



Return Service Requested

The CHALLENGE August 2016

South United Methodist Church
with Rev. John Marshall



"Where the joy of life in Christ overflows"

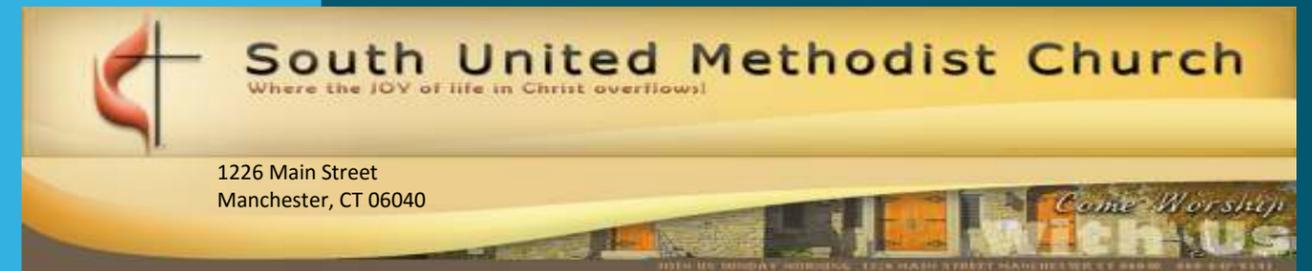
Sunday Worship Schedule

- 9:30 a.m. **Traditional Worship with Choir**
Children's Story in the Sanctuary
Communion served monthly
- 10:45 a.m. **Sunday School**
For All Ages
- 11:45 a.m. **Contemporary Worship with**
(11:15 a.m. **Contemporary Worship June 19-Sept 4)**
Wildfire Worship Band in the Café
Communion served monthly

Contact Information:

Church office: (860) 647-9141
Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri 9:00a-12:00p
Tues, Thurs 6:00p-9:00p
Email address: office@southumc.com
Web address: southumc.com

September Challenge Deadline:
Sunday, August 21, 2016



THE CHALLENGE

AUGUST 2016

**SUNDAY
WORSHIP
SCHEDULE**

- 9:30a - Traditional
Summer Worship
with Children's Story
- 9:45a - Sunday School
for Nursery-Grade 3
- 10:45a - Sunday School
for all Ages (begins in
September)
- 11:15a - Contemporary
Worship with Wildfire
Worship Band

**INSIDE THE
JUNE
ISSUE**

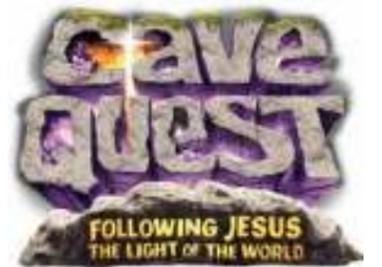
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A World in Need of Light!

"In Him was life and that life was the light of all people." (John 1:4)

Dear Friends,

As I write this column, there is news of yet another tragic terrorist attack in Munich, Germany. Once again many families are mourning the devastating loss of their friends and loved ones. Once again a city is frightened and fearful due to the actions of a perhaps three people. We need help. We need light. Whether it is struggling with the huge issues related to terrorism or racism, or personal struggles we each face daily; we need help. We need light! We all face times when we feel unequal to the challenges we, and the people we love, face. We all need help from time to time. We all need light.



Jesus came into the world, as God's light for the world. The apostle John wrote in His Gospel, "In Him was life and that life was the light of all people." Jesus, in his time, offered people help, strength and power to face their greatest struggles. He brought light to some of life's darkest situations: hunger, sickness, spiritual oppression, grief, blindness, and even hopelessness. Following Jesus; the light of the world, is the theme of this year's VBS, Bible Camp.

Jesus came among us as God's light for the world.

From August 15-19, children will gather at South Church for **Cave Quest**. Each morning; Monday through Friday children will learn about one aspect of the light Jesus offers to everyone! Jesus offers people of all ages hope, courage, direction, love and power. As of this writing there is still space available for more children to participate, but spread the word and get your registration form in right away, we have to cap the number at 100 and the slots are filling up fast. (Forms can be found in the church office, in *The Cafe* and also online at southumc.com.)

Once again this year VBS, Bible Camp is an all-church event. Throughout the summer during the 9:30 and 11:15 worship services we will focus on one of the Bible themes and passages from each day of Cave Quest. People of every age group can benefit from being reminded that Jesus offers all of us hope, courage, direction, love and power. It is when we choose to trust in the Lord and follow him, that we experience his help and light in life! This promises to be an encouraging, inspiring summer as we all follow Jesus: the light of the world. Invite your friends to worship, because everyone needs light!

