

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



I write this on the eve of the American Baptist Churches of Connecticut (ABCCONN) annual meeting to be held at Second Baptist Church. Between 120 and 150 American Baptists from around the state are expected to gather for worship and prayer, learning opportunities, sharing a meal, conversation, making new friends and getting re-acquainted with long-time colleagues and friends. This annual meeting got me to thinking about some things I really like about being an American Baptist (I'll share with you some of the things I don't like some other time!). Just three things.

First, in our Baptist tradition, we recognize that each congregation is autonomous and at the same time, interdependent, linked together with other congregations through the Spirit who works within every congregation in unique ways. This connectivity allows us to accomplish great things for the sake of the Gospel, much more than any one congregation can do on its own. In addition to that, American Baptist churches are committed to working ecumenically with other Christian churches, understanding that though we most fully agree with historic Baptist principles, we recognize that we are not "IT," that we aren't the only container of all the truth there is and that other people, other Christian churches have much wisdom and practice to offer us. And for many of us who recognize that God can't be contained by any one particular religious tradition, we are committed to interfaith dialogue and work for the common good with people from many different religions.

Secondly, American Baptists are committed to "Soul Freedom," the right

and responsibility of each individual, within the context of a community, to determine his or her own faith convictions. We are not a "creedal people," nor are we to follow the theological dictates of any particular person, whether that be clergy or some other faith leader. It is the individual believer, under the guidance of God, the movement of the Spirit and as part of a gathered community of faith, who determines what one believes.

Third, I appreciate the great diversity within American Baptist life. We are the most racially and ethnically diverse denomination in the United States. We are theologically, economically and socio-politically diverse, as well. Within our denominational family, there are different emphases and ways to approach and actively work for the will of God in the world. And though this sometimes causes tension among and between congregations and regions of the country, our diversity is one of our greatest gifts we offer to the world.

I deeply appreciate other Christian traditions and other religions which practice the Way of Jesus: love, compassion, justice, reconciliation, peace and the integrity of creation. There are so many essential aspects of life that all people hold in common and more and more, I am learning and growing by listening to the spirit and teachings of traditions other than my own. But I am an American Baptist because of the freedom I have (we all have!) to live and grow in the way the Spirit leads us as part of a community of faith. I am grateful.

Peace.

Tom

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MAY 2016

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In Praise of the Creator and Creation

Please join in praising the Creator and creation on Sunday, May 1st in worship and following Fellowship Time. Artists of many kinds will be helping us worship on this day and enriching our Fellowship Time following worship. Come to hear words and music; come to see flowers and fiber, two and three dimensional visual art – the gifts of musicians, writers, a floral designer, bread bakers, visual artists – children, youth and adults – offering their praise and thanksgiving. Come and add your praise for God and all creation!



About Our Community

- Best wishes to Jan Anderson and Dr. John DeWeese who are to be married at Second Baptist on April 23rd.

May Flower Rep.: Claudia Hepner

Communion: Laura Burnaford, Howard Beal,
Lois Vormstein-Schneider & Jerry Kingsbury.

May 1

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

Worship/Scripture Leader: Heather Vormstein-Schneider

Nursery Volunteer: Sue Sheiber

Fellowship Time: Environmental Stewardship Committee

Flowers: Ingrid and Charles Linke

May 8 Mother's Day

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

Worship/Scripture Leader: Barry Sisk

Nursery Volunteer: Sarah Hubbard

Fellowship Time: Available

Flowers: The Bissell Family

May 15 Pentecost Sunday

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

Worship/Scripture Leader: David Jones

Nursery Volunteer: Mary Nelsen

Fellowship Time: Becki, Laura & Linda

Flowers: Christine and Gil Ahrens

May 22 Music Appreciation Sunday

Ushers: TEAM B: Art Sikes, Joshua Brown-Quinn,
John Killam & Robbie Tobiasz

Worship/Scripture Leader: Kira Johannassen

Nursery Volunteer: Kirsten Johannassen

Fellowship Time: Available

Flowers: Claudia Hepner

May 29 Memorial Sunday

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

Worship/Scripture Leader: Samantha Pryce

Nursery Volunteer: TBA

Fellowship Time: Kris Pryce

Flowers: Available

The Tim Macri Concert that was scheduled for Sunday, April 24th has been cancelled.

Special Presentation on Mental Health Sunday, May 15th

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. On Sunday, May 15th following worship in Fellowship Hall, Sheryl Woods and Barbara Lawrence will speak openly and candidly about their experience with mental illness. Sheryl and Barbara will focus on Bipolar Disorder, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Anxiety, and discuss a range of topics that include the challenges of living with the stigma of mental illness in today's society. They will also read from their personal collections of poetry. Barbara and Sheryl are not mental health professionals; they will speak from their personal experiences and offer insight as to what is helpful and not helpful in relationships with those with mental illness. There will be an open discussion following the presentation.

