



The Spire

SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
35 Conant Street, Beverly MA 01915

Interim Senior Minister: Rev. Dr. Peter-Michael Preble
Directors of Music: Mr. Charles Turner & Ms. Nancy Rexford
Chaplain: Ms. Wendy Linares

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www.facebook.com/BeverlySecond

VOLUME LVI, ISSUE 13

October, 2020



Sanctuary Reopens for Worship

Sunday, October 18, 2020 @ 9:30 A.M.

We will be opening the Sanctuary for worship beginning on October 18, 2020 with restrictions for social distancing.

Worship may also be viewed live via www.facebook.com/BeverlySecond or later at your convenience

According to current regulations, we can accommodate 37 people in the space which includes Rev. Peter, Nancy Rexford, Wendy Linares, and Charles Turner.

See page 6 for more details and a visual diagram

OCTOBER WORSHIP CALENDAR:

Worship continues in the parking lot at Second Church at 9:30, weather permitting; otherwise send your email address to church office to receive an invitation to view the service online. Beginning Sunday **October 18** worship will be held in the sanctuary; also may be viewed on line. Details on front page.

4 **18th Sunday after Pentecost**

+World Communion Sunday+

Sermon: Rev. Dr. Peter-

Michael Preble

"Wisdom for the Way"

Exodus 10:1-4, 7-9

11 **19th Sunday after Pentecost**

Sermon: Rev. Preble

"Praiseworthy Living"

Philippians 4:1-9

18 **20th Sunday after Pentecost**

Sermon: Rev. Preble

"Living Messages"

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

25 **21st Sunday after Pentecost**

Sermon: Rev. Preble

"The Compassionate Life"

Matthew 22:34-46

YOU'RE INVITED

Join us on zoom: Tuesday mornings at the **Coffee Hour** 10-11 and/or **Tea Time** Thursday afternoons 4-5. To receive weekly invites and join in the conversation, phone the church office at 978.922.5722 or email office at: parishadmin@beverlysecond.com. Thursday Tea Time features preview of upcoming Sunday sermon.



LIGHT OF THE WORLD

During October the Church Spire will be illumined *"In loving remembrance of Wilbur Andrews' Birthday by his daughter Judy Andrews Eramo."*

TREE OF LIFE



Christian Love & Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of **Gay Ramsey (Holmes)**, who died on September 1st (mother to Heather Ramsey Mabrouk, 101 Pleasant St., Manchester MA 01944).

Message from our Interim Senior Minister—Rev. Dr. Peter-Michael Preble

Dear Members and Friends,

Fall is my favorite time of the year. I love the change in seasons, and I love that the temperatures are getting a little colder. Outside of my study window is a tree that is ablaze in color, and it warms my heart each time I look out the window, but I also know that it will not last long.

The fall will also bring changes around the Church. As you know, we have been meeting in the parking lot for worship and providing the service online via our Facebook Page. I am incredibly pleased with the numbers of folks coming and tuning in to the services. On Sunday, October 18th, we will be moving out Worship Services back inside the Church. There has been much discussion and planning around getting us back. There is more information about that in the Spire this month. I will ask that you be patient with us as we adapt to the new regulations for in-person worship and get used to the new video equipment in the Sanctuary.

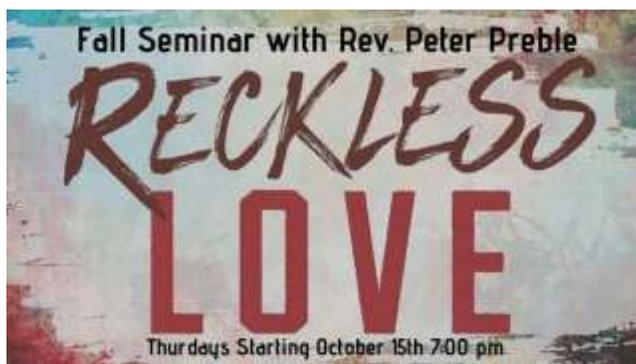
As I announced last Sunday, I will be offering a **Fall Seminar** starting on October 15th and running for six weeks. The Seminar's topic will be **Reckless Love** and how loving our neighbor will bring us closer to God. The Seminar will run on Thursday evenings starting at 7:00 pm and will be held on Zoom. I am asking folks to register in advance, so I know how many will be participating.

