

THE VOICE of *Second Church*

United Church of Christ

50 Park Street

Attleboro, MA 02703

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. Postage Paid
Attleboro, MA
Permit # 122

February, 2012



Souper Bowl of Caring, Sunday, February 5th

Can Carnival, Saturday, February 11th

Special Meeting, Sunday, February 12th

Second Congregational Church of Attleboro, UCC
Reverend F. Vernon Wright V, Minister
William A. MacPherson, PhD., Director of Music
Kara Lehane, Executive Director, Jack & Jill School – 508-222-1149
Amie McCarthy, Director of Christian Education
Fred Saunders, Administrative Assistant
Jack Baptist, Sexton

Office: 508- 222-4677 Fax: 508- 222-2148

Office email: office2nd@verizon.net

Reverend Wright: ruachwrights@msn.com

Web site: www.attleborosecondchurch.org

Find us on Facebook!

To receive THE VOICE by email, call the office or send an email.

The Voice

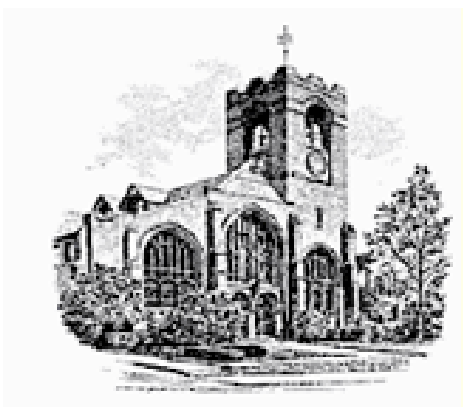
We seek to be a church of the open mind, the warm heart, the aspiring soul and a vision for God's world. Everyone is welcome at Second Church.

A monthly newsletter

February, 2012

Women's Fellowship	Jack & Jill School	Women's Spiritual Studies	Can Carnival	February Birthdays	One + One	Martha Circle	Music Notes	Youth Groups	Calendar
Page 4	Page 5	Page 5	Page 3	Page 4	Page 4	Page 5	Page 4	Page 3	Page 6

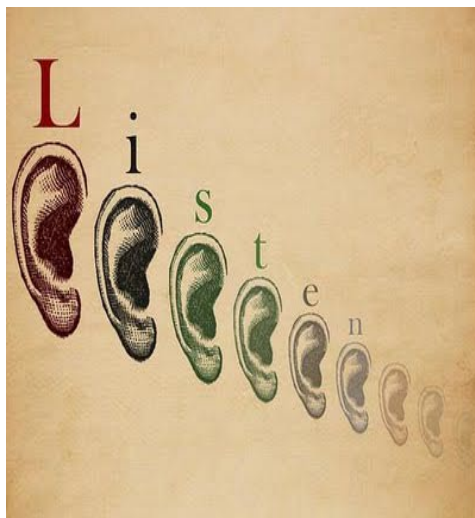
MINISTER'S MUSE



When you think about it, Jesus was a very dynamic person. He was, on the one, hand an incredibly hard working people person and, on the other hand, sort of a desert recluse hiding away deep in prayer. He always seemed able and willing to respond to the requests and questions of prima donnas and nobodies. At the heart of this dynamism was a keen ability to listen.

Listening is really at the heart of the church. When I visit someone who is ill I always feel that my primary goal is to listen with a

compassionate heart. I am able to do this to the extent I am able to open my own heart to the listening, compassionate God. I am often surprised at the outcome, not only because I don't have many concrete expectations, but because I find that the conversation and insight gained is usually far greater and more wonderful than I could have ever imagined.



But listening is also important whenever we endeavor to do something new at the church. The process that has led to our important vote on the adoption of

an open and affirming welcoming statement has mostly been an endeavor of listening. As we listened to the insights comments and concerns of one another we were enriched by understanding and compassion. No matter what the outcome of our vote may be I am convinced that we have all grown considerably by our ability to listen to one another.

Listening is at the heart of our faith. After all we are all members of a church that believes that "God is still speaking." Where there is a voice there must be an ear!

Reverend Vern Wright

LITURGICAL THEMES

The following is a list of faithful themes and sermon titles. Your minister lovingly maintains the right to change the sermon or topic without notice, due to the last minute stirring of the Spirit.

February 5, 2012, Communion Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Scripture: Mark 1:29-39

Sermon: "Listener"

In the account by Mark of a Jesus Christ who is in the one moment healing the multitudes, the next out in the desert by himself praying, and the next responding to his disciple's anxiety, we encounter a person who's first priority seems to be on listening. This sermon shall focus on what it means to be a good listener.

