



No matter where you are on life's journey, YOU are welcome here!

## SOUTH BRITAIN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

June 09, 2021

### 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."*



**Dear Brothers and Sisters,**  
Happy Summer to one and all!

I wanted to talk about the word commission with you all. The dictionary defines it as: "The act of granting certain powers or the



authority to carry out a particular task or duty." I think sometimes we forget that we have been given such a thing. We have been given a mission, a task to be doing together, for which we have been given authority and powers to complete.

We see this commission in the scripture below. Sometimes it is called the "Great Commission." Jesus gives us the same authority given to Him to do tasks of His kingdom building.

What is our mission (if we choose to accept it)? It is to go and make disciples of every nation and baptize them in the name of God and to teach them to observe the ways Christ lived, loved, and died.

There are a few things that I love about this commission. I love that it does not say come but says go. Go and make disciples. We sometimes worry so much about who is coming to church, or that we need more young people, or more married people, or more of any kind of people to come. These things are important, but this commission says clearly that we are called to go. So, why do we get so concerned with coming? We should be going out to people, bringing the community of love to them wherever they are. When we

overly worry about who comes, it does us no good, but it should inspire us to go and find people and find fresh ways to share the good news of God's love with each of them. The other thing I love in this commission is it talks about teaching and discipleship. I think as a culture we do not understand discipleship, or that word has a lot of negative connotations now and the younger generation does not know the difference between disciple making and converting. A disciple is a follower of someone. It is a relationship, personal to the very core. When we say we are disciples of Christ, we mean that He is not just teacher, but the model by which we base our lives. Now I have tried but I have not come up with a better word than disciple (mentored?). The crucial thing is, no matter what we call it, people outside of here need to hear and see all the ways in which God has changed, helped, and improved our lives. If it is personal for us, then that gives more weight, means more than just empty words. These are the things that other people want to, and need to, observe in us. They do not need to hear that God loves them but shown that God loves them.

This is our mission, our commission. The best possible news is that Jesus has promised to give us all that we need to complete it, all the tools, words, and energy to do it. So, let us continue as a body to pursue these things and accept the mission and carry it to completion. Let us think about how we can continue to go and bring this news to the world.

Blessings to all!

*Pastor Malcolm*

*Matthew 28:18-20 <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me". <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*



*New Friends and Visitors: If you are interested in exploring joining South Britain Congregational, please reach out to Pastor Malcolm. [pastor@southbritainchurch.org](mailto:pastor@southbritainchurch.org)*

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## BIBLE STUDIES

Daytime bible study is every Tuesday at 1:00 pm and is open to all, even if you've never been before. We will meet in person in the Gathering Room, and Pastor Malcolm will send a Zoom link for those still wanting to participate in that manner. Evening bible study will be held the second and fourth Thursday at 7:00 pm, also in the Gathering Room. Pastor will also send a zoom link for that session for those who wish to participate in that manner. The next evening session will be June 10th in person. Please contact Pastor Malcolm if you wish to join either group.

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## *Apple Festival*

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I have already heard from a few volunteers who have selected their role(s) for the Apple Festival.

***Thank You!!!!***

We will need **MANY HANDS** to present our beloved Apple Festival this year. I am asking that **every person** take on some role this year, whether it be large or small; either before, during or after the event (Many of us joyfully do all three). There will surely be something for everybody! New ideas are welcome, too...



***Do not miss out on the opportunity to become a part of our success story this year!***

There are so many volunteer opportunities available to choose from! If you are already using One Church, you can see some of the many positions we will need to fill by following this link: [Serving Opportunities > Volunteering \(onechurchsoftware.com\)](#). You can even “sign up” on that page if you are feeling adventurous!

If you prefer the more personal approach, please contact me at [amybsmith1120@gmail.com](mailto:amybsmith1120@gmail.com) or give me a call at 203-509-5283 to let me know what you would like to help with this year (or to talk about your choices, or to offer ideas). I look forward to hearing from you!

The more we have in place early, the sooner we can begin. This will make our preparations so much easier!

-Thanks for all you do!  
Amy Smith

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## *Trustees*

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We would like to tell you a true story about a member of our congregation who has always used her pledge envelopes faithfully as a way not only to submit her weekly contributions, but also to keep track if she was behind after missing a week or two of services (she could tear off the envelopes for the missed weeks and know exactly what she would contribute that week to “catch up.”) She loved her system. It was simple. It was traditional.