There is a book that goes along with the sessions, and there will be a \$15 charge for the book. After you register, a link will be sent to pay the \$15, and the book will be sent. There is a link to the Seminar information on the Facebook Page, and I will put all the information at the end of this message.

I want to remind you of the Tuesday morning and Thursday afternoon chats that we have been running on Zoom. We have hosted some wonderful conversations on a variety of topics. If you have a chance to pop in from time to time, it would be great to see more folks participating.

Nicky and I look forward to welcoming you back to in-person worship, or continued worship online in a few weeks.

Blessings and Peace,
Rev. Dr. Peter Preble
Interim Senior Minister



Fall Seminar: Reckless Love Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm starting October 15th. \$15 fee for the book. Pre registration is required by following this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAVcOuoqTwuHNFqAuZILagoxHbl-WqRcJ8>

Message from Chaplain: Wendy Linares

Autumn Greetings, Friends!

Well the cool days and nights have arrived. I hope this finds you and yours relishing these Fall days. There is so much to love about Fall, even in these unusual times we find ourselves in. One of the highlights of my Chaplain ministry recently was a good old fashioned ice cream sundae party which was held at Steven Tutton's group home in Beverly. We brought all the fixings for sundaes . The residents loved it and so did Keith and I! We had a variety of ice cream, lots of toppings, and good old fashioned fun.

I continue to stay in touch regularly with those folks who used to come to church regularly. For whatever reason, these folks have been unable to attend (before the pandemic) but they still enjoy and count on connection to Second Church. Between calls, cards, phone conversations, runs to the pharmacy, hospital visits, and socially distanced outdoor visits to some, we've kept in touch. Other members of our visitation team are also staying in touch with folks and I know it's meaningful to those calling and to those being called on.

Our church community continues to be a blessing to so many. I am so grateful to be part of this church family! Before I close, let me share this poem, written by Fred Lamotte. In these days when there is so much division, so much "us " and "them " in the world, so much belief in our separateness, may this poem be a healing balm for all.

Blessed be, Rev. Wendy

Contact information:

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Email. wendylinares60@gmail.com

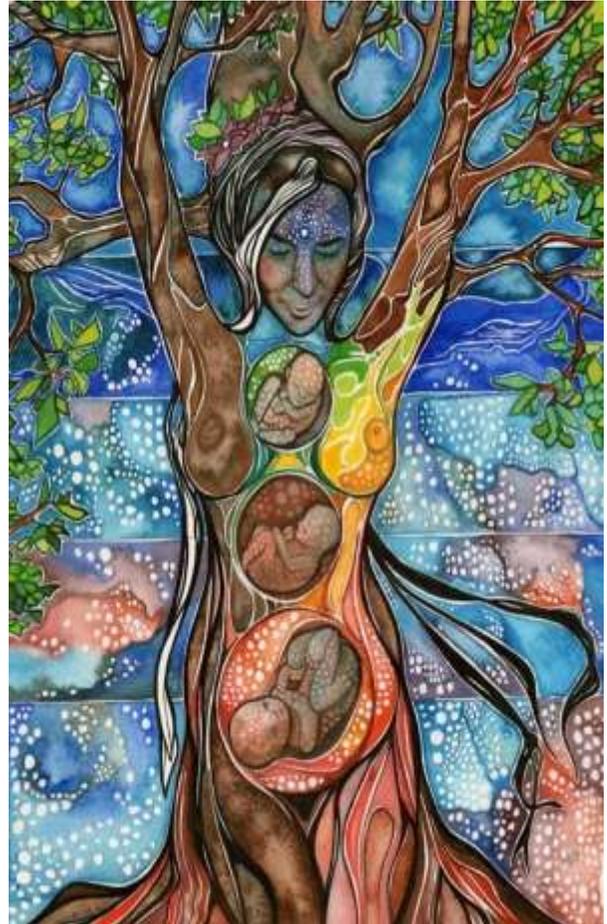


ANCESTRY (Sharing this chant again for Earth Day)

