** If you choose to pick the flowers up from Stix ‘n’ Stones yourself, you would

avoid the delivery fee, but are responsible for getting the flowers to the church on time as noted above.

If you are ordering unusual or out of season flowers, please call at least a week to 10 days ahead to be sure they can fulfill your request.

**Please note that you will pay for the flowers with your own credit card, check or cash.**

## GOVERNING BOARD MEETING ~ JANUARY 9<sup>TH</sup>

The next meeting of the Governing Board will be on **Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM** in person in Room 201 and via Zoom. Everyone is welcome to attend! If you'd like to receive the Zoom meeting invite and materials packet (so you can follow along with the meeting), contact Deborah in the office to be added to the distribution.



Ministry Coordinator Reports are due to the office by Friday, January 5th. Items for consideration by the Governing Board at the upcoming meeting should be submitted to Carolyn Holmy ([ceholmy@snet.net](mailto:ceholmy@snet.net)) and the office ([sccoffice@storrsconqchurch.org](mailto:sccoffice@storrsconqchurch.org)) by Wednesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES—DEC. 12, 2023

**Attendance:** Linda Blum, Jim Davis, Tina Huey, Carolyn Holmy, Wes Lang-Rodean, the Rev. Diane Seaborn, Zoe Strickler, Nancy Tomastik

### Consent Agenda

The following items were presented for board action.

1. that the Board approves the Minutes of the October 2023 meeting of the Governing Board.
2. that the Board approves the minutes from Special Budget Meeting November 28, 2023
3. that the Board approve the minutes from Congregational Meeting December 3, 2023
4. that the Board acknowledges receipt of the November 2023 reports of the Treasurer.
5. that the Board acknowledges receipt of the December 2023 updates from the Lead Ministry Coordinators

**MOTION:** Nancy Tomastik moved that all five items from the Consent Agenda, the Building and Grounds report excepted, be deferred to the next meeting to allow more time for their consideration. Carolyn Holmy seconded the motion. It carried with no dissent.

**MOTION:** The board voted unanimously to approve Duffy Brookes' Building and Grounds report from October.

### **Motions for Consideration**

**MOTION:** The board voted to approve a proposal from Duffy Brookes on behalf of John K. Leacock to complete exterior painting of the church's upper windows. The project includes all the windows upstairs in the education wing and two eyebrow windows above the auditorium in the education building. Linda Blum made the motion, which was seconded by Carolyn Holmy. It was unanimously approved. The work is to be done in the Spring for \$3,210.00. *(Note: The above motion had been tabled from last month).*

**MOTION:** To agree in principle to roll over funds from Pastor Diane's 2023 professional development account for the purpose of funding educational travel in late 2024, pending the final 2023 budget reconciliation. Nancy brought forth the motion and Wes seconded. The decision was unanimous.

**MOTION:** To agree in principle to roll over funds from Music Ministry Director Trisha Snyder's 2023 professional development account to fund educational travel in 2024, pending the final 2023 budget reconciliation. Linda moved and Tina seconded. The vote was unanimous.

**MOTION:** To agree in principle to roll over the library's remaining 2023 funds to library funds for 2024, pending the final 2023 budget reconciliation. Nancy moved and Carolyn seconded. The vote was unanimous.

### **Goals**

The board reviewed its goals for the 2023 year:

- **Goal:** To understand our role as a governing board by reviewing the bylaws and recommending necessary changes
- **Goal:** To increase our focus and church mission statement and shape our resources accordingly **Goal:** To support and help shepherd SCC toward a website that serves the community and helps tell our story
- **Goal:** To foster growth that encourages the development of small group ministries and community engagement
- **Goal:** To explore and re-examine how we are structured as a church, and examine how ministry teams are working, as well as the church's needs and priorities.

### **Website**

The board is seeking volunteers to plan and develop a new church website.

### **Visioning Process**

Pastor Diane hopes to soon embark on a Visioning process where SCC members, together, can begin to discern the priorities and next steps for the church.

## Churchwide Survey

Linda Blum presented the results of the recent churchwide survey, in which congregants were asked to complete a ranked-choice ordering of their preferences and priorities. According to the survey, among the most valued programs or offerings at SCC were Sunday-morning services (both in-person and on Zoom), special seasonal services, the SCC music program, student breakfasts and the variety of opportunities for connecting with friends and newcomers. **(Please see the full survey results at the bottom of this document.)**

The board commended Linda and Zoe Strickler for their extensive work in creating, distributing, and tabulating the survey.

## Pastoral Report

Pastor Diane shared that she participated in the following activities in November and early December:

- Advent Book Study: Offered “The Gift of Being Present,” a book study that spanned four Wednesdays during Advent. The sessions were based on the book *Right Here, Right Now* by Amy G. Oden. Identical sessions were also offered by two of Rev. Diane’s clergy colleagues, the Rev. Debbie Duval of High Street Congregational, Auburn, ME and the Rev. Amie Giguere of Pilgrim Congregational Church, Harwich Port, MA. Participants were able to choose from any of the sessions at a time convenient for them. The sessions were well attended.
- Interfaith Thanksgiving service. Met with clergy members from the area interfaith community.
- Walk for Warmth: Completed a two-mile walk around Willimantic to raise money for WAIM’s heat and energy assistance programs.
- Performance evaluation reviews for staff. Completed.
- Breaking Bread Event: Gathered at UConn Hillel with fellow interfaith clergy. Joined together for a light meal and conversation with faith leaders from the UConn area.
- Quilt Presentations: As a gesture of peace and goodwill, presented gifts of quilts and table topper candles from the SCC Parish Piecers to groups at both the Islamic Center and the Hillel. Representatives from both faiths were touched by the gifts.
- Pastor Diane will also present a tabletop quilt and pillar candle to High Street Church in Auburn Maine, where her colleague The Rev. Debbie Duval serves as pastor. The church is located near Lewiston, ME, which experienced a mass shooting recently. The quilt is designed in a butterfly theme, symbolic of transformation, and will be presented during Epiphany.

