



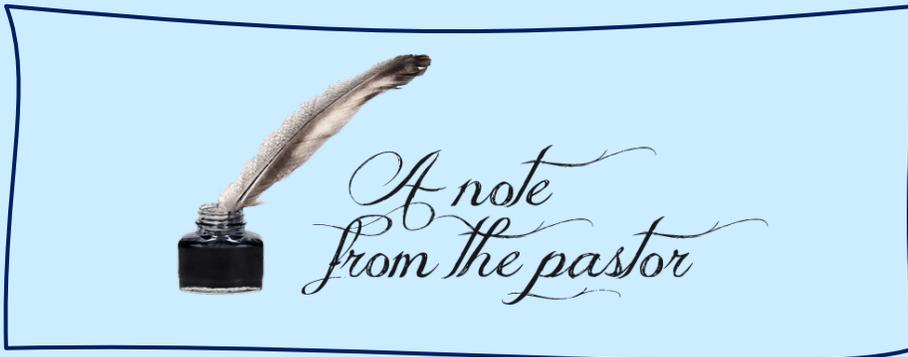
No matter where you are on life's journey, YOU are welcome here!

SOUTH BRITAIN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

January 26, 2022

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 Church Family,

Duck...Duck... Goose!!!

We all (hopefully) remember that game. The kids all sit in a circle with one chosen to be the one who goes methodically around the circle patting the tops of heads (gently). Then, when the time is right, after saying "duck" over and over, choosing someone to be the goose. That is when the wildness starts, and the chase ensues. The anticipation as each child



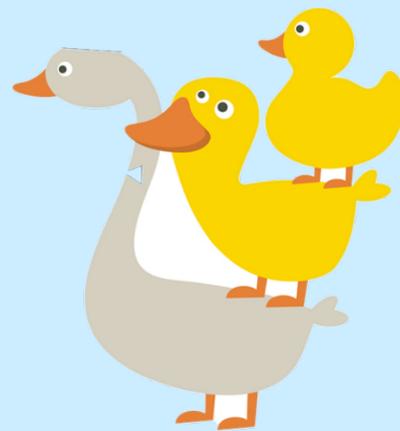
waits, hoping or maybe not hoping to be chosen, makes it a game that will last forever.

I am here to let you know that in the grand game of "duck, duck goose," the spiritual edition, God has patted you on the head and said "Goose!" We are called into action. The scripture below from the gospel of Luke makes it very clear that our life of faith is not sedentary or passive, but we are all called into the game. We are called to bring good news to the poor (both monetarily and spiritually poor). We are called to let people know that the things that hold them back no longer have power over them. God's love has set them free. Today is the day that we can know and go deeper into God's love. We can know the truth that God loves us right now. God loves us, not who we could be or can be, but who we are. This is the favor that the scripture talks about. God is with us and not against us.

There is no better time than now and no better place than here to keep letting the world know the good news that we have found.

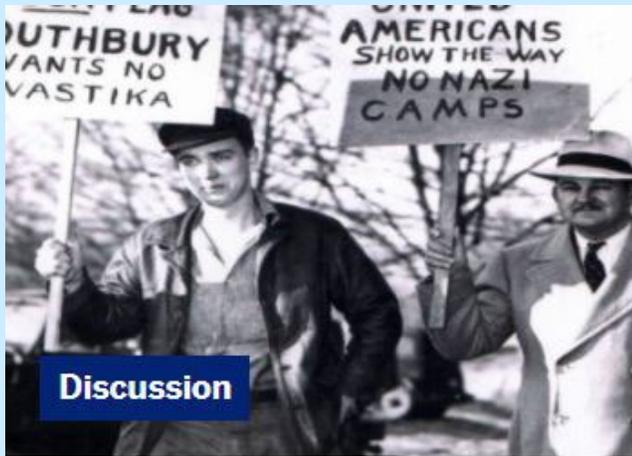
Blessings,

Pastor Malcolm



Luke 4:18-19

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."



**Defiance in Connecticut:
"When Southbury Said No"**



We, as a church, are partnering with the Jewish Heritage Museum as they host a virtual event called: Defiance In Connecticut: "When Southbury Said No." This event will be **Tuesday, April 26, 2022, at 2:00 PM.**

Here is the link for more information and how to sign up if you would like to attend virtually.

Donations are accepted.