My DNA results came in.
Just as I suspected, my great great grandfather
was a monarch butterfly.
Much of who I am is still wriggling under a stone.
I am part larva, but part hummingbird too.
There is dinosaur tar in my bone marrow.
My golden hair sprang out of a meadow in Palestine.
Genghis Khan is my fourth cousin,
but I didn't get his dimples.
My loins are loaded with banyan seeds from Sri Lanka,
but I descended from Ravanna, not Ram.
My uncle is a mastodon.
There are traces of white people in my saliva.
3.7 billion years ago I swirled in hydrogen dust,
dreaming of a planet overgrown with lingams and yonis.
More recently, say 60,000 B.C.
I walked on hairy paws across a land bridge
joining Sweden to Botswana.
I am the bastard of the sun and moon.
I can no longer hide my heritage of
raindrops and cougar scat.
My mud was molded with your grandmother's tears.
I was the brother
who marched you to the sea and sold you.
I was the merchant from Savannah
and the cargo of blackness.
I was the chain.
Admit it, you have wings, vast and crystal,
like mine, like mine.
You have sweat, dark and salty,
like mine, like mine.
You have secrets silently singing in your blood,
like mine, like mine.
Don't pretend that earth is not one family.
Don't pretend we never hung from the same branch.
Don't pretend we do not ripen on each other's breath.
Don't pretend we didn't come here to forgive.

Fred Lamotte

This poem has been published in The Tiferet Journal, the anthology "Inspiring Forgiveness," and our own book "Fire of Darkness."