- Advent Wreath Lighting: Many of the new members of our congregation will be participating in Advent Wreath Lighting during the Christmas season.
- Radio Show: Pastor Diane appeared with Christmas Bazaar Chair Jeri Hepworth on the WILL radio show, “On the Home front,” hosted by John Murphy. The show not only presented an opportunity to discuss the Christmas Bazaar, but also gave rise to a far-ranging discussion about SCC and our role in the community. A recording of the program is available on the church website.
- Christmas Message: WILL will be running a Christmas message from Pastor Diane between Dec. 14 and 25.

**Closing Prayer and Adjournment:** Pastor Diane offered a closing prayer. Following adjournment, the Board held a brief Executive Session.

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## “SENIORS CONNECT!”: THURSDAY, JANUARY 11TH



Zoom in with Rev. Diane for this monthly **online** gathering! Open to SCC ‘seniors’ and any who wish to connect online. We will meet via Zoom the **second Thursday of the month from 11 am-12 pm.**

### Online readers:

Click on the link below to join Zoom Meeting

Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 11:00 am

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/j/83180484395](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83180484395)

Meeting ID: 831 8048 4395

**Paper readers:** Please note that at the time of printing, the link for the zoom meeting has not been added to our webpage however, we anticipate the functionality before the gathering! Look for updates in the weekly emails or check our webpage under ‘Connecting In’.

### Phone-In readers:

Dial by your location

+1 305 224 1968 US

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 386 347 5053 US

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 360 209 5623 US

+1 507 473 4847 US

## OUTREACH UPDATES

Church members and friends have been very generous with donations of coats, hats, mittens, scarfs, food, toys and money enabling SCC to help many people during this holiday season. We appreciate the continuing donations of new children's books and also 84 pounds of feminine products from the Altrusa group through Malta Baileys' involvement. We also received a large donation from NICABM for the pantry offline budget and many individual gifts of pet and health care items.

All outreach donations from the SCC budget will be listed in the annual report. Please check the thank notes on the bulletin board outside of Deborah's office.

Volunteers for the food pantry now include not only dedicated church members, but also members from two other faith communities, UConn students and one EO Smith student.

### Your Generosity at Work

**Thank you** for making a very successful Christmas toy drive. **Over 40 toys** were collected at SCC and donated to WAIM for the Toys for Tots inside Windham Area Interfaith Ministries, (WAIM). O.L. Willard Co. volunteered to collect the toys and deliver them to WAIM in time for holiday shoppers. **Thank you to Linda Blum** for coordinating our church donation effort!



*Michelle from O.L. Willard Co. ready to collect our donation of Toys for Tots.*

### No Freeze Shelter & Hospitality Center

Did you know that those little complimentary hygiene items provided by hotels for their guests are **valuable gifts**? Donations of these seemingly inconsequential items will allow folks who visit the **No Freeze Hospitality Shelter** to choose their personal care. Lotions are especially necessary at this time of year (unscented are the best choice!). Items for the No Freeze Hospitality Shelter can be placed in the box under the side tables in the Parish House Lounge or brought to the office during the week. **Thank You.**

## The SCC Mitten Tree



**Thank you** for your donations! This year's **Mitten Tree** served as a revolving source of 'give and take'. Each day new items appeared, the next day some were replaced by other items. What a great system! *Take as needed, give as able!* The Mitten Tree has now been emptied; all items being distributed to local area centers. The holidays are over but the coldest time of year is NOW! Feel free to bring clean new or gently used winter coats, gloves, hats, scarves to the Parish House to be distributed through the Food Pantry or donated to the No Freeze Shelter for immediate use.

## Shoes for Perception Programs Inc.

**Thank you** for the positive response to the **Shoe Drive!** Due to the popularity of this project we will continued to support Perception Programs Inc. Add your new or gently used shoes to the donation boxes located in the Narthex or Parish House entryway or consider making a donation to support this need. If you'd like more information about it, please contact Deborah in the office.

## Food Pantry Donations

**Thank you** for your consistent and thoughtful donations to the **Food Pantry**. The SCC Food Pantry is vital to many in this community where securing food, for some, is a daily emergency! After SCC receives 'subsidized' inventory from CT Foodshare, Midwest Food Bank and TFAPP there are still gaps that SCC seeks to fill, such as: milk, butter, eggs, personal hygiene, cleaning products and pet supplies. Monetary donations made to the Food Pantry 'Ingathering' are used to provide items most in need through the discernment of the SCC Food Pantry Team.

People come to SCC because they know that SCC cares! It is evident by the way we live our Mission and respond to needs with an empathetic ear! We listen to the needs and turn to you for help, and you never let us down! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!



