

*The Seekonk Congregational Church  
United Church Of Christ*

The  
Caller

*Gathered 1885*



**THIS MONTH ON THE ALTAR  
... CHECK OUT THE CROSS**

*This hand carved cross was artistically created by Carl Provost  
in Memory of The Rev. Dr. H. Daehler Hayes*

*It is beautifully inscribed with Carl's words that reflect the essence  
of this our faith community and our commitment to following Jesus  
Christ with diversity, justice and love! Please feel free to go to the  
altar at the end of the service and reflect on the cross of stones and  
the inscription which says:*

*The stones in this cross embody the diversity of the followers of Jesus  
Christ Each of these stones are unique, in size, shape, and color- just like  
us. Each stone has a story – where it came from – how it got here- just  
like us. Diversity gives the cross strength, balance, and character – just  
like us!*

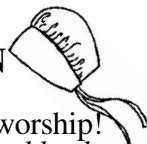
**ALL SAINT'S SUNDAY  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7<sup>th</sup> Special Music**

*This is the traditional All Saints Service*

*Honoring those who have gone before us since last November and  
the roll call of loved ones will be shared at each service.*



**THANKSGIVING  
SPECIAL WORSHIP CELEBRATION  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21**



- Our Service will be fashioned after the early Pilgrim worship!  
Please Bring: *Canned and boxed goods to fill holiday food baskets.*  
*NIN Offering Envelopes    \*\*Worship at 9:30\*\**

*No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.*

## FROM THE SENIOR MINISTER

Yes...it is now October 2021 and we still need to wear masks in church but we also continue to be God's faithful people caring for one another and worshipping with resiliency and perseverance.

We continue to be blessed with special music each Sunday morning in worship... solos, duets, trios, guitars... – all under the direction of Susan Barrow... and hopefully the choir will be able to gather altogether in the near future... We look forward to that day with great anticipation!

We have beautiful children in our 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class commissioned to learn all about The Lord's Supper and the meaning of Communion in our church. We have Church School Classes for children of all ages as well as wonderful teachers... and a great group of 8 recently commissioned amazing Confirmands who participated in the World Communion Worship Service on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and already are earning Community Service hours... and we have a dedicated number of Mentors who will be guiding these 9<sup>th</sup> grade youth throughout the year... under the direction of our Director of Faith Formation Kristin Putney. Truly we are blessed in so many ways as a faith community!!

Special thanks to all of the deacons and so many who are making phone calls and caring in a whole variety of ways to keep us all connected! We are – as I say in the message for October 10<sup>th</sup>... a RESILIENT faith community!!

Peace and courage... strength and blessings!!  
*Love, Joy*



## FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### CHURCH SCHOOL

Children ages pre-school - Grade 8 is available weekly. In person classes are the 2nd, 3rd and 4th weeks of each month. And children grade K - 8 meet in church on the 1st & 5th Sunday of each Month.



#### ***Second Grade Communion Class Commissioned***

*Luke Graham, Genevieve Bujold, Lyla Euell, Zoe Freitas,  
Kiptin Poland, Dylan Saunders, Michael Vierra*

#### ***2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Communion Teachers***

*Erin Keough, Melanie Keough, Olivia Pion, Aubrey McVay  
Subs: Lori Keough, Kristen Pion*

Director of Faith Formation: Kristin Putney



#### ***Confirmands Commissioned***

##### ***The Class of 2022:***

*Kathryn Laura D'Agenais, Nathaniel Raymond  
Inman, Zachary Antone Inman, Edward John Hindle,  
Melissa Marie Goncalves Keller, Jazmyn Alyssa Melo,  
Nickolas Darrick Tow, Anthony Michael Vicente*

##### ***Mentors:***

*Johnny Greene, Bob Putney, Yvette & Tony Sousa, Darren  
Stevens, Jack Klie, Brian & Cindy Burns, Jodie Vilardi,  
Jenna Bey, Meghan Tarvis, Tara Tarvis, Tammy Ramos,  
Bob Apuzzo, Kris Bujold*



***Set Clocks Back*** – Don't forget Daylight savings time ends November 7<sup>th</sup>, so set your clocks BACK on Saturday Night November 6<sup>th</sup> so you will be on time for Sunday Worship and Church School.

## BOARD OF DEACONS



The fact that you are reading this Caller article does NOT mean we are back to normal...yet. However, we are headed in that direction, but in the recognition that we will never go back to the old normal. We WILL be creating a new normal based upon the many new things we have learned since the country went on lockdown in March of 2020.

