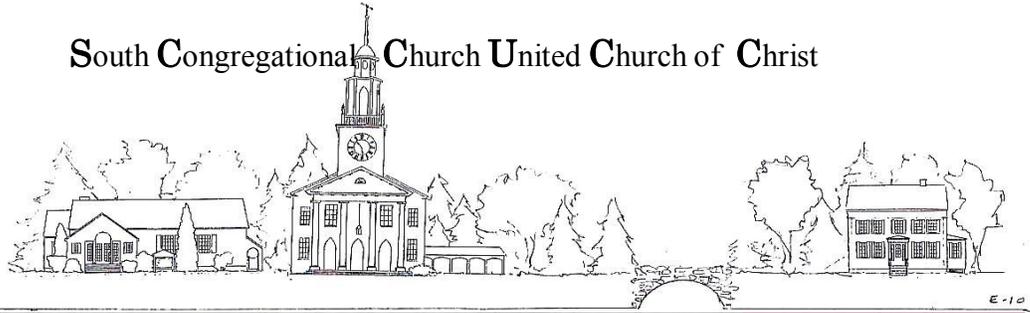


South Congregational Church United Church of Christ



E-10



January 2016

Words from our Minister

Soon we'll all be putting away our nativity sets, setting them to rest. (Hopefully we do so for Twelfth Night –Epiphany- for the Magi or Wise Men to arrive!) These sets have adorned our homes, our church window sills and outside our church front door lit up after sunset. I suppose, that is what it is all about, lighting up the evening hours. Howard Thurman, educator and civil rights leader, Dean of the Chapel and faculty member at Boston University, writes these words:

*"When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among people,
To make music in the heart."*



That is what we are about as South Church, bringing light and love to a world in need. Not perfect in all our efforts, but clear in our conviction: "To find...To heal...To feed...To release...To rebuild." May this new year find us joining with countless others in this endeavor. *Charles*

Life Journeys	Deaths	November 28	Stanley F. Meserve
		January 3	Frances W. Shaw

As we go to press, we are saddened to hear of Fran Shaw's death on Sunday, January 3, a couple of weeks shy of her 100th birthday. A long time member of South Church, Fran was active in the Women's Association, as well on many boards and committees. She will be greatly missed.

A memorial service takes place here on Saturday, January 16th at 1:00pm with a gathering to follow at the Community House. We hold all the family in our prayers in these days.

Our Mission is to be an inclusive community of faith that preaches the word of God, teaches the love of Jesus Christ and reaches out to all through the Holy Spirit.

An Open and Affirming Congregation

Inside this issue:

Words from Rev. Whiston
With Thanks
Birthday Invite
Annual Meeting Invite
Warrant
Sunday flowers

Sunday Worship 10:30 am
(Nursery Care provided)

Sunday School 10:30 am
Classes

With Thanks

Looking back, a season and spirit of gratitude fills South Church -

To those who erected the outdoor nativity set.

To those of Women's Association and other volunteers for two very successful Craft Fairs last month.

To our Biloxi Mission Team who made chili along with others who joined it – and Atria who supplied/donated all the delicious chowder for the fund-raising Prelude luncheon.

To Megan and Beth for a wonderful Live Nativity along with the The Huot family who provided two goats, a sheep and a llama !

To David and our marvelous choir for the presentation of "*The Magnificat*" for Sunday worship leading us to Christmas.

To Tim Dunn for our new outdoor nativity angel.

To the MANY who brought new socks, hooded sweatshirts and \$5 Dunkin Donut cards for the homeless of Portland to be distributed by Grace Street Ministry.

To Huntington Common who hosted the South Church residents, several of our Deacons and Rev. Charles for a luncheon together.

...and all of you who provided poinsettia plants, over thirty of which made their way to homes and care facilities where many of our members now reside.

Indeed, there is much for which to give thanks.



We invite you to attend our Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 24, in the Community House immediately following the worship service. Our snow date is January 31. Help us plan for lunch by signing up downstairs if you would. We will again share lunch together, this year prepared by Steve and Megan Ogden before the business meeting.

Our meeting is an opportunity for fellowship with others as well as a chance to reflect upon the ministry we share together. Our officers, boards and committees have worked faithfully to strengthen our ministries and their reports reflect a strong spirit and program here at South Church. We will learn more of our church at work both locally and abroad, as well as vote on the proposed budget for 2016. (An information gathering regarding the budget is set aside for January 17 after the worship service for any questions) Annual Reports will be available that same day.

We look forward to your presence and continued support as we gather for Annual Meeting.

WARRANT FOR ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of South Congregational Church United Church of Christ of Kennebunkport, Maine is hereby called to take place following the worship service and lunch on Sunday, January 24, 2016 (snow date January 31) in the Community House, then and there to act on the following business, to wit:

- Article 1 To receive the reports of the Minister, Officers, Boards and Committees of the Church.

- Article 2 To see what action the Church will take on the proposed budget as prepared by the Board of Trustees and recommended and presented by Central Board, and to authorize the Treasurer to expend funds in accordance with the budget as adopted.

- Article 3 To elect all the necessary Church Officers, Boards and Committees in accordance with the By-Laws.

- Article 4 To hear and act upon any further business to legally come before this gathering.

Given under my hand and seal of said Church of Kennebunkport this First day of January in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Sixteen.

Sandra Nichols, Clerk of the Church



South Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
PO Box 414
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Phone: 207/967-2793

We are on the web
www.southchurchucc.org

The deadline for submitting
newsletter articles is the 15th of
each month by emailing to:
sarah@southchurchucc.org.

You may have heard that **Andover Newton Theological School** has announced it will re-locate and sell its property/campus due to on-going major financial concerns. Options include linking up with Yale Divinity School in New Haven CT. Seminaries in this country all have been experiencing major declines, both in numbers as well as limited number of folks who are 'traditional students living in campus dorms.' It simply isn't happening anymore. Such was a similar dilemma for Bangor Theological Seminary just a few years ago; lovely campus with dining hall and dormitories. Far more students are older, second career and attending on a part-time student basis. The related article is on the bulletin board.

Would you like to **provide flowers some Sunday morning**? The new calendar is just now posted on the bulletin board. You may bring from your home, your garden or order from a florist of your choice. And you are welcome to take them home after the worship service. Signup now and as your dates gets closer, let Sarah in the front office know how you would like the wording to read; making sure we have names accurately spelled.

South Congregational Church UCC
PO Box 414
Kennebunkport, ME 04046

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