*Offerings may always be made electronically through our webpage. Scan the QR code for easy access and select the Fund that you would like to support from the list of our 'Give Once' fund options.*

## Food Pantry Advisory Meeting

The SCC Food Pantry Team has now partnered with the Cumberland Farms down the road to receive late-dated prepared food items for immediate distribution. On Thursday mornings we pick up the goodies, which are perfectly suited for student 'grab n go'! The next question is – *How do we present the food for the students to take?* If you are interested in being a part of the discussion, please plan to come to the **Food Pantry Advisory Meeting on Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2:30 PM in the SCC Library**. To ensure that the meeting doesn't start until everyone interested is present, please email [SCCFoodPantry@storrscongchurch.org](mailto:SCCFoodPantry@storrscongchurch.org) to let them know you'll be there!

## WAIM Donations

To ensure that the time and energy of the WAIM volunteers is respected, please limit your donations to the following acceptable items:

- **Appliances\*** – large and small (clean and in good working order); radios, TVs, alarm clocks, blenders, hot plates, stoves, refrigerators, etc.
- **Baby equipment\*** – recently manufactured (due to legal safety requirements), clean, with all parts intact and assembled
- **Clothing** – in all sizes, in season, clean, in-style, in good repair. (Would you wear it?)
- **Flatware, dishes, mugs, bowls, glasses**
- **Furniture\*** – chairs, tables, lamps, sofas, end tables, beds, dressers, mattresses, box springs, and bed frames; clean, functional, in good condition
- **Other essential household items\***
- **Pots and pans**
- **Sheets and towels** – all sizes, clean, in good condition
- **Toys** – must be safe for a household with toddlers under three years of age, very clean, with all parts intact

*\*Please contact WAIM directly to discuss eligibility and or pick up of items. Do not bring these items to SCC unless arrangements have been made with WAIM for acceptance.*

## JUST PEACE ACTIONS

### **Compassion for the Incarcerated Team Meeting Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>**

This newly formed Just Peace team will meet again to discuss possibilities of assisting an incarcerated person when he is released in 2025.

A sponsor will be needed as well as housing and employment opportunities. Visits to him in prison are also being considered.

Let Kathy Lindner know if you can attend and contact her if you have any questions. 201-723-0458 or [Kathyartist72@gmail.com](mailto:Kathyartist72@gmail.com)

### **Mental Health and Wellness Ministry Lunch & Listen Gathering**

The Lunch and Listen group will **January 21<sup>st</sup> at 12:00 PM**, after the Sunday Service at Tolland Family Pizza. We will leave church about 11:30 from the back parking lot. If you're not sure where the restaurant is located, you can car pool or follow Kathy or Annetta.

Kathy will be sharing some information from the book, "Health revelations from heaven and earth" before the sharing.

Contact Kathy Lindner at 201 723 0458 or [kathyartist72@gmail.com](mailto:kathyartist72@gmail.com) to confirm your attendance....so we can let the restaurant know.

Joining with others, making friends, socializing and speaking so others are listening is a basic way to improve our own mental health.

At the lunches, after we eat and chat a bit, a facilitator will share a poem, a reading or a prayer and each person present will have the opportunity to speak and share their feelings or whatever they would like to share. You can pass if you wish. Others will listen. The only rule is there will be no "cross talk". Later when you are outside you can chat if there is other conversation you would like to have. This is called a "sharing circle". Kathy experienced it often when she used to attend programs at the Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health in Lenox, Mass. It can be very powerful. It can also help us learn to "listen" to others without interrupting with our own stories.

Feel free to contact Kathy or Annetta with any ideas at any time.

Kathy Lindner

[kathyartist&2@gmail.com](mailto:kathyartist&2@gmail.com)

Annetta Miller

[annettakmiller@yahoo.com](mailto:annettakmiller@yahoo.com)



## NOTES FROM THE MUSIC MINISTRY LOFT

HAPPY SEASON OF LIGHT!

Many of you know that this lengthening of days' season is my favorite time of the year even with the chilly weather. For me it is the promise of things to come, the brightness of hope that lingers on after Christmas before we head into the season of



Lent. It's the time to curl up with a book in front of a fire to dream of possibilities and dare I say change? Each lengthening day beckons me to stir outside and explore field and forest.

I hope that you will take the time to express appreciation to our beautiful core of volunteers that make this Ministry of Music possible. From the beginning of September through Christmas Eve the choir only had two Sundays 'off'. How is that possible? They even sang both Sundays when I was away! I am SO FULL of GRATITUDE for our Singers and Ringers. Both of the services on Christmas Eve were 'walk on clouds' moments. You bring us all so much deep joy. Thank you with all my heart.

On Christmas Eve we lost one of the most important and cherished choral musicians of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Alice Parker (1925-2023). She brought all of us an awareness of our American heritage of folksongs, hymnody, spirituals and Christmas carols, first through her collaboration with Robert Shaw and then continuing with a beautiful, strong voice on her own. We sang her famous setting of "Hark! I Hear the Harps Eternal" on All Saints' Sunday last Fall and we will be bringing you more of her choral arrangements this semester.

On January 28 anyone who wishes to hear me play a very different type of organ is invited to the pre-Evensong recital at All Saints' Church in Worcester, MA. The recital begins at 3:30 with Evensong following at 4:00pm. This is the church where we recorded a CD of the choral music of Leo Sowerby "Love Came Down at Christmas" back in the '90's.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Trisha

## LIBRARY NEWS

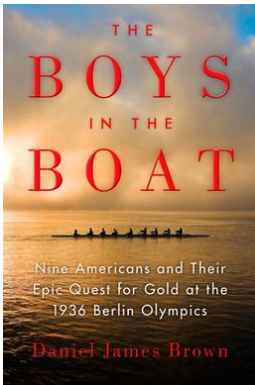
Happy New Year

We enter the New Year ready to meet your reading and informational needs. Please stop by on Sundays when you are in the facilities. The Library is usually open by 9:30 AM and following the worship service. It's an easy detour on your way to Fellowship Hour. We will be transitioning into winter reading, dreams of gardening, and February celebrations. The first day of Spring will be here before we know it!