<https://mjhnyc.org/events/defiance-in-connecticut-when-southbury-said-no/>



Bible Study

- **Daytime Bible Study** is every **Tuesday at 1:00 pm** and **Evening Bible Study** is held the **second and fourth Thursday at 7:00 pm.** Questions? Contact Pastor Malcolm.

- Our next **Loom Service** will be **Tuesday, February 8th**. It is to be determined if it will be in person or will be filmed and offered online as the January 11th service was.
- Our **Loss and Grief Group** led by Pastor Malcolm will hold their next meeting on **Wednesday, February 9th, 9:30**, in the Library in the Parish Hall.

-Outreach-



Our January 23 Sandwich Brigade went off without a hitch! Thank you to all our volunteers: Jodi Mitchell, Krista Judson, Tracy Watson, Pam Butler, Ann Walters, Barbara Ryner, Kathy Sue Roberts, JoAnn Bolin, Mary Sullivan, and Judy Grimes. A special thank you to our delivery person, Lainie Jedlinsky.



Guess What! We need MORE volunteers for our February Sandwich Brigade. Supply Bags will be ready to be picked up in the Gathering Room on Thursday, February 24 after 10:30 and should be returned Sunday Morning before church on February 27. Please let Chris Dreton know if you can help out - we need ten volunteers. You can reach Chris at 203-405-1052 or by email: holly422@gmail.com



Outreach's peanut butter and jam cabinet is running low on supplies - especially JAM. We have until the end of February to build up our supplies, so please don't forget us when you're doing your food shopping. Creamy Peanut Butter and Jam can be left in front of the green cabinet in the far-left corner of the Gathering Room. Thank you ahead of time for your generosity.



Winter temperatures have arrived so let's remember our neighbors who need our help to heat their homes. Our **January Outreach Offering** is for the **Southbury Fuel Bank** which assists Southburians with purchasing heating oil. The SFB is a non-profit organization, so it is fully funded by donations.

Please remember our obligation to our shelf at the **Southbury Food Bank** and bring in some creamed soups and chowders. FYI, Shoprite has an excellent sale this week on Progresso Soups, 10/\$10!



Calling All Football Fans!!



Begin saving your soup cans now to vote for your favorite team (or your favorite team of the teams that are playing) in **SBCC's Souper Bowl** coming on **February 13th!** A display will be set up and each team's votes will be determined by the number of cans of soup that are donated in their name.



This is a picture from one of our past Souper Bowls. Interestingly enough, it could end up being the same two teams!!!

-FAITH FORMATION-

What a wonderful Advent season we had with the children. Lots of creativity, crafts, and thoughtful discussions.

As we leave Epiphany, we look forward to our new curriculum, All-in-One Sunday School, starting in February and the upcoming Lenten season.

If you are interested in joining or leading a Sunday school session, please contact Krista to coordinate.

Blessings to all,

*The Faith Formation Team
May God Be Our Guiding Light*



Dear God,

If I gave all my love away..., could I have a refill?

"The grape jelly jar only holds so much, until your spoon clanks around inside, and you have to settle for just peanut butter on your sandwich. But that's not the way it is with love. You can keep pouring and spreading it all over the place, treating people nice from now till next January, and still have more than enough love left to spare. So go ahead. Love somebody."

A friend loveth at all times. Proverbs 17:17

Blessings to all,

-Miss Krista

-CHURCH LIBRARY-

Our Church Library has a nice selection of magazines which can now be borrowed for one week. Just sign them out as you would a book, using the sign-out book on the table. Help yourself to Soujourners, Christian Living, Guideposts, Garden Gate, Yankee Magazine. It's your Library, so please stop by and enjoy it for a few minutes, an hour, all day.

-FROM OUR CHURCH FAMILY-

Acts of Kindness Continue:

On December 26th, I was returning home and passed a gentleman carrying two grocery bags and a gallon of milk. I don't usually pick up people I don't know, but it was cold, so I turned around and asked him if he would like a ride. He accepted and introduced himself. He told me where he lived. The little house he rents is located not far from my home. We had a nice talk. He thanked me for my kindness. Last Sunday, as I was driving up my road after church, he had his shopping bags headed to town. We again had a nice ride together to ShopRite. Before he got out of my car, I handed a gift card that I received for Christmas. I said please accept this card and use it towards what you need. As he got out of my car, he said bless you. I look forward to our next encounter.



The following article by Shannon Hicks appeared January 19, 2022, in the Newtown Bee. Way to go Betty Presnell!

