

# The Carillon

STORRS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC

Incorporated 1921

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## WORSHIP AT STORRS CONGREGATIONAL August – September 2021

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### **Worship In Person or Online with SCC:**

Join us in person or online at 10:00 AM on Sunday.  
All the information for joining in online worship is at  
<http://www.storrscongchurch.org/worship-online/>.

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- ✦ **AUGUST 29 – OUTDOOR SERVICE (WEATHER PERMITTING), UCONN STUDENTS RETURN**  
*Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13*  
"Being Love" - an intergenerational sermon by Lisa Haupt (not preaching); blessing of the backpacks and back to school blessing; UConn student breakfast
- 

### **A Note from Pastor Debbie on our Worship Services for September**

Here are the sermon titles and scripture readings for the month of September although this is subject to change.

Our Calls to Worship this month will focus on "Songs of the Soul" with responsive psalms.

**September 5** – "Be Opened" Mark 7:24-37; Labor Day weekend

**September 12** – "Who Are You, Jesus?" Mark 8:27-38; Welcome Back Sunday with Communion and the collection of water blessing; Faith Formation Sunday with a labyrinth walk, and a picnic following the service. Ministry teams will have informational tables with ways to volunteer.

**September 19** – "The Last will be First, and the First, Last" Matthew 20:1-16; Just Peace Sunday with Just Peace Team members participating in the liturgy



*welcoming historic progressive Christian*



Open and Affirming



Accessible to All



A Just Peace Church

**September 26** – “Stewards of Mother Earth”; Pastor Debbie’s last service before she leaves on vacation; American Indian Ministry Sunday with liturgy relating to Native Americans

**Saturday, September 25** – “Blessing of the Animals” with Pastor Debbie at 11:00 a.m. on the front lawn. Bring your pet(s) for a special blessing and a treat!

## REQUEST FOR PRAYER INTENTIONS



Prayer changes things! If you’d like to request prayers through the Prayer Circle, please contact Rev. Debbie.

To help us express care and prayer in ways that protect the privacy of individuals consider the following:

1. If you are asking for prayer for someone other than yourself, please get permission from that person to be named (and if first and last names are OK), whether you can be specific about your request, and to provide your name as the individual making the request.
2. When you make a request let us know if there is a specific time period you would like the name to remain on the list. If no time is given, we will keep the individual on the list for two weeks.
3. Joys and prayers of thanksgiving may also be shared on the Prayer Circle.
4. If any church member has a concern about a church member’s well-being, please contact the pastor first.

*The Carillon is the monthly newsletter of*

**STORRS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

2 North Eagleville Rd., Storrs Mansfield, CT 06268 | 860.429.9382 | [www.storrscongchurch.org](http://www.storrscongchurch.org)

*Ministers* All of the Congregation

*Interim Senior Minister* Rev. Debbie Pallatto-Fontaine – [revdebbie@storrscongchurch.org](mailto:revdebbie@storrscongchurch.org) | Ext. 23

*Director of Music Ministries* Dr. Patricia Snyder – [trisha@storrscongchurch.org](mailto:trisha@storrscongchurch.org) | Ext. 26

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**NEW "VISITING TEAM" FORMING**

Kathy Lindner, Rev. Mike and Mary Lake have started a NEW Visiting Team as part of the Caring Ministry. We have 5 or 6 members now who are homebound due to health or mobility issues and can not come to church in person. The limitations due to the pandemic have made it even more isolating for these members.

We are seeking a few more "visitors " to stop by and cheer up these friends. Visits are usually about a half an hour. You can think of bringing a card, or a small plant, or a container of soup, etc.

You would call ahead to arrange a time and perhaps see if they need anything from the store.

If you would like to join our team of visitors, call Kathy Lindner, 201-723-0458.



## END OF SUMMER GREETINGS FROM PASTOR DEBBIE



Dearest Friends,

As you know, 46 years of my life have been spent teaching full-time in various settings and with various ages from preschool through graduate school. The end of August and the beginning of September always marks a teacher's time doesn't it? For those of you who are or who have been teachers and professors, you know this time well.

However, let us remember that autumn doesn't begin in our region until September 22, at 3:21 p.m. EDT this year. So let's wait a bit before we ask each other: "How was your summer?" and enjoy the beauty of the season that remains. Let's picnic and frolic on Labor Day weekend and enjoy the evening light while we have it.

As usual, the end of August through September will catch us in a flurry of activity here at SCC: dedicating our rainbow Peace Pole on August 22, welcoming back Lisa Haupt and introducing UConn senior Ben Scudder (our new Communication and Digital Ministry Specialist), planning for WOW weekend, holding our tag sale and student breakfast, planning an outdoor service on August 29, meeting new students as they move in and attending the Resource Fairs, celebrating Just Peace Sunday on September 19, and moving forward with our Pastoral Search and new initiatives in all of our ministries.

