



THE CRIER

DECEMBER, 2021

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



The Second Baptist Church
100 North Main St, Suffield, CT 06078

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Advent season is upon us. It is time to prepare our hearts and spirits for the coming of our promised Lord and Savior on Christmas Day. The season of advent, not by coincidence, happens during the approach to the Winter Solstice, journeying through the darkest days of the year. The journey reminds us that, in literally our darkest days, we have the hope, peace, joy, and love guiding us on our way. And, we look forward to the light of the world returning to us on Christmas Day.

Fr. Henri Nouwen, one of the most widely regarded spiritual writers of the 20th Century, reflected on advent:

We are not only to *look* for the coming of the day of the Lord, but also try to *hasten* it!

This is one of the great paradoxes of the Christian life – knowing full well that God is coming in God’s time, and not on ours, on God’s terms and not on ours. Peter (2 Peter 3: 8-14) nevertheless urges us to work hard and with great further to hasten the Lord’s coming, that in a mysterious way the realization of the new heaven and new Earth depends on us, that our waiting is not a passive waiting, but an active waiting, and that God’s promise is not hanging above us in the air, but is deeply embedded in our everyday life (From *Our Light and Our Salvation: Advent Reflections from the Works of Henri J. M. Nouwen*, 2004).

As we wait for Christmas day, let us patiently wait, yet hasten the Kingdom of God to be sovereign in our hearts.

In Peace,

Pastor Rachael



Remember Amazon Smile This Holiday Season!

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 and log into your account. Then specify Second Baptist Church (location Suffield, CT) as your chosen charity.

When you place your orders, our church will automatically receive 0.5% of the purchase price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases, not including shipping (purchases include Amazon purchases only, not other vendors).

Ask your family and friends if they will sign up, too. Once you sign up, create a bookmark to use each time you shop. Nothing will change about your Amazon shopping experience. Amazon Prime accounts will not be affected.

If you have any questions or need help setting up the account, please ask Laurie Gokey, 860-402-9292 or okgokey@gmail.com.



Upcoming Deadlines

January-February CRIER:
Tuesday, December 16th

Annual Reports:
Sunday, December 31st
(Not including the Financials)

DECEMBER, 2021

In This Issue

About Our Community	2
Annual Church Meeting Reminder	2
Amazon Smile	1
Bible Study	4
Birthdays/Anniversaries	7
Birthday Cake Kits	5
Book Group	5
Calendar	6
Christmas in Suffield	2 & 4
Christmas Workshop	4
Commitment Sunday	3
Communion Offering	7
Deadlines	1
Membership	4
Ping Pong Returns	5
Poinsettia Order Form	8
Pull Tab Collection	5
Rachael's Reflections	1
SCA Christmas Gift Basket Donations	4
Sew a Hat for People in Need	5
Soup Sale	5
Upcoming Holiday Events	3
Volunteer Opportunity	4
Volunteer Schedule	2
Women's Lunch Bunch	2
Yoga Class	4



About Our Community

- Harold Remington passed away on November 7th.



Flower Contact: Bev Sikes

Advent Week II: December 5

Ushers: TEAM D: Jim Grant & Derek Burnaford

Worship Leader: Jessica Christy

Flowers:

Advent Week III: December 12

Ushers: TEAM A: Howard Beal

Worship Leader: Stacey Christy

Flowers:

Advent Week IV: December 19

Ushers: TEAM B: Art Sikes, Jacob Quinn,
Greg Bassos & Lauren O'Hara

Worship Leader: Andre LaRochele

Flowers: Poinsettias

December 26

Ushers: TEAM C: Tucker Killam, Scott Schneider,
Barry Sisk & David Burnaford

Worship Leader: Barry Sisk

Flowers:



Women's Lunch Bunch

Please Join Us!

December 22 at noon the Women's Lunch Bunch will have a special Christmas get together in Fellowship Hall. Lasagna, salad,

beverage and dessert will be provided. Let us know if you can make it and we will set a place for you.

RSVP 860-668-1661 or office@secondbaptistsuffield.org

Save the Date

Second Baptist Church Annual Meeting
Sunday January 30, 2022
Immediately following Worship

UPCOMING HOLIDAY EVENTS AT SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday, November 28th, 11 am

Advent Wreath Making

Fellowship Hall, Second Baptist Church

Join us in the Fellowship Hall if you would like to make an Advent wreath. Related candle-lighting readings for each Sunday will be included. Start your Advent Season off right!

Saturday, December 4, 5-8 pm

Suffield Alight

North Main Street, Suffield

Dress warm! Stop by during your walk down Main Street and sing along with the carolers on the front steps of the church! Each family can pick up a keepsake ornament and also get their photo taken behind one of our nativity cut-outs.

Sunday, December 5th, 10:30 am-12:00 pm

Christmas Workshop

Fellowship Hall, Second Baptist Church

Come to our Christmas Workshop right after our church service. Make some crafts that you can take home.