*Come join us in the Library  
Janet, Marietta, and Sue*

### Read It Before You See It!

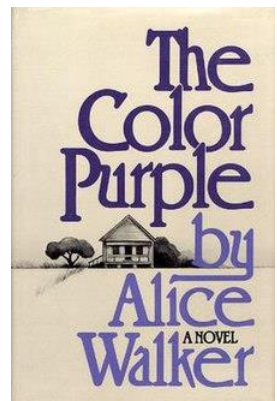
Both *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown and *A Color Purple* by Alice Walker are now showing as major motion pictures. Read (or re-read) them before you see them! Both books are available in the SCC Library for you to borrow.



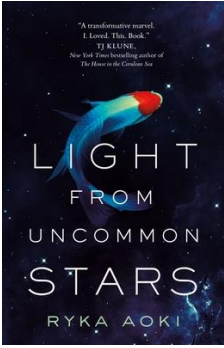
*The Boys in the Boat.* A 1930s-set story centered on the University of Washington's rowing team, from their Depression-era beginnings to winning gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics.

*The Color Purple* is a 1982 novel crafted through a series of letters of a young girl to God as she deals with an abusive father and

difficult situations. The American author Alice Walker won the 1983 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and the National Book Award for Fiction.



## SCC Book Discussion Group



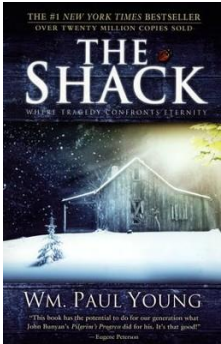
Our next book discussion will be held on March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 4:00 pm in the Library and via Zoom.

Join us as we discuss *LIGHT FROM UNCOMMON STARS* by Ryka Aoki. The science fiction and fantasy novel was nominated for the 2022 Hugo Award for Best Novel and selected for UConn Reads 2022-2023. In the story, Shizuki Satomi, the world's best violin teacher, coaches violin students, and then offers them fame and renown in exchange for their souls. Her final student is Katrena Nguyen, a transgender prodigy with little training.

Santori meets Lou Tran, a retired starship captain, now a doughnut shop owner who has brought her family to earth to escape war and plague. As these three women's lives intertwine, they transform each other in subtle surprising ways.

Availability: SCC Library, Library Connections, Local Libraries, Audio and E-book. Contact: Malta Bailey ([mbailey05@snet.net](mailto:mbailey05@snet.net))

## Upcoming Discussion for Later this Year



On September 15, 2024 we will discuss *THE SHACK* by William P. Young. , Christian novel (*recommended by Cindi Gilligan*)

Mackenzie Allen Philips' youngest daughter, Missy, has been abducted during a family vacation and evidence that she may have been brutally murdered is found in an abandoned shack deep in the Oregon wilderness. Four years later in the midst of his Great Sadness, Mack receives a suspicious note, apparently from God, inviting him back to that shack for a weekend. Against his better judgment he arrives at the shack on a wintry afternoon and walks back into his darkest nightmare. What he finds there will change Mack's world forever.

In a world where religion seems to grow increasingly irrelevant *The Shack* wrestles with the timeless question, "Where is God in a world so filled with unspeakable pain?" The answers Mack gets will astound you and perhaps transform you as much as it did him. You'll want everyone you know to read this book!

## A JANUARY REFLECTION BY ELLEN BRADLEY

I still remember the scene out our window at 7 a.m. several years ago. It looked deceptively gentle. Everything I could see was a hint, a transition, something either tiptoeing into the day or leaving the night - in a soft and quiet way, on the verge of daybreak. A thin sliver of pale moon remaining in a sky the color of water: A simmering cinnamon sun, bisected into a mosaic by a black horizon of trees, just starting to appear; yet spilling some orange rays onto the snow of the earth's back and catching on some sparkles, hints of things to come. A silvery, undisturbed pond surface emerging from the dawn's feeble light. A lone deer track in the blue snow of dawn, crossing the backyard and disappearing around the side of the house. But the thermometer, and the feel of my feet on the bare wood floors, told a different story. The temperature was hovering at -5 for the 8<sup>th</sup> day in a row, our woodpile was getting smaller by the day, and the calm peaceful scene that beheld me was actually a brutal lesson of the harshness that can be winters in New England.

For a little while, cold is fun. There's a coziness about it as we have a good excuse to hunker down near the fire and sip warm drinks. But after so many days in a row, when our lives are dictated by a routine, the cold bares its monster teeth and shows us just how powerless we really are. People slipping on ice, car doors being frozen shut, cars not starting at all, people not being able to go out for needed supplies, folks running low on fuel and wood, and, I remember in our case, frozen pipes and plumbing problems. And when there is no end in sight in the extended forecast, we just have to dig deep and be hardy and make the best of it, and wait for the weather to change again in due time.