As we always say, "No matter where you are on life's journey, you are always welcome into the life of this faith community." I am so grateful for the many dedicated volunteers who serve this congregation and wider community. If you would like to be involved in some way this fall here at church, please let me know and we'll find a spot that matches your passion, interests, and time commitments.

I will be away on vacation for the month of October in Italy (*inshallah* – God willing). I am so looking forward to traveling again to the place I love best. The Rev. Bob Loesch will be available for pulpit supply each week and also for any pastoral emergencies that may arise while I am away. You may remember Rev. Bob from when he was here during Rev. Matt's sabbatical. I know you all will be left in good hands and I will return to the pulpit on November 7.

I leave you with this prayer for your meditation:

***Now is the Time***

**Now is the time to know that all you do is sacred.**

**Now, not why consider a lasting truce with yourself and God.**

**Now is the time to understand that all your ideas of right and wrong**

**Were just a child's training wheels to be laid aside**

**When you can finally live with veracity and love...**

**Now is the time for the world to know that every thought and action is sacred.**

**This is the time for you to compute the impossibility that there is anything But Grace.**

**Now is the season to know that everything you do Is sacred.**

(From *The Gift, Poems by Hafiz, The Great Sufi Master*, translations by Daniel Ladinsky; pages 160-161).

Not so autumn tide blessings,  
Pastor Debbie

## SUMMER WATER COLLECTION



If you haven't had a chance to get a container from the basket in the Parish House Lounge to fill with water from someplace you have been this summer, there is still time. Collect water and write the location you got the water on the cover and **bring the container back to church on September 12<sup>th</sup>** for a special water ceremony during worship.

Please note that you can use any container to collect the water...

*Thank you for participating.*

## ALL CHURCH PICNIC

***Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 following Worship***

Save the date for this annual gathering of Church family and friends, immediately following worship in the courtyard. Everyone is welcome as we share food, fellowship and fun! Watch for notice of sign up lists and menu options via email. If you are not receiving church emails, be in touch with Pam Roberts, 860-428-2406, with any questions about this event.

## AN UPDATE ON THE SENIOR MINISTER SEARCH

Greetings all,

Since its installation in January, your Senior Minister Search Committee has met weekly, initially via Zoom and more recently in person.

Our efforts these past seven months have been directed to writing our church profile. In doing this, we are asked to compile information and reflect on a broad range of topics that taken together will lead us to discover “Who are we now?”, “Who is our neighbor?”, and “Who is God calling us to be?”. While the resulting document is designed to serve as the introduction to the Storrs Congregational Church for potential pastoral candidates, its real value is in the impact of the experience on the members of the committee. In the acts of discerning, writing, and the give-and-take of discussion, the Holy Spirit is guiding us to develop a deeper understanding of who we really are as a congregation, so that we will be ready when God reveals the one being called to minister with us.

We have drawn on information from past SCC Annual Reports and from the results of the 2020 Congregation Assessment Tool. We have held conversations with you via Zoom seeking your thoughts on what are some of the strengths or positive qualities of our congregation; what constitutes good preaching; and the experience from schooling or past positions, areas of understanding, passions, and ability to integrate their skills with others that we will be seeking in the candidate we ultimately present to you. In addition, we have sought input, where appropriate, from the Interim Minister, Director of Faith Formation, and Lead Ministry Coordinators. Working in small groups and as a committee of the whole, we are nearing completion of the initial draft of a church profile.

As we continue our work this summer and fall, please keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we finalize and distribute the church profile, develop interview questions, review candidate portfolios, begin the interview process, and come to consensus on a candidate to present to you. And, as always, if you have any questions about the search process, please do not hesitate to contact any member of the search committee.

Peace,

The Senior Pastor Search Committee

Janice Castle, Cass Crewdson, Janis Hoyle, Tina Huey, Cathy Jeffers, Ray Joesten (Chair), Wade Johnson, Brian Klimkiewicz, Jamie Lang-Rodean, Dick Roberts, Erin Scholes, and the Rev. Dr. Debra Pallatto-Fontaine (ex officio)

## CELEBRATIONS

Congratulations to the newlyweds, Laura (Della Fera) and Ethan Sagin married at Storrs Congregational Church on Saturday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021.





## Governing Board

### Minutes

Regular Meeting - July 14, 2021

.A. = attachment in Board packet

Malta Bailey called meeting to order with prayer at 7:00 PM.