### **It worked.**

Then along came One Church! So enthusiastic was this member about the switch to One Church (especially the online pledge contributions) that she even gave up her beloved envelope book, safe in the knowledge that she would never need it again; she could always see in her profile that she was on track toward meeting her pledge commitment. She knew she did not need to log into One Church to check her profile too often, because she was well ahead of her pledge goal.

However, soon thereafter, without even realizing it, she fell behind in her pledge contributions! As good luck would have it, one day she logged on and realized this. She updated her pledge contributions before the end of the fiscal year and breathed a sigh of relief.

## **THE END**

As we extend our grateful thanks for all the pledge commitments that have come in for the coming fiscal year, our financial leaders are working hard to wrap up our finances for the year that many of us would rather forget! Before we close the door (and our books) on 2020-21, it is important that we set ourselves up for success in the coming year. **LET'S FINISH STRONG!**

A number of factors have combined to leave us a bit short of our pledge income goal for this year. Physical separation, no passing of collection plates, the availability of **real-time** online pledge contributions and others have combined to leave our offerings less consistent, and our pledge income more unpredictable.

**THE MORAL OF THE STORY? We are asking that we all take a few moments to review our contributions toward our pledge commitments for the current fiscal year.** There will be families who will be unable to complete those commitments as a result of circumstances beyond their control this year. To the extent we are able, let's do our best to get our remaining pledge contributions in by June 30, 2021, and **FINISH STRONG!**

*Please contact Laurie Hornbecker at [lhornbecker@aol.com](mailto:lhornbecker@aol.com) if you have any questions about your current pledge year contributions.*

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## MUSIC

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### **A note from Ann,**

There have been many changes in the lives of the Ferraros over the past year, and many of them were unplanned and unexpected! We are soon to be retired, we sold two homes, and bought another. We weren't quite prepared for all of this happening in such rapid succession!

The result is that Dave and I will be moving to Osprey, Florida, in 2-3 months. We are so very sad to leave our beloved church that has been central to our lives for twenty years. At the same time, we're happy to be moving close to our son, Trevor, and his fiancée, Jenn. Our son, Tyler, will remain in CT and give us a reason to visit often!

Sadly, I won't be able to continue in my position as Director of Music Ministry. I will miss the Choir and Wayne, and all the wonderful musical experiences we have had. They will be in good hands with Wayne at the organ, and I trust that there is a great Music Director out there who will step in. Working with Pastor Malcolm has been an absolute joy. We are all so fortunate to have found him! SBCC will always be our home church. Now that we're online, we'll be able to keep up with the services from afar.

In the meantime, let's have a wonderful summer worshiping together. God has a plan for us all, even if we don't always know what he is up to! We'll always treasure our church family.



-Blessings and love,  
Ann

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## OPEN AND AFFIRMING

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Keep them coming! Thank you to the 46 people who have responded to our survey; we appreciate your time and your candor. If you haven't yet completed the survey, please do - we want to hear from as many people as possible.

We will be scheduling informational and Q&A sessions in July, so watch for announcements on the dates. We plan to hold these in the gathering room after church services.

June is **PRIDE** month in the LBGQTQIA+ community. As the bible tells us in Galatians 3:28 - "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."



We celebrate in June to coincide with the catalyst of the Gay Liberation Movement that was the Stonewall Uprising. In the early morning hours of June 28, 1969, police raided a popular gay bar in N.Y.C.'s West Village, The Stonewall Inn. This was commonplace for the time, but on this particular evening, the patrons of the bar fought back, starting the Stonewall Riots, which went on for days.

The Stonewall Inn was declared a historic landmark by the city of New York in 2015 and later named a national monument by President Barack Obama in 2016.

This June is the 51st anniversary of the first Pride parade, which happened in 1970, one year after the uprising.

*-Joe Simpson, Sue Torrey, Francesca Sergi, Judy Grimes, Cathy Somers*

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## OUTREACH

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**The month of June** is devoted to men. Father's Day is June 20<sup>th</sup> this year and Outreach has typically supported men's organizations and needs during June.

We are collecting new, packaged underwear and socks to donate to the St. Vincent de Paul shelter, along with men's toiletries (shaving cream, disposable razors, deodorant, fungal powder, etc.). A table will be in the gathering room, so if you are out and about, please consider picking up a few items to provide some dignity to those who need it so very much. I am sure Costco has jumbo packages of everything we need!



**Thank You!**

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Our May Diaper Drive was a big success! We delivered a supply of donated diapers to GWIM. Thanks to Richie (L) and Johnny (R) of GWIM for their help in happily unloading our delivery.