We haven't had a cold snap like that for a long time, with temperatures reaching 50 this past week for Christmas, but that extreme cold snap was not one I've ever forgotten. This year, a rain and wind storm spawned a three-day power outage right before Christmas, which rekindled some of the memories although thankfully, this time we were not dealing with sub-zero temperatures. In fact, one of my best Christmas memories of this season was actually a result of the power outage. We typically run our generator a few hours on and a few hours off during outages. During an evening that it was off, the house was dark except for some candles casting tall, wildly jumping and dancing shadows. It was very quiet except for the soft hissing of the wood stove. I decided to play some Christmas carols on our piano. When I was done, Ted played some too while I sat back and listened. And, in that moment, I stopped stressing about when the power was going to come back

on and how many things I still had to do before Christmas, and how many gifts I still had to buy, as I just sat quietly and listened. Just hearing the songs of Christmas in candlelight made me relax and I was filled with a sense of peacefulness. A feeling that words can't describe but the music captured. A feeling associated with the whole Christmas season, of warmth, love, joy, and nostalgia that wonderfully counterbalances December cold, to-do lists, and even an inconvenient power outage.

Our electricity was restored the next day, but I continue to be very grateful to have had a quiet time to take a step back and unexpectedly capture the real joy of Christmas through music breaking forth in the still and silence of the night. This New Year's, as we give thanks for our blessings, may we also experience joy and fulfillment of little surprise blessings as well!

## FABRIC SHOPPING WITH THE QUILTERS


The Parish Piecers (Quilters) invite you to join them on an all-day fabric shopping trip on **Friday, January 19th**. There are still some spaces on the Mansfield van, but you need to sign up directly with the Mansfield Senior Center (860-429-0262) to see if space is available. The van seats 10. We will meet at the Mansfield Senior Center on Maple Rd. at 9:20 for a 9:30 departure to American Fabrics in Waterford, then a late lunch at Oz'NBones BBQ in Colchester (approximately 1:00-2:00), then shopping at Colchester Mills Fabrics and returning to the Senior Center.

## CELEBRATING FAMILY

### Let's Keep In Touch!

The list for folks that want to be kept in touch with has been removed from our buildings to protect personal information. **That does not mean that they don't want to be kept in touch with.** All our Friends, Members and staff have access to the Church Directory with mailing information for all.

Here is the list of people who'd appreciate cards, letters and/or phone calls:

Keeping In Touch  

 Rev. Michael Ader, Jane Ann Bobbitt, Charlene Dickenson, Bob Guttay, Juanita Hall, Kathy Hampton, Elizabeth Hanks, Larry Mickel, Pat Mochel, Leslie Kennard & Doug Pease, Dianne Sprague, Annemarie Thompson, Adam Thorson.

If you'd like to be added to this list, contact our Caring Ministry Coordinator, Patty Tanaka.

## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE HAPPENINGS

Why wait to see if your birthday or anniversary will be included in the monthly listing? Let's be realistic, the process of gathering information, receiving, recording and updating responses can be open to error or omission simply by of the number of variables involved. I apologize in advance to those who've already provided information (possibly multiple times) I beg both your forgiveness and compliance 😊.

Please review the following list of **all the Anniversaries & Birthdays on file for publication in the appropriate monthly Carillon throughout the upcoming year.** If your information is missing and you'd like it added (*or it's there and you'd like it removed*), please email the office. If there is an asterisk (\*) next to your name, it indicates that your birthdate does not have a *valid* year entered and the birth year of 1900 was used, making you 123 years of age 😊.

To allow us to be able to recognize milestone birthdays, if your record has an asterisk, please provide the valid year to be recorded in the system.

***Please note that the 'year' will never be shared or printed without consent.***

### Anniversaries

#### January

Holly & Junius Hunter..... 1/4  
Leslie Kennard & Douglas Pease  
..... 1/24

#### February

Janet & Adrian Atkins..... 2/1  
Richard & Rachael Bogert.....2/11  
Ronald Cotterill & Peggy Tucker  
..... 2/12

#### March

Lynn & Marjorie Brown ..... 3/22  
Mike & Mary Lake..... 3/22  
Wade & Karen Johnson ..... 3/25  
Peter & Deborah Talbot .....3/26  
Ed & Nancy Tomastik .....3/28

#### April

Wes & Jamie Lang-Rodean..... 4/16

#### May

Ted Yungclas & David Woods . 5/3  
Duffy & Laurie Brookes..... 5/11  
Paul & Cindi Gilligan .....5/15

Erin & Matt Niehoff..... 5/30

#### June

Herb & Kris Ridyrd ..... 6/1  
Bob & Stacy Malecki .....6/7  
Ken & Betty Hanson.....6/13  
Brittany & Jake Kowalyshyn ... 6/13  
Peter & Donna Latincics ..... 6/16  
Laura & Ethan Sagin .....6/19  
Trisha Snyder & Chris Dustin.6/21  
Bethany & William Saypalia . 6/22  
Ray & Jane Joesten ..... 6/24  
Erin & Oliver Scholes..... 6/24  
Rich & Liz Cowles ..... 6/26  
Ron & Marsha Creese..... 6/26  
Elaine Greer & Susan Dwonczyk  
..... 6/26  
Patricia & Joseph Piatek ..... 6/26  
John & Robin Blomstrann ..... 6/27  
Peter & Samantha Lang-Rodean  
..... 6/27  
Terry & Joan Webster ..... 6/27

**July**

Susan & Reed Dione.....	7/12
Chris & Lisa McLean .....	7/16
Cathy & Robert Jeffers .....	7/24
Dick & Pam Roberts.....	7/25
Thomas & Sondra Morrison...	7/27
Bryan & Tina Huey.....	7/28
Dave & Carol Jordan.....	7/28