### Board Attendance:

(* present)				
* Malta Bailey	* Cass Crewdson	* Paul Schur		
* Bruce Bergon	* Darryl Hilliard	* Nancy Tomastik		
* Jane Ann Bobbitt	Susan Irvine	* Pastor Debbie Pallatto-Fontaine		
* Elaine Chague	Nolan Klimkiewicz	* Stacy Malecki (clerk)		

Bob Malecki – treasurer was also in attendance and hosted Zoom meeting

**Consent Agenda Item 4 was moved to off of consent agenda.**

**Remaining consent agenda items were approved**

1. That the Board approves the Minutes of the June 9, 2021, meeting of the Board. .A.
2. That the Board acknowledges receipt of the July 2021 Pastoral Report. .A.
3. That the Board acknowledges receipt of the June 2021 report of the Buildings & Grounds Coordinator (Duffy Brookes). .A.
4. That the Board approve Duffy Brookes' request to explore the option of "renting" parking spaces to UConn students (see last bullet in B&G report)
5. That the Board acknowledges receipt of the June 2021 Treasurer's reports. .A.
6. That the Board acknowledges receipt of the July Just Peace meeting minutes. .A.
7. That the Board approve the addition of a "2021 UCC General Synod Registration" budget line in the amount of \$1000 to the 2021 Faith Formation budget. Participants will be approved by Pastor Debbie on a first come, first served basis.

8. That the Board approve the proposal for the Weekend of Welcome Fundraising Tag, Rummage, Fabrics and Crafts, Silent Auction and Bake Sale made by Pam Roberts, Coordinator for Church Life and Hospitality.

Governing Board discussed the request by Duffy Brookes to explore the option of “renting” parking spaces to UCONN Students. Here is an excerpt from Duffy’s Buildings and Grounds report:

*By now you are probably aware that the “Noon Group” has relocated to St. Mark’s for their weekday and evening meetings after almost 11 years of using our facility. While there will be a loss of revenue (\$600), parking will be much less restrictive around noontime each day. This presents an opportunity for us to re-evaluate our parking policies. While it is not my idea, there have been suggestions that we might consider “renting” selected parking spaces to students as is standard procedure for other Faith Row churches. I would like to request that the Governing Board consider this possibility. I would be willing to research the particulars and how the other churches handle this if the Board.*

Board discussion supported investigation, but concern was expressed about restricting the number of spaces available to the congregation, particularly during larger gatherings such as Sunday morning and during funerals. The church has 22 spaces. 5 are allocated for staff, 1 is handicapped, which leaves 17 others. There is also an investigation underway regarding allocating 1-2 spots for electric vehicles. Given both the reduction in “noon group” rental and difficulty renting office space, there is definitely interest in exploring possible income sources.

Paul made a motion to ask Duffy Brookes to explore the possibility of renting out 3-5 parking spaces. Request is to generate a proposal. Board approval will be needed before a final decision is made. This was seconded by Elaine Chague. Motion passed unanimously.

**There was nobody present to speak at this evening’s meeting**

### **Governing Board Goals work:**

Two Goals have been identified as 2021 Governing Board objectives. During this meeting we split into two groups to discuss further and identify some next steps.

#### **(1) Continuing to reinforce and improve our effectiveness in using the governance model.**

The focus areas previously identified included improving communication with the congregation and encouraging increased congregational participation in both governing board and ministry team activities. We also discussed what performance indicators we might use to measure improvement.

Agreed actions:

- a) Minutes published in Carillon – Done
- b) Summarize Lead Ministry Coordinator (LMC) reports (2-3 sentences) and publish in Carillon. This requires the LMCs to all submit brief summaries. Cass took the action to follow-up with LMCs with this request.
- c) Improve access to information on the website – so that members of the congregation could find Carillons, Governing Board minutes, and the associated attachments. This can be discussed when a new Communications and Digital Ministry specialist is identified.
- d) Consider featuring one ministry area each month in the Carillon
- e) Consider creating a summary/refresher of the current governance structure (the Gist of It articles are available on the website, but a summary of the final situation could be helpful)

Performance indicators include tracking publication of meeting minutes in carillon, successful collection of summaries from LMC's, and congregational feedback.

**Note: During discussion Nancy relayed a comment that she had received from a friend suggesting that the Board of Deacons be re-constituted so that there would be a committed group of people on the Board serving as Deacons rather than each time having to ask the permanent Diaconate as the need for Deacons regularly arises. She asked Pastor Debbie about her experience with this aspect of our**

governance model, and Pastor Debbie commented about a period of initial adjustment from the more traditional Board and that the incoming settled minister may or may not be familiar with our model. In addition, as noted during one of the breakout sessions, Paul Schur and Jamie Lang-Rodean are currently the Worship Lead Ministry Co-Coordinator. They are in the process of identifying some interested congregation members (including Deacons) to participate more actively in worship planning and support.