Another Donation from Presnell's Ongoing Bottle & Can Drive



Newtown resident Betty Presnell visited the Sandy Hook Volunteer Fire & Rescue main station recently when she made her latest donation thanks to an ongoing bottle and can drive.

On January 6, Presnell presented \$500 to SHVFR Chief Bill Halstead. Presnell was joined for the donation by her son Michael, who often goes with her to turn in the bottles and cans that residents have been providing for over a year and a half.

While she is the one making the donations, Presnell is quick to tell those receiving donated funds that "it's a lot bigger than me."

Presnell [began the drive in July 2020](#) to make up for funds lost after the pandemic forced the cancellation of that summer's Annual Tag & Bake Sale presented by Nunnawauk Meadows Residents Association, of which she was president.

Presnell made a request that month for returnable bottles and cans on the Buy Nothing Newtown (BNN) Facebook page. That first post alone generated at least 50 responses, and the collection was launched. BNN members offered donations by the bagful, some even offering as many as four 50-gallon bags filled with bottles and cans ready for redemption. Nineteen months later, the donations continue, and so does Presnell. As she receives bottles and cans to turn in, she keeps track of every receipt, often sharing photos on Buy Nothing Newtown and thanking those who provided the bottles and cans.

The funds collected are put into envelopes each time she visits a redemption center. They are never put into a personal account, so when Presnell donates to organizations, the recipients are given all of those separate envelopes filled with currency.

The ongoing drive has raised the initial \$1,500 sought to cover the Nunnawauk Meadows event, more than \$5,000 through [multiple donations to FAITH Food Pantry](#), and \$500 donations to [Newtown Volunteer Ambulance Corps](#) and Families United in Newtown, among others.

To add to the drive, contact Presnell through Facebook Messenger.

Donations can also be left at her home, 1D Nunnawauk Meadows. From Nunnawauk Road, use the entrance to the west of the community building (second entrance from Mile Hill Road South when traveling east on Nunnawauk Road). At the gazebo, look toward the right (east-southeast) for the unit marked 1D.

Associate Editor Shannon Hicks can be reached at shannon@thebee.com.



The following article by Jay Dunn was published January 15, 2022, in the [Republican-American](#) about GWIM (Greater Waterbury Interfaith Ministries). It is a ministry that SBCC continues to support through many different Outreach

projects, and we wanted to share the news about them and their work in Connecticut. (Submitted by Jodi Mitchell)

A hot meal: GWIM continues to help people in time of need despite pandemic



Regina Stubbs gets off the bus just after the sun comes up. It's a routine for her, one she's been doing since 2007. She's the part-time chef at Greater Waterbury Interfaith Ministries soup kitchen, food pantry and resource center at 770 East Main St.

Five days a week, hot meals can be picked up from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. On Saturday and Sunday, bag lunches are available with sandwiches, desserts, cereal, juice boxes and milk. Each Monday from 9 to 10 a.m., guests also can pick up food items, warm clothes, and other donations sorted and presented outside by staff.

For families, emergency food pantry items are available the last Monday of the month from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Stubbs' workday begins hauling pork loins out of a freezer. Part-time staffer Kassene Taylor arrives to help bring in bags of cabbage, sacks of potatoes and whatever else Stubbs needs.

"She's phenomenal," said Barbara Ann Dublin, executive director of GWIM. "Her heart is into preparing a gourmet hot meal every day for our beautiful people. This is probably

the only hot meal they will get all day. So, she takes pride in it.”

GWIM predates the pandemic by generations. Founded in 1933 by the Waterbury Area Council of Churches, GWIM was incorporated as a nonprofit in 1954. Over the years, the organization has had several headquarters, including St. John’s Episcopal Church. The needs it addresses have been on the increase since the pandemic, staff observations and data from social service agencies suggest.

Stubbs feeds all she can. During a recent morning, her menu included jerk pork, regular roast pork, sweet potatoes, cabbage, carrots, and rice. She offered meatballs as an alternative. For desserts,

GWIM counts on the generosity of businesses including Sweet Maria’s, Stop & Shop, ShopRite, and Panera Bread. There is usually plenty to go around.

“I grew up in Brooklyn, in a household of nine, Mom, Pop, six other siblings,” Stubbs said. “My mother and father were both very good cooks. My dad was a cook in the Army, and my mother grew up in North Carolina. The only thing I don’t do is bake. We never grew up on boxed or canned stuff.

Everything was homemade, pancakes and such. We were very fortunate to grow up in a household where our palates were always tested. I have a 21-year-old son, and he’s open to anything.”

