

# The Parishioner's Post

## OUR CHURCH'S MISSION STATEMENT

*"To be a dynamic, welcoming, and caring community of Christian faith by weaving the thread of Christ into the tapestry of our lives."*



SOUTH BRITAIN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
693 SOUTH BRITAIN RD.  
SOUTHBURY, CT 06488

Dear Friends,

I've now officially been your pastor for a week, and I am feeling loved and appreciated. Thank you for making our family feel so welcomed even with all the stuff happening in the background regarding the parsonage.

I am so excited to get to meet and know all of you in the coming weeks and months. I ask that you remind me of your name the first three times we meet, after that it's on me to remember.

I'll be scheduling appointments to meet with the church leadership (committee chairs and other leaders) this month, to get an idea of what your group is up to and how I can support you in your ministry.

My office hours will usually be posted here in the bulletin. You can also make an appointment to meet with me by scheduling online at <https://calendly.com/therevjeff>. Here you can schedule an in-person or zoom appointment. Just follow the prompts and it will be added to my calendar.

Please note: Mondays and Saturdays are my typical days off and I try not to check or respond to emails on these days to maintain sabbath time. I have also removed email from my phone to protect my time with my family. If you have an urgent need outside normal working hours, please text or call me. My mobile number is 203.364.4540 and you can email me at [pastor@southbritainchurch.org](mailto:pastor@southbritainchurch.org).



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You are welcome to connect with me on social media. I am most active these days on Facebook ([facebook.com/jeff.lukens](https://facebook.com/jeff.lukens)) and Instagram (@revjefflukens). You can also find me on other sites at the @revjefflukens handle.

Feel free to pop in and say hi if you see me at the church! I am looking forward to meeting you.

Grace & Peace,

**Pastor Jeff**

pastor@southbritainchurch.org

203.364.4540

## **SPIRITUAL STUDIES**

**Daytime Bible Study:** Stay tuned, date and time to be determined.

**Holy Moments Gathering.** Tuesdays 1-2 PM. Now studying "**Gratitude**" by Nancy Leigh DeMoss. Our Motto: Do Less and Trust God More. **All R Welcome.**

## **DEACONS**

Now is a great time to return  
**"Pastor Jeffrey Lukens"**

*Joseph Simpson, Francesca Sergi, Carl Dunn, Cheri  
Fickett, Krista Judson, Judy Pierpont, John Shepherd, and Tracy Watson*

**WE REALLY MISS YOU**

## OPEN AND AFFIRMING

“In the eyes of  
love, everyone is  
equal.”

LOVEQUOTES.COM

*Judy Grimes, Francesca Sergi, Joe Simpson, Cathy Somers*

## OUTREACH

- We're changing the Outreach Offering for September, and instead of any cash donations, we are asking you to help fill the Little Free Pantry outside the Parish Hall. Jesse Shepard built the box for his Eagle project a few years ago and it has been a very busy spot ever since. It's hard to keep it stocked. We will also be reaching out to the public for donations since it is really a year-round project.

For more information please visit  
[www.thelittlefreepantries.org](http://www.thelittlefreepantries.org).



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Help us to “stock the box”, the Little Free Pantry located in front of the Parish House of  
South Britain Congregational Church  
693 South Britain Road, Southbury, CT

Little Free Pantries are an easy way for neighbors to help neighbors who need food, hygiene or paper items. They are a 24/7, zero barrier access point to food.

**Suggested needs:**

Canned protein	Pasta/Rice	Diapers
Cooking oils	Coffee/Tea	Cereals
Shelf stable milks	Feminine Hygiene	

**If you eat or use it, so will someone else.**

**If you experience sticker shock when browsing an item, it should go inside!**

Thank you for your support,

**SBCC Outreach**

- **THANK YOU** to everyone who contributed toward the Hawaii relief fund that we will be sending to the UCC Hawaii Conference to help those who have lost everything. Our final tally was \$1020!