December 12th , 11:30 am -12:30 pm

Kids Sew a Hat for People in Need

Fellowship Hall, Second Baptist Church

We are looking for kids that would like to learn how to sew a hat. These are polar fleece hats that involve simple hand sewing. Volunteers will be available to help if needed.

Sunday, December 12th, 4 pm

1st Baptist Carol Sing

1st Baptist Church, 1217 Hill Street, Suffield

December 24th, 5 pm

Christmas Eve Pageant

Sanctuary, Second Baptist Church

We hope you will all be able to participate. We're just going to do it a little bit differently. The pageant will still be based on the nativity story but the angels and shepherds and wise men will remain with their families until they're called up to join the nativity . Costumes will be provided. If your child would like to be a reader or has a talent ,singing or musical that they would like to share we would love to include it in the program. Please let me know if you will be available on Dec. 24th. No need for a practice for the shepherds , wise men & angels. Just be there in costume at 5:00. Readers, musicians and singers will need to be here at 4:00 pm to run through their parts. Please give Sue Schneller a call and we can find a time for you to pick up your costumes. See you there.

December 24th, 10 pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Sanctuary, Second Baptist Church

Tuesdays at 11, in the Library.
Space is limited to 7.

Common Ground: Loving Each Other

Despite our Differences, is a Bible study for women, written by Amberly Neese. The description says: Whether it is in politics, the professional world, a party, or a pew, we face conflict every day. As discussions get more heated and social media is deluged with opinion-spewing, hurt feelings, and broken relationships, we need hope and practical tools to navigate the tumultuous waters and live at peace with everyone. Fortunately, the Scriptures hold the key to living at peace despite our differences. The [selected] stories point us to peace and reconciliation in all our relationships, reassuring us that it is possible to find common ground with everyone—despite our differences. Women will find biblical and practical help for:

- Facing conflict
- Navigating broken relationships
- Handling heated discussions (in person and on social media)
- Living at peace despite differences

Please call or email Pastor Rachael for details.



Membership

Are you interested in
MEMBERSHIP at
Second Baptist Church?

Please reach out to Pastor Rachael,
at copastor@secondbaptistsuffield.org.



Flamingo Yoga Class at Second Baptist Church

Thursdays at 10 am in the Activity
Room

There are openings
available!

Questions? Please contact
Diana Gunther at
dianayoga@gmail.com

Attendees must be fully vaccinated.



Donations Needed

As we continue through the holiday season Second Baptist will be supporting five local 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 of the items are due by Sunday December 12th, and can be dropped off to Corey at coffee hour. Gifts need to be unwrapped but if you choose you may give tape and wrapping paper for the families to use.

Food items needed:

Stuffing
Gravy
Cranberry Sauce
3 Cans of Fruit
3 Cans of Vegetables
Pre Bagged Potatoes
Coffee/Tea
Hot Chocolate
Cereal
Soup
Peanut Butter
Jelly
Tuna
Mayonnaise
Pasta
Spaghetti Sauce
Macaroni and Cheese
Laundry Detergent
Paper Towels
Napkins
Bath Tissue
Kleenex



We're still working to grow a Technology & Videography Team!

Dave Jones, so far, has one volunteer who is looking at learning how to use the equipment. Would you like to be a part of this exciting team? Please reach out!



Hats for Hope January 9th at 11:30 am

Join us and make a hat to share with someone in need. Everyone is invited to make polar fleece hat and we'll attach a little tag that says "You are loved!". Hats will be given to the homeless, locally, and to our soup kitchen clients.

Special thanks to June Hodges for the idea and her expertise.

The Book Group has concluded their activity for 2021.

Please join us in January of 2022 as we read
Caste: The Origins of our Discontent
by Isabel Wilkerson.



Suffield Ping Pong Club Returns to SBC

Ping pong is returning to the Second Baptist

Church after a long hiatus. The self-proclaimed "Suffield Ping Pong Club" has been playing ping pong together for over 25 years. Our members range in age from early thirties to seventies. Don't let the age gap fool you. The "young" guys are thrilled when they can beat the old timers. We will be playing every Wednesday from 7-9PM in the Fellowship Hall and are always looking for new players. There are three tables, so we can accommodate every level of player and if you're new to ping pong someone will be happy to show you how to play.

Please contact Alan Garvey at (860) 305-0044 if you are interested. (Since sometimes there are cancellations or day changes please contact me to confirm we are playing.)

Build a Birthday Cake Kit January 23rd during Fellowship Time



Create your own party-in-a-box at home for a child in need! Everyone loves to celebrate their special day.

With this project, you'll make birthdays easier for families who are struggling. Each kit needs a foil pan, a box cake mix, can of frosting, jar of sprinkles, and a box of candles. Bring your kit to church join us right after the service in the Fellowship Hall for a celebration.



Got Pull-Tabs for Shriners Hospital?

Jean Aldrich-Jones is collecting them once again. Please bring them into the Welcome Center and we will make sure that they are passed on to the right person.