GWIM serves between 100 and 150 families, Dublin said. Before COVID-19, those in need could sit inside to eat their hot meals. Now, thanks to a big takeout window donated by Marino’s Waterbury Glass, people receive their meals to go. Housed in an unassuming structure that used to be Begnal’s Brown Derby bar, the long, thin building has a newly renovated industrial kitchen on the first floor, modest inside storage, and several small rooms. There are apartments on the second and third floors.

Around back, a large, secure refrigeration unit with two doors is packed with frozen food and perishable items. Behind this unit, a double-wide trailer houses a full pantry of meticulously organized shelf-stable food. These donations

have been date-checked and categorized by nutritional value so families can choose for themselves what they need. Dublin is GWIM's only full-time employee. She counts on Stubbs, a small but loyal squad of volunteers, and several other part-time staffers from Maturity Works, a U.S. Department of Labor training and job readiness program for adults aged 55 and older.

It's a busy kitchen. Pinki Chillemi peeled carrots and chopped cabbage alongside Stubbs. She has volunteered at GWIM once a week for six years.

Keith Weston volunteers, performs repairs, and fills in as cook for Regina on her days off. He sliced pork loin and served containers with vegetables. Tariq Campbell, Stubbs's son, sorted desserts and served them at the takeout window. As dinner comes together, a line forms outside for food pantry items. A staffer sits outside, checking each person in and providing newcomers with a confidential intake form. Statistics from the forms are required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. To receive Community Development Block Grant funds, every social service agency must provide their numbers.

Miguel Navarro said he has been coming to GWIM to eat most days for about a year. He also uses the pantry.

"I have liked this place for a long time," he said. "The people are nice."

The intake assessment helps establish what new clients need. GWIM can provide access to StayWell health professionals, legal aid services, and consultations on filing for Social Security and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits.

Director Dublin seems to know everyone: Some are out of work, or down on their luck. People are welcomed no matter how many times they come. Not everyone wants to talk about their circumstances, and there is no requirement to do so to get help.

Murlene Goorbhajandass sings Barbara's praises. "She is like family," said Goorbhajandass, for whom Dublin found a frozen chicken instead of a turkey. Her kids and their children

live in New York. Goorbhajandass is cooking for just herself and her husband. She's trying to make ends meet, so she took home bananas and fresh vegetables in addition to the chicken.

Dublin said her strategy is to establish a relationship of trust first.

"What I respect about the guests that use our services," she said, "is that they feel comfortable and confident enough if they come to me ... or any staff member, if they are diabetic, they just got out of the hospital, they need something special, we will have it for them. If I don't have it for them right now, in the next hour they'll have it. We have to accommodate everyone in need."

"GWIM is a good organization to work for. Not only that, you're helping people" Stubbs said, relaxing after serving the results of her labor. She met Dublin at her other job, as a case manager at the Salvation Army.

Dublin saw her cooking at the shelter there and suggested she work for the soup kitchen. Stubbs recalled her response: "I don't know, I think I got enough problems here.

"So, I went and spent the day with them, and I never left. You get stuck when you come here," Stubbs said, smiling.

History

Founded in 1933 by the Waterbury Area Council of Churches, GWIM was incorporated as a nonprofit in 1954. Over the years, the organization has had several headquarters, including St. John's Episcopal Church. Today it is at 770 E. Main St., Waterbury, or call 203-757-7734.

SOUP KITCHEN: Hot meals for pickup from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday to Friday. Nutritious bag lunches are available for pickup on weekends at the same times. For Sunday serving information, call 203-757-7734. Meals also can be picked up at St. Vincent DePaul's Soup Kitchen at 327 Baldwin St. Monday to Sunday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Breakfast is available from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

FOOD PANTRY: Four days of food is supplied to individuals and families once a month, available as supply allows. To donate food, receive food, or request information, call 203-756-2830.

RESOURCE CENTER: Counseling and outreach services designed by social workers to meet immediate and long-range needs. Services include nutrition, healthy lifestyle counseling, employment referrals, and case management for alcohol, substance abuse, and domestic abuse.

SNAP FOOD STAMP OUTREACH: Prescreening offered to qualified recipients of Social Security and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. All help is bilingual and confidential.