*Chris Dreton, Jean Mitchell, JoAnn Bolin, Lillian Groody, Lynn Plourde, Pam Hein, Cathy Somers, Jodi Mitchell (chair)*

## FAITH FORMATION

### WELCOME

- Faith Formation wants to welcome Pastor Jeff, Meghan, and their daughters Charlotte and Alexandra to our faith formation team. Looking forward to a great year of fun and sharing ourselves with each other and making a difference in this world with God's health and our church family. Let us weave God into our lives and the lives of others around us everyday!

### THE GARDEN

- Our garden continues to grow. The cucumbers, squash and zucchinis have left, but our tomatoes and peppers are making a comeback. It has been a difficult growing season. Mother Nature played with us. Much rain was great for the weeds, but not for some of the produce. Hoping to get another 3 weeks of veggies before we put the garden to rest. I want to thank all who lended their green thumbs, weeding and watering skills and much Love to make it another great project. All produce went to our Southbury neighbors in need to feed their families healthy meals.



- On the next two Sundays Emily, Olivia, Charlotte and Alexandra (Alex) will be putting together their handmade greeting cards into packets to be sold at the Country Store. Hope to make other packets that can be distributed to a few of our local senior facilities; River Glen, The Watermark, Motif and The Lutheran Home.

Blessings

-The Faith Formation Team; *Krista Judson (director), Jodi Mitchell (chair), Tracy Watson, JoAnn Bolin*



## BOOK CLUB

- Last call for your copy of October's book "The Midnight Library" by Matt Haig. The Southbury Library still has a few books as well as an ebook and even an audio book waiting for you. Just mention the SBCC Book Club and they'll get you a copy. Our meeting will be on October 4th at 6p.m. Refreshments will be served and there will be plenty of lively discussion! Please join us.
- I was looking through a favorite book of mine. I came across a prayer by Mother Theresa that just fit my thoughts of the day.

*Lord, open our eyes,  
that we may see You in our brothers and sisters.*

*Lord, open our ears,  
that we may hear the cries of the hungry, the cold,  
the frightened, the oppressed.*

*Lord, open our hearts,  
that we love each other  
as You love us.*

*Renew in us Your spirit,  
Lord, free us and make us one.*

**—Mother Teresa. Book "Poems and Prayers for Children**

## PERSONNEL

We welcomed Pastor Jeff, his wife Megan and daughters, Charlotte and Alexandra, at fellowship hour on September 3rd and cannot wait to begin our faith journey with him! Please take the time to stop by the office to say 'hello' so he can get to know you better.

We implore you to wear your **name tag** to church so that he can begin to associate names and faces.



*Tracy Watson, JoAnn Bolin, Cathy Somers*



## PUBLIC RELATIONS

As we welcome Pastor Jeff we want to make sure everyone is wearing their name tags. If you need a name tag please reach out to Lissa.

Keep an eye out for Apple festival advertisements in Voices, Newtown Bee, Waterbury Republican, Southbury Patch, and Town of Southbury. If that's not enough, check out the flyers and posters that have been placed around. You will be happy to see that the Apple Festival signs have been given a fresh new look.

*-Lissa Pine, Francesca Sergi, Gary Tolin, Krista Judson, Judy Grimes*

## FLOWER COMMITTEE

There are LOTS of open dates on the calendar, so please consider signing up for one Sunday. Flowers can be as simple as a plant from your kitchen window!

