

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



Wednesday, March 1st is the beginning of the season of Lent. Historically, many Protestant traditions have not

participated in Lent in any significant way for a variety of reasons but more and more, many denominations are recognizing the importance of the season as a time for personal and congregational spiritual growth. Lent is a season of the year for particular focus on simple living, prayer and fasting in order to open ourselves more deeply to the presence of God. Beginning with Ash Wednesday, Lent is the 40 days prior to Easter. Actually, it is 47 days but the Sundays during this period are excluded from the count of days because every Sunday is resurrection day when we come together to worship God and celebrate the risen Christ.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday as a time to recognize who we are, including our mortality (which is why we say, "Dust to dust, ashes to ashes") and a time for us to be honest about the good, bad and everything in-between that is us. It is a call to return to a conscious relationship with our loving God. The Ash Wednesday service (which begins at 7:00pm in the Chapel) is a moment of worship to recognize life as a precious gift of God and an opportunity to "re-turn" our lives towards the Way of Jesus, the Way of Love. Often during Lent, people make resolutions and commit to change one's life to follow in the Way of Jesus.

A colleague wrote in her congregation's newsletter: "Are you searching for something more? Tired of running in circles but not really living life with direction, passion or purpose? ... Tired of running away from life and from God? Lent is a great time to 'repent' – to return to God and re-focus one's life to be more in line with Jesus."

Traditionally, Lent has been a time when people "give up something," putting aside some of the things in one's life that distract us from God. It is a time to clear the clutter in order to simplify your life; someone suggested one try an "electronic fast," giving up TV, Facebook, texting, tweeting, email for one day every week of Lent. It is also a good time to engage in intentional prayer practices like silence, meditation, praying the scriptures, Centering Prayer, being "still and know[ing] that [God is] God." And it is a time when many people not just "give up something for Lent" but they "take on something for Christ." They serve; like volunteering at a school or senior citizen center, collecting food for the needy, work for legislation that is just, fair and life-giving for all. However one observes Lent individually and how we do so as a congregation, may we all remember that its ultimate purpose is to draw us closer to God, the One who brings life.

Peace,

Tom

VOLUME XXXII No.2

MARCH 2017

In This Issue

About Our Community	2
Adult Education	3
Amazon Smile	2
American Red Cross News	4
Ash Wednesday	3
Benefit Concert	4
Birthdays/Anniversaries	7
Calendar	6
Come sing with Us!	3
Communion Offering	7
Community Service Award	8
CRIER Deadline	7
Cupcakes or Brownies for the Soup Kitchen	2
Daylight Savings Time Reminder	2
Dian Kingsbury Art Show	5
Easter Flower Order Form	5
Fellowship Time	4
Great Courses	3
Holy Week	3
Hot Cat Jazz	4
Lenten Breakfasts	3
Vacation Bible School	5
Volunteer Schedule	2
Yoga Class	7



March Flower Rep.: Bev Sikes

March 5 Lent Week I

Ushers: TEAM B: Art Sikes, Joshua Quinn,
RC Hubbard & Greg Bassos

Worship Leader: Kris Pryce

Nursery Volunteer: Sue Sheiber

Fellowship Time: Winnie Johnson

Memorial Flowers: Available

March 12 Lent Week II

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

Worship Leader: Gail Davis

Nursery Volunteer: Heather Piezchala

Fellowship Time: Available

Memorial Flowers: Available

March 19 Lent Week III

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

Worship Leader: Anne Stanley

Nursery Volunteer: Mary Nelsen

Fellowship Time: Available

Memorial Flowers: Available

March 26 Lent Week IV

Ushers: TEAM A: Howard Beal, Jonah Berrien,
Richard Rinaldi & Kaden Rinaldi

Worship Leader: Linda Isham

Nursery Volunteer: Kirsten Johannassen

Fellowship Time: Kathy Sylvia

Memorial Flowers: Available



Sunday, March 12, 2017

About Our Community

- ♥ **Sheryl Woods** is struggling with a very serious health issue.
- ♥ **Bob Stanley** is home recovering from surgery.
- ♥ **Astrid and Fred Hanzalek** are both in Suffield House recuperating from surgeries.
- ♥ **Marilyn Wilson** is recovering from knee replacement surgery.



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, March 11 th.**

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

Amazon Smile

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 book mark 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.

Holy Week 2017

Palm Sunday

April 9 - 10:00 am Worship

The Sanctuary Choir along with some very talented guest musicians will be performing a special **Palm Sunday suite** entitled *Palms, Passion & Alleluias* by Lloyd Larson on **Sunday, April- 9th** during the worship service.



Maundy Thursday Service

April 13 - 7:00 pm

with Third Baptist Church
at Second Baptist Church



Easter Sunday

April 16

6:00 am Sunrise Service at Sunrise Park

10:00 am Worship .

We will all sing Handel's Hallelujah Chorus.



