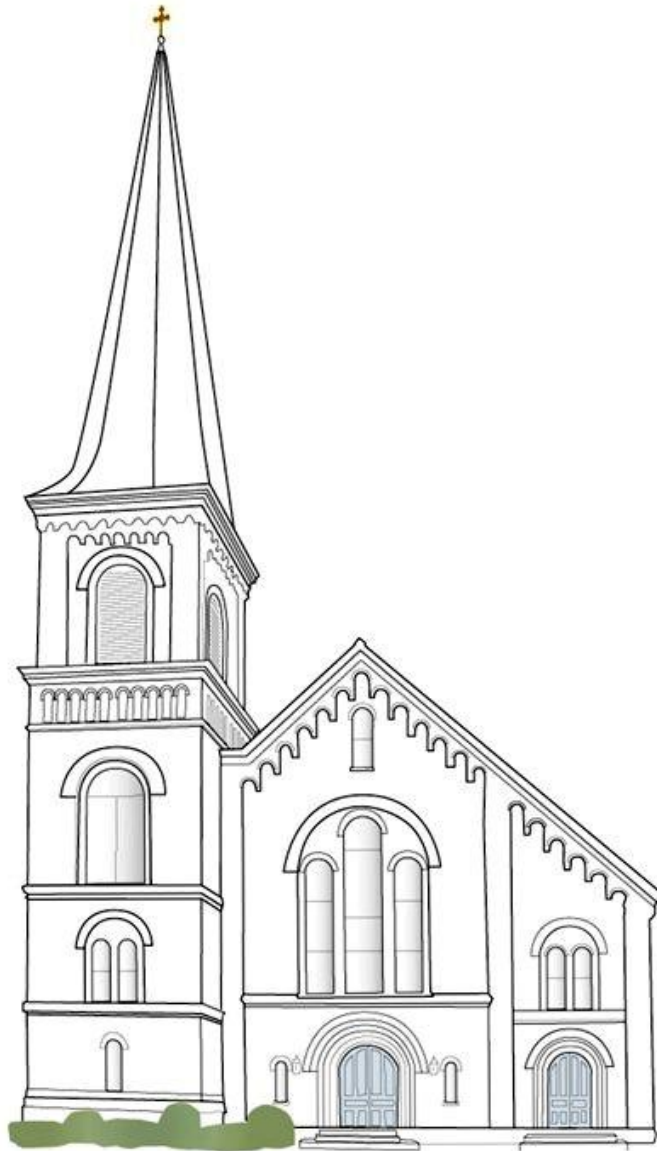




AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION
AN EXTRAVAGANT WELCOME TO ALL!



Summer Worship

Pastor: Rev. Jed Rardin

Interim Minister: Rev. Sean Dunker-Bendigo

Pianist: Abigail Charbeneau

Music Director: Sue Berlenbach

Memorial Bells Choir Director: Carlene Ruesenberg

Director of Christian Education: Alison Nyhan

27 Pleasant St. Concord, NH 03301 | 603-224-2521 | www.southchurchconcord.org

Welcome to South Congregational Church, United Church of Christ! Whoever you are, whatever your faith tradition, whatever creed you profess, whatever your age, ability, race, sexual orientation or gender expression, you are welcome here!

WE GATHER...

WORDS OF WELCOME

CENTERING MUSIC

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather this day, stranger and friend,

Known and unknown,

All loved by God.

We gather to worship,

To offer concern and joy,

To be reminded to love as we have been loved.

To unfold and become as we journey together

So let us worship God.

*HYMN

UNISON PRAYER OF APPROACH

O Divine, to become is a lifelong process. We evolve in the midst of ways of being made narrow by fear and power. Help us to have the courage to listen to the truth of our own lives, responding without resistance or need to control, but with welcome and curiosity. Guide us with your wisdom so that our becoming is an unfolding of our truest self. This lifelong labor cannot be carried out alone, so provide for us help from friends and lovers, family, and creaturely companions who bear witness to what makes us come alive. Invoke in us your patience, grace, and imagination to be the people you have called us to be.

SPECIAL MUSIC

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD...

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Creator of unity, Body of peace, Spirit of community, bind us together around your Word and send us out to do your justice, show your mercy, and embody your redeeming love. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

SERMON

*HYMN

TO PRAY TOGETHER...

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father and Mother, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

TO RENEW OUR COMMITMENT...

AN INVITATION TO STEWARDSHIP

Virtual offering plate: bit.do/southchurch: other options include using the "Donate" button on the website, or mailing/dropping off a check to the office.



OFFERTORY

*SUNG RESPONSE

In the midst of new dimensions in the face of changing ways, Who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering in their separate ways? God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar. We your people, ours the journey, now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

TO SERVE THE WORLD

*HYMN

PASSING THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

POSTLUDE

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Please join us following worship for Coffee Hour!

Prayers for Edna Elle; Betsy Gates; Chris Scott; and Myrna Prevost.

Prayers for the Morrison family.

Prayers for Rev. Jed as he recovers from surgery.

Lay Reader: Ro Metcalf

Usher: Lolly Gilbert

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Moment for Mission: The Faith in Action Ministry has chosen the UCC Neighbors in Need fund as our Moment for Mission for the months of July and August. 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. NIN makes available annual grants to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. The funds collected for this mission will be utilized by staff to develop curated social justice resources such as webinars, bible studies, curriculums, advocacy tools, etc. within the program areas of environmental justice, racial justice, LGBTQ justice, economic justice, women's justice, immigration justice, and more. Please make a donation today. Thank you for your continued support of the Faith in Action Ministry.