We also collected \$425 for GWIM to buy even MORE diapers.

*-Jodi Mitchell, Chris Dreton, Jeannie Mitchell, Char Moll, Lynn Plourde, Jean Dunn, JoAnn Bolin, and Cathy Somers*

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## CHURCH LIBRARY

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WE'RE ALMOST THERE!!

The SBCC Library Can Use Your Help -

The SBCC Library's Amazon Gift Registry is still open for anyone who would like to donate a book/magazine subscription to our Library. There are 47 book and magazine subscription choices averaging \$12-\$20 each. We've reached our half-way mark in donations! Using the link below, please take a look and when you see a book you would like to have in our Library, you can easily purchase it with the press of the button below. Books already purchased have the word "purchased" across the book. Your book/magazine choice will be sent directly to my attention at the church.

The books listed will help update our Library and will address many issues affecting all of us today. There is also a selection of fiction reading to add to our new "fiction" shelves and some wonderful children's books.

We're looking forward to having an up-to-date Library that our church members will enjoy using, but we need the new books and magazines to make it happen.

If you have any questions, or problems with the registry, don't hesitate to call or email me:

Chris Dreton

203-405-1052

[holly422@gmail.com](mailto:holly422@gmail.com)



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## *FLOWER COMMITTEE*

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If you would like to provide flowers for any upcoming services in honor of or in memory of someone, or for no occasion at all, please call Nancy in the office and let her know what Sunday you are interested in. She will let you know if the date is open and ask what you'd like printed in the bulletin. You can provide flowers from your garden, from a grocery store or from a florist. There are no requirements!

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## *FAITH FORMATION*

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As I sit on my deck, overlooking my backyard, all my senses kick in. I see lush trees towering above like a canopy. There is low greenery shielding and protecting many small insects. My window boxes are filled with yellow, orange, and purple flowers. There are tomatoes, peppers, and zucchini in their pots. Ralph's cast iron collection looks back at me. The sounds of a plane flying overhead, a dog barking, many species of birds singing and evening woodland creatures talking amongst themselves. I wonder what they are all saying.



The **smell** of the freshly cut grass makes me smile and sneeze. As the sun goes down behind the trees, the sky radiates with brilliant shades of red and orange. There is a slight **breeze** that cools the day down. The “peepers” sing a beautiful hymn with the bullfrogs next playing the bass. Tomorrow will bring different sights, smells, sounds and feelings as I thank God for his creation. Take the time each day no matter where you are and use the five senses you have to truly experience what’s around you.



*All things bright and beautiful  
All creatures great and small  
All things wise and wonderful  
The Lord God made them all.*

-Blessings to all,  
Ms. Krista

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Cindy Tolin, Director of Faith Formation at Naugatuck is offering a Vacation Bible School to surrounding churches. Cindy is a good friend and wonderful Faith Formation leader. If you have children, grandchildren or friends with children who may be looking for a summer program, please pass on the information. We have Registration Forms in the South Britain Office if you need one, or you can print out from the Buttons (Registration), (Volunteer) located alongside the Parishioner Post button.

**These are not the buttons, only a picture of what is located on initial email.**

Registration

Volunteer

Parishioners Post



## Vacation Bible School 2021

July 26—July 30  
9:00 am — 12 pm

The Congregational Church of Naugatuck

- 2021 Vacation Bible School hosted by The Congregational Church of Naugatuck will take place Mon., July 26th—Fri., July 30th, 9am-12 pm.
- We will be enrolling children entering Kindergarten in the Fall 2021 through Grade 5.
- Pre-registration is required and will close on July 16, 2021.
- Cost: \$40/child; \$35 each additional child from the same family; \$100 maximum per family.
- We will take donations during the week to help support this year's global mission.

If you have any questions, please call the church (203-729-3037) or contact Cindy Tolin ([faithformation@conganauug.org](mailto:faithformation@conganauug.org)). Send registration form and payment per child to The Congregational Church of Naugatuck, 9 Division Street, Naugatuck CT 06770.



ALL ABOARD!

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## The Garden

The SBCC garden is thriving. Radishes and lettuce have come into the sunlight. The tomatoes, zucchini, peppers, and onion measure a little taller. Plenty of water and loving care, and maybe some fertilizer working together. The cukes are a little flat from the heavy rain. Stay tuned for another update in the next PP.



-Blessings, Krista

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## *DEACONS*

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Pastor Malcolm's Installation Service will be held Sunday, June 13th @ 1 P.M. at the church, with a reception immediately following in the Gathering Hall. Invitations were extended to the entire church family and friends through Constant Contact and personal emails. Please come and celebrate this wonderful occasion.