The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday which is March 1st. At 7:00 pm in the Chapel on that day, we will have a service to welcome in the season with

scripture readings, prayers, songs and a time to receive ashes as a sign of one's humanity and a desire to be all that God creates us to be. All are welcome to take part in this brief annual Ash Wednesday service.

Come sing with us!

SBC's music ministry has some fun things planned for Palm Sunday and Easter. Do you like to sing but don't have time to commit to joining the choir full time? Why not join the Sanctuary Choir for the Lenten Season - or just for those two Sundays? We welcome anyone who can carry a tune and wants to express their love for God through music. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings at 7:15 pm and will start March 2nd. If you are interested, please contact Evelyne Battle.



Lenten Breakfast



The Lenten Breakfasts will run from March 5 to Palm Sunday, April 9. We begin at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Thanks to Bev Sikes and many others for their leadership in helping make these breakfasts happen. Volunteers are always welcomed and needed so please contact Bev if you are interested in lending a hand.



Great Courses Wednesdays at 9:30 am in the Parlor

Each Wednesday from 9:30 am through 11:00am, there is a meeting of all interested people in discovering more about various aspects of our religious and spiritual lives. Each session begins with a 30-minute video lecture by a prominent scholar and then we have an hour of discussion led by The Reverend Carr. For the past several months, we have focused on the early Christian churches and the early writings of this very diverse peoples and how the New Testament came to be – the debates, struggles and final coming together of the Bible. The first three Wednesdays in March will be the final three sessions of this series; the group itself will decide on the next topic of discussion. Everyone is invited. If you have any questions, please contact The Reverend Carr or Claudia Hepner.

Adult Education Sundays at 9:00 am in the Parlor

Each Sunday at 9:00 am in the Parlor, all adults are invited to join in sharing and reflecting on the meaning of scripture and their lives of prayer, faith and Spirit. Though we have been following the Gospel of John for the past year and are near to finishing our reflections on it, the group follows the leading of the Spirit on that particular day as we seek meaning for our lives and the life of the world together. If you want to explore with us, come on Sunday mornings. The sessions are led by the Reverend Carr and we finish by 9:45 am.

This is an email from The American Red Cross that I wanted to share with the church community.

Hi Alison

I would like to express my thanks to you and Second Baptist Church for its commitment to American Red Cross Blood Services. On behalf of the patients we serve, we thank you for hosting your blood drive.

Your drive resulted in 37 presenting blood donors, and we were able to collect 31 pints of lifesaving blood. Each of those donations could help **save up to 3 lives!**

Every day someone somewhere needs blood. Without dedicated coordinators and sponsors like you serving as a vital link between the blood supply and those who need blood, the Red Cross could not carry out its lifesaving mission.

Again, thank you for your efforts in coordinating a successful blood drive! We look forward to working with you on the next drive: April 12th.

Regards,

Christine Auletta
Account Manager / Recruitment and Outreach
Connecticut Blood Services Region



American Red Cross

Do you know a teen looking for community service hours or is just interested in volunteering?

The American Red Cross is always looking for help cleaning up after blood drives in Suffield. It is a great opportunity to help others while earning community service credit.

Please contact Christine Auletta
for more information.

860-491-5132 or christine.auletta@redcross.org



Benefit Concert on Saturday, March 4th

Soprano Teresa Eickel will perform a fun, 60-minute concert called The Girl's Guide to Dating & Opera on Saturday, March 4 at 3:00 pm at First Baptist Church of West Hartford.

Suggested donation is \$20.00 for adults and children are free. A reception will follow. **Proceeds will be donated to former IREJN board member, Rev. Chuck Redfern, who is battling stage 4 cancer.**

For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit: irejn.org



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.

Save the Date!



Sunday April 30
Hot Cat Jazz Band



Duncaster Art Gallery
Presents
“What Takes My Fancy”
By
Dian Kingsbury

March 4 to March 30, 2017
Opening Reception
Sunday, March 5, 2017
4 to 5:30 pm

Dian Kingsbury will speak at 4:30 pm
RSVP 860-380-5006

Directions to Duncaster:

*Proceeding on Simsbury Road (Rte. 185)
Turn left if coming from Simsbury or turn right if
coming from West Hartford at the traffic light at
Loeffler Road (Rte. 178.)
Duncaster is a quarter of a mile on the left*



I wish to order _____ Easter plants.
Lilies, hyacinths, tulips, and daffodils are \$10.

Please specify which variety you prefer: _____

_____ I wish to make a contribution to the Flower Fund.

Enclosed is my check for \$_____.
(Please make check out for amount of flowers only.)

Donor _____

The plant is given in *memory* of:

The plant is given in *honor* of:

_____ Please take the plant to someone who is homebound.

_____ I will pick up my plant following the service on April 16.

It is time to order plants to decorate our Sanctuary for **Easter Sunday, April 16.** Please use this form to place your order and return to the church office or place in the offering plate on Sunday. If you prefer, you may contribute to the Flower Fund. All donations are used to purchase plants which may be picked up after the service or they will be distributed to our homebound friends.