Soup Sale January 16th

Join us at 11:00am, right after church in the Fellowship Hall and buy a bowl of soup To-Go! Help support others in our community.

Pick up a container of soup and cornbread and make a donation. All proceeds will go to a local charity. If you have a soup you would like to make for the event, contact the church office and bring it to church HOT in a crockpot. When you buy any of our delicious soups, pick up a recipe card and make a batch yourself for National Homemade Soup Day on February 4th. Share the joy!

December 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:00 pm Growth & Outreach 7:00 pm Ping Pong Club	.2 10:00 am Yoga Class 11:00 am Lecto Bible Study 6:15 pm Handbell Choir 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	3 12:00 pm Gazebo Grp. (AA) 6:30 pm Cetto Chamber Choir Rehearsal	4 5-8:00 pm Suffield Alight
5 ADVENT WEEK II 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time & Advent Workshop	6 11:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Suffield Garden Club 7:00 pm Grapevine Grp. (AA)	7 6:00 pm Boy Scouts	8 7:00 pm Ping Pong Club	9 10:00 am Yoga Class 11:00 am Lecto Bible Study 6:15 pm Handbell Choir 7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir	10 12:00 pm Gazebo Grp. (AA)	11 11:00 am Soup Kitchen
12 ADVENT WEEK III 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 11:30 am Council of Ministries 4:00 pm 1st Baptist Carol Sing	13 11:00 am Bible Study 7:00 pm Grapevine Grp. (AA) 7:00 pm Pioneer Valley Chapter-EGA	14 10:00 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Deacon's Mtg	15 12:30 pm Calling & Caring Ministry 7:00 pm Ping Pong Club	16 10:00 am Yoga Class 11:00 am Lecto Bible Study 6:15 pm Handbell Choir 7:00 pm BSA Board Mtg. 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	17 12:00 pm Gazebo Grp. (AA)	18
19 ADVENT WEEK IV 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time	20 11:00 am Bible Study 7:00 pm Grapevine Grp. (AA)	21 6:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Missions Mtg.	22 11:00 am Lunch Bunch Christmas Party 7:00 pm Ping Pong Club	23 10:00 am Yoga Class 11:00 am Lecto Bible Study 6:15 pm Handbell Choir 7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 12:00 pm Gazebo Grp. (AA) 5:00 pm Christmas Pageant 10:00 pm Candlelight Service	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!
26 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time	27 7:00 pm Grapevine Grp. (AA) 7:00 pm House Mtg.	28 6:00 pm Boy Scouts	29 7:00 pm Ping Pong Club	30 10:00 am Yoga	31 NEW YEARS EVE 12:00 pm Gazebo Grp.	

DECEMBER



Roshanda Washington	3
Signe Wright	4
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 Kasymova	
Emily Jennings	26
Gail Davis	27
Emily Sikes	28
Jamie Guilmette	
Kasey Malec	29
Danny Jamrog	31

DECEMBER



Marcia & Luther Killam	13
------------------------	----

December Communion Offering

Retired Ministers & Missionaries Offering (RMMO)

Transformed by Generosity

“And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.” (2 Corinthians 3:18)

Has there been a minister or missionary who has transformed you? Is there a special minister who has held you and prayed for you during your deepest sorrows or celebrated with you during your most joyous celebrations? Is that minister now retired? Would you like to thank him or her? If this minister or missionary has retired from American Baptist Churches USA you now have an opportunity to say “Thank You!”

During the month of December, Second Baptist Church, along with American Baptist Churches across the nation, traditionally take up offerings which are designated for retired ministers and missionaries and their spouses. These offerings are collectively used for the purpose of saying “Thank You” to the over 3,000 retired American Baptist ministers and missionaries and their spouses living across the globe. Approximately half of the funds are distributed annually as a “Thank You” to these faithful servants of God’s followers. The remaining funds are available to provide emergency financial assistance when needed. ALL collected monies are earmarked to the retired faithful who have led millions to Christ throughout their active ministerial years.

“Thank You” checks will be dispersed to several people who have been (or still are) closely tied to Second Baptist Church. The list includes: Ethel Evans (widow of Rev. Wes Evans), Rev. Gordon and Edith Swan, Rev. Judy and Steve Allbee, recently retired Rev. Tom and Peg Carr, as well as Becki Fuller and Linda Isham. On a more personal level for me (Laura Burnaford), two additional couples receive “thank you” gifts – Dave’s uncle and aunt (Rev. Roy and Judy Johnsen) and my parents (Rev. Lowell and Virginia Lee). From personal comments made to me these gifts are greatly appreciated.

Last year Second Baptist Church contributed \$1200 to RMMO. Let’s show our appreciation to these faithful servants by giving generously during the month of December.

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 19.**



Deadline for placing orders: Tuesday, November 30.

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 19.

Please return this form to the church office.



**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

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 **Office Hours:** Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9 am to 1 pm

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

Staff The Rev. Dr. Rachael Lawrence, Acting 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