

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





Though I write these words two weeks before Christmas, the new year is nearly upon us, and Comments with it, the possibility of many new ministries, relationships and ways forward for us to engage with one another in God's work for the world

God so loves. I have always taken seriously the words of the prophet Isaiah, "Behold, I am about to do a new thing," because "new things" are always being born through God, in this world of God's. Our question is, "do we have the eyes to see them?"

One of those new things is the partnership of mutually enhancing ministry we are establishing with the Enfield American Baptist Church (EABC) which will be celebrating their final worship service at the end of December after 55 years as a congregation. I have proposed to share leadership with EABC's pastor, the Reverend Dr. Rachael Lawrence, after the first of the year (please see Rachael's bio in another part of the Crier). I 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, I will reduce my workload and salary/benefits to \(\)4 (.75) time in order to create a \(\)4 (.25) time position for Rachael. The position descriptions have been reviewed and approved by the SBC Church Staff Relations Committee, the Diaconate and the Council of Ministries. At the Congregational Meeting called for December 29th, the congregation will discuss and, hopefully, vote to accept this new relationship (please see another part of the Crier for the announcement of this meeting that was first posted on November 29th). As part of the proposal, 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.

Please keep our congregations in your prayers and in your heart so that, together, we might open the eyes of our hearts to see what God is doing in the world, recognizing our individual and collective calling to be faithful to whatever God may be moving us to do, and actively engage in the work for the sake of God's "kingdom on Earth as it is in heaven."

Peace be with you.



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January Flower Rep.: Peggy Robards

January 5 Epiphany

Ushers: TEAM C: Tucker Killam, Walt Malec,

Barry Sisk & David Burnaford

Worship Leader: TBA

Nursery Volunteer: Sue Sheiber **Fellowship Time:** Available

Flowers: Available

January 12

Ushers: TEAM D: Bob Davis, Jim Grant,

Derek Burnaford & Laurie Gokey

Worship Leader: TBA

Nursery Volunteer: Heather Piezchala

Fellowship Time: Available

Flowers: Available

January 19

Ushers: TEAM A: Howard Beal, Richard Rinaldi

Kaden Rinaldi & Jacob Quinn

Worship Leader: TBA

Nursery Volunteer: Mary Nelsen **Fellowship Time**: Available

Flowers: Available

January 26

Ushers: TEAM B: Art Sikes, Greg Bassos,

RC Hubbard, Michael Hubbard

Worship Leader: TBA

Nursery Volunteer: Kirsten Johannassen

Fellowship Time: Annual Meeting

Flowers: Available





Please join us for **Great Courses**

when we resume on

Wednesday, January 8th at 9:30 am in the Parlor.

All are welcome!



February Flower Rep.: Bev Sikes February 2

Ushers: **TEAM C**: Tucker Killam, Walt Malec,

Barry Sisk & David Burnaford

Worship Leader: TBA

Nursery Volunteer: Sue Sheiber **Fellowship Time**: Available

Flowers: Available

February 9

Ushers: TEAM D: Bob Davis, Jim Grant,

Derek Burnaford & Laurie Gokey

Worship Leader: TBA

Nursery Volunteer: Heather Piezchala

Fellowship Time: Available

Flowers: Available

February 16

Ushers: TEAM A: Howard Beal, Richard Rinaldi

& Kaden Rinaldi

Worship Leader: TBA

Nursery Volunteer: Mary Nelsen **Fellowship Time**: Available

Flowers: Available

February 23

Ushers: TEAM B: Art Sikes, Greg Bassos,

RC Hubbard & Michael Hubbard

Worship Leader: TBA

Nursery Volunteer: Kirsten Johannassen

Fellowship Time: Available

Flowers: Available



Book Group

The next meeting of the book group with be on **Sunday, January 5th, 6:30 pm at Laurie Gokey's house.** We will continue our discussion on Tattoos of the Heart by Father Gregory Boyle.

All are welcome!

THE CRIER



Congratulations!

Congratulations to our Wonderful organist,

Jean Aldrich-Jones who was presented with this award before playing the Ludlow High School Concert in December. The students unanimously voted her in

and kept it a big secret for a long time!

Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Sunday, January 19th at 4 pm

The annual Martin Luther King, Jr., service of celebration is being planned for the afternoon of Sunday, January 19th. The service will be held at the Third Baptist Church and is always an inspiring and empowering service to remember that we are all sisters and brothers in this world and are called to love, serve and care for all. More details will be coming on the precise time, preacher for the service and music. Save the date and invite friends, family and neighbors.



