

# THE CRIER



*A voice cries out in the wilderness, "Prepare the way of the Lord!"* Isaiah 40:3

## The Second Baptist Church

Adult Education & Kids for Christ 9 am  
Worship & Sunday School 10 am  
100 North Main St, Suffield, CT 06078



The Baptist  
Peace Fellowship

## Save the Date! SBC Annual Meeting Sunday, January 26, 2020 Immediately following Worship



### Advent with Our Friends from First Congregational Church

Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> is the second Sunday of Advent and we have a wonderful opportunity to share in food, fellowship and worship with our friends from First Congregational Church. For many years, First Congregational has hosted an **Advent Breakfast** on the second Sunday of Advent and this year,

because of the major construction ongoing in their building, they are inviting us to join them in the Fellowship Hall of Second Baptist. The breakfast begins at 8:30 and concludes at 9:30 am. Please contact the Church office if you plan to attend – [Office@secondbaptistsuffield.org](mailto:Office@secondbaptistsuffield.org).

Following the breakfast at 10:00 am, the two congregations will unite in our Sanctuary to worship together, lighting the first two candles on the Advent wreath, singing Advent and Christmas carols, praying together, hearing the music of our two congregations' choirs and we may even receive a visit from John the Baptist whose message is to "Prepare." Join us.



### Deadlines

**Weekly CRIER:** Thursdays at 10 am  
**January-February CRIER:** Monday, December 16th

**Annual Reports (Not including the Financials):**  
Sunday, December 1st

### VOLUME XXXIV No. 11

DECEMBER 2019

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## SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEERS

### December Flower Rep.: Bev Sikes

#### December 1, Advent Week I

**Ushers: TEAM B:** Art Sikes, RC Hubbard,  
Greg Bassos & Michael Hubbard

**Worship Leader:** Peg Carr

**Nursery Volunteer:** Sue Sheiber

**Fellowship Time:** Available

**Flowers:** Available

#### December 8, Advent Week II

**Ushers: TEAM C:** Tucker Killam, Walt Malec,  
Barry Sisk, & David Burnaford

**Worship Leader:** Howard Beal

**Nursery Volunteer:** Heather Piezchala

**Fellowship Time:** Available

**Flowers:** Bob & Gail Davis

#### December 15, Advent Week III

**Ushers: TEAM D:** Bob Davis , Jim Grant,  
Derek Burnaford & Laurie Gokey

**Worship Leader:** Scott Schneider

**Nursery Volunteer:** Mary Nelsen

**Fellowship Time:** Available

**Flowers:** Becki Fuller

#### December 22, Advent Week IV

**Ushers: TEAM A:** Howard Beal, Richard Rinaldi,  
Kaden Rinaldi & Jacob Quinn

**Worship Leader:** David Jones

**Nursery Volunteer:** Kirsten Johannassen

**Fellowship Time:** Available

**Arrangement:** POINSETTIAS

#### December 29

**Ushers: TEAM B:** Art Sikes, RC Hubbard,  
Greg Bassos & Michael Hubbard

**Worship Leader:** Tina Berrien

**Nursery Volunteer:** Sarah Hubbard

**Fellowship Time:** Available

**Flowers:** Available



## About Our Community

- ♥ **Gail Orr** passed away on November 11th. Her memorial service was held at SBC on November 15th.
- ♥ **Virginia Hoyle** passed away on November 19.



**Congratulations to  
Jamie and Justin Drenzek  
on the birth of their son,  
Jakob Scott,  
who was born on November 12th.  
Jakob is the first grandchild of  
Nancy and Michael Drenzek.**

**Christmas  
Concert**

**Saturday,  
December 14, 2019  
3:00 PM**

**Snow Date: December 15**

**Second Baptist Church  
100 N. Main St., Suffield, CT**

*Featuring:*  
Hall High School Choraliars  
Suffield High School Chamber Ensemble  
Suffield Middle School Elite Voices  
Suffield Middle School Holiday Ensemble  
SBC Hand bell Choir, Sanctuary Choir,  
SBC Singers