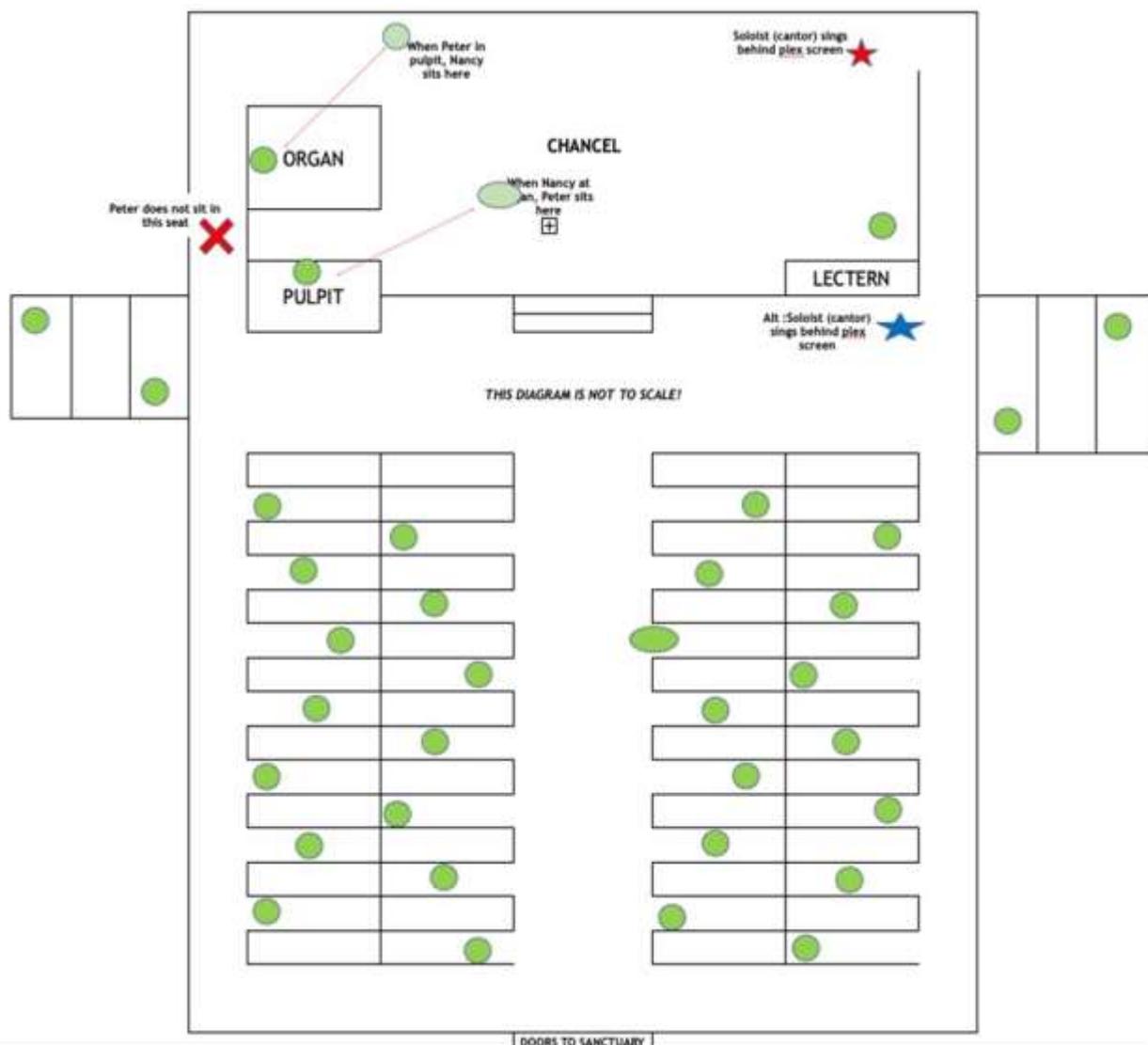


Painting: Tree of Life by Tamara Phillips.

Reopening continued from page 1

Parishioners will enter through the front door unless they are physically challenged and must use the Handicapped Entrance. All will be required to wear a face mask and use hand sanitizer upon entrance. Attendance will be taken for contact tracing. Ushers will direct worshippers to and from their seats. The diagram below illustrates how the Sanctuary will be organized to maintain social distancing. There will be no socializing or leaving seats. All Bibles and hymn books have been removed from the space although paper bulletins will be available. Congregational singing is discouraged.

Those needing the Handicapped Entrance and the elevator should contact the Church Office by Thursday (phone: 978.922.5722 or parishadmin@beverlysecond.com) if possible so there will be assistance available.



Prudential Board Report—Mac Donaldson

Below is a summary of our key financials as reported in the August Treasurer’s Report:

	<u>YTD Actuals</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Total Budget Income	\$168,347	\$224,925	-\$56,578
Total Pledge Receipts	\$95,229	\$88,724	\$6,505
Total Budget Expenses	\$157,504	\$193,456	-\$35,952
Total Income less Expenses	\$10,843	\$32,469	

Our total budget income continues to benefit from the generosity of our members, whose pledge payments continue to exceed year-to-date plans. Again, thank you so much!! After six months of reduced collections from the various users of our building, we are beginning to more visibly see the impact of those reductions in our income figures. Fortunately, we continue to be able to avoid drawing down investments to cover costs, primarily because our expenses continue to track well below budget.

Last month at this time, we were in the throes of negotiating a re-opening plan with the North Shore Christian School. After much back-and-forth, we finally reached an agreement. Like any other negotiation, nobody was completely satisfied, but we broke through the difficult places in the dialogue and have reached an agreement that allows them to reopen school, on a limited basis. Our agreement is up for re-examination by the end of the year when the rent reduction we previously agreed with them will expire. Many thanks are due to the Reopening Task Force for your mental and moral support in getting this done!!