Santa and his helper stopped by Second Baptist Church!

Second Baptist Church Annual Meeting Sunday, January 26th

Please save the date and plan to attend the Annual Meeting of the Second Baptist Church of Suffield on **Sunday, January 26**th following morning worship which begins at 10:00 am.



Spiritual Life Retreat January 24th-25th

A Spiritual Life Retreat will be held at the Second Baptist Church on Friday evening, January 24th and Saturday, January 25th. The purpose of the retreat is to explore different spiritual practices which may be helpful in enhancing one's personal spiritual life. We will be joined by our friends from the First Congregational Church and the Enfield American Baptist Church.

The retreat, which was originally scheduled for last October, begins on Friday evening at 5:00 pm with a potluck supper and conversation in the Fellowship Hall followed by a brief time of worship and our first spiritual practice – Lectio Divina (a Latin term which means "Divine reading" or "Sacred reading," of biblical texts). We will conclude by 8:00.

On Saturday, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 am and there will be different spiritual practices to discover and choose from in four separate session throughout the day. In the morning, there are two sessions - from 9:30 – 10:30 and 10:45 -11:45. During these sessions, you have a choice between Yoga, the Examen (a spiritual practice of discernment and prayer), Qi Gong, and, Walking the Labyrinth (which will be available throughout the day). Following lunch, which will be provided, there are different spiritual practices during two separate sessions: Journaling, Guided Meditation, Reflective Walking outside (weather permitting) and making Prayer Beads. Closing reflections and worship will conclude at 4:00 pm.

We need to know how many will be coming to prepare for lunch on Saturday and to have enough supplies for several of the spiritual practices so **please rsvp** to the church office — office@secondbaptistsuffield.org, or via phone — 860-668-1661. Cost is \$10 per person or \$25 per family. If you are unable to attend the entire retreat, please feel free to participate in those practices that your schedule permits — and please let us know.

Special Congregational Meeting Sunday, December 29th

A special congregational meeting of the Second Baptist Church of Suffield is being called for on Sunday, December 29th 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 5th, 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 29th 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 general position descriptions are detailed below (this is in process):

	Carr	Lawrence
Preaching	3 Sundays/month	1 Sunday/month
Worship Leading	3 Sundays/month	2 Sundays/month
Pastoral Care	Around 75%	Around 25%
Other leadership responsibilities	Great Courses, Book Group, Some Adult Ed, Green Team, various committees (to be determined)	Some Adult Ed, Pastoral Liaison to Christian Ed.
Special Focus	Creation Justice, Spiritual Direction	Young Adult and Families Engagement

The key way we intend to finance this ministry is through dedicating a portion of Rev. Carr's current salary and benefits package to pay Rev. Dr. Lawrence for a .25 FTE position. The Finance Committee of SBC will be proposing specific financial packages for both Carr and Lawrence.

At the December 29th meeting, the congregation will be invited to ask questions, discuss and vote on these two items. Please make every effort to attend this important congregational meeting.



Listen to our Podcasts!

A podcast is a digital audio file made available on the Internet for listening or down loading. A way for you to listen to the Sunday service anywhere and any time. Go to our website: 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"



Meet the Reverend Dr. Rachael Lawrence

The Reverend Dr. Rachael Lawrence has served as transitional pastor for Enfield American Baptist Church in Connecticut from 2016-2019. She was ordained to the pastoral ministry in the American Baptist Churches USA in 2019. A multi-vocational pastor, she is Assistant Director for the Center for Educational Policy at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, as well as a classical singer. Her PhD in Educational Policy and Leadership is from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She holds a Master of Music (University of Akron) and a Bachelor of Music (Heidelberg University). She completed a Certificate in Theology and Ministry from Princeton Theological Seminary.

The American Baptist Home Mission Societies invited her to participate in the Co-Creators Incubator. With ABHMS support, she is

developing a music and movement based worship series for young children and their caretakers. In 2019, she founded KinderSpirit Inc, a non-profit with the goal of developing curricula to support positive spiritual development through meeting the needs of children, as well as community members with special needs, in worship settings.