**Freewill Offering to Benefit the Suffield Fuel Bank**



As I write these words, Thanksgiving is a few days away and the season of Advent is nearly here. Christmas is coming! And Christmas is my favorite time of year. I say that it's my favorite time of year for many reasons; one in particular. The season of Advent and the approach to the celebration of the birth of Jesus is a time when the possibility for real peace and the desire to work towards addressing critical problems in the world is in the air. There are multiple problems and crises we face – individually, in personal relationships, as a nation, as a global community. For many, some of these problems seem to be “intractable,” seemingly beyond the capacity to address in any meaningful manner. But during this season of expectation and hope, there is always something “in the air” that opens us up to a sense of something coming, the possibility for a “new creation,” using biblical imagery, a chance for God’s reign to shine through. Anxiety and despair may continue to linger but the hope that there is a way to the deepest hungers of the heart, finds expression in the birth of the Child who is peace and whose Way is love.

The poem, “Amazing Peace: A Christmas Poem,” by the late Maya Angelou says it so well (it’s long but very well worth your read):

Thunder rumbles in the mountain passes  
 And lightning rattles the eaves of our houses.  
 Flood waters await us in our avenues.  
 Snow falls upon snow, falls upon snow to avalanche  
 Over unprotected villages.  
 The sky slips low and grey and threatening.  
 We question ourselves.  
 What have we done to so affront nature?  
 We worry God.  
 Are you there? Are you there really?  
 Does the covenant you made with us still hold?

Into this climate of fear and apprehension, Christmas enters,  
 Streaming lights of joy, ringing bells of hope  
 And singing carols of forgiveness high up in the bright air.  
 The world is encouraged to come away from rancor,  
 Come the way of friendship.  
 It is the Glad Season.

Thunder ebbs to silence and lightning sleeps quietly in the corner.  
 Flood waters recede into memory.  
 Snow becomes a yielding cushion to aid us  
 As we make our way to higher ground.  
 Hope is born again in the faces of children  
 It rides on the shoulders of our aged as they walk into their sun-  
 sets.

Hope spreads around the earth. Brightening all things,  
 Even hate which crouches breeding in dark corridors.

In our joy, we think we hear a whisper.  
 At first it is too soft. Then only half heard.  
 We listen carefully as it gathers strength.  
 We hear a sweetness.  
 The word is Peace.

It is loud now. It is louder.  
 Louder than the explosion of bombs.  
 We tremble at the sound. We are thrilled by its presence.  
 It is what we have hungered for.  
 Not just the absence of war. But, true Peace.

A harmony of spirit, a comfort of courtesies.  
 Security for our beloveds and their beloveds.  
 We clap hands and welcome the Peace of Christmas.  
 We beckon this good season to wait a while with us.  
 We, Baptist and Buddhist, Methodist and Muslim, say come.  
 Peace.

Come and fill us and our world with your majesty.  
 We, the Jew and the Jainist, the Catholic and the Confucian,  
 implore you to stay awhile with us  
 so we may learn by your shimmering light  
 how to look beyond complexion and see community.  
 It is Christmas time, a halting of hate time.

On this platform of peace, we can create a language  
 to translate ourselves to ourselves and to each other.  
 At this Holy Instant, we celebrate the Birth of Jesus Christ  
 Into the great religions of the world.

We jubilate the precious advent of trust.  
 We shout with glorious tongues the coming of hope.  
 All the earth’s tribes loosen their voices to celebrate  
 the promise of  
 Peace.

We, Angels and Mortals, Believers and Nonbelievers,  
 Look heavenward and speak the word aloud.  
 Peace.

We look at our world and speak the word aloud.  
 Peace.

We look at each other, then into ourselves,  
 And we say without shyness or apology or hesitation:  
 Peace, My Brother.  
 Peace, My Sister.  
 Peace, My Soul

Peace.

*Tom*

Tom





## A Suffield Holiday Music Tradition Continues

By Tina Berrien

The Second Baptist Church of Suffield is pleased to announce its Annual Community Christmas Concert. This annual event will take place Saturday, December 14th at 3:00 pm at the church at 100 N. Main Street – so plan to come for some fantastic music and a great time with your neighbors!