We were extremely fortunate to have so many talented people in our membership, which allowed us to plan and execute virtual services posted to YouTube, with the first announcement by Joy being posted on March 15, and our first virtual service being posted only a week later. From that time forward we have been on a learning curve that will help guide us to this new normal.

What will that new normal look like? We can't say for sure because we are not there yet. However, we will obviously continue our in-person services, but we are planning to continue posting our services online for those than cannot (or choose not to) attend the live service. In general, our plan is to live-stream (posting the live service online as it is happening) our weekly service. Jon Gherardini (Co-Chair of our Board of Trustees) just last week updated the WiFi service not only for the office, but also the sanctuary, which was the first step necessary to allow us to live-stream. Now we have to research other equipment that will be needed to make this plan a reality. Read Donna Euell's newsletters for updates.

Although we have mentioned some of the people in the past that brought us to the virtual service, their participation was critical for keeping our church alive:

**Rev. Joy C. Utter** – At the drop of the lockdown announcement, was able to immediately adapt her services to this new format.

**Josh Wright** – without much warning was able to jump in and create incredible virtual services, while also providing us with weekly updates to allow us to constantly improve on what we were doing.

**Carl Provost** – not only part of the initial planning discussions, but also loaned us the camera that still use today.

**Susan Barrow** – from Day #1 continued her playing, but on Wednesdays rather than Sundays. Also had to, not only coordinate soloists, but also had to deal with the logistics of how & where the video would be taken, and how to get it to Josh.

**Donna Euell** – continued providing us her weekly announcements as well as helping to coordinate when to video each week.

And, while we are acknowledging people, we thank Pat Martin for her six years of service as not only a Deacon, but also as the secretary for each meeting. Taking her place this year, we are very happy to welcome Bonnie DeBlois to the Board of Deacons. She has been involved in the Board of Mission & Social Action for many, many, many years and we know she will bring that dedication to the Board of Deacons as well.

As a final note, we are very happy to welcome our eight new confirmands for this 2021-2022 year!



**DEACONS:** Evelyn Watkins & Craig Grant (Co-Senior Deacons)

Jim Siegfried Dawn Houle Russ Noble Bonnie DeBlois

Ruth Graham Tony DeJesus Betty Graham

Brian Burns Anne Varna-Garis David Supinski

Louanne Jennings-Abelson (Deacon Emerita)

Jonathan Ryder (ad hoc) Donna Euell (ad hoc)

**Submitted By:** David Graham (Deacon Emeritus)

**The Deacon's Fund** goes to help those in our faith community in need of emergency help or those who have special needs!

For those who give via paper envelopes, the envelopes are GREEN and in the offering envelope box for the first Sunday of each month. OR if you give on-line, go to [www.scc-ucc.com](http://www.scc-ucc.com) and click on the online giving button at the top right hand corner and fill out the online giving form.

We thank all who give faithfully and encourage others to consider a small gift for this fund each month.

## REGISTER FOR CHURCH

We are asking you to register for Church as a precaution as it is easier for us to contact you if we do have a reported Covid case. When you are registering for your family use one name and put a number attending next to your name. It is not necessary to list all of the names.

Please enter the Sanctuary through the Fall River Avenue parking lot door and **ARRIVE EARLY** as there is a check in process with the ushers at the top of the ramp.

Masks **are** required when inside the sanctuary.

If you decide at the last minute to attend church, please join us, you could register at the door with the ushers.

If you are not quite ready for crowds, that's fine! We are recording the services and an email with the link to the service will be sent by email and will be on our Facebook page by Monday afternoon the latest. See message below regarding future Live-Streaming Services.

## WEEKLY CHURCH SERVICES

We are meeting In-Person every Sunday at 9:30 in the Sanctuary. Pre registration is suggested but you could register at the door. You can get the registration form in our weekly emails or on Facebook or our Website. Please arrive early as you need to be checked in at the door. **MASKS** are required.



## NEW MEMBERS

Christine Deslauriers, Raymond Deslauriers, Amy Deslauriers, Christine McKenrick, C. Ross McKenrick, Rebecca Kenney, Alicia de Silva, Diane Burbank, Jacqueline Rodgers, David Rodgers, Shelby Mailhot, Matthew Mailhot, Mackenzie Rodgers

### EMAIL ADDRESS UPDATE

Please update your email address as we send out emails once or twice a week with all upcoming information and also updated prayer concerns. In these emails you will have a link to register for church. These emails use the service Constant Contact and are composed by Donna Euell. If you have any information to add to these weekly emails contact Donna directly at [donna.euell@gmail.com](mailto:donna.euell@gmail.com) or text/call 401-523-5283.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Many of us are no longer using our landline phones, please update Maria at [seekonkucc@gmail.com](mailto:seekonkucc@gmail.com) with your updated phone and email contact information.