## **(2) Defining what new directions our ministries might take post-Covid.**

Earlier in the year there were several focus areas brainstormed. Some of these areas are well underway including Food Ministry partnership with Foodshare and the development of a Hybrid worship service. Preparations are underway for increased food support for University students this fall. The possibility of a mission project with Habitat for Humanity is also being discussed. There also continue to be discussions about the future of Just Peace – including the possibility of moving out from under the Outreach ministry area.

Discussion focused on a sense that there is a lot of great stuff happening and that we need to do a better job marketing what we are doing both within SCC and with the broader community. Pastor Debbie shared how excited she is about all of the great ministries happening at SCC and how she takes advantage of 1:1 meetings/conversations to share them more broadly. She suggested that we all take advantage of interactions that we have with congregation members to share the great things we are doing and invite them to help out.

We discussed using communication channels to ask the question – Do you know us? And then answer the question with a description of some of the things that we are doing. We also discussed increasing external publications such as adds in UCONN Papers, on UCONN Radio station. The goal would be to reach out the community and find a way to “speak” to them and help them understand how we might fill a need for them as spiritual individuals.

There could be measurements of some of these activities. There could also be measurements of people engaged both in ministry opportunities and in worship.

Elaine Chague is interested in co-leading the efforts of this goal. Malta will look for a co-lead to work with Elaine.

**Pastor Debbie Pastoral Report:** Some highlights include:

- Pastoral care including several home visits as well as connecting with church members through office visits, phone, and email. Lakeside gatherings at my home are planned for July 15 and 22.
- New members were installed as members of SCC during the outdoor service on June 13 which was followed by a fun-filled picnic with delicious food. Thank you again to the many volunteers who made this happen and the welcome to new friends.
- The hiring committee for the Communication and Digital Ministry position that was approved by the governing board (Malta Bailey, Jim Davis, Annetta Miller, Andy McCabe, and Pastor Debbie) was posted. Candidates are starting to apply.
- On June 20, Father's Day, we held our first in-person worship service in the Meeting House since last March. The Rev. Marilyn Kendrix, retired bridge Conference minister, was our guest preacher followed by a time of fellowship and a labyrinth dedication in the auditorium.
- Lisa Haupt and I led a successful youth camp, "Take Heart, Take Action," the week of June 21 for 19 children. Church volunteers were a great help during the week! Lisa plans to hold another program next summer as well.
- A wedding rehearsal and ceremony were held on July 17 - July 18 in the Meeting House for a long time church member and her new husband!
- Noontime chapel with Communion took place on June 22 and July 6 and will continue through August once per week.

- Memorial services were held for several church members, with preparations in place for additional events to be held in July. Pastor Debbie has also been asked to lead a memorial service at a local funeral home.
- The Rev. James Ross, Conference minister for Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity was our guest preacher on June 27 via Zoom. Per SNEC guidelines, conference ministers are not allowed to attend local churches in person until after Labor Day. As a result, I rescheduled the Rev. Darryl Goodwin, SNEC Executive Conference Minister, from July 18 to December 5, his first available date so that he will (hopefully!) be able to be with us for worship and fellowship in person.
- Monthly meetings attended included Pastoral Relations, Governing Board, Search Committee, and WAIM.
- I met with the Rev. Brian Blayer, from St. Mark's Chapel, on July 7 to brainstorm possible fall and spring semester activities to be sponsored by Faith Row for students. We plan to hold a Faith Row meeting here the beginning of August to make plans.
- A blessing of the Prayer Shawl Ministry and its knitters was included in the July 11 worship
- We celebrated the baptism of a seven-month old, and welcomed his family to our midst.
- I was on a directed retreat at Mercy by the Sea June 14-17 and on July 12-14 to complete the retreat.
- I am exploring a volunteer opportunity with Habitat for Humanity for this fall. There are two ways for SCC to volunteer – sponsoring a house build which could accommodate up to 10 people and would cost \$100 each. This could be paid for by participants, fundraising, or other budget lines or a combination there-of. There is also a no-cost volunteer option in which up to 15 participants would volunteer at a Restore site. This item was further discussed and Pastor Debbie will discuss further with outreach.