The Community Christmas Concert has become a town tradition throughout the past several years and will once again be coordinated by the Director of Music Ministries, Evelyne Battle. Expect additional local musicians, vocalists, and school groups to share their talents with the town during this event to celebrate the Christmas season. While there is no cost to attend the concert, there will be a free-will offering to benefit the Fuel Bank administered by the Suffield Emergency Aid Association.

2019 marks the sixteenth year Second Baptist has hosted the Community Concert. Attendees will be treated to performances from a wide variety of musical groups and individuals of all ages from Suffield and the surrounding area. The musical lineup changes every year making every concert unique and special. What has remained constant is the amazing music talent in Suffield and the surrounding communities.

The Second Baptist Sanctuary Choir, Handbell Choir, and the SBC Singers will be among the musical groups featured in the concert this year. They will be joined by special guest groups including performers from the various Suffield schools. Jean Aldrich-Jones will accompany the Second Baptist vocal choirs.

As always, the most popular group to be featured has always been the assembled audience! It has become a tradition for everyone to join in and sing familiar carols throughout the concert. Very few - if any - concerts feature "The Twelve Days of Christmas" as performed at this event. Anyone who has attended this show can attest to the enthusiasm and joy this especially interactive piece promotes - you need to come experience it for yourself.

The community spirit continues after the concert when all are invited to a reception of light refreshments in the Church's Fellowship Hall. The reception offers everyone the opportunity of visiting with each other as well as the various performers.

Come join your friends and neighbors for an afternoon of Christmas music, cheer, friendship, and fun.



## Christmas Baskets

As we continue through the holiday season, Second Baptist will be supporting 5 Suffield families through Suffield Community Aid's holiday basket

drive. We will be providing food, paper goods, and gifts for the families we will be sponsoring. All items are due by Sunday, December 15th. If you choose, you can also donate tape and wrapping paper for the families. The food and paper goods can be left in the Missions Room in the old wing of the Church. Any gifts can be left in the office (unwrapped please).

### Items needed:

- Coffee/Tea
- Hot Chocolate
- Tuna
- Gravy
- Stuffing
- Soup
- Cereal
- Cranberry Sauce
- 3 Cans of Vegetables
- 3 Cans of Fruit
- Potatoes
- Bread/Rolls
- Jelly
- Peanut butter
- Mac & Cheese
- Pasta/Spaghetti
- Pasta Sauce
- Mayo
- Laundry Detergent
- Dish Detergent
- Paper Towels
- Napkins
- Bath Tissue
- Kleenex



Stop by the Christmas tree  
in the  
Welcome Center and check  
out 24 days of kindness!



**Mark your calendars for these  
upcoming Advent/Christmas  
services and events:**

A **Christmas Workshop** will be held on **Sunday, December 1st at 12:00 pm**. This is for all ages and is an opportunity to create crafts and decorations for family and friends.

The **First Baptist Church Carol-Sing** will be **Sunday, December 8th at 4:00 pm** at the historic First Baptist Church.

The **15th annual SBC Christmas Concert** will take place in the Sanctuary on **Saturday, December 14th at 3:00 pm**. The SBC musical groups will be joined by special guest choirs from Suffield High School, Middle School and other groups. Invite your friends, neighbors, family and join us.

**Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm**, the annual **Community-Wide "Blue Christmas Service"** will be held at First Congregational Church. This service is a time of remembrance for those who have lost loved ones over the past year and/or to mark significant events. Names of loved ones will be read and families and friends are invited to light a candle in their memory.

On **Sunday, December 22nd following worship**, we will be gathering in Fellowship Hall to go **Christmas caroling at the homes** of several of our church family members who are not able to get out during the holiday season. Everyone is invited.

Join us on **Christmas Eve** for a **Christmas Pageant at 5:00 pm**. Kids of all ages are welcome to participate in the program. If children and youth play an instrument and would like to play in the service, please contact Sue Schneller.

A **Christmas Eve Candlelight service** will be held at 10:00 pm in the Sanctuary, a wonderful celebration of the birth of Christ in our beautiful candle-lit Sanctuary. We will light the Christ candle and pass the light as we sing "Silent Night."