February 12, 2012 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Scripture: Psalm 30

Sermon: "Peaks and Valleys: Faith in Praise and Lamentation"

The psalms frequently move from praise to lamentation, to praise again. This dynamism of affirming God on the one hand and questioning God on the other are deep in the DNA of biblical faith. As we explore this theme my hope is to unearth some insight on how we maintain faith in the midst of our doubt and despair.

February 19, 2012 Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

TBA

I will need to keep this week open in order to appropriately respond to our important congregational vote on February 12 on whether to adopt an open and affirming welcoming statement.

February 26, 2012 First Sunday in Lent Seminary Sunday

Scripture: Proverbs 8:1-11

Sermon: "People of Wisdom"

As we lift up an offering to Andover Newton Theological School, the Seminary that has brought wisdom and learning to many of your previous pastors (including yours truly), we will reflect on the role of study and learning in the journey of faith.

BOARD OF DEACONS

The lead Deacon's for this month are Jack McKenna and Deb Hawes. If you would like to volunteer to be an usher, please contact any Deacon. If you would like a ride to church on Sunday, please contact Ralph Giannetti at 508-226-4618 or Marcia Weidner at 508-222-5422.

All God's Blessings,

The Board of Deacons

Communion Visitations continue each week to our shut-ins. If you are unable to attend church and would like to receive communion, please notify Reverend Wright and arrangements for a visit will be made. Our visits offer a special time to quietly partake in Communion, offer up prayers, and know your church family is with you.

In Peace,

*Sara Chaloux,
Communion Visitation*

FOOD PANTRY

Please remember as you clip coupons and do your shopping that demand continues to run high for our this vital ministry. We continue to run between 25 and 30 or more families each month on each fourth Monday. Items needed particularly at this time are fruit juices, peanut butter & jelly, hot cereals, hearty canned soups, and packaged meals.

Thank you for your support!

NOTICE!



SPECIAL MEETING

A special meeting of the Church has been called for **February 12, 2012** by vote of Church Council to consider adoption of an Open and Affirming welcome statement. Last month's VOICE had a "hold the date" notice and this is just to flesh out our plans and to renew an invitation to attend and participate. Please take a moment to reflect on the truly wondrous nature of such a Congregational meeting; free men and women, bound by common faith, gather to consider the form and nature of their collective religious life. In this one, we will be asked to re-affirm our open welcome to all who believe in Christ.

We will gather for Brunch in Fellowship Hall immediately after service. At approximately noon, depending on how long Brunch takes, the meeting will be called to order. A motion will come before the meeting to adopt a proposed Open and Affirming Statement for Second Church. Of course, upon resolution of that motion any other motion which may come before such a meeting will also be considered.

I hope you'll plan to join in this opportunity for fellowship and participation in the spiritual life of Second Church.

Chris Chaloux, Council President



THANK YOU!

This year you contributed 142 hats, scarves and pairs of mittens or gloves to the **Mitten Tree**. The Christian Education Committee wants to thank you for your generosity. A great number of local children will be helped through your donations as these gifts have been distributed to the nurses in Attleboro schools.

CAMP SINAI: TEN COMMANDMENTS

Camp Sinai is off and running. All of our Sunday School Children are enjoying discovering the Ten Commandment through cooking, games, arts and crafts, and storytelling.

Camp Sinai will be running January 22nd & 29th and February 12th. Upon arriving at church on these Sundays the Children should be brought directly to the Chapel. On Sunday February 26th, the Children will be singing the song they have been working on in Children's Choir and presenting the Ten Commandments to the congregation during the worship service.

SUPER BOWL SUB SALE

All Super Bowl Sub orders must be placed by January 29th. All Sunday school children should give their order forms with the money to their classroom teacher on January 29th.

All Sunday School children in grades 3 through 8 are being asked to come to church at 9am on Sunday February 5th and meet in Fellowship Hall to help make the Super Bowl Subs and prepare for the Souper Bowl of Caring. Our Pre-k and kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade

classes will be reporting to their Sunday school class at the regular time.

You may pick up your Super Bowl Sub in Fellowship Hall after worship on February 5th. If you will not be attending Service on February 5th, your subs will be delivered to you by the child that took your order.

The Christian Education Committee and Amie McCarthy



WE NEED YOU!

