

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



By the time you receive this (or perhaps even earlier), the season of Advent will be here. And that means Christmas is coming. It's my favorite time of year -for many reasons. I know that this season is very difficult for some, particularly those who have experienced loss during the year, those dealing with difficult personal and family issues, and those who are deeply troubled about what's happening in the life of the world. And so, when the "Christmas call" to be of good cheer and sing "Joy to the World" falls flat, it is tough to see how Christmas can be such a "favorite time" for many.

In spite of those very real issues that make this a tough time for many, one of the reasons I so appreciate the Advent/Christmas season is because it is a time when the possibility for real peace and the working together for the common good to address critical problems in the world seems to be in the air. We all know that, in addition to the difficult personal issues we experience, we also face multiple crises as a global community of life; some of these even seem to be "intractable," perhaps beyond the capacity to address in any meaningful manner. But during this season of expectation and hope, there seems to be something "in the air" that opens us up to a sense that something wonderful is coming: the possibility for God's reign to break down the barriers and actually break into this too often weary world. Anxiety and despair may continue to linger but the hope that there is a way that leads to life that is mutually enhancing for all, finds expression in the birth of the Child who is peace and whose Way is love.

There is a poem I always read during the Advent/Christmas season – and I read it often. It was written by Howard Thurman and it causes me to slow down, take a breath and remember that God is still at work in this world and is calling us to work alongside of each other and God for the sake of the world.

I Will Light Candles This Christmas

I will light candles this Christmas:

Candles of joy, despite all sadness,
Candles of hope where despair keeps watch,
Candles of courage for fears ever present,
Candles of peace for tempest-tossed days,
Candles of grace to ease heavy burdens,
Candles of love to inspire all my living,
Candles that will burn all the year long.

I hope you have an opportunity to light candles this Advent/Christmas season.

Peace,

Tom

Stewardship 2016 Following the Way of Jesus

A heartfelt Thank You to all who participated in this year's 2017 Financial Stewardship campaign. Though this edition of the Crier was "going to press" before everyone has had a chance to state their Estimate of Giving 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 to sustain and move forward the ministry of the Second Baptist Church.

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DECEMBER 2016

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Save the Date
SBC Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 22nd
following
Worship Service.



December Flower Rep.: Bev Sikes

December 4, Advent Week II

Ushers: TEAM A: Howard Beal, Jonah Berrien & Alec Pryce

Worship/Scripture Leader: Gloria Magliozi

Nursery Volunteer: Sue Sheiber

Fellowship Time: Available

Memorial Flowers: Bob & Gail Davis

December 11, Advent Week III

Ushers: TEAM B: Art Sikes, Joshua Quinn,
John Killam & Robbie Tobiaz

Worship/Scripture Leader: Barry Sisk

Nursery Volunteer: Heather Piezchala

Fellowship Time: Dian Kingsbury

Memorial Flowers: Available

December 18, Advent Week IV

Ushers: TEAM C: Tucker Killam, Walt Malec,
Barry Sisk & Wally Malec

Worship/Scripture Leader: Natalie Das

Nursery Volunteer: Mary Nelsen

Fellowship Time: Peg Carr

Memorial Flowers: Poinsettias

Christmas, December 25

Ushers: TEAM D: Bob Davis, Jim Grant,
Derek Burnaford & Tom Killam

Worship/Scripture Leader: Gail Davis

Nursery Volunteer: Kirsten Johannassen

Fellowship Time: Available

Memorial Flowers: Available



About Our Community

- ♥ **Sam Fuller** passed away on November 9th. His memorial service will be held at SBC on November 20th at 2 pm with a reception in Fellowship Hall immediately following the service.
- ♥ **Sheryl Woods mother, Shirley Wentworth**, passed away on November 8th.
- ♥ **Bob and Gail Davis welcomed their second great-granddaughter Violet**, who was born on November 6th.



First Baptist Church Carol-Sing

Sunday, December 11 at 4 pm

Traditional Sing-along fun for the whole family.

Hot Cocoa and cookies will be served following the Sing. All are welcome!



Please Join Us for Christmas Caroling!

"The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear!" We will be gathering in Fellowship Hall after worship on **Sunday, December 18th 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. Please plan to join us! We will split up into groups so this will not be a long time commitment. Music will be provided. All you need are warm clothes and a joyful spirit!