Family Promise: We will be assisting Temple Beth Jacob the week of **July 31 to August 7** as they will be hosting families in the program. We will need assistance from you to make this happen and be a meaningful experience for the families in our care. Opportunities include: preparing dinner and dropping it off at the temple, serving dinner or breakfast and visiting with the families, as well as staying overnight. For more information, please e-mail familypromisetbj@gmail.com or sign up to volunteer online, available on our website.

Environmental Minute: There is no greater need on earth right now than the need to slow the pace of Climate Change, and there is no better time to do our part than right now. Each little thing we do, and do regularly, will have an impact. Sign up for the Global Ministries Mission Dash 5k! Run for fun throughout **August** and support local climate justice around the world! For more info, visit the website at:
www.ucc.org/do-the-mission-dash-5k-to-support-international-climate-justice-efforts/

Vacation Bible School: During the week of VBS (**August 22 to 26**), the children will take a "field trip" to the NH Food Bank on **Thursday, August 25**. We will tour the facility, learn how it operates, and see the mobile food truck. This will be a great introduction to how hunger is dealt with in our state. We would like to present the Food Bank with a trunk full of donations. If you would like to contribute to our collection, please feel free to drop off your donations to the church by **Monday, August 22**.

Church Projects: Are you wanting to help at the church? We are looking for volunteers to help clean the pews, paint the radiators, learn how to use the sound system, and mulch the garden. If you are interested in volunteering for any of these projects, please contact Alison.

Summer Reading: Join other South Church members in reading *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* by Isabel Wilkerson. In this book, she gives us a masterful portrait of an unseen phenomenon in America as she explores, through an immersive, deeply researched narrative and stories about real people, how America today and throughout its history has been shaped by a hidden caste system, a rigid hierarchy of human ranking. A copy of the book is available online, at the church, or at the local bookstore (Gibson's is offering a 10% discount, just mention South Church.) We will discuss this book on **September 16**.

CROP Walk: The 2022 CROP walk is on **Saturday, September 24**. For the past three years, South Church CROP walkers have been the top fundraisers in Concord! In 2019, we raised \$5,500; in 2020 we raised \$3,800; and in 2021 we raised \$4,775. Our walkers and supports continue to do their part in feeding hungry people. Sign up to join us! E-mail Cy Sherman (cysherman@comcast.net), or donate to the walk online. See our website for more information.

Summer Movie Suggestion: *Just Mercy* follows a young lawyer, Bryan Stevenson and his history-making battle for justice. After graduating from Harvard, Bryan had his pick of lucrative jobs. Instead, he heads to Alabama to defend those wrongly condemned or who were not afforded proper representation, with the support of local advocate Eva Ansley. A copy of this movie can be borrowed at your local library, at the church, or online. Discussion will be after worship on **September 25**.

Ascentria: The refugee family that lives in our apartment is settling in. We are still figuring out how we as a congregation can help the family long term. But there are some immediate needs that we can help with. If you are interested in shopping for this family check out the needs with this link: volunteersignup.org/497LC There are collection boxes located in the side entrance of the church.

Collections & Deposits Committee: The C&D Committee is recruiting for volunteers! We need church members to count collections after worship on Sundays (or Mondays); each volunteer would only count once a month. Collections is a great way to volunteer at South Church if you are short on time but still want to support our community! If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Kayla in the office.

Summer Hours: Kayla will be out of the office this week, **August 1- August 5**. The office will return to the normal summer hours of 8am-12pm starting **August 8**.

Hymn #73 Enter, Rejoice, and Come In

Enter, rejoice, and come in.
Enter, rejoice, and come in.
Today will be joyful day;
Enter, rejoice, and come in.

Open yourself to the song.
Open yourself to the song.
Today will be a joyful day;
Enter, rejoice, and come in.

Open your hearts everyone.
Open your hearts everyone.
Today will be a joyful day;
Enter, rejoice, and come in.

Don't be afraid of some change.
Don't be afraid of some change.
Today will be a joyful day;
Enter, rejoice, and come in.

Enter, rejoice, and come in.
Enter, rejoice, and come in.
Today will be a joyful day;
Enter, rejoice, and come in.

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Hymn #500 We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder

We are climbing Jacob's ladder,
We are climbing Jacob's ladder,
We are climbing Jacob's ladder,
Bearers of the cross.

Every round goes higher, higher,
Every round goes higher, higher,
Every round goes higher, higher,
Bearers of the cross.

Rise, shine, give God glory,
Rise, shine, give God glory,
Rise, shine, give God glory
Bearers of the cross.

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Hymn #497 *Guide My Feet*

Guide my feet while I run this race,
Guide my feet while I run this race,
Guide my feet while I run this race,
For I don't want to run this race in vain.

Hold my hand while I run this race,
Hold my hand while I run this race,
Hold my hand while I run this race,
For I don't want to run this race in vain.

I'm your child while I run this race,
I'm your child while I run this race,
I'm your child while I run this race,
For I don't want to run this race in vain.

Stand by me while I run this race,
Stand by me while I run this race,
Stand by me while I run this race,
For I don't want to run this race in vain.