The Souper Bowl of Caring is coming to Second Congregational Church on Feb 5th. We need **all** youth from 3rd to 12th grade to make this event a big success. Please consider joining us. We are looking for you to come into the church at 9:30, dressed in your favorite football team gear. We will be needing youth to stand at the doors with soup pots collecting money and will need youth to help with making our Souper Bowl Subs. Please come join us to help raise money for the Attleboro Area of Churches. Last year we raised nearly \$500.00!

The 3rd and 4th grade youth fellowship will not be meeting in February. More information will be mailed out this month.

The Jr and Sr high youth fellowship meeting this month is February 19th at 6:00 pm.



2ND ANNUAL CAN CARNIVAL

Our can carnival will be taking place on Feb. 11th from 1 to 5 pm. We need all the youth to be involved in this because it is such an important event. We are planning on getting set up on Friday Feb 10th starting at 5:30 pm and working until 9. We will be having pizza for those who come and help. This was a blast last year and we can do that again. We are also looking for volunteers (both youth and adults) to help with running the games, helping with the food and making the pop corn. The cost of this great, fun-filled event



will be food items for our food pantry. Tickets will be exchanged for the food items and everything from the games to the food will be purchased for the tickets. The more food items you bring, the more tickets you get. **Please tell your friends and family about this fun day where you can play skee ball and mini golf, bowl, play basket ball, darts, ring toss and more.** We will be having hot dogs, drinks and other snacks as well as popcorn. Please see me if you would like more information or would like to volunteer.

Sue, Joanne, Keith and Dave

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

CANDLE MAKING WORKSHOP!

Women's Fellowship will be having a workshop to craft candles for the Fair in late March. If you have any candles you no longer want or candle stubs, we would be delighted to have them. Also, if you have any pots/pans you might be thinking of tossing, we could use them for melting wax. You may leave your items on the counter in the kitchen marked "Women's Fellowship". Please call Deb Hawes (508.339.1831) with any questions. Thank you!

PICTORIAL CHURCH DIRECTORY!

It's almost that time again! Later this year we will begin assembling a new pictorial directory. Next month we will have more details regarding dates for portrait sittings. If you have any photos of our church building, church events/activities, special services and other church-related photos you think might be appropriate to include in the directory, please email them to Deb Hawes (debhawes@msn.com).

UPCOMING EVENTS!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



May Breakfast: Saturday,
May 5, 7:00 am to 10:30 am

Indoor Yard Sale: Saturday,
May 19, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Church Fair: Saturday,
November 10, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Aidan Lancaster
- 2 Eleanor Larocque
Audrey Libby
Kyle Newcomb
Elliot Withers
- 3 Ron Koback
- 4 Jessica Dryjowicz
Hannah Melker
- 6 Kristine Benoit
Bette Walsh
- 9 Prudie Bliss
Hailey Murphy
Ruth Alice Ottmar
- 10 Emily Ferguson
Bob Withers
- 11 Paige Valego
- 13 Arwen Appleton
Deb Goulding
- 15 Tara Tetreault
- 17 Jim Young
- 18 Sue Janson
- 19 Rob Harris, II
Jacob Klanderman
Katie Simmons
- 20 Julie Cotsalas
- 21 Barb Samson
- 22 Ashley Lauzier
Will Saunders
- 23 Emily Saunders
Art Schneider
- 24 Allison Cameron
- 25 Suzie Bourdeau
Henry Kimber White
- 26 Pam Cameron
Karen Slawson
- 28 Anita Chilson
- 29 Allison Girczyc
Keith Priesing
Nicholas Sidman

ONE PLUS ONE

One Plus One is a group of adults who meet to share Christian fellowship. It is open to all members and friends of the congregation. We will be holding our annual Charity Auction on **Saturday, March 24th at 6:30 pm**. This is always a great deal of fun, and it allows us to donate to charities each year at Christmastime. Please plan to bring a snack or dessert and have a great time for a great cause.

Colin Blair

MUSIC NOTES

Choir Schedules for February:

Adult Choir and Bell Choir will rehearse on Feb. 2, 9, and 16.

No rehearsal on Feb. 23 (public school vacation).

The Adult Choir will sing every Sunday; All-Comers will be February 18.

*Bill MacPherson
Director of Music*



MORE TRUTH AND LIGHT

Our alternative service of study, worship and music continues on the first Wednesday of each month. We have a loyal group attending regularly, but we would love to expand the group. We meet in the intimate confines of the Conference Room and follow our meeting with a time of light refreshment and fellowship. Please consider joining us at 7:00 pm on February 1st.