## Review of tasks

- Duffy will explore possibility of renting out parking spaces to UCONN students. (Malta will communicate this request to Duffy)
- Pastor Debbie will follow-up with Outreach about possibility of SCC supporting Habitat for Humanity Mission experience.
- Cass will reach out to Ministry Team Leaders to request submission of monthly highlights – 2-3 sentences – that could be included in Carillon
- Malta will work to find somebody to work with Elaine to lead follow-up on the actions for the goal to define new directions for our ministries post-Covid.

## Blessing & Adjournment at 8:00 PM

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# CARING MINISTRY UPDATES

### Keeping In Touch

Our “Keeping In Touch” mailing list has been updated to reflect changes in address and contact information. Copies of the list are available by request from Deborah in the office.



Cards and letters, phone calls and emails are all simple ways to reach out and let others know we are thinking of them. If you, or someone you know would like to be added to this list, please contact Deborah to be added. Thank you for participating in this important ministry.  
*Contact: Deborah (sccoffice@storrscongchurch.org) or 860-429-9382*

### Pray For Our Military

The following list contains people called to active duty. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

- **Matt Allen**, submitted by Pam & Dick Roberts
- **Chip Greer**, submitted by Elaine Greer
- **Francis Kimenyi**, submitted by Patty Tanaka
- **Joshua Conner & Dakota Schroeder**, submitted by Charlene Dickerson.

If you know of someone who should be on this list, have an update or correct, please contact Deborah in the church office. Thank you.

## COULD YOU BE INTERESTED?

Who will serve as the next Treasurer of Storrs Congregational Church? Below you will find a brief write-up from Bob Malecki about the Treasurer position. Bob has served as treasurer for the past 8 years, but will be wrapping up his service at the annual meeting in January. In order to provide the opportunity for a smooth transition it would be great to identify the next treasurer sooner rather than later. Please prayerfully consider your gifts and the responsibilities Bob describes below and reach out to Bob or any member of the Leadership Discernment Committee if you are ready to volunteer.

### Leadership Discernment Committee:

Malta Bailey	<a href="mailto:mbailey05@snet.net">mbailey05@snet.net</a>
Richard Cowles	<a href="mailto:Richard.Cowles@snet.net">Richard.Cowles@snet.net</a>
Carolyn Holmy	<a href="mailto:ceholmy@snet.net">ceholmy@snet.net</a>
Kathy Lindner	<a href="mailto:kathyartist72@gmail.com">kathyartist72@gmail.com</a>
Stacy Malecki	<a href="mailto:RSMalecki431@gmail.com">RSMalecki431@gmail.com</a>

### TREASURER POSITION

As Treasurer, you will be an Officer of the church, and have the opportunity to work closely with the Collectors, our Bookkeeper (Deborah Gacek), the Finance Committee of the Governing Board, and all our SCC staff and ministry team leaders with the following duties described by our Bylaws:

The Treasurer shall be responsible for general financial oversight including keeping accounts of all Church fund receipts, disbursements, and balances; paying bills and salaries; managing all non-operating funds and investments; supplying monthly comprehensive financial reports to the Governing Board and monthly reports to the various committees, ministry teams and activities showing the current position of their operating and non-operating budgets, and an annual financial report on all Church funds to the Annual Business Meeting.

Many of the responsibilities listed above are delegated to or shared with our Bookkeeper. As part of the Finance Committee of the Governing Board, you will also actively be involved with the annual budget planning process.

While it may sound daunting, the Treasurer position requires only a basic understanding of accounting and budget planning. You may expect a time commitment of 16 hours per month on average, with more time required in January (to close the books for the year and prepare the annual report) and less time required during the summer months. Our new Realm accounting software is a web-based product allowing access from a home computer. Thus, it is possible to perform most of the Treasurer duties from home.

So you may ask, “Why would I ever want to do this???”

Simply put, I have found the Treasurer’s position to be very rewarding - using my time and talents with numbers, managing budgets and working with people to help enable God’s work through Storrs Congregational Church. Collaborating with our SCC staff and church leaders has been an added blessing! I know you will find this to be true as well.

So please consider taking on the Treasurer position and help enable God’s work through our Church. Feel free to call me to learn more.

In faith and service,

Bob Malecki

860-490-1920

Treasurer@storrscongregation.org

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## UPCOMING GOVERNING BOARD MEETINGS

*Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM*

Our Governing Board meeting will be held in person in the SCC Lounge. We will continue to hold Zoom meetings to include all participants until such time as all members feel safe and comfortable joining together in person.

Everyone is welcome to attend! If you would like to receive the materials packet contact Deborah in the office to be added to the invitation email.



Reports or proposals for the upcoming meeting must be submitted to Sue Irvine and Malta Bailey by noon on the first Monday of the month to be included in the agenda.