**Saturday November 30th  
Annual Tree Lighting & Festivities**

*Time: 4:00 pm-7:00 pm*

**Suffield Town Green**

From 4:00 – 7:00 - Horse Drawn Carriage Rides, Ice Carver Demonstrations, Hot Chocolate, Cookies & Treats, Holiday Music provided by a Professional DJ, McAlister Middle Schools' Elite Voices Choir & Around Town Carolers, Decorated Fire Truck, Special Guest Appearance: Santa Claus \* Tree Lighting is at 5:00!

**Bissell's Meeting House Restaurant – 82 N. Main St**

From 4:00 – 7:00 "Soup Sampling". Come in and try delicious soups to stay warm!

**River Valley Animal Center 616 South St.**

From 4:00-5:00 – Complimentary Pet Photos with Santa Claus! Free Nail Trim

**Kent Memorial Library 50 N Main St**

From 5:00 – 7:00 – Holiday Craft Workshop & Refreshments, 5:30-6:00 Face Painting, 5:30-6:30: "Time Was, A Cappella Trio" Jazz / Show Tunes

**2nd Baptist Church Common Room 100 N Main St.**

From 4:00 – 7:00- Friends of Suffield Hosting a Holiday Vendor Sale, Family Arts & Crafts "make your own Holiday Ornament" to place on the Holiday Tree on the Town Green. Make a Reindeer Necklace hosted by the Suffield Girl Scouts.

**Three Figs – 94 Mountain Rd**

"Happy Hour Specials" running ALL Day!

**Parking:**

Suffield Senior Center – FREE Shuttle to the Town Green

2nd Baptist Church and the south part of High Street  
Bissell's Meeting House

Highland Park Market / Kent Memorial Library

Three Figs

## Congregational Meeting December 29, 2019

A special congregational meeting of the Second Baptist Church of Suffield is being called for on Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup> immediately following morning worship at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary.

The purpose of the meeting is to consider and act on two matters. One, to welcome and affirm the members and friends of the Enfield American Baptist Church (EABC) into mutual ministry with our congregation beginning Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020. After 55 years as a congregation, EABC will hold their final worship service on Christmas Eve, 2019 at 5:00 pm and a “celebration of ministry” on December 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. At this time, the Reverend Dr. Rachael Lawrence pastor of the EABC will formally conclude. EABC and Second Baptist Church (SBC) will remain separate legal entities for at least the first six months following this joint venture to provide time to discern what needs to happen with the EABC church site and any other legal matters.

The second matter relates to the pastoral ministry of SBC and EABC. The Reverend Thomas Carr has proposed to share leadership with the Reverend Dr. Lawrence. Tom served as Rachael’s mentor during the ordination process and Rachael’s ordination service was held in our Sanctuary this September. To meet this end, Tom will reduce his workload and salary/benefits to ¾ (.75) time in order to create a ¼ (.25) time position for Rachael. The position descriptions have been reviewed and approved by the SBC Church Staff Relations Committee and the Diaconate. The general position descriptions are detailed below (this is in process):

	<b>Carr</b>	<b>Lawrence</b>
<b>Preaching</b>	3 Sundays/month	1 Sunday/month
<b>Worship Leading</b>	3 Sundays/month	2 Sundays/month
<b>Pastoral Care</b>	Around 75%	Around 25%
<b>Other leadership responsibilities.</b>	Great Courses, Book Group, Some Adult Ed, Green Team, various committees (to be determined)	Some Adult Ed, Pastoral Liaison to Christian Ed.



### Don't Forget to Use Amazon Smile When You Shop for the Holidays

Do you shop on Amazon.com? Now you can donate to our church at the same time---without spending any extra money!

Go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) and log into your Amazon account. Then specify Second Baptist Church (location Suffield, CT) as your chosen charity.

When you place your order, our church will automatically receive 0.5% of the purchase price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases.

Once you sign up, bookmark the site to use each time you shop. To date, Laurie Gokey's Amazon Smile purchases have generated \$37.54 for Second Baptist Church. It is simple and automate. Try it!!!