**August**

Bob Wyss & Dianne Sprague....	8/1
Jim & Jackie Soroka.....	8/5
Kate Alexander & Sarah Pressly	
.....	8/8
Armand Johnson & Desiree Duda	
.....	8/8
Rosemary & Alexander Marcellino	
.....	8/15
Laura & Kenneth Popeleski ....	8/31

**September**

Paul & Sue Schur .....	9/4
Harry & Lynn Johnson .....	9/12
Tom & Janmarie Weston .....	9/17
Allan Korkala & Jane Hollows	9/21

**October**

Dana & Lisa Gregus.....	10/16
Bryan & Julie Klimkiewicz ....	10/19

**November**

Robert & Barbara Brandt.....	11/1
Alec & Karen Malecki .....	11/4
Mark & Cheryl Roy.....	11/10

**Birthdays****January**

Carly Smith .....	1/4
Josh Miller.....	1/8
Rosemary Marcellino.....	1/10
*Barbara Larson.....	1/12
David Stone.....	1/12
Joan Webster .....	1/13
John Blomstrann .....	1/14

*Thomas Morrison.....	1/15
Tom Weston .....	1/15
Charlie Demurjian.....	1/16
Alicia Kapinos .....	1/18
Lisa Gregus.....	1/19
*Carol Toomey .....	1/22
Mark Brand .....	1/22
Mark Roy.....	1/22
Jenna Mitchell .....	1/24
Robert Jeffers.....	1/26
Cheryl Mitchell.....	1/27
William Aho.....	1/30

**February**

Cathy Jeffers.....	2/2
*David Vaughan.....	2/4
*Janet Jordan.....	2/8
Julie Klimkiewicz.....	2/9
Adrian Gibson .....	2/10
Terry Webster .....	2/10
*Bob Ignatowicz .....	2/11
*Gail Ignatowicz .....	2/11
Joseph Marcellino .....	2/11
Alison Latincics .....	2/12
Molly Breault-Fisher .....	2/12
Stacy Malecki .....	2/12
David Kapinos.....	2/14
Annemarie Thompson .....	2/15
Alexander Villar .....	2/16
Matthew Abell.....	2/16
Rebecca Shafer.....	2/18
Jake Harakaly.....	2/20
David Litrico.....	2/22
Greg Dione.....	2/22
Marcy Mochel.....	2/27
Peter Talbot .....	2/28

**March**

Mary Patrone-Czaja .....	3/1
Erica Blum .....	3/2
Jessica McCabe .....	3/2
Dana Gregus.....	3/3
Dianne Sprague .....	3/3

Ryan Ignatowicz.....	3/3
Bruce Bergen .....	3/4
Rachael Bogert.....	3/5
Zoe Strickler .....	3/7
Duffy Brookes.....	3/8
Tj Green .....	3/8
Robert Brandt .....	3/9
Bethany Sappalia.....	3/14
Erin Niehoff.....	3/14
Haley Hamlin .....	3/15
Kris Ridyard.....	3/15
Marty Kinsman.....	3/15
Pamela Reichel.....	3/15
Jennifer Cano .....	3/17
Kelly Gifford.....	3/21
Laura Popeleski .....	3/22
Jon Mitchell.....	3/23
Kelly Villar .....	3/24
Jennifer Dixon.....	3/26
Allison Bergen .....	3/28
Jenna Hoyt.....	3/31

### **April**

Bella Famularo .....	4/2
Tristan Sauvageau.....	4/4
Ronald Cotterill.....	4/5
Dakota Babbitt.....	4/8
Lyndsay Grisamer .....	4/8
Armand Johnson .....	4/9
Nancy Titchen.....	4/9
Erin Scholes.....	4/10
Lindsay Irvine .....	4/10
Katie Rock.....	4/11
Olivia Arsenault .....	4/12
Bethany Litrico.....	4/13
Sarah Lang-Rodean.....	4/13
Anne-Marie Baldwin.....	4/16
Barbara Brandt.....	4/16
*Nancy Rucker .....	4/16
Richard Bogert.....	4/16
Sharon Schneider .....	4/16
Robert Kapinos.....	4/17

Karen Johnson.....	4/18
Erich Latincics .....	4/21
Paul Gilligan.....	4/22
*Gail Kapinos.....	4/26
Susan Irvine .....	4/27
Leah Villar.....	4/29

### **May**

Alison Kuhn .....	5/1
Chase Klimkiewicz.....	5/5
Brittany Kowalyszyn.....	5/6
Jesse Gifford .....	5/7
Charlene Dickenson .....	5/10
Wyatt Heffley .....	5/11
Bob Guttay.....	5/12
Elyse Mitchell.....	5/12
Greg Mills.....	5/14
Cindi Gilligan.....	5/18
David Litrico.....	5/18
*Ken Larson.....	5/18
Samantha Lang-Rodean.....	5/18
Em Irvine.....	5/19
Eric Abell .....	5/20
Mason Babbitt.....	5/20
Elaine Greer .....	5/22
Alaina Klimkiewicz.....	5/27
Dan Wilson.....	5/28
Nancy Tomastik .....	5/28
Aline Booth .....	5/29
Bryan Huey.....	5/29
Jane Joesten.....	5/30

### **June**

Matthew Marcellino .....	6/1
Juliana Harakaly .....	6/3
*Don Castle .....	6/5
Abigail Warren.....	6/8
Amanda Dixon.....	6/8
Eric Johnson.....	6/12
*Patty Tanaka .....	6/13
Charleen Knapp .....	6/18
*Elaine Brand.....	6/18
Laura Harris.....	6/20