The Finance Team currently sits at the confluence of three significant activities: our stewardship campaign kick-off, early budget planning, and most recently the beginnings of discussions about reopening the church for Sunday services. Each of these activities carries its own challenges, but the combination of them will complicate forecasting this year’s ending financial position and next year’s budget. Hopefully clarity on key decisions will evolve sufficiently to support a solid financial planning process.

Note: The Finance Team is still in search of one more member to round out our crew. There are some current and future minor projects that need attention. You don’t need to be a CPA, you just need to care and to have some energy!



Central Board News and Notes:



MEETING MINUTES

The Central Board met on September 2, 2020.

- . New Board members, Doug Marquart and Lauren Swiniuch were welcomed to the Board.
- . Kathy Taylor stepped down from Interim Chairperson.
- . Dale Earl was elected Chair, and Dale Miller-Bouton remains as Secretary.
- . The report of the Reopening Task Force was accepted unanimously. This included the reopening of North Shore Christian Academy on 9/14/20.
- . Outdoor Worship services will continue in the parking lot until 10/18/20, at which time in-person worship in the Sanctuary will hopefully resume. (see additional Spire article with more details)
- . Working Team Liaisons were assigned:
Finance: Dale Earl; Mission/Social Action: Dale Miller-Bouton, Kathy Taylor; Technology: David Brandt; Safe Church: Doug Marquart; Sanctuary/Worship: Lauren Swiniuch; Christian Ed: David Brandt; Community Building: Kathy Taylor; Reopening Task Force: Kathy Taylor, Dale Miller-Bouton.
Chairs of these committees will be asked to attend the next Board meeting for updates on their progress.
- . Discussion of formation of Settled Pastor Search Committee. The Central Board will begin process of forming this team.
- . Planned to hold Forward Chat on 9/20/20 to gather input from Congregation on attitudes toward returning to worship in the Sanctuary.
- . Zoom coffee hours continue on Tuesdays @ 10 a.m., and Tea Time on Thursdays @ 4 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Central Board is scheduled for Tuesday, 9/29/20 @ 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. If you are a non-board member who would like to attend, we will be glad to send you the link by e-mail at your request. Bev2board@gmail.com.

Congratulations Rev. Darrell Goodwin, our newly elected Conference Minister of the Southern new England Conference, United Church of Christ!

Rev. Darrell Goodwin, Executive Conference Minister Southern New England Conference, United Church of Christ
History was made on September 26th, 2020!

Sing Preacher! To God be the Glory! | Preach it! | Yes, God!

Welcome, Rev. Goodwin! So grateful for your presence in our midst and for the leading of the spirit!

You couldn't be more welcoming! I'm so excited to have you here.

Can we move to accept Rev. Goodwin by acclamation????

Rev. Goodwin— The Holy Spirit is moving through your voice and song.

Another Singing Pastor love it! :)

Yes! No Limit! | SING

So happy that an ordained person was ultimately selected. That aspect is important in this role!

We indeed are doing a NEW THING! Welcome to our new work at the SNE to our new leader. Thank you!

Searching YouTube for instructions on how to do authentic barbershop

Yes... and yaaaaa! Hee hee... :)

Fantastic! Holy Spirit, move among us for good!

I love the vision of this vision moving across the SNEUCC in all our individual settings. A beautiful garden indeed!

Welcome Rev. Goodwin! So grateful to be part of this meeting today!

Set it on fire. Set us on fire.

Beautiful, moving... and inspiring! Thank you all! This time has been a blessing! Rev. Goodwin is a blessing! Feeling hopeful in ways I haven't for too long.

Thank you to Rev. Goodwin's Grandmother. Welcome to our community of faith Rev.!

Congratulations Rev. Goodwin! We are truly blessed to have you lead our conference.

PLT | Welcome Rev. Goodwin

We cannot leave here like we came!

God is indeed doing a new thing! Amen. Thanks be to God for Rev. Goodwin and his leadership.

Rev. Darrell... thank you for your insights and answers to our questions... wonderful to hear... yaaaaa!