March 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Ash Wednesday 9:30 am Great Courses 2:30 pm Helping Hands 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service	2 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	3 12:00 pm FFFolders	4
5 LENT WEEK I 8:00 am Lenten Breakfast 8:30 am Folk Group Rehearsal 9:00 am Adult Ed/KFC 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 11:30 pm Finance Committee	6 11:00 am Suffield Garden Club 5:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater 7:00 pm AA	7 4:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater 6:30 pm Spiritual Formation 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	8 9:30 am Great Courses 2:30 pm Helping Hands	9 10:00 am Yoga Class 2:30 pm Helping Hands 4:30 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal 5:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater 6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:15 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	10 12:00 pm FFFolders	11 11:15 am Springfield Soup Kitchen
12 LENT WEEK II 8:00 am Lenten Breakfast 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	13 6:30 pm Special Needs Fellowship 7:00 pm AA	14 4:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater 7:00 pm Diaconate 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Board of Review	15 9:30 am Great Courses 12:30 pm Calling Ministry 2:30 pm Helping Hands	16 10:00 am Yoga Class 2:30 pm Helping Hands 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	17 12:00 pm FFFolders	18 2:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater
19 LENT WEEK III 8:00 am Lenten Breakfast 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	20 5:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater 7:00 pm AA	21 4:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater 7:00 pm John Cremins Eagle Court of Honor 7:00 pm Missions	22 9:30 am Great Courses 2:30 pm Helping Hands	23 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	24 12:00 pm FFFolders	25 2:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater
26 LENT WEEK IV 8:00 am Lenten Breakfast 8:30 am Folk Group Rehearsal 9:00 am Adult Ed/ KFC 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 3:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater	27 5:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater 7:00 pm House Ministry 7:00 pm AA	28 4:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	29 9:30 am Great Courses 2:30 pm Helping Hands	30 10:00 am Yoga Class 2:30 pm Helping Hands 4:30 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm Suffield Youth Theater 6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:15 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	31 12:00 pm FFFolders	

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday!

- 4 Winnie Johnson
- 5 Shirley Edmonds VanAllen
Patti Ahrens
- 9 Rock Berry
- 10 Ernie Begin
James C. Harlow
- 12 Kate Remington
- 13 Ingrid Linke
Peter Das
- 15 Connor Blake
- 16 Gregory d'Otreppe
- 19 Kirby Reed-Brown
- 21 Barry Sisk
Melissa Sikes
- 23 Jennifer Loiseau Villani
Olivia Stanley
- 26 Corey Hinckley
- 28 Karen Knapps Suller
Karen Santi
- 30 Renee Wood
- 31 Derek Stiles

Happy Anniversary!

- 9 Deb & Steve Preli
Tiffany & Karl Christian

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!

March Communion Offering: America for Christ

The Communion Offering for the month of March is dedicated to the America for Christ Offering. America for Christ is the annual campaign of the American Baptist Churches, USA, Home Mission Society to fund its missionary work in the United States and Puerto Rico. The theme for this year's offering is "Cultivating Leaders: Equipping Disciples, Healing Communities." This theme reminds us that American Baptist Churches, USA is a partnership, that we are all one in Christ and that all are called to live out the Christian faith in transforming individuals, congregations and communities. We do so by developing networks and programs among ABC congregations committed to nurturing leaders who are followers of the Way of Jesus through witness, discipleship and social justice.

In Luke 4: 18-19 we read the words of Jesus who is quoting from Isaiah,

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Jesus' public ministry was all about engagement and compassion for people in need and he equipped his followers to continue his work through the centuries. Through the work of the America for Christ Offering, we can participate by helping equip leaders and serving our neighbors, in our churches and communities. Thank you for your prayerful, generous gifts.



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.

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

THE JAMES COGGINS, JR.
\$1,000.00
ANNUAL COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD



- Are you a **Suffield Resident?**
- Are you **graduating from high school?**
- Do you **give of your time for the benefit of others?**
- Are you **willing to submit a 500-word essay detailing your volunteer activities?**

If the answer to all these questions is "YES", you may be selected to receive a \$1,000 award in memory of a former board member & volunteer of the Emergency Aid Association of Suffield.

Applicants are required to submit no more than a 500-word essay describing their volunteer activities to the EAA Scholarship Committee at 450 South Street, Suffield, 06078 or email to Janett@suffieldeaa.org. For more information, call 860-668-1986.

Applications must be received by midnight on Monday, May 15, 2017



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

<i>Staff</i>	The Rev. Thomas G. Carr, Pastor	Evelyne Battle, Director of Music Ministry
	Alison Hardy-Dusto, Congregation Liaison Manager	Jean Aldrich-Jones, Organist & Handbell Choir Director
	Sue Schneller, Christian Education & Youth Coordinator	Jennifer Sikes, Custodian