Susan Dione .....	6/20
Jon Simmons .....	6/21
Eric Bryant.....	6/22
*Patricia Piatek .....	6/22
*Larry Mickel.....	6/23
*Ron Creese.....	6/23
Janis Hoyle.....	6/25
Jennie Talbot.....	6/25
Drew Silliman .....	6/27
John Schneider.....	6/28
Krista Rogers .....	6/29
Andrew Marco .....	6/30

### **July**

Abigail Cotterill .....	7/1
Shannon Sion.....	7/1
Laura Hurd .....	7/4
Zach Vannais.....	7/5
Leslie Kennard .....	7/7
Erin Enderle.....	7/8
*Frances Woody.....	7/9
James Davis.....	7/9
Evan Brand.....	7/12
Janet Atkins.....	7/13
*Joan Rogers .....	7/13
*Sondra Morrison.....	7/13
Alexander Bryant.....	7/14
*Jeri Hepworth .....	7/14
John Brand .....	7/14
Nolan Klimkiewicz.....	7/16
Peter Latincsics.....	7/16
Garrett Ballou.....	7/19
Kathy Lindner .....	7/20
Cali Harakaly .....	7/23
Charles Chester.....	7/23
Laurie Brookes.....	7/23
Peter Baldwin.....	7/25
Sarah Mallory .....	7/26
Karen Dellafera.....	7/27
Felicia Famularo .....	7/28
Katherine Pukinskis .....	7/28
Sarah Cotterill .....	7/28

*Kelly McCabe .....	7/31
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### **August**

*Marsha Creese.....	8/2
Abigail Dustin .....	8/3
Elizabeth Vaughan.....	8/3
Jacob Mitchell.....	8/3
Peter Lang-Rodean.....	8/3
Jesse Rogers .....	8/4
Paul Schur.....	8/7
Jim Soroka.....	8/9
Susan Noyes.....	8/9
Addison Strong.....	8/11
*Dick Roberts .....	8/12
*Andy McCabe.....	8/15
Kate Alexander.....	8/15
Annika Kuhn .....	8/16
Kate Blomstrann.....	8/16
Brianna Coolbeth-Demers.....	8/19
Wes Lang-Rodean .....	8/19
Ethan Bryant.....	8/20
Cole Silliman .....	8/21
Laura Mills.....	8/24
Ryan McAlexander .....	8/26
Aiden Kuhn.....	8/28
Bryan Klimkiewicz.....	8/28
Connor Occhialini.....	8/28
Matthew Coolbeth.....	8/29
Tina Huey.....	8/30
Adrian Atkins.....	8/31

### **September**

Mike Lake.....	9/2
Robert Kimenyi.....	9/3
Ken Hanson .....	9/7
Sterling Brandt.....	9/7
Katie Kapinos .....	9/9
Melissa Mason.....	9/9
*Priscilla Pike .....	9/9
Mary Lake .....	9/10
Ed Tomastik .....	9/11
Elliot Smith.....	9/11
Pam Roberts.....	9/11

Bob Malecki..... 9/12  
 Ray Joesten ..... 9/12  
 William Huey..... 9/13  
 \*Rich Cowles..... 9/14  
 Matthew Dione..... 9/17  
 Jeffrey Villar..... 9/18  
 Selena Kapinos..... 9/18  
 Samuel Baldwin..... 9/22  
 Janmarie Weston..... 9/23  
 Steven Demurjian..... 9/25  
 \*Jane Ann Bobbitt..... 9/26  
 Lynn Brown..... 9/26  
 Betsy Mochel..... 9/28  
 Wendy Hamlin ..... 9/28  
 Alyssa Blachez..... 9/29  
 Corey Dione..... 9/29  
 Robin Blomstrann..... 9/29

**October**

Chris McLean..... 10/1  
 Elizabeth Lake..... 10/1  
 Katrina Heffley ..... 10/2  
 Nate Holmy..... 10/2  
 Erin Ballou..... 10/5  
 Cheryl Roy..... 10/6  
 \*Eric Jordan..... 10/7  
 Laura Sagin..... 10/7  
 Herb Ridyard..... 10/12  
 Brock Silliman..... 10/14  
 Emily Duval..... 10/15  
 Hayley Gilbert..... 10/15  
 Laura Blum ..... 10/16  
 Barbara Nagy..... 10/17  
 Bob Wyss..... 10/18  
 Lia Kapinos ..... 10/18  
 Sue Schur ..... 10/19  
 Ward Ewalt ..... 10/19  
 Emerson Ballou..... 10/23  
 \*Marietta Johnson ..... 10/27  
 Cass Crewdson..... 10/28  
 Scotty Duval..... 10/29  
 Richie Kremer..... 10/30  
 Trisha Snyder ..... 10/30

Ronald Schurin..... 10/31

**November**

Dave Jordan ..... 11/2  
 Eileen Metzgar ..... 11/3  
 Jacob Gardner..... 11/3  
 Hunter Hamlin ..... 11/6  
 \*Liz Cowles..... 11/6  
 Haley Blomstrann ..... 11/8  
 Jamie Lang-Rodean..... 11/10  
 Marjorie Brown..... 11/10  
 Carol Jordan ..... 11/11  
 Alec Malecki..... 11/12  
 Brooke Prince-Warinsky..... 11/12  
 \*Adam Thorson ..... 11/16  
 Grayce Gibbs..... 11/16  
 Jacob Gilbert ..... 11/16  
 David Woods..... 11/17  
 Megan Rock..... 11/17  
 Leo Henderson ..... 11/19  
 Jaiden Hathaway..... 11/21  
 Carolyn Holmy..... 11/22  
 Joshua McCabe ..... 11/26  
 Samantha Malecki ..... 11/27  
 Chloe Ewalt..... 11/28  
 Christopher Brand ..... 11/28