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## *PROPERTY*

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Good news! The contract for parking lot repair and repaving has been signed. The drain basins have been ordered, but little will happen in the meantime until they are received. Therefore, please continue to be mindful of the sink hole in the parking lot and keep a good distance as it's much bigger than it looks. Look for progress and schedule updates through the summer as the work commences.

Thanks to all who participated in the Property Workday to clean windows/sills and install screens and Parish House A/C units.

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## NEWSY NUGGETS

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I just have to tell y'all: our SBCC property and grounds are simply beautiful! So well cared for by the Property folks and other volunteers -- really just a joy to behold and "be" in. Kudos to our Property folks, and many thanks for making SBCC such a bucolic, peaceful, welcoming corner of the world!



-submitted by Sue Torrey

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## THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

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- Judy
  - Francesca
  - Cathy
  - Rob Mitchell
  - Sue Naylor
  - Marge
  - Larry
  - Bert
  - Beryl
  - Continued prayers for Nancy G.
  - Darlene
  - Jean D.
  - Jim D.
  - Eva H.
  - Mike & Susan
  - Jerry Crane
  - Rutledge Family
  - George S.
  - Robert
  - Nancy M.
  - Dave
  - David
  - Jack
  - Caroline
  - Joseph
  - Eileen
  - Chad
  - Bert
  - Luke
- Joan & Ralph's granddaughter Jillian has fallen ill and currently in ICU so prayers for her speedy recovery.
  - All those serving this country in the armed forces and all veterans.
  - All those suffering with the effects of Covid-19, directly, indirectly, family, friends, all frontline workers, medical personnel, firefighters, & police.
  - Prayers for all victims of violence.
  - All those going in for medical procedures.
  - Prayers for those who have lost loved ones.

*Please help keep us informed of any changes to the prayer list. We are trying extremely hard to include everyone in need of our thoughts, and prayers, yet sometimes an omission occurs. We are sorry if this happens and will modify, resend, or include in the next publication. Please keep us updated as our intent is genuine. After one month on the list, we will remove names, but are happy to keep any on the list longer, just please let our church office know.*

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## BULLETIN BOARD

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If you would like to submit an article, birthday, anniversary, prayer request for the Parishioners Post please send us an email along with pictures to [sbcc.pr693@gmail.com](mailto:sbcc.pr693@gmail.com)

**NOTE:**

*If you know someone that is missing out on the Parishioners Post because they do not have access to email, please drop a note to Nancy so we might include them in our mailing. [sbcc\\_secretary@yahoo.com](mailto:sbcc_secretary@yahoo.com)*

- **JUNE BIRTHDAYS, and ANNIVERSARIES:**

*Please wish them a very "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" (we are using a new database for Birthdays, Anniversaries). If there are errors or omissions, please contact. [sbcc.pr693@gmail.com](mailto:sbcc.pr693@gmail.com)*

**JUNE:**

Craige Wilds	6	Robert Isbell	24
Maggie Lavoy	8	Scott Schaake	25
Michael Schaake	8	Kelly Lavoy	26
Robin Stiles	10	Wanda Isbell	27
Rick Warner	10	Janet Hansen	28
Sarai Wilds	10	Dave Blersch	29
Joyce Hornbecker	11	June Tschauder	29
Brad Lewis	13	June Bennett	30
Nathan Lewis	14	Magghie Warner (Rick's daughter, Seth's sister)	30
Jennifer Naylor	19		
Karen Zarcone	19		
Joseph Simpson	19		

**ANNIVERSARIES:** If you are celebrating an anniversary or birthday, please contact us at [sbcc.pr693@google.com](mailto:sbcc.pr693@google.com)

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A Service of Celebration of the Life of Gordon M. Morehouse will be held at South Britain Congregational Church on Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am, with a reception to follow in the Gathering Room. Mr. Morehouse passed away in January, but due to the pandemic, his service was postponed until now.



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*The Annual Meeting was held immediately following the church service on Sunday, June 6th. Copies of the report were emailed through Constant Contact to members, and hard copies were available at the meeting. There are a few copies available in the church office.*

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*Don't forget to join us on at 10:00am Father's Day June 20th at the Bent in the River for a special Worship Service. The service will include Jacob Krauss, Somers NY. Jacob will play the guitar, during "Morning Has Broken, and Amazing Grace", as well as provide other improvisations. Don't forget to bring lawn chairs, and consider an umbrella if inclement weather*