MARTHA CIRCLE

Martha Circle will not meet in February. We will meet next on March, 20th at 12:30 pm for our **ANNUAL AUCTION!** All women of the church are welcome to join us. Please watch the March VOICE for details.

FORMER CATHOLICS

Former Catholics will meet on Monday, February 13 at 5:45 in the Conference Room. There will be a special guest and pizza will be served.

Wendy Oliver

WOMEN'S SPIRITUAL STUDIES

The Women's Spiritual Discussion Group will meet on Wednesday, February 22 at 7 PM in the Conference Room. All women are welcome! Contact me at 508-226-2319 if you need a ride.

Wendy Oliver



We are gearing up for re=licednsing this Spring and have many projects happening "below the stairs" to prepare. We want to give a great big thank you to Andrew Osborne, Fred Saunders and Dave Webb for all their hard work replacing the flooring in our little girls' bathroom. The tiles are wonderful, the room is brighter and we were very happy to show it off during our open house. We are looking ahead to two new vanities in our classrooms over February vacation and some playground projects as well.

Please mark your calendars for our annual Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser on Saturday, March 21st. We would love to have our church community join us for this event. Donations for our opportunity baskets are already flowing in! As always, attendees will be served a delicious dinner and have the opportunity to win some amazing prizes. Come one, come all! Look for us during Coffee Hour on Sunday, March 25th to purchase your tickets.

Registration for the 2012-2013 school year is in full swing. We have a large incoming 3 year old class and may be able to open a second 3 year old classroom next year! Our paren-Toddler Play Groups are very well attended and I am having a great time working with the toddlers. The children are provided with both gross and fine motor experiences, enjoy a snack together and we end with a fun filled music circle! If you know anyone

who might enjoy this program, have them give us a call.

We have limited slots available in our programs. If you know of anyone interested in pre-school, encourage them to visit our website www.jackandjillattleboro.com. I love showing our school and am happy to schedule tours during class sessions. I can be reached by phone at 508-222-1149

Kara Lehane

MEN'S STUDY GROUP

The group would like to invite all men of the church to have supper with them for a time of conversation and fellowship. The first such get together in last month was a great success. It will again be a Dutch Treat event at Morin's, South Main Street in Attleboro, on Monday, February 20th at 7:00 pm. For more information or to reserve a spot, speak with me or call the church office.

Don Haskel

CURATOR'S CORNER

It's been a while since you've seen anything in this corner, and the reasons are many and varied but mostly center on housekeeping. However, we're finally getting a handle on why that little corner of our tower we call the curators office has been prone to water problems. We hope to have the problem straightened out soon. Meanwhile, there is a significant effort ahead to clean, sort and organize the office and its wealth of documents to make them once again presentable and functional. If you have an interest in assisting in this effort and some time to devote, please contact me in the office and I'll get you started.

Fred Saunders, Curator

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 2

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 11:30 am Reason Friendly Bible Study 7:00 pm More Truth and Light!	2 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Adult Choir	3	4
5 SOUPER BOWL OF CARING! 10:00 am Worship / Communion 11:15 am Women's Fellowship Meeting 11:15 am Music Committee Meeting	6 6:30 pm Board of Deacons Meeting	7	8 11:30 am Reason Friendly Bible Study 5:30 pm Food n' Friends Family Café 7:00 pm Facilities Committee Meeting	9 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Adult Choir	10 5:30 pm Carnival Setup	11 1-5 pm Can Carnival!
12 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Brunch and Special Church Meeting	13 9:00 am Communion Visitation Meeting 5:45 pm Former Catholics Group 6:45 pm Outreach & Missions Committee Meeting	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>	15 March VOICE Deadline 11:30 am Reason Friendly Bible Study	16 10:00 am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Adult Choir	17	18
19 9:00 am All Comers Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship/ Baptism 6:00 pm Youth Fellowship	20 <i>Presidents Day (Office is closed)</i> 7:30 pm Pastoral Relations Committee Meeting 7:00 pm Men's Study Group at Morin's	21 10:00 am March VOICE Mailing 7:00 pm Administration Committee Meeting	22 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 11:30 am Reason Friendly Bible Study 7:00 pm Women's Spiritual Studies	23 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Adult Choir	24	25
26 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Church Council Meeting	27 4-6 pm Food Pantry Distribution	28	29 11:30 am Reason Friendly Bible Study			