## BUILDING & GROUNDS NEWS

Unfortunately, the big news in July was another devastating lightning strike. Imagine running a church office with no internet, Wi-Fi, emails or phones. Yet, Deborah persevered and worked at arranging corrections for the extensive damage which also affected the alarm system, Trisha's computer and the elevator. As we return to normal operations, attempts are being made to determine how to best avoid future events of this magnitude. Meanwhile, on other fronts:

- The rental sign has been responsible for three inquiries and visits by interested individuals. Hopefully, one or more secured rentals will be an outcome.
- At long last, the Peace Pole has arrived. With help from Paul Schur, it will be placed securely in its selected location and be ready for the August 22<sup>nd</sup> dedication following service.
- Antonio's temperamental lawnmower should now be in good shape after an "in house" rebuild of its transmission unit and replacement of a defective coil.
- The grill that was loaned/donated to SCC from Turner Construction may wind up securely stored under the overhang of the Parish House for easier seasonal access. To help facilitate this, the Lang-Rodeans have donated a new grill cover for the unit.
- Now that daytime use of our parking lot has been reduced by the relocation of the Storrs Noon Group, the possibility of renting several spaces for student use has been investigated. The Governing Board will be discussing this possibility at their August meeting. There has been no shortage of calls from interested students because of the other Faith Row churches being involved in this practice.

I join with others in the hope that the current setback we are witnessing from the pandemic will soon become a distant memory as we work toward a better degree of normalcy for our congregation and the world.

Respectfully submitted,  
Duffy Brookes

## SUNDAY FLOWERS – ORDERING INFORMATION

1. To reserve a specific date to dedicate flowers, call the church office or sign up on the Flower Chart across from the ‘What’s Happening...’ bulletin board in the Parish House.
  - **If you want to provide your own flowers or order from a florist other than Stix ‘n’ Stones, proceed to Step 2**
  - **If you plan to order flowers from Stix ‘n’ Stones, a local florist, skip to Step 3**
2. If you are providing your own flowers, or using a florist other than Stix ‘n’ Stones in Mansfield, please deliver them to the Church Office by **4:00 PM on the Friday before**, or bring them to the Church Meetinghouse by **9:30 AM on Sunday**. We have vases available for you if necessary. Deborah can assist you with this. You are done!
3. Flowers may be ordered via phone or in person from Stix ‘n’ Stones, a local florist **who has a key to the church and will deliver your order for you. Kelly, at Stix ‘n’ Stones, is wonderful and will most likely be the person to assist you. The minimum order amount for delivery is \$35. You will be charged tax and a \$10.00 delivery fee from Stix & Stones. If you choose to pick them up yourself, you would avoid the delivery fee, but would be responsible for getting the flowers to the church on time.**
4. Call Stix ‘n’ Stones or visit in person, by the Wednesday before your Sunday date. Identify yourself as **calling for a Sunday arrangement for Storrs Congregational Church**. You may order any type of flower(s) and amount of money you desire with a **minimum of \$35, if you want them to be delivered**. If you are ordering unusual or out of season flowers, please call at least a week to 10 days ahead to be sure they can fulfill your request. **You will pay for this with your own credit card, check or cash.**
5. On the Monday of the week you’ve signed up to provide flowers, Deborah will send you an email reminding you that you’ve signed up to provide flowers and asking for the intention you’d like included with the Sunday worship service. **Please reply to Deborah’s email with the intention to be shared and if you’d like to have the flowers distributed by the Caring Ministry or if you’d like to take them with you.**

That’s it! Deborah is available to help you if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for your participation

## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE HAPPENINGS

### Anniversary Celebrations

*Donna & Peter Kristoff*..... 8/25  
*Jenna & Tom Hoyt* ..... 8/28  
*Laura & Kenneth Popeleski* 8/31  
*Paul & Sue Schur*..... 9/4  
*Harry & Lynn Johnson*..... 9/12  
*Tom & Janmarie Weston*.... 9/17  
*Allan Korkala & Jane Hollows*  
 ..... 9/21

### Birthday Celebrations

*Kate Blomstrann*..... 8/16  
*Annika Kuhn* ..... 8/16  
*Jennie Scott* ..... 8/16  
*Nat Wisehart*..... 8/16  
*Brianna Coolbeth-Demers*. 8/19  
*Ethan Bryant*..... 8/20  
*Cole Silliman* ..... 8/21  
*Laura Mills*..... 8/24  
*Nancy McLaren* ..... 8/25  
*Ryan McAlexander* ..... 8/26  
*Bryan Klimkiewicz* ..... 8/28  
*Aiden Kuhn* ..... 8/28  
*Connor Occhialini*..... 8/28  
*Matthew Coolbeth* ..... 8/29  
*Tina Huey* ..... 8/30  
*Adrian Atkins* ..... 8/31