Help Give a Local Family a Wonderful Christmas



It is that time of year again when the members of Second Baptist can help give a local family a great holiday by donating food and gifts. During the 2015 holiday season, the Emergency Aid Association gave Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets to 105 local households. The Christmas food and gift items for our 7 families will be due Sunday, December 18th. You should choose one or two items from the gift tag that will be available at coffee hour. Please leave the gift tag with the present so we know which family it belongs to. All gifts can be left in the church office. They should not be wrapped, but you can give wrapping paper and tape along with your gift.

Items Needed:

Stuffing for turkey	Mayonnaise
Cranberry sauce	Gravy
3 Canned or fresh vegetables	3 Canned or fresh fruit
Potatoes	Peanut Butter
Rolls or bread	Jelly
Cereal	Spaghetti Sauce
Soup	Pasta / Spaghetti
Tuna	Coffee / Tea / Hot Cocoa
Macaroni & Cheese	
Paper goods and personal care items (soap, shampoo, deodorant, laundry and dish detergent, paper towels, napkins, bath tissue and facial tissues)	

If you have any questions or if you would like to help with the packing and sorting, please call Corey Haynes Kris Pryce or the church office.



Upcoming Dominican Trip

Our next visit to the Dominican Republic will be in January. If you are interested in going, please see Sue Schneller. We will be collecting supplies near Christmas.

For more information call Sue (860) 402-7813.



December 24 Christmas Eve Pageant at 5:00 PM

**Are you ready for a
Christmas play?
I am!**

Come make a Joyful Noise with some familiar songs, special music, and cuteness all around while kids share the story of the birth of Jesus. **Kids of ALL ages are welcome to participate.** We'll find an appropriate part for you. If you play an instrument and would like to play, please let Sue Schneller know. The more the merrier!

Rehearsals: Sunday, December 18th at 10:00 am
and December 24th at 4:00 pm.

Christmas Pageant- 5:00 pm on Christmas Eve

We are flexible, but it's always easier to plan ahead when we can.

Questions? Contact Sue Begin Schneller

White gifts this year will go to the Springfield Soup Kitchen. Please bring **white over-the-ankle athletic socks for adults and children to the 5:00 pm service.** These gifts, typically called "White gifts" since the socks are **wrapped in white tissue paper**, will be brought forward during the Christmas Pageant when the Wise men appear.

Candlelight Service at 10:00 PM

Please join us at **10:00 pm on Christmas Eve** for a very special Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols. You will enjoy a wonderful quiet celebration of the birth of Christ in our beautiful candle-lit sanctuary.



The Council Of Ministries structure below is a visual of how we hoped communications would flow between the ministries of Second Baptist Church.

Below these larger ministries are several active task groups to accomplish short and long term ministries serving our community of faith.

The Council of Ministries plans to recommend continuation of this structure and the steps needed to move forward at our Annual Meeting in 2017.

SBC Proposed Restructure



**Christmas at
Second Baptist Church**

Join us this holiday season as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ in worship and fellowship

Dec. 4,
5:00pm Advent workshop- pizza, crafts, Joy!

Dec. 11,
4:00pm Caroling at First Baptist

Dec. 17,
3:00 pm Christmas Concert

Dec. 18,
11:30 am Caroling to home-bound

Dec. 24,
5:00pm Service with Pageant
10:00pm Candlelight Service

Dec. 25,
10:00am Sunday Morning Service

Jan. 1,
10:00am Sunday Morning Service

JOY



Great Courses Bible Study
Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am
in the Parlor.

All are welcome!



Fellowship Time,
We've Made it Easy!

Please consider hosting a
Fellowship Time.

The sign-up sheet is posted on the
bulletin board outside of
Fellowship Hall.

**If you have articles or announcements that
you would like to have published in the
January/ February edition of The CRIER,
the deadline for submission is
Friday, December 16th.**