### HAVE YOU REMEMBERED THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL?????

30+ Years ago we, as a church, were told that if we keep asking that question...in 20 years we would see the results! --

So far...not so great!! --

Our Senior Minister even told us that in her will it stipulates that 10% of whatever remains at the time of death will go to the church.

Have you prayerfully taken this step of making the church a beneficiary to insure the future of our Seekonk Congregational Church UCC??

It's never too early to make that move.



# HARVEST SUPPER

We are so excited to let you know that we will be having a Harvest Supper this year, Take out Only.



**Saturday November 6, 2021,  
pick up will be in the early afternoon.**

The order form will be ready by October 15 and will be in our weekly emails and on Facebook & our website.

The meal will consist of: Baked Ham, Mashed Potatoes, Butternut Squash, Harvard Beets, Onions and Cole Slaw - a large portion for one will be \$16. Dessert will be Apple Bread Pudding for \$4. For questions please contact Donna Euell at 401-523-5283 (text/call) or [donna.euell@gmail.com](mailto:donna.euell@gmail.com). Thank you to Four Town Farm for providing the potatoes and squash. We will be looking for Bakers to make the dessert, a recipe will be sent to you as we will all use the same recipe for consistency.

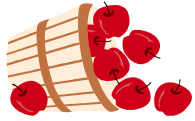
**TELL YOUR FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS!!**

## CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Save the date Saturday December 4th Pre order only with pick up early in the afternoon. Be on the look out for the order form in Mid-November.



## FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Anyone who can take leaf bags to their landfill or home compost please feel free to remove from upper hill behind the Gardiner Building. Thanks

### CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPDATES

We will be starting our construction projects that were approved at the Annual Meeting in June. New sanctuary roof, repairs to the outside Sanctuary woodwork that is rotting, new heat/AC unit for the Memorial Room and painting the outside of the building. We will put together a mini campaign so that you could assist and buy a bundle of shingles or contribute to one of the other projects or maybe you would be interested in funding the entire amount of \$45,000. These are repairs that have waited way too long and now it is time to take care of YOUR property.

## TRUNK OR TREAT

We are very excited to announce that there will be a Trunk or Treat this year for children of all ages on **Saturday Oct 23 from 4 to 6 PM** in the Fall River Ave Parking lot. Free entry, walk through the decorated car trunks and receive candy or TEAL TOY BUCKET items (for allergy-free needs). There will be family activities and games and a snack bar with pizza, hot cider and desserts. So start thinking of your costume.

And we are looking for people to decorate their trunks and be part of this fun event. And we also need donations of candy, bakery pizza, drinks and desserts.

Please contact Kristin to let her know if you are decorating a trunk and if you can donate food and what you will donate. Set up will be at 2 PM [PutneyKristin@gmail.com](mailto:PutneyKristin@gmail.com) 774-991-1555. Please invite your friends and family and all your children's classmates. Please park in the County Street Parking lot, this event is sponsored by the Board of Christian Education

## FROM YOUR STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE



### **PLEDGE GIVING (2021 – 2022) “IT’S NEVER TOO LATE TO SUBMIT YOUR PLEDGE.”**

You can call the office at any time  
*Is your Pledge up-to-date?*

#### **What is a PLEDGE?**

It is filling out a card (agreement) to promise a certain amount of money to the church regularly on a weekly or monthly basis.

#### **Why do we pledge?**

The church has a budget for programs, supplies, utilities, staff salaries, buildings and grounds upkeep, curriculum, etc. and counts on regular giving to pay the expenses to operate a vital church community. Without pledges we cannot create a budget.

#### **How much ‘should’ I pledge?**

This decision is between you and God! The scriptures say that in biblical times a ‘tithes’ was 10% but a modern tithe could be 5% as we give to other areas of need as well. Some members consider starting @ 1% of their income and try to raise it each year. A fair way is to give the percentage that is possible given your income.

#### **How do I pledge?**

Fill out a pledge card or for electronic giving fill out the form. Place in offering plate or mail to the church. Give online...go to [www.scc-ucc.com](http://www.scc-ucc.com) and click on the online giving button at the top right hand corner and fill out the online giving form.