Before her current work in pastoral ministry and educational research/evaluation, Rachael was a K-12 music teacher. She served in title 1 schools on the *Sicangu Lakota Oyate* (Rosebud Indian Reservation) and Troy (NY) city schools. Prior to this, she was an adjunct professor at the University of Akron (OH), where she taught applied voice lessons and music theory. During this time, she served as a music minister for the Firestone Park Disciples of Christ Church in Akron, OH and as a youth ministry intern for the Goodyear Heights United Church of Christ. In addition, she was a professional chorister for the Congregation *Anshe Emeth Beth Tefilo* (The Park Synagogue) in Cleveland Heights, OH.





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.

January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesdav	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Happy New Year! Church Office Closed 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA)	2 10:00 am Yoga Class 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Handbell Choir 7:15 pm Adult Choir	3 12:00 pm FFFolders 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA)	4 9:00 am Cub Scout Pack 266
5 Epiphany 8:30 am Folk Group 9:00 am Adult Ed/KFC 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 6:30 pm Book Group	6 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 1:00 pm Suffield Academy 7:00 pm Grapevine Grp. (AA)	7 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Boy Scouts	8 9:30 am Great Courses 12:00 pm Phoenix Group (AA)	9 10:00 am Yoga Class 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Handbell Choir 7:15 pm Adult Choir	10 12:00 pm FFFolders 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA)	11. 11:00 am Springfield Soup Kitchen 10:00 am Addie Begin's Birthday Party 6:00 pm Percoski
12 8:30 am Folk Group 9:00 am Adult Ed/KFC 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 11:30 am Council of Ministries	13 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 1:00 pm Suffield Academy 6:30 pm Special Needs Fellowship 7:00 pm Grapevine Grp. (AA)	14 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Missions	15 9:30 am Great Courses 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 12:30 pm Calling and Caring Ministry	16 10:00 am Yoga Class 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Handbell 7:00 pm Boy Scout Board 7:15 pm Adult Choir	17 12:00 pm FFFolders 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 7:00 pm Cetto Chamber Choir	18
8:30 am Handbell Choir 9:00 am Adult Ed./KFC 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 11:45 am Music Ministry 4:00 pm MLK Service	20 MLK Day Office Closed 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 1:00 pm Suffield Academy 7:00 pm Choir at Suffield House 7:00 pm Grapevine Grp. (AA)	21 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Boy Scouts	22 9:30 am Great Courses 12:00 pm The Phoenix Grp. (AA)	23 10:00 am Yoga Class 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Handbell Choir 7:00 pm Boy Scout Board 7:15 pm Adult Choir	24 12:00 pm FFFolders 12:00 pm Phoenix Group (AA) 5:00pm Spiritual Direction Potluck	25 9:00 am Spiritual Direction Retreat
26 8:30 am Folk Group 9:00 am Adult Ed./KFC 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am SBC Annual Meeting	27 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 1:00 pm Suffield Academy 7:00 pm Grapevine Grp. (AA) 7:00 pm House Committee	28 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Boy Scouts	29 9:30 am Great Courses 12:00 pm The Phoenix Grp. (AA)	30 10:00 am Yoga Class 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Handbell I 7:15 pm Adult Choir	31 12:00 pm FFFolders 12:00 pm Phoenix Group (AA) 5:30 pm Chocolate Making	

February 2020

Saturday	1 9:00 am Cub Scout 266	8 11:00 am Springfield Soup Kitchen	15	22	29
Friday		7 12:00 pm FFFolders 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA)	14 12:00 pm FFFolders 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA)	21 12:00 pm FFFolders 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA)	28 12:00 pm FFFolders 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA)
Thursday		6 10:00 am Yoga Class 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Handbell Choir 7:15 pm Adult Choir	13 10:00 am Yoga Class 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Handbell Choir 7:15 pm Adult Choir	20 10:00 am Yoga Class 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Handbell Choir 7:00 pm Boy Scout Brd. 7:15 pm Adult Choir	10:00 am Yoga Class 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Handbell Choir 7:15 pm Adult Choir
Wednesday		5 9:30 am Great Courses 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA)	12 9:30 am Great Courses 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 1:30 pm ARC Blood Drive	19 9:30 am Great Courses 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 12:30 pm Calling & Caring Ministry	26 9:30 am Great Courses 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA)
Tuesday		4 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Boy Scouts	11 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Diaconate	18 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Missions	25 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 6:00 pm Boy Scouts
Monday		3 11:00 am Suffield Garden Club 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 1:00 pm Suffield Academy 7:00 pm Grapevine Grp. (AA)	10 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 1:00 pm Suffield Academy 5:00 pmGirl Scout Troop 10969 6:30 pm Special Needs Fellowship 7:00 pm Grapevine Grp. (AA)	17 Presidents Day Office Closed 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 1:00 pm Suffield Academy 7:00 pm Grapevine Grp. (AA)	24 12:00 pm Phoenix Grp. (AA) 1:00 pm Suffield Academy 7:00 pm House Committee 7:00 pm Grapevine Grp. (AA)
Sunday		2 8:30 am Folk Group 9:00 am Adult Ed/KFC 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Tine	9 8:30 am Folk Group 9:00 am Adult Ed/KFC 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 11:30 am Council of Ministries	16 8:30 am Handbell Choir 9:00 am Adult Ed./KFC 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 11:45 am Music Ministry 3:00 pm Cetto Chamber Choir SNOW DATE	8:30 am Folk Group 9:00 am Adult Ed./KFC 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 11:15 am Bylaws Review