December 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10:00 am Yoga Class 2:30 pm Helping Hands 4:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater 4:30 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal 6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:15 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	2 12:00 pm FFFolders	3
4 Advent II 8:30 am Folk Group Rehearsal 9:00 am Adult Ed/KFC 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 5:30 pm Advent Workshop	5 11:00 am Suffield Garden Club 7:00 pm AA 7:00 pm Finance Committee 7:00 pm SBC Singers Rehearsal	6 6:30 pm KML Polar Express 6:30 pm Board of C.E. 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	7 10:30 am KML Polar Express 9:30 am Great Courses 2:30 pm Helping Hands	8 10:00 am Yoga Class 2:30 pm Helping Hands 4:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater 4:30 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal 6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:15 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	9 12:00 pm FFFolders	10 10:30 am KML Gingerbread Decorating 11:15 am Springfield Soup Kitchen
11 Advent III 8:30 am Folk Group Rehearsal 9:00 am Adult Ed/KFC 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 11:30 am Council of Ministries 4:00 pm 1st Baptist Carol Sing	12 1:00 pm Suffield Academy 6:30 pm Special Needs Fellowship 7:00 pm AA 7:00 pm SBC Singers Rehearsal	13 4:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater 7:00 pm Diaconate 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Boy Scout Board of Review	14 9:30 am Great Courses 2:30 pm Helping Hands 7:00 pm Blue Christmas	15 10:00 am Yoga Class 2:30 pm Helping Hands 4:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater 4:30 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm Cub Scout Pack 266 6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 pm Boy Scout Board 7:15 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	16 12:00 pm FFFolders 6:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater	17 3:00 pm SBC Christmas Concert
18 Advent IV 8:30 am Folk Group Rehearsal 9:00 am Adult Ed/ KFC 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 11: 30 am SBC Caroling to the homebound	19 7:00 pm AA	20 7:00 pm Missions 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	21 9:30 am Great Courses 12:30 pm Calling Committee 2:30 pm Helping Hands	22 10:00 am Yoga Class 2:30 pm Helping Hands 4:30 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal 6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:15 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	23 12:00 pm FFFolders	24 Christmas Eve 5:00 pm Christmas Pageant 10:00 pm Candlelight Service
25 Christmas 8:30 am Folk Group Rehearsal 9:00 am Adult Ed/ KFC 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time	26 Office Closed 7:00 pm House Committee 7:00 pm AA	27 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	28 9:30 am Great Courses 2:30 pm Helping Hands	29 10:00 am Yoga Class 2:30 pm Helping Hands 4:30 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal 6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:15 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	30 12:00 pm FFFolders 4:00 pm Pannell Wedding	31 New Year's Eve



Happy Birthday!

- 3 Roshanda Washington
- 4 Leslie Wilkins
- Signe Wright
- 5 Judy Johnson
- 7 Patrick Stiles
- 8 Joe Sylvia
- Lindsie Gero
- Noelle Avena
- 9 Karen [Sullivan] Kaczmarczyk
- 10 Bill Brennan
- 12 Eddie Prajzner, Jr.
- Anna Tobiasz
- Sue Fuller
- 13 Edith Swan
- Andy Barron
- Bernard Magliozzi
- Samuel Austin Sikes
- 16 Gloria Peters
- 17 Walter Malec
- Brian Davey
- 18 Jason Eckley
- 19 Peter Pierzchala
- 22 Tom Carr
- 25 Josh Bochman
- 26 Emily Jennings
- 27 Gail Davis
- 28 Emily Sikes
- 29 Kasey Malec
- Judith Spaulding
- 31 Carol Gauthier
- Danny Jamrog



Happy Anniversary!

- 13 Marcia & Luther Killam
- 30 Gil & Christine Ahrens
- 31 Dorothy & Jeffrey Knowlton
- 31 Tim & Lena Blake

If you know of a birthday or anniversary within the church that is not listed, please call the church office, (860) 668-1661, or send us an e-mail at office@secondbaptistsuffield.com so we can add it to our list!



December Communion Offering Retired Ministers and Missionaries

This month, our Communion Offering will be designated to support our retired American Baptist ministries and missions 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. In the late 1940's, churches began donating to provide financial assistance to our denomination's elderly ministers, missionaries and their widowed spouses. 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.



Yoga Class Continues

We encourage you to join us as we build strength and flexibility in an inspirational environment.

Call Nancy Drenzek for more information at 860-668-6191.



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 10th.**

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 18.**



Deadline for placing orders: Sunday, November 27.

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 28.



December



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

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

Sunday Worship Service 10 am September – July. 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 **Office Hours:** Monday - Friday, 9 am to 1 pm

Pastor (860) 668-1661 pastor@secondbaptistsuffield.org

Staff The Rev. Thomas G. Carr, Pastor

Alison Hardy-Dusto, Congregation Liaison Manager

Sue Schneller, Christian Education & Youth Coordinator

Evelyn Battle, Director of Music Ministry

Jean Aldrich-Jones, Organist & Handbell Choir Director

Jennifer Sikes, Custodian