#### **What is our GOAL?**

Our goal and hope (and prayer) is that each family unit in the congregation will give a % of income in a pledge to the church.

**If you never received envelopes and wish to receive a box please call the office.**

**Blue Envelopes...** Thanks to all who contribute to the Mortgage Debt Reduction! The Blue envelopes in your box help us meet the monthly expenses. Or if you wish to give online...go to [www.scc-ucc.com](http://www.scc-ucc.com) and click on the online giving button at the top right hand corner and fill out the online giving form.

## MISSION AND SOCIAL ACTION

1. Mission and Social Actions members have been delivering food from Doorways to the shut-ins at Seekonk Commons every other Saturday.



2. We just finished reading "Just Mercy" by Bryan Stevenson, had a book discussion on September 23, and will be showing the movie "Just Mercy" October 15. "Just Mercy" is about a young lawyer who goes to Alabama to represent people on death row who have been convicted of crimes that many did not commit. There will be a pot luck dinner at 6, followed by the movie at 7. The movie will take place at Graham's house, 33 Homestead Avenue, Rehoboth, MA. Registration will be required. Email Betty Graham at: [bettygraham5@yahoo.com](mailto:bettygraham5@yahoo.com) if you are interested.

3. Three members of the Mission and Social Action Committee will read their reflections from last spring's "Merciful Conversation on Race" at the October 17th service.

4. We have been in contact with Dorcas International who will be sponsoring 150 Afghan refugees. Below is a list of items that can be brought to the church and we will see that they get them. (Please see Donna's Weekly email).

5. We continue to support our partners in Haiti during this very difficult time. There is a GoFundMe page that you can make contributions to. [GoFundMe - Haiti](#)

6. Our next book club selection will be "Four Hundred Souls" edited by Ibram X. Kendi. This is a unique "community" history of African Americans from 1619-2019. The editors have assembled ninety brilliant writers, each of whom takes on a brief period of that four hundred year span. The writers explore their periods through a variety of techniques: historical essays, short stories, and personal vignettes. It unlocks the startling range of experiences and ideas that have always existed within the community of Blackness.

If you are interested in joining this book discussion, please send an email to: [bettygraham5@yahoo.com](mailto:bettygraham5@yahoo.com)

**FOOD PANTRY...** We have non-perishable food available for anyone in need. Please contact Maria for her office hours so you could stop by.

# EARNEST WORKERS



## Welcome to the Earnest Workers!

If you have not attended our meetings before, please know you are very welcome!

We are now meeting the first Wednesday morning of each month from September until June.

We have a list of the proposed Earnest Worker meeting topics explaining our activities and dates if you are interested.

Please contact Evelyn Watkins at [evelynwtkns@gmail.com](mailto:evelynwtkns@gmail.com) or cell phone number 401-680-2490 to ask for a list of our proposed activities for Fall 2021 to Spring 2022.

Our Earnest Worker activities for November and December are:

## **THANKSGIVING PUMPKIN CENTERPIECE Workshop Wednesday, November 3 at 10:00 a.m. in Woodworth Hall of the Gardiner Building.**

Pat Smith will teach us how to make a dried flower Pumpkin Centerpiece in a Pumpkin container. The charge for the supplies to make your centerpiece is \$10.00. Please let Pat Smith know if you are planning to attend so that she can provide all the supplies needed. Pat's cell phone number is: 401-429-8696. We start our meetings with a business meeting including Devotions, a Secretary and Treasurer's report, a summary of prior business and any new business we may have. Then we will make our Centerpieces. You are invited to bring a picnic luncheon to enjoy time together with the Earnest Workers after our Centerpiece activity.

Please let Evelyn or Pat know if you have any questions.

**CHRISTMAS EARNEST WORKER LUNCHEON to be held at DAVENPORTS in Seekonk. Wednesday, December 1st we will meet at Davenport's at 12:00 noon for our traditional Christmas Luncheon.**

**Hazel Greene is coordinating this wonderful event for us. Please call her at her home phone number: 401-919-5917 to let Hazel know you are planning to attend. There are 3 luncheon menu choices that you can discuss with Hazel. The DEADLINE for signing up is Wednesday, November 3rd (our November meeting). Hazel may also call you to ask if you plan to attend if she already has your phone number.**

The price for the lunch depends upon the choice of the 3 menu items so you can discuss this with Hazel. Thank you very much!

**Yankee swap at our Christmas Luncheon** - We also have a fun Yankee Swap at our Christmas Luncheon if you care to participate. Each person brings a wrapped item in the \$10 to \$15 range to participate. Please let Hazel know if you have any questions about this also.