Happy Day! Welcome, Rev. Darrell

Praise God! What a glorious day!

Thank you for allowing us to ask you questions! I am confident that our candidate is called and capable of leading our conference vision and mission.

Yes! Lead us to new places!

Wonderful News! Welcome Rev. Goodwin! Yippeee!

Hallelujah!

Southern New England Conference United Church of Christ
 Living the Love & Justice of Jesus

1. Do you approve the election of the Rev. Darrell Goodwin to the position of Executive Conference Minister of the Southern New England Conference effective January 1, 2021?

Yes 98%
 No 0%

A message from Rev. Goodwin upon being voted in .

“Today I was elected as the 1st Executive Conference Minister of the Southern New England Conference, United Church of Christ!

I am grateful for every “No” to serve this church because God was preparing the right “Yes”. I have never cried this much in an annual meeting with the words, singing, and pure worship. I am ever grateful to the Pacific Northwest Conference, United Church of Christ for welcoming me and my local Church, to the Iowa Conference UCC, Nebraska Conference UCC,, and South Dakota Conference UCC for welcoming me to conference ministry, the United Church of Christ for welcoming to the Board of Directors and my soon to be home conference for hearing the voice of God. Let’s set this world on FIRE for God’s Glory!”

Follow happenings of the SNEUCC at <https://www.facebook.com/sneucc> and for more on Rev. Goodwin follow <https://www.facebook.com/RevDGoodwin>



Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry(CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities.

The 2020 theme is "all children have the right to simply be children."

*This offering is received by Sunday of **October 4th** as part of World Communion Sunday. Checks can be mailed or dropped to Second Church, 35 Conant Street, Beverly, MA 01915—memo NIN*



I am writing to thank the scholarship committee for selecting me to receive a Robert Rasche Scholarship. I accept it as a great honor. I appreciate the help as I continue my dream to complete a master's degree in Early Childhood Education at Gordon College. I look forward to enhancing my ability to teach various age groups.

Sincerely, Leah Falkowski



Gratitude is extended to all who supported our summer food drive for *Beverly Bootstraps Food Pantry*. Your gifts of nourishment were delivered to Bootstraps by Jan Allen last week. Donations can be placed in the Narthex basket throughout the year.

Knitting Notes



With the church still being closed we will not be meeting in October.

Hopefully, November. Prayer Shawls and baby blankets are still in demand, so please keep the knitting needles or crochet hooks busy.

Happy Fall.

Ruth Moran



Calling all women in the church family & extended church family join us !

**Wednesday, October 14th from 7 pm—
8:30pm for Spirited Women
(link for Zoom gathering will be e-mailed
that day)**

We will be trying an online version until we can meet again in person. The themes will be spiritual in nature...heart centered, tapping into our nature as spiritual beings.

The meeting will be led by Wendy. We will begin with prayer, explore an interesting subject through conversation and participation from the group. We will close each meeting with prayer, and with a quote to carry with us and contemplate till we meet again. Open to all!



Second Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
35 Conant Street
Beverly MA 01915

Hello Second church families!

We hope you are all settling into going back to school. This school year is very different from other school years and our plans for Sunday school are too. This October we will be kicking off our virtual Sunday school year with a paint party on October 18th! Children we hope that you can join us, enjoy painting and visiting with friends and teachers after the summer. The following weekend we will jump right into virtual Sunday school for the last two weekends of October!

In October we will also be beginning our **PEN PAL PROGRAM**. We are so excited for the children of the church to form relationships and communicate with adults from the church through writing letters, cards or drawing pictures. Adults are invited to connect with Diana or the CE team if you would like to be a Pen Pal.

We kicked off **VIRTUAL STORY TIME** via our Facebook page in September and that will be continuing in October. New stories will be posted on Thursday afternoons for you to watch at your convenience. Check it out!!

Have a wonderful October everyone!
Ms. Diana & Ms. Peg

DIht4227@gmail.com (Diana Travers's email)
peg_round@yahoo.com (Peg Round's email)