ABCCONN Annual Meeting

The American Baptist Churches of Connecticut (ABCCONN) Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 30th at our church, the Second Baptist Church of Suffield. "Fanning the Flame of the Holy Spirit" is the theme and the keynote speaker is the Reverend Dr. Jeffrey Haggray, Executive Director of the American Baptist Home Mission. The day, which begins at 8:30 am and concludes around 3:00 pm, will be filled with workshops and worship (our choirs will help lead in worship), time for fellowship and conversation with other American Baptists around the state. More information and registration materials may be found on-line at www.abcconn.org. The Diaconate will pay for one-half of the registration fee (which is \$25) for Second Baptist Church members. Registration forms are also found in the church office.

We'll need many volunteers to help host this state-wide event. If you would like to help out, please contact Sue Schneller or Reverend Carr.

Camp Wightman Scholarships

Each year, the Mission Committee provides scholarships to those who attend our American Baptist Churches of Connecticut Camp Wightman. Camp is a tremendous experience, a place of learning, developing friendships and growing in one's faith in Christ. For many, this has been and continues to be a life-changing experience. We are pleased to be part of this ministry.

The summer camp season begins at the end of June and this year, the Mission Committee is asking that each person who intends on going to Camp Wightman would complete a brief "Camp Wightman Scholarship Application" and return it to the church office **no later than May 15th**

All campers will receive half of the costs for the week and by completing this application, campers will help the Mission Committee plan for our total mission giving. The application asks three questions: The Camp week you plan to attend, amount of funds requested; and what you hope to get out of your camp experience. Please make sure you complete the application so we don't leave anyone out.

Applications may be picked up in the church office. If you have questions, please contact a member of the Mission Committee or The Reverend Tom Carr. If you would like more information or to receive a Camp Wightman brochure or application, please contact Sue Schneller.

Register for Camp Wightman today



<http://www.welovecamp.org>

Here's our Summer Program 2016 --
Hope to see you on Billings Lake this summer!

June 26-July 1: Wightman Spirit Week for ages 6-8, 9-12, & 13-16

July 10-15: Time Jumpers for ages 8-10, 10-12, & 13-16

July 17-22: Dangerous & Daring for ages 8-10, 10-12, & 13-16

July 22-24: D&D-odeon Weekend for ages 9-13

July 24-29: Campolodeon for ages 6-8, 8-10, & 11-13

**July 31-August 12: Outrageous T'weekers
for ages 10-12, 13-15, & 15-18 and LEAD for ages 15-18**

August 14-19: Summer's Last Blast for ages 7-9, 10-12, & 13-16

First-timer? Options for our youngest campers (ages 6-8 years)

June 26-29: Mini Wightman Spirit

July 24-27: Mini Campolodeon

May 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>9:00 am Adult Ed./KFC 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 11:30 am Arts Festival 6:30 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>2</p> <p>11:00 am Garden Club 1:00 pm Suffield Academy 7:00 pm Finance Committee 7:00 pm AA</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater 7:00 pm Board of CE 7:00 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:30 am Great Courses 2:15 pm Helping Hands</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:00 am Yoga Class 2:15 pm Helping Hands 4:30 pm Children's Choir 5:30 pm Folk Group 6:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater 6:15 pm Handbells 7:15 pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>6</p> <p>12:00 pm FFFolders</p>	<p>7</p> <p>6:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater</p>
<p>8 Mother's Day</p> <p>9:00 am Adult Ed. /KFC 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 11:30 am Council of Ministries 6:30 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>9</p> <p>1:00 pm Suffield Academy 6:30 pm Special Needs Fellowship 7:00 pm AA</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater 7:00 pm Diaconate 7:00 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:30 am Great Courses 2:15 pm Helping Hands 6:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:00 am Yoga Class 2:15 pm Helping Hands 4:30 pm Children's Choir 5:30 pm Folk Group 6:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater 6:15 pm Handbells 7:15 pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>13</p> <p>12:00 pm FFFolders 6:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater</p>	<p>14</p> <p>11:15 am Spfld. Soup Kitchen 6:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater</p>
<p>15 Pentecost Sunday</p> <p>9:00 am Adult Ed./KFC 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time / Mental Health Awareness 11:45 am Music Committee 6:30 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>16</p> <p>1:00 pm Suffield Academy 7:00 pm AA</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7:00 pm Missions 7:00 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:30 am Great Courses 12:30 pm Calling Committee 2:15 pm Helping Hands</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:00 am Yoga Class 2:15 pm Helping Hands 4:30 pm Children's Choir 5:30 pm Folk Group 5:30 pm Cub Scouts Pack 266 6:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater 6:15 pm Handbells 7:00 pm Boy Scout Board 7:15 pm Adult Choir</p>	<p>20</p> <p>12:00 pm FFFolders</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 Music Appreciation Sunday</p> <p>9:00 am Adult Ed. / KFC 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 6:30 pm Book discussion Group 6:30 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>23</p> <p>1:00 pm Suffield Academy 7:00 pm House Committee 7:00 pm AA</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7:00 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:00 am Preschool Graduation 9:30 am Great Courses 2:15 pm Helping Hands</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10:00 am Yoga Class 2:15 pm Helping Hands 4:30 pm Children's Choir 5:30 pm Folk Group 6:15 pm Handbells 7:15 pm Adult Choir 8:00 pm Suffield Academy Baccalaureate</p>	<p>27</p> <p>12:00 pm FFFolders</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 Memorial Sunday</p> <p>9:00 am Adult Ed. / KFC 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 6:30 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>30 Memorial Day Office Closed</p> <p>7:00 pm AA</p>	<p>31</p> <p>7:00 pm Boy Scouts</p>				