If you have any questions or need help setting up the account, please ask Laurie 860-402-9292 or [okgokey@gmail.com](mailto:okgokey@gmail.com).



### GREAT NEWS! PODCAST NOW AVAILABLE

A podcast is a digital audio file made available on the Internet for listening or downloading. A way for you to listen to the Sunday service anywhere and any time. Go to our website: [secondbaptistsuffield.org](http://secondbaptistsuffield.org) and click the blue button that says “Listen to Sermon Podcast”. Scroll through and choose the service you want to hear. Also, click on the button that says “Our YouTube Channel”



### Save Your Pull Tabs!

Please save your pull tabs from juice, soda and beer cans. Put them in the bear container on the table in the Welcome Center. They will be taken to Shriners Hospital where they will be sold and the money used to benefit the kids there.



**Fellowship Time** is a time of greeting and socializing – a time to catch up with friends and acquaint yourself with new people of the congregation. Here at Second Baptist, we have a wonderful tradition of fellowship and hospitality and it is a special part of that tradition.

If you are interested in hosting Fellowship Time, we would be so grateful! Hosting is simple! It includes coffee and beyond that, it is anything you want to bring. Plates, cups, cutlery and coffee are supplied. If you would like to be a worker and not in charge that Sunday please let us know what and when you would like to bring something.

Thank you for becoming part of this wonderful tradition! For more information call Becky or the church office. Sign up is on the bulletin board outside Fellowship Hall.



**Kent Memorial Library  
Presents  
Gingerbread House  
Decorating**

On Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am children ages 5 – 15 are invited to decorate a pre-assembled Gingerbread House. The gingerbread house, frosting and candy will be provided. Registration is limited and you can register online at [www.suffield-library.org](http://www.suffield-library.org) or by calling Kent Memorial Library at (860) 668-3896. This program will be held at Second Baptist Church. Funded by the Friends of Kent Memorial Library. Suffield residents only.



Thank you to the Suffield Co-Op Preschool for the beautiful poster that was presented to SBC recently!



**Great Courses**

The Great Courses program will continue throughout the month of December – Wednesdays 9:30 – 11:00 am in the Parlor. We will continue our conversations on the first three centuries of Christianity, “The Early Christian Church: Jesus to Constantine.” Everyone is invited to join in our lively discussions, wherever those conversations take us!



**You can now make your donations to  
Second Baptist Church  
using your credit card online!**

Go to our website, [secondbaptistsuffield.org](http://secondbaptistsuffield.org) and click on the green “Online Giving” box. Then click on either the Yearly Pledge or Capital Campaign “Donate” button and follow the instructions to make your contribution. Be sure to note what your specific donation is for by clicking on “Add special instructions to the seller”.



**Spiritual Life Retreat  
January 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>**

Save the dates, Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, for the Spiritual Life Retreat at Second Baptist. Originally scheduled for October, we have new dates for this time to help you explore and deepen your spiritual practices. More details will follow in the January/February edition of The CRIER. For now, SAVE THE



**Book Discussion Group**

The Book Group meets on Sunday, December 1st, 6:30 pm at the home of Laurie Gokey. We will continue our conversation on the deeply moving book, “Tattoos on the Heart,” by Father Gregory Boyle, founder of Homeboy Ministries. Everyone is welcome to join in.



# December 2019

**Sunday                      Monday                      Tuesday                      Wednesday                      Thursday                      Friday                      Saturday**