**December**

Sarah Johnson ..... 12/1  
 Annetta Miller ..... 12/3  
 Donna Latincsics ..... 12/7  
 Thany Litrico..... 12/10  
 Wade Johnson ..... 12/10  
 Betty Hanson..... 12/11  
 Vicki Magley ..... 12/14  
 Maye Henning..... 12/16  
 Kathy Hampton..... 12/18  
 Paulla Dixon..... 12/18  
 Spencer Hamlin ..... 12/21  
 Allison Cano ..... 12/23  
 Elizabeth Hanks..... 12/24  
 Grant Gifford..... 12/31

## Prayers for Peace in a Hurting World

We offer prayers for all who seek safe harbors in war-torn places. We hold in tender prayer all those whose dedicated military service aspires to bring peace to a hurting world.

- **Matt Allen**, submitted by Pam & Dick Roberts
- **Joseph Tanaka**, submitted by Patty Tanaka
- **Joshua & Dakota Conner**, submitted by Charlene Dickenson
- **Daniel Felkel**, submitted by Cindy Felkel



To request a prayer or to have a name added to this list and/or provide an update, please contact Pastor Diane at [diane@storrscongchurch.org](mailto:diane@storrscongchurch.org).

## Church Directory

The Church Directory is being updated NOW. An updated edition will be available at the Annual Meeting on January 28<sup>th</sup>. Ensure that your information is accurate and up to date. If you've had any changes to the following contact information in the last year, please send an email to Deborah to make updates as needed.

- Name (first or last)
- Address
- Phone Number
- eMail Address
- Birth Date (w/ Year)
- Anniversary Date

Are you connected to SCC? Do you receive 'All Church' emails on Tuesdays, Fridays & Saturdays? These emails provide information for Outreach opportunities, upcoming events or activities and Sunday worship information. If you've not been receiving these emails are are interested in getting them, please contact Deborah in the office or visit our main webpage and click on the yellow bubble to be added to our mailing list.

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## **GROUPS MEETING @ SCC**

**Consonare Choirs:** Sunday, 2:30 – 5:00 pm (Auditorium & Lounge)

**Ballroom Dance:** Monday 7–11 pm (Auditorium)

**Lego Robotics:** Wed. & Fridays 6-8 pm, (Rooms 201 & 207)

**UConn Dance Company:** Wed. 4-6 pm, Thurs. 6:30 – 8:30 pm (Auditorium)

**University Ballet Company:** Wed. 6:30 – 8:30 pm, Sun. 5–7 pm (Auditorium)

**Swing & Blues Dance:** Tuesday 7–11 pm (Auditorium)

**Buddhist Meditation Group:** Wednesday 7:00 – 8:30 pm (Room 106)

**Table Tennis Club:** Mon. 2:30-6:30, Fri. 4-8, Sat. 11:30 – 3:30 pm (Auditorium)

## GATHERINGS @ SCC

- Mondays** .....Service Sewing, 9:30 am (Room 207)  
Food Pantry Open, 12:00 pm (Room 102)
- Tuesdays** .....Library Open, 9:30 am (Ed. Building – Library)
- Wednesdays**.....Parish Piecers, 10:00 am (Ed. Bldg. 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)  
C.A.F.E. Storrs, 10:30 am (PH – Lounge & Zoom)
- Thursdays**.....Food Pantry Open, 2:30 pm (Room 102)  
Handbell Choir, 6:30 pm (Meeting House)  
Adult Choir, 7:30 pm (Meeting House)
- Sundays**.....Student Breakfast, 8:45 am (Auditorium)  
Adult Choir, 9:00 am (Meeting House)  
Food Pantry Open, 11:00 am (Room 102)  
Library Open, following worship (Ed. Building – Library)  
Sunday Night Speaker Meeting, 7:30 pm (Auditorium)
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## MEETINGS @ SCC

- Jan. 4 .....1<sup>st</sup> Thursday Book Club, 1:00 pm (Library)
- Jan. 9 .....Governing Board Meeting, 6:30 pm (Room 201 & Zoom)
- Jan. 11.....Seniors Connect!, 11:00 am (online)
- Jan. 13.....PEO Chapter S Meeting, 10:00 am (**online only**)
- Jan. 14 .....Compassion for the Incarcerated Meeting, 11:30 am (Library)
- Jan. 15.....Martin Luther King Birthday Observed – Staff Holiday.
- Jan. 18 .....Ringers & Singers resume (Meeting House)
- Jan. 19 .....Parish Piecers Shopping Trip, 9:20 am (Mansfield Sr. Center)
- Jan. 21.....Deacon’s Retreat, 11:30 am (Auditorium)
- Jan. 21.....Lunch & Listen, 12:00 pm (Tolland Family Pizza)
- Jan. 22 .....Food Pantry Advisory Board Meeting, 2:30 pm (Library)
- Jan. 25 .....Prayer Shawl Ministry, 10:00 am (Library & Zoom)
- Jan. 28 .....Annual Meeting, 11:30 am (Meeting House & zoom)
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## MOBILE COMMUNITY FOOD SHARE

- Jan. 11 & 25      Mobile Food Share, 11:30 am (Mansfield Senior Center)