January Communion Offering Julie's Safe House

The Mission Team has designated the monthly Communion Offering for January to Julie's Safe House: The Network Against Domestic Abuse. The Network assists families and individuals who have experienced domestic and interpersonal violence. They educate individuals and the community to promote healthy relationships, and advocate for safer communities. The Network is located in North Central Connecticut, including Suffield and Enfield, and seeks to prevent domestic abuse by fostering, healthy, violence-free relationships. For more information, please go to Julie's Safe House website — http://thenetworkct.org/about-us-4history/.



February Communion Offering Camp Wightman

The February Communion offering will be given to Camp Wightman, our Connecticut American Baptist Camp in North Stonington. For over 60 years, Camp Wightman has been a place to "challenge and train youth and adults for greater service to God." Summer Christian camping programs for children, youth and adults, retreats, workshops, educational opportunities, recreation and worship experiences help guide, shape, nurture and empower people of all ages to grow in their spiritual lives as they journey on the Way of Jesus. Members and friends of Second Baptist Church have had transformative and nurturing experiences at Camp Wightman over the six decades of ministry there. Each year, the Mission Team provides scholarship assistance for individuals and families in order for their children and youth to be part of the larger Camp Wightman community.

Please prayerfully consider your gifts to these critical ministries. You may write checks to Second Baptist Church with "Communion" in the memo line.



Best Men's Choir Ever!



American Red Cross Blood Drive

The American Red Cross is holding a Blood Drive on Wednesday, February 12th from 1:30-6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Please call 1-800 givelife to make your appointment!





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 two visits will be on Saturday, January 11th & February 8th.

Please contact the church office if you would like more information.



FEBRUARY

Steve Senter	1
David Battle	2
Sarah Johnson Hubbard	4
Justin Drenzek	6
Carolyn Samplatsky	7
Heather Pierzchala	8
Jan Anderson DeWeese	10
Jim Wood	11
Ryan John Rookey	14
Adelaide Elizabeth Begin	
Daisy Saunders	16
Jacob Quinn	
Robin (Colson) Arsenault	18
Lois (Hayes) Gracey	20
Christine Ahrens	
Ruth Thompson	22
Michele Brown Quinn	
Kathy Remington	24
Jason Jamrog	
Becki Fuller	25
Jean Aldrich-Jones	26
Betsy (Drenzek) Carr	28

Chuck Linke	2
Debbie Preli	3
Matt Brown	4
Bob Davis	5
Elissa (Wood) Nasiatka	6
Robbie Tobiasz	7
Heather Grant	
Marcia Killam	9
Win Senter	11
Bruce Remington	
Avery Whitman	13
Meredith Quitno	13
Lin Remington	16
Lee LaRochelle	
Steve Smith	19
Ryan Price	20
Gloria Magliozzi	21
Cliff Barron	
Nancy Drenzek	22
Sue Roy	
Patsy Senter	
Cedric LaRochelle	25
Rvan Waterman	26



Jim & Melinda Fuller 23



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!

If you have articles or announcements that you would like to have published in the March edition of The CRIER, the deadline for submission is Monday, February 17th.



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

Go to our website, <u>secondbaptistsuffield.org</u> 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".



Yoga Class Continues

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

See Nancy Drenzek for more information.

amazonsmile

Amazon Smile

Do you shop on Amzon.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.













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: Monday-Friday, 9 am to 1 pm

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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