*-Cathy Crowdus, Linda Long, Cathy Somers*

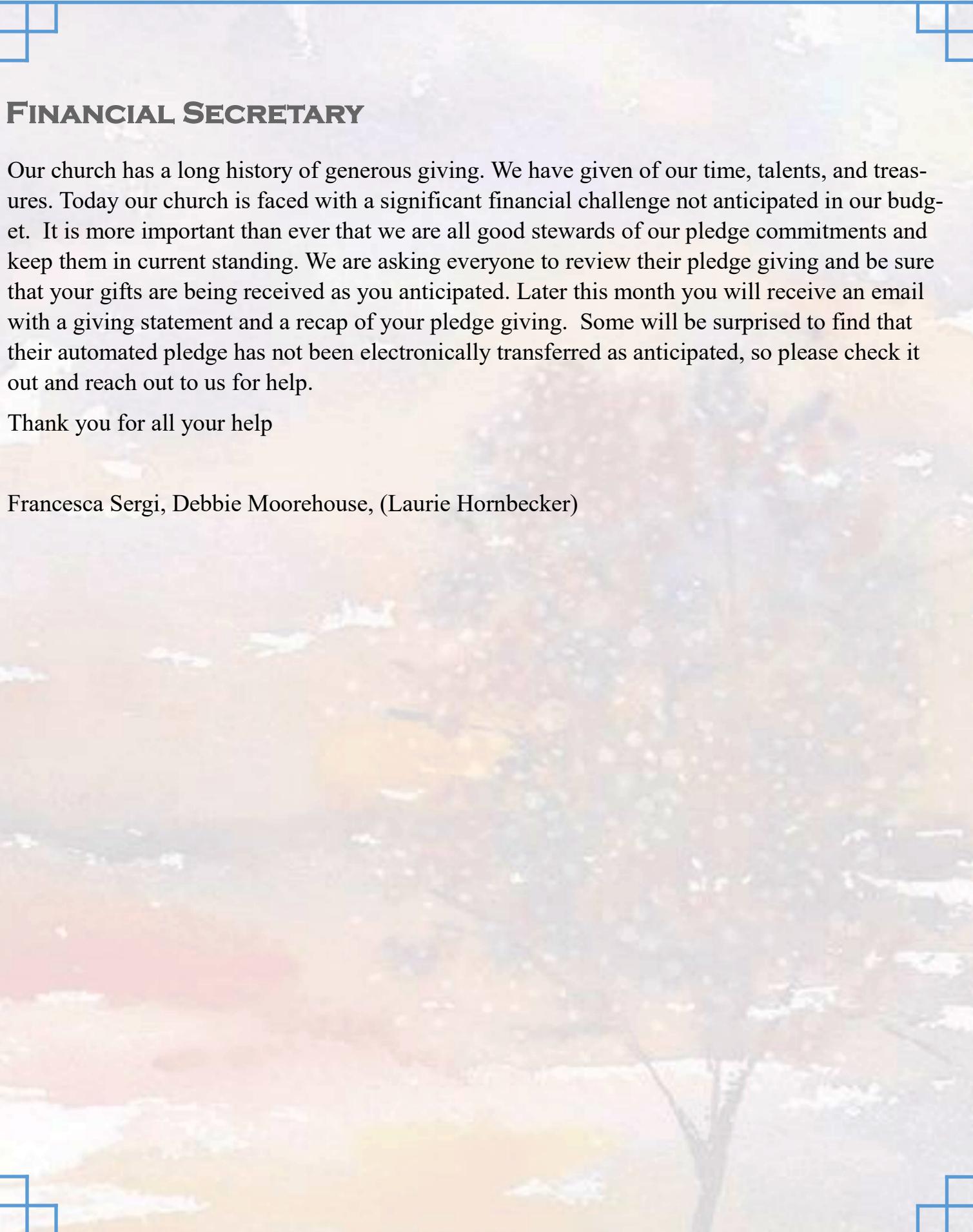


## CHURCH LIBRARY



A big welcome to Pastor Jeff and his family. If you haven't visited our church library yet, please add it to your list of things to do. It's a perfect place for quiet time or to have a small meeting. "Light" the fire and hide away for a few minutes. We have comfortable seating and a large library table. Megan, Charlotte and Alex, you're welcome to the Library any time! We have a nice selection of children's books, magazines and a growing fiction section.

*-Cathy Somers and Chris Dreton*



## FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Our church has a long history of generous giving. We have given of our time, talents, and treasures. Today our church is faced with a significant financial challenge not anticipated in our budget. It is more important than ever that we are all good stewards of our pledge commitments and keep them in current standing. We are asking everyone to review their pledge giving and be sure that your gifts are being received as you anticipated. Later this month you will receive an email with a giving statement and a recap of your pledge giving. Some will be surprised to find that their automated pledge has not been electronically transferred as anticipated, so please check it out and reach out to us for help.

Thank you for all your help

Francesca Sergi, Debbie Moorehouse, (Laurie Hornbecker)

## FROM/FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY



**COSMIC**  
COMMUNITIES OF SOUTHBURY AND MIDDLEBURY INTERGENERATIONAL CHORUS

**WHO WE ARE**

After a three year hiatus COSMIC is back and ready to create incredible music together.