<p><b>1 Advent Week I</b> 8:30 am Folk Group Rehearsal 9:00 Adult Ed/KFC 10:00 am Worship 11:15 Fellowship Time 12:00 pm Christmas Workshop 6:30 pm Book Discussion Group</p>	<p><b>2</b> 9:30 am Qi Gong Class 11:00 am Suffield Garden Club 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 1:00 pm Suffield Academy 7:00 pm Grapevine Grp (AA)</p>	<p><b>3</b> 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Boy Scouts 6:00 pm Finance Team 6:30 pm FCC Capital Campaign Committee Meeting 6:30 pm Spiritual Formation 7:00 pm Church Staff Relations</p>	<p><b>4</b> 9:30 am Great Courses 12:00 Phoenix Grp (AA) 2:00 pm The Green Team Meeting</p>	<p><b>5</b> 10:00 am Yoga Class 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp (AA) 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:15 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>6</b> 12:00 pm FFFolders 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) :00 pm Suffield Co-Op Preschool Dad's and Kids Ice Cream Social</p>	<p><b>7</b> 9:00 am Cub Scout Pack 266 9:30 Concert Rehearsal 10:00 am KML Gingerbread House Decoration 12:30 pm Cetto Chamber Choir Rehearsal</p>
<p><b>8 Advent Week II</b> 8:30 am Advent Breakfast 10:00 am Joint Worship with FCC 11:15 am Fellowship Time 11:30 am Council of Ministries 4:00 pm 1st Baptist Carol Sing</p>	<p><b>9</b> 9:30 am Qi Gong Class 12:00 pm Phoenix Group (AA) 1:00 pm Suffield Academy 5:00 pm Girl Scout Troop 10969 6:30 pm Special Needs Fellowship 7:00 pm Grapevine Grp. (AA)</p>	<p><b>10</b> 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Boy Scouts 6:30 pm FCC Capital Campaign Committee Meeting 7:00 pm Diaconate</p>	<p><b>11</b> 9:30 am Great Courses 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA)</p>	<p><b>12</b> 10:00 am Yoga Class 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:15 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>13</b> 12:00 pm FFFolders 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp (AA)</p>	<p><b>9</b> 11:00 am Springfield Soup Kitchen 3:00 pm SBC Concert</p>
<p><b>15 Advent Week III</b> 8:30 am Folk Group Rehearsal 9:00 am Adult Ed/KFC 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 11:45 am Music Ministry Mtg.</p>	<p><b>16</b> 9:00 am Suffield Co-Op Christmas Party (older students) 9:30 am Qi Gong Class 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp (AA) 1:00 pm Suffield Academy 7:00 pm Grapevine Grp. (AA)</p>	<p><b>17</b> 9:00 am Suffield Co-Op Christmas Party (younger students) 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm FCC Council Meeting 7:00 pm Missions</p>	<p><b>18</b> 9:30 am Great Courses 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp (AA) 12:30 am Calling and Caring Ministry</p>	<p><b>19</b> 10:00 am Yoga Class 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Music Christmas Party 7:00 pm Blue Christmas 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 260 Committee Meeting</p>	<p><b>20</b> 12:00 pm FFFolders 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp (AA)</p>	<p><b>21</b> Girl Scouts Breakfast With Santa and Boutique</p>
<p><b>22 Advent Week IV</b> 8:30 am Folk Group Rehearsal 9:00 am Adult Ed/K FC 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 11:15 am Bylaws Review 11:30 am Caroling to the Home-bound</p>	<p><b>23</b> 9:30 am Qi Gong Class 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 7:00 pm House Committee 7:00 pm Grapevine grp. (AA)</p>	<p><b>24 Christmas Eve</b> 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp (AA) 5:00 pm Christmas Pageant 10:00 pm Christmas Candlelight Service</p>	<p><b>25 Merry Christmas</b> <b>Office Closed</b></p>	<p><b>26</b> 10:00 am Yoga Class 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:15 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>27</b> 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp (AA)</p>	<p><b>28</b></p>
<p><b>29</b> 9:30 am Folk Group Rehearsal 9:00 am Adult Ed/KFC 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time</p>	<p><b>30</b> 9:30 am Qi Gong Class 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 7:00 pm Grapevine Grp. (AA)</p>	<p><b>31 New Years Eve</b> 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp (AA)</p>				





Roshanda Washington	3
Leslie Wilkins	4
Signe Wright	
Judy Johnson	5
Joe Sylvia	8
Lindsie Gero	
Bill Brennan	10
Eddie Prajzner, Jr.	12
Anna Tobiasz	
Edith Swan	13
Andy Barron	
Bernard Magliozzi	
Samuel Austin Sikes	
Gloria Peters	16
Walter Malec	17
Brian Davey	
Jason Eckley	18
Chris Hodges	19
Peter Pierzchala	
Tom Carr	22
Ainur (Nora) Kasymova	
Emily Jennings	26
Gail Davis	27
Emily Sikes	28
Jamie Guilmette	
Kasey Malec	29
Danny Jamrog	31