May Birthdays

- 3 Sarah (Knapps) Saven
Jennifer Brennan
- 5 Robyn Smith
- 6 Chris Sikes
Larry Dobson
Ray Schneller
- 7 Brenda Seger
Lena Blake
- 9 Ed Prajzner, Sr.
- 11 Melissa Malec
- 12 Tina Berrien
- 16 Alec Remington Pryce
Matthew Hubbard
- 18 Jim Craig
Noah Prajzner
- 20 Nancy Fuller
Jane Fuller
- 23 Stephanie d'Otreppe
- 24 Corey Haynes
Linda Isham
- 25 Cristina Das Alsum
- 28 Dick Begin
- 29 Amanda Sikes
Wally Malec
Dan Aldrich
- 30 Kim Zaczynski
- 31 Brian Baumann
Linda Gilbert
John Killam
Joshua Brown-Quinn



Happy Anniversary!

- 15 Diana & Joel Parker
- 16 Elissa & Joe Nasiatka
- 20 Brenda & Ed Prajzner
- 30 Amanda & Frank Kessler
Stephanie D'Otreppe & Don Kim

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.



Book Discussion Group

The Book Discussion Group will continue its conversation on "A Life of Being, Having and Doing Enough" by Wayne Muller on Sunday, May 22nd at 6:30 pm in the Parlor. We'll discuss Part IV, "A Life Made of Days". Everyone is welcome to join in the conversation.

May

Communion Offering

The May Communion offering will be dedicated to the Light of Hope Mission. Light of Hope is the name we have given to our biannual (January and August), seven-day mission trips to the Dominican Republic. The focus of this mission is connecting with villages, schools, medical clinics and families of the Punta Cana region. Each year, Sue Schneller leads youth and adults from our community in this significant ministry.

In the next few months, you will be hearing more about this mission and ways you may donate items which Sue and her team will hand-carry to the DR. This month, the Mission Committee asks that you hold this important work in your prayers and consider making a gift by way of a financial contribution. Please make your checks payable to "Second Baptist Church" with "Light of Hope" in the memo line.

Mission Giving Update: We are grateful for your prayerful generosity for all the important ministries we support through our giving to our monthly Communion offerings.

The following are the total gifts for March and April:

March - America for Christ: \$900.

April - Interreligious Eco-Justice Network: \$600.



Graduates

If you or a family member is graduating from high school or any post-secondary educational institution, please let the church office know by May 22nd. We want to recognize and honor graduates who are a part of our church family. Please send the name, degree and, if known, future plans to office@secondbaptistsuffield.org, or, Second Baptist Church, 100 North Main Street, Suffield, CT 06078.



Cupcakes or Brownies for the Soup Kitchen

The Mission Committee is always looking for people to bake 2 dozen cupcakes and volunteers to join the team. The next visit will be on Saturday, May 14th. **Please contact Kris Pryce if you would like more information.**



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.



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.

Three Ways to Access the Monthly CRIER

1. The monthly CRIER is available online at www.secondbaptistsuffield.org.
2. Paper copies are available throughout the church building .
3. We would be happy to mail the CRIER to your home for a yearly donation of \$12 which will pay for postage.

If you have any questions, please contact Alison in the church office (860) 668-1661.

If you have articles or announcements that you would like to have published in the June edition of The CRIER, the deadline for submission is Monday, May 16th.

Don't forget to



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. Child care 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

Evelyne Battle, Director of Music Ministry

Sue Schneller, Christian Education & Youth Coordinator

Jean Aldrich-Jones, Organist & Handbell Choir Director

Jennifer Sikes, Custodian