COSMIC performs a wide variety of music from traditional choral repertoire to jazz, musical theatre, and popular works.

**BECOME A MEMBER**

If you a Southbury or Middlebury resident with a passion for singing, join us! All experience levels are welcome.

Register through Southbury Parks & Rec or call Michelle for more information - (516) 320-5089.

**REHEARSAL INFORMATION**

Wednesdays, 6:30-8 PM  
Southbury Parks and Recreation Building



## News from New Start Ministry

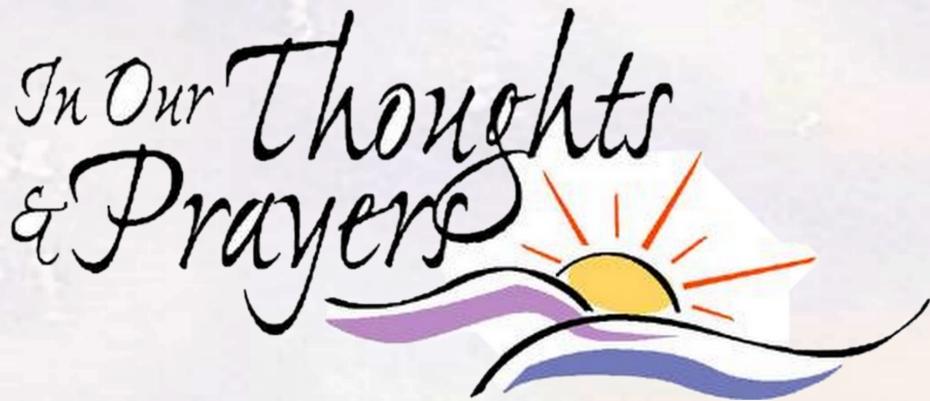
Our new refugee family arrived safely on August 29. The family - 2 parents and 4 children - are from Afghanistan. The husband worked for both the U.S. Government and the United Nations, which enabled him to obtain a Special Immigrant Visa / SIV to enter our country.

They are lovely people, a pleasure to meet and work with. We will not be sharing their names or photos out of concern for their safety. We will, though, share some of their accomplishments as they become oriented to their new homeland.

Would you like to help them with their resettlement? We are in need of volunteers to assist with child care while the parents are at appointments or in meetings. The children range in age from 5 to 14 years. If you can help, please call co-leader Susan Suhr at 203-231-2992.

Financial donations are also appreciated. You can donate directly on our website: [newstartministryct.org](http://newstartministryct.org)

Submitted by Jean Dunn



Bud B.

Stephanie

Bob W.

Taylor

Lillian G.

Joe & Judy S.

Quinn

Judy M.

Jeanne

Melanie

- Family and Friends of Marge Humiston
- Family and Friends of Kevin Sullivan
- Family and Friends of Dan Sawyer
- Family and Friends of Joyce Hornbecker
- Family and Friends of Wayne Gunther
- Family and Friends of Judith Bookis
- Family and Friends of Steven Gearhart
- Family and Friends of David Schlump

## BULLETIN BOARD



<b>September</b>	Celia Torrey	5
	Abigail Locke	12
	Gabby Cruz (Ricardo's daughter)	14
	Nancy Dahl	15
	Judith Bookis	16
	Margie Nichols	16
	Holly Bucciarelli	17
	Cathy Crowdis	17
	Bob Harrison	20
	Linda Morehouse	22
	Tatyana Graziano	24
	Ed Harney	25
	Kim Lowell	30

**Please help us to keep the birthday list current by calling the church office and letting Nancy know any corrections or additions that need to be made. (203-264-5890)**

## CALENDAR

## Every Week

Sundays: Worship, 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour, 11:00 a.m.

Tuesdays: Knit-Wits, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Holy Moments Group, 1:00 p.m.

Fridays: AA Meeting, 6 - 9 p.m.

Dance, 4 - 6 p.m.