*Mary Dean* ..... 9/1  
*Mike Lake* ..... 9/2  
*Robert Kimenyi*..... 9/3  
*Ali McLaren* ..... 9/6  
*Sterling Brandt*..... 9/7  
*Ken Hanson* ..... 9/7  
*Chuck Jr. Vinsonhaler* ..... 9/8  
*Katie Kapinos* ..... 9/9  
*Melissa Mason*..... 9/9  
*Mary Lake* ..... 9/10  
*Elliot Smith* ..... 9/11  
*Ray Joesten* ..... 9/12  
*Bob Malecki* ..... 9/12  
*William Huey* ..... 9/13  
*Stephanie Henderson*..... 9/16  
*Matthew Dione* ..... 9/17  
*Selena Kapinos* ..... 9/18  
*Jeffrey Villar*..... 9/18  
*Donna Kristoff*..... 9/21  
*Samuel Baldwin*..... 9/22  
*Janmarie Weston*..... 9/23  
*Steven Demurjian* ..... 9/25  
*Lynn Brown* ..... 9/26  
*Wendy Hamlin* ..... 9/28  
*Betsy Mochel*..... 9/28  
*Alyssa Blachez* ..... 9/29  
*Robin Blomstrann* ..... 9/29  
*Corey Dione* ..... 9/29

Celebrating a special date or event is usually more enjoyable when you share it with others. That is not always true for everyone and if you are someone who would prefer to remain “unlisted” then I apologize in advance. We have recently reassessed our Birthday & Anniversary listings and if you see your name when you did not expect to, please contact Deborah to remove your name from future publications by updating your profile. If you do not see your name as you expected, please contact Deborah to make updates.

## FROM THE LIBRARY

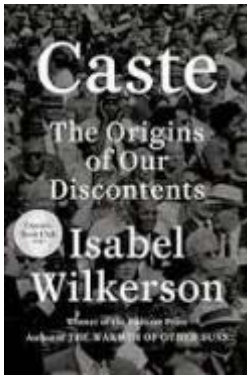
Summer days are drawing to an end and school and Fall activities will soon be on our calendars. So if you haven't completed your summer reading list now is the time to correct that by borrowing books from the library. The Library Team has been gathering through the summer and continuing to maintain the library to facilitate your visits. Please, as always, we welcome your suggestions for additions to the library. This past year we have added several books from the Just Peace book list. Copies of this list are available in the library. Many of these books cover current topics of importance to social issues.

See you in the library as we pray for moving forward with our activities in the next year.

Your Library Team: Janet, Marietta, Sue and Joan

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## SCC BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



*Caste: The Origins of our Discontents* by Pulitzer Prize winner Isabel Wilkerson has been chosen for our next discussion, Sunday, September 19, 2021, 7:00 PM.

The author examines the different caste systems around the world and shows how they influence the people involved. She suggests that the social and political systems in America are shaped by a caste system. The best selling book has been named the #1 Nonfiction Book of the Year, and One of the

10 Best Books of The Year among others awards.

Availability: SCC Library, Library Connection, Local Libraries, Audio and E-book (several members have the book to loan)

*If the meeting will be held via Zoom as well as in person, the zoom information will be distributed via email the week of the meeting.*

Contact: Malta Bailey, [mbailey05@snet.net](mailto:mbailey05@snet.net)

## SERVICE SEWING, CONNECTING IN

School Supply sales have already begun! There are reports that with the students returning to in person learning the need for school supplies will exceed the demand from last year. Our Service Sewing team depends upon the savvy shoppers of this community to gather the needed items for the school kits to pack into hand sewn bags for delivery around our nation or where the need is greatest.

Supplies needed for **School Kits** are:

- One pair blunt scissors (rounded tip)
- Three 70-count spiral or tape-bound pads of 8" x 10-1/2" ruled paper or pads with 200-210 sheets.  
No loose-leaf/filler paper.
- One 30-centimeter ruler (12")
- One hand-held pencil sharpener
- Six new pencils with erasers
- One eraser, 2-1/2"
- One box of 24 crayons (only 24)
- \$2 for mailing



Supplies needed for **Health/Hygiene Kits** are:

- One hand towel measuring approximately 15" x 28" to 16" x 32" (no fingertip, bath, dish towel or micro-fiber towel)
- One washcloth
- One wide-tooth comb removed from the package
- One fingernail or toenail clipper, removed from the package
- One bath size bar of soap, in the original package
- One toothbrush, in the original package
- 10 standard size Band-aids
- \$2.00 for mailing cost

If you'd rather not shop but want to participate you can send in a check to SCC with "Health & School" kits on the memo line and we'll do the shopping for you.