We hope that if you have participated in Earnest Workers we will see you soon and if you are new to our Earnest Workers group, we welcome you!

Have a wonderful Fall!

Evelyn Watkins, Secretary  
Earnest Workers, SCCCUCC

It is time to place your **RADA Cutlery order**. The Earnest Workers have been selling this product for many years, let's keep this tradition going. You can contact Joyce Greene at [bjgreene@fullchannel.net](mailto:bjgreene@fullchannel.net) or by phone or text to 401-742-0759 to place your order or get information. The link to the catalog is in Donna's emails. Get your order in by October 30<sup>th</sup>.



## **THIRTY BOOKS OF THE BIBLE ...CAN YOU FIND THEM?**

Here is a fun puzzle for you to solve. Read very carefully and follow all directions and you will be successful. Happy Hunting!

There are thirty books of the Bible in this paragraph. Can you find them? This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket, on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much; he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his john boat. Another friend studied it while playing his banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend judges the job of solving this puzzle so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. Truthfully, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst. Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in this paragraph. During a recent fund raising event, which featured this puzzle, the Alpha Delta Phi lemonade booth set a new sales record. The local paper, The Chronicle, surveyed over 200 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As Daniel Humana humbly puts it, "the books are all right here in plain view hidden from sight". Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation that may help is that books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. Also, keep in mind that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mad exodus. There really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this paragraph waiting to be found.

## HOW THE INTERNET BEGAN

In ancient Israel, it came to pass that a trader by the name of Abraham Com did take unto himself a young wife by the name of Dot. Dot Com was a comely woman, broad of shoulder and long of leg. Indeed she was often called Amazon Dot Com. And she said unto Abraham, her husband: "Why dost thou travel so far from town to town with thy goods when thou canst trade without ever leaving thy tent?" Abraham did look at her as though she were several saddle bags short of a camel load and asked: "How, dear?"

And Dot replied: "I will place drums in all the towns and drums in between to send messages saying what you have for sale, and they will reply telling you who hath the best price. And the sale can be made on the drums and delivery made by Uriah's Pony Stable (UPS)." Abraham thought long and decided he would let Dot have her way with the drums. And the drums rang out and were an immediate success. Abraham sold all the goods he had at the top price without ever having to move from his tent.

To prevent neighboring countries from overhearing what the drums were saying, Dot devised a system that only she and the drummers knew. It was called Must Send Drum Over Sound (MSDOS), and she also developed a language to transmit ideas and pictures: Hebrew To The People (HTTP). But this success did arouse envy. A man named Maccabia did secrete himself inside Abraham's drum and began to siphon off some of Abraham's business. But he was soon discovered, arrested and prosecuted for insider trading. And the young men did take to Dot Com's trading as doth the greedy horsefly take to camel dung.

They were called Nomadic Ecclesiastical Rich Dominican Sybarites, or NERDS. And lo, the land was so feverish with joy at the new riches and the deafening sound of drums that no one noticed that the real riches were going to that enterprising drum dealer, Brother William of Gates, who bought off every drum maker in the land. And, indeed, insisted drums be made that would work only with Brother Gates' drumheads and drumsticks. And Dot did say: "Oh, Abraham, what we have started is being taken over by others." And Abraham looked out over the Bay of Ezekiel, or eBay as it came to be known and said unto Dot: "We need a name that reflects what we are." And Dot replied: "Young Ambitious Hebrew Owner Operators." "YAHOO," said Abraham.

And because it was Dot's idea, they named it [YAHOO](#) Dot Com. Abraham's young cousin, Joshua, being the Gregarious Energetic Educated Kid that he was, soon started using Dot's drums to locate things around the countryside. It soon became known as God's Own Official Guide to Locating Everything (GOOGLE). And that, net surfers, is how it all began.

**Seekonk Congregational Church  
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OR CURRENT RESIDENT

*TO BELIEVE IS TO CARE-----*

*-----TO CARE IS TO DO!!!*

**2021**

Senior Minister: Rev. Joy C. Utter  
Director of Faith Formation: Kristin Putney  
Director of Music: Susan Barrow  
Office Administrator: Maria Tavares  
Treasurer: Donna Euell  
The Congregation Ministers

Assistant for Operations: Louanne Jennings-Abelson  
Co-Senior Deacon: Evelyn Watkins & Craig Grant  
Moderator: Stephen Houle  
Parish Nurse: Addie Heelan  
Trustee Chairs: Craig Mace & Jon Gherardini