## Every Month

• 1st Sunday	Deacons (following services)
• 2nd Sunday	Finance Committee, 9 a.m.
• 1st Wednesday	Faith Formation 5:30p.m.
• 1st Wednesday	Stewardship 7 p.m.
• 2nd Wednesday	Outreach 6 p.m.
• 3rd Wednesday	Trustee's Meeting
• 4th Wednesday	Church Council, 7:00 p.m.
• 1st Thursday	Property, 7 p.m.
• 2nd Thursday	ONA, 10 a.m.
• 2nd Thursday	Public Relations, 5:30 p.m.
• 1st Friday	Parishioner's Post published
(Submissions due the	
Monday prior).	

## JUDSON JAZZ @THE REDDING BEER COMPANY SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17TH 3PM-6PM.

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### Upcoming Events



The **BIG** push is on! The final days before the Apple Festival are upon us!

The crusts are made, white elephant and jewelry are being priced, and country store is *still looking for handmades and homemades*.

We need anyone who can bake to do so for the baked goods area. Please package your items prior to bringing them to the church on Friday or early

Saturday (day of). Cookies can be packaged in half or full dozen, for example. Cupcakes can be individual, half dozen, or dozen, for example. Cakes can be whole, breads can be whole. Brownies can be 4, 6, 8 or a dozen. Whatever numbers you think will sell!

Church members are invited to have a preview sale of White Elephant items. Stop by, browse and if you find something you want, write it on the clipboard. Make sure to pay Jean Dunn or

#### Mark Your Calendars:

- \* **Apple Pie Inspectors wanted for Thursday September 21 at 8:00 a.m. sharp.**
- \* **Apple Pie Makers Wanted for Friday, September 22**

Starting at **7:00 am** we need pie fillers, and pie crimpers. Yes - 7:00am - we are looking to increase our apple pie output. In the past we have had all our pies assembled by noon.

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Any pie help is appreciated, come whatever time fits your schedule.. Come and learn how to make our famous apple pies!

### **Baked Goods wanted for the day of the Apple Festival!**

Please consider baking something yummy (savory or sweet) to sell alongside our apple pies. You may drop off your baked goods starting Friday September 22. Please make sure the baked goods are wrapped to sell. We do not have the resources to accommodate wrapping of baked goods. (IE: breads, quick breads, cookies, cakes ... )

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### **New Start Ministry Is Getting Ready to Welcome a New Family.**

- ♦ On August 29th New Start Ministry expects to receive our next refugee family. This Afghan family has been living in Pakistan for several years as they went through the asylum process, first with the United Nations High Commissioner For Refugees and then with the U.S. Department of State. The husband is arriving with an SIV (special immigrant visa) which means that he helped our troops in Afghanistan prior to the Taliban take-over. Please consider helping us resettle this family of six.
- ♦ We are now working to lease a three bedroom residence for this family - two parents and four children. Will you help us furnish their new home? Please click on this link to support this new family:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0d4da4a62eabfa7-welcoming#/>

### **Check back as new items will be added soon.**

- ♦ When they arrive, our volunteers will pick the six family members up from the IRIS offices in New Haven. In addition to two volunteers and an interpreter, we will also need to transport the family's luggage to their new home in the Waterbury area (exact location TBA). It would be wonderful if we could borrow a 15 passenger van for that day. Do you know anyone, whether

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in your congregation or among your friends, who could help us on August 29th?

**Please let me know if you have a lead to a van that we can use on the arrival date at the email below.**

- Are you interested in volunteering to work with them as they create their new lives here in Connecticut? You can help by volunteering: Help finding employment, providing child care / babysitting, driving family members to appointments, and ESOL tutoring are some of the opportunities you will have as a New Start Ministry volunteer. If you have questions or wish to volunteer, please email me at [susan.e.suhr@gmail.com](mailto:susan.e.suhr@gmail.com).

Susan Suhr  
Founder and Co-Leader  
New Start Ministry

-Submitted by Jean Dunn



**IMPORTANT:** There will be NO parking at the Parsonage this year. Vendors will have special parking available to them, but **ALL** Apple Festival Volunteers must park at the Mountain Valley Equestrian Center up East Flat Hill Road from the Parish Hall. We are working on providing a shuttle service for everyone.