Marcia & Luther Killam	13
Dorothy & Jeffrey Knowlton	31



## December Communion Offering Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO)

This month, our Communion Offering will be designated to support our retired American Baptist ministers and missionaries through the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO). Since the mid-1930s, American Baptist congregations have received a Communion offering to support needy and elderly clergy within their congregations and those who have retired after years of service in our churches and throughout the world. This offering provided financial assistance to our denominations' retired clergy and their spouses in need as well as providing "Thank You" gifts. In 1977, the American Baptist Churches, USA officially launched the RMMO to continue this tradition of love, support and thankfulness.

The RMMO is a personal offering, one rooted in thanks for the countless ways ministers and missionaries guide members of congregations along their spiritual journey. It provides a tangible way for us to say "Thank you for . . ." the commitment, service and spiritual guidance of retired ministers, missionaries and their widowed spouses. As you consider your gift to the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering, remember those who served, those who helped lead, guide, comfort and inspire you on your own journey of faith in Christ.

A heart-felt **Thank You** to all who participated in this year's 2020 Stewardship Commitment campaign. This year, our theme was "Open Hearts, Open Doors: Light It Shine." Along with our Estimate of Financial Giving, we considered how we would share our Time and Talents for the ministries of the congregation. Though this edition of the Crier was "going to press" before everyone has had a chance to state their Estimate of Giving, and their Action Commitments for next year, we are grateful to all who prayerfully considered their gifts, pledges and estimates of giving in response to God's love in their lives. Thank you for your faithful support as, together, we work to sustain and move forward the ministry of the Second Baptist Church.



### Cupcakes or Brownies for the Soup Kitchen

The **Mission Committee** is always looking for people to bake 2 dozen cupcakes or brownies and volunteers to join the team. **The next visit will be on Saturday, December 7th.**

**Please contact the Church office if you would like more information.**

Once again, it is time to place orders for poinsettia plants which will decorate our Sanctuary the week before Christmas. Please use the following form to order plants, or if you prefer, you may make a donation to the Flower Fund. All donations are used to purchase plants. We would appreciate it if those picking up plants would do so following the morning service on **Sunday, December 22.**



**Deadline for placing orders: Sunday, December 8.**

I wish to order \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettia plant(s) at \$10.00 each.

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to make a contribution to the Flower Fund.

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donor \_\_\_\_\_

The plant is given in **memory** of \_\_\_\_\_

The plant is given in **honor** of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please take the plant to someone homebound.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will pick up the plant following the morning service on December 22.



We Are Affiliated With  
The American Baptist Churches USA  
The Baptist Peace Fellowship

## About Second Baptist Church

**Web Site** <http://www.secondbaptistsuffield.org>

**Subscription** If you would like to subscribe to *The Crier*, please contact Alison Hardy-Dusto at (860)668-1661 or e-mail her at [office@secondbaptistsuffield.org](mailto:office@secondbaptistsuffield.org)

**Sunday Worship Service** 10 am. Childcare and Sunday School available.

We are accessible for people with disabilities from the back entrance, and hearing assistance devices are available upon request.

**Sunday School** for all ages. Adult Education at 9 am;

Sunday School for Children Grades K-12 during the 10 am Worship Service

**Office** (860) 668-1661 [office@secondbaptistsuffield.org](mailto:office@secondbaptistsuffield.org) **Office Hours:** Monday-Friday, 9 am to 1 pm

**Pastor** (860) 668-1661 [pastor@secondbaptistsuffield.org](mailto:pastor@secondbaptistsuffield.org)

**Staff** The Rev. Thomas G. Carr, Pastor

Alison Hardy-Dusto, Congregation Liaison Manager

Sue Schneller, Christian Education & Youth Coordinator

Evelyne Battle, Director of Music Ministry

Jean Aldrich-Jones, Organist & Handbell Choir Director

Jennifer Sikes, Custodian