-by Jay Dunn



-THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

- Lisa
- Sally H.
- Sylvia S.
- Richard B.
- Richard M.
- Audrey S.
- Joanne P.
- Mary S.
- Mr. Gerund
- Ray
- Linda M.
- Cheryl
- Michele F.
- Diane
- Rita
- Jeff
- Andrew
- John
- Nora
- Renee
- John
- Chrissy
- Rev. Peter Meister
- Larry S.
- Jennifer G.
- Andy S.
- Peter C.
- Jean H.
- Tiernan
- Leon Saddler
- Sandy
- Cathy
- Brenda
- Bob Harrison
- Eva H.
- Debbie's Sister-In-Law
- Luke
- Darlene
- David
- Robert
- Joyce H.
- George S.
- Richard
- Jack

- We join the families in mourning the recent losses of David Dalton, Nancy Maher, June Tschauder and Ed Wildman.
- Forest and Sky Dzienis following their recent loss.
- The Family of Rachel Piller (Char's Mom).
- Mary Sullivan's nephew.
- Many families who have lost loved ones in this season.



January	Faith Kuehn (Josephine Blersch daughter)	2
	Jeffrey Thomas	3
	Jodi Mitchell	6
	Lainie Jedlinsky	7
	Betty Presnell	8
	Joseph Naylor	13
	John Potz, Jr.	13
	Phil Valenti (Marti Swift's son in law)	16
	Michelle Dahl	19
	Jared Isbell	19
	Andrew Dahl	20
	Kevin Sullivan (Bob and Harriet Harrison's son in law)	20
	Linda Long	25
	Susan Mahoney	28
	Jillian Cody (Ralph Kubista's granddaughter)	29

February		
	James Hartman	2
	Jonah Locke	2
	Linda Perry	4
	Jake Barbieri and Madison Barbieri (Margie Nichols Great-grandchildren; Madison severely compromised)	8
	Ben Stiles	14
	Sarah Stiles (Ben and Sharon's daughter)	14
	Virginia (Ginny) Geils	10
	Wayne Gunther	11
	Meghan Smith	11
	Ian Lowell	12
	Nanch Maher	14
	Charlene (Char) Moll	15
	Jason Troy	18
	Joan Griffith	20
	Diane Hynd	21
	Ricardo Cruz	23
	Bambi Englemen	23
	Kristi Lavoy	23
	Bert deForest	24
	Don Lang III	24
	Lissa Pine	25
	Brian Schaake	26

Calendar

Every Week

- Sundays: Worship, 10:00 a.m., Coffee Hour, 11:00 a.m.
- Mondays: Dance, 4 – 6 p.m.
- Tuesdays: Knit-Wits, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Daytime Bible Study, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.
- Fridays: AA Meeting, 6 – 9 p.m.

Every Month

- 2nd & 4th Mondays Submissions to Parishioner's Post
- 2nd Tuesdays Loom Service, 7 p.m.
- 4th Tuesdays Council, 7:15 p.m.
- 1st Wednesday Stewardship
- 2nd Wednesday Loss & Grief Group, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
- 2nd & 4th Wednesdays Parishioner's Post Emailed
- 3rd Sunday Deacons (Following Services)
- 1st Thursday Property, 7 p.m.
- 2nd Thursday ONA, 10 a.m.
- 2nd & 4th Thursdays PR Committee Meeting, 11 a.m.
- 2nd & 4th Thursdays Evening bible Study, 7 p.m.
- 3rd Wednesdays Trustees, 7 p.m.
- Ladies Group Dinner "Girls Night Out" Dates TBD monthly

Upcoming Events:

SBCC's Cub Scout Troop 162 will be having their Pinewood Derby on **January 29th in our Parish Hall. This is a yearly event. South Britain has been the charter organization for Scouts for the past two years.**

The Judson Jazz will be playing at Aquila's Nest Winery on **January 30th at 2:30. Come and enjoy the music with a glass of wine. Reserve your table now at aquilasnestvineyards.com or call (203)-518-4352. Aquila Nest Winery, 56 Pole Bridge Rd., Newtown CT.**





Take a step toward staying Healthy & Active with **Lifeline Screening** coming to South Britain Congregational Church on **Tuesday, February 8, 2022**. To register for your appointment please call 1-888-653-6450 or visit <https://llsa.social/HSC> .



Save \$50 off all summer registrations made in the month of January using code: **EARLY22** .

Learn more about **Summer Camp at Silver Lake**, view the 2022 summer brochure, and look through the upcoming sessions upcoming sessions at <https://www.silverlakeect.org/summercamp>
[Silver Lake Camp & Retreat Center](#)

A Ministry of the [Southern New England Conference UCC](#)

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