Bring kits or supplies to the Parish House Lounge for collection or contact one of our Errand Support group (pg. 18) to make the delivery for you. Thank you for your continued support of this ministry.

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 33<sup>RD</sup> UCC VIRTUAL SYNOD

Attending the UCC Synod virtually over the course of the week of July 11-18 was a challenge and an exciting experience. Pastor Debbie, Pam Roberts, Darryl Hilliard and I viewed and participated in selected worship sessions, plenary business sessions, workshops and resolution implementation sessions.

The following were some of the 50 workshops chosen: Trauma: How the Church can support healing; Wellness Ministries - A foundation for addressing health disparity (wellnessministries@ucc.org); Be an advocate - Raise your voice on Capital Hill (Join the Justice and Peace Action Network); Lift Every Voice - a Just Peace workshop; Transitional ministries (Disabilities, WISE, Just Peace, Economic Justice, ONA, Global Ministries and Creation Justice); Beyond Binary (about different sexualities). The workshop recordings are available through August. We plan to review them again, listen to more and hopefully, purchase the recordings of appropriate workshops for further study.

The Resolutions passed in the Plenary sessions included: 1. A Resolution to recognize the United Nations international decade for people of African descent, 2. A Resolution to declare and respond to racism as a public health crisis, 3. "Who will speak for the trees?" A resolution on the rights of nature, 4. Declaration for a just peace between Palestine and Israel, 5. A Resolution to advocate and act to change the cash bail bond system to eliminate racial and social injustices inherent in the present system. Check the UCC bulletin board in the education building soon for a display of all the Resolutions. Implementation sessions were held at the Synod to discuss ideas of how to proceed.

What will we do to use the information to benefit our congregation and develop ideas for our church? As a start, Darryl plans to contact the originator of the "Change the Cash Bail Bond System" Resolution and determine how we can advocate in Connecticut. Kathy is contacting the originator of the "Who will speak for the Trees" Resolution and plan how we can support implementation of the ideas presented. Discussions with the Just Peace Team will follow.

Visit [generalsynod/news](https://www.generalsynod.org/news) and click on news again to find out more information.

Kathy Lindner

## MEETINGS @ SCC

- Tuesdays, Pastoral Search Committee, 5:00 pm (PH – Lounge)
- Aug. 18 Lead Ministry Coordinators, 12:00 pm (PH – Lounge)
- Aug. 18 Worship Team, 1:30 pm (PH – Lounge)
- Aug. 19 Noontime Prayer, 12:00 noon (Waggoner Chapel)
- Aug. 19 Governing Board, 7:15 pm (CE – Room 201)
- Aug. 26 Pastoral Relations Committee, 3:30 pm (Library)
- Sept. 1 Windham Area Interfaith Working Group, 7:00 pm (Lounge)
- Sept. 8 Governing Board, 7:00 pm (PH – Lounge & Zoom)
- Sept. 30 Prayer Shawl Ministry (CE – Library)

## EVENTS @ SCC

- Aug. 28 WOW Tag Sale, 1:00 pm (Front Lawn)
- Aug. 29 Student Breakfast, 9:00 am (Front Lawn)
- Aug. 29 WOW Tag Sale, 8:30 am (Front Lawn)
- Aug. 29 Summer Concert on the Lawn, 5:00 pm (Front Lawn)
- Aug. 31 UConn Swing & Blues Dance, 7:00 pm (Auditorium)
- Sept. 1 Windham Interfaith Working Group, 7:00 pm (Lounge)
- Sept. 11 Patriot Day, Carillon bells ring from tower at 8:46 am
- Sept. 12 All Church Picnic, following Worship (Courtyard)
- Sept. 12 Consonare Rehearsals, 4:00 pm (Auditorium) held every Sunday
- Sept. 19 Book Discussion Group, 7:00 pm, (CE – Library)
- Sept. 25 Blessing of the Animals, 11:00 am (Front Lawn)
- Sept. 21 Celebrate Mansfield Event

## REMEMBERING



This year, Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the terror attacks that took the lives of 2,977 men, women and children in New York City, Arlington, VA and near Shanksville, PA. To commemorate this anniversary, Trisha will play 'Let There Be Peace on Earth' on the carillon bells at 8:46 AM. At that time, she will toll the 'Bourdon' (lowest

sounding bell) twenty times at the end.

**Storrs Congregational Church**  
2 North Eagleville Rd.  
Storrs Mansfield, CT 06268

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