In Service to Christ,
John



July/August 2016 Worship Themes

July 31, 2016: "In Need of Guidance"

Scripture: Matthew 5:1-12. The Beatitudes.

Focus Verse: "Trust in the Lord with all of your heart, lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge him and he will direct your paths." (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Theme: Jesus gives us direction.

August 7, 2016: "Real Love"

Scripture: 1 John 3:11-16. Receiving and Sharing Jesus' Love

Focus Verse: "1Jo 3:16 We know love by this, that Jesus laid down his life for us--and we ought to lay down our lives for one another." (1 John 3:16)

Theme: Jesus gives us love.

August 14, 2016: "Help For Each Day"

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 4:5-9. Power from God

Focus Verse: "We have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us." (2 Corinthians 4:7)

Theme: Jesus gives us power.

August 21, 2016: "No If's, And's or But's!"

Scripture: Galatians 2:15-21. Justified by faith alone

Focus Verse: "We know that a person is justified not by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. And we have come to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by doing the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law." (Galatians 2:16)

Theme: Our relationship with God is based on trusting in Jesus.

South United Methodist Church Contact Information

Church office: (860) 647-9141

Office Hours: Mon Wed Fri 9:00a -12:00p
Tues, Thurs 6:00p-9:00p

Email address: office@southumc.com

Web address: southumc.com

Facebook: [facebook.com/southumc](https://www.facebook.com/southumc)

Prayer Chain: (860) 337-2793 or
prayer@southumc.com

Text Giving: 860-512-7185 (\$20 SUMC)

South Church Staff

Pastor - Rev. John Marshall ext. 14

Director of Music - Earle Bidwell ext. 11

Organist - Christopher Walton

Director of Ministries - Terry Marshall ext. 15

Director Next Gen Ministries - J.T. Himmelstein ext. 13

Sexton - Ken Schaller ext. 20

Sexton - Don Wilby ext. 20

Office Managers - Colleen Olbert/Patti LaForest ext. 10

Rev. Richard Thompson (retired)

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VBS



NEWS

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Monday, August 15-Friday, August 19, 9am-Noon.

Children will be a part of fun Bible learning experiences that they can see, hear, touch, and even taste!

VBS is for children who are Pre-K (toilet-trained) through 6th grade. Registration forms are available in Reception Hall (adjacent to the Sanctuary) or you can download a form from the church website at www.southumc.com/vbs

Volunteers are needed and cheerfully accepted to help with a variety of things so if you can help please see Terry Marshall or call her at 860-647-9141 ext. 15

*Thank you to everyone who has helped with our donation board in Reception Hall and Café so far,



N

Congregational Care Update

Congregational care is a way that we are more intentionally reaching out to people in order to fulfill our responsibility to love one another more deeply. This does not take the place of the many individuals that reach out to people on a weekly basis by sending cards, expressing concern by a phone call, praying, etc., but adds to it.

For the past year members of our congregation have been consistently visiting members of our congregation who have difficulty getting to church. Visits include listening to the joys and concerns of the person and sharing the bulletin and news of the church. Devotional materials such as the Upper Room and a CD of the weekly worship service are offered. A brief communion service has also been offered to anyone who has wanted to participate in this extension of the communion service at our regular worship service. The altar flowers are also delivered. Some hymns from a CD that the choir made have been shared at some visits. At this point, we have a list of about 20 people and we have shared communion with 18 people. Visits may be a few times a month or less frequently based on what each individual has requested and how often volunteers can visit.

Beginning in September, as part of our desire to love one another, there is a group of about ten people who have volunteered to try to keep in touch with members and friends of South Church who have not been attending church in their usual pattern. Too many times, we have found that people stop attending church and no one calls to express concern or encourage them in attending worship service. When we become members of South United Methodist Church, part of what we promise to do is to faithfully participate in its ministries by our presence. We believe that being in fellowship with one another by attending church on Sundays is very important. So if you happen to be contacted by one of your fellow members, please know that we value your presence at worship and want you to know that God loves you and we love you.

Please contact Bill McGugan with any comments, suggestions or questions at runbillrun01@gmail.com or 860-380-0070.

S

Youth Leaving for Niagara Falls Mission Trip



Backpack collected for
Mission Trip



Thank you for your support!

Now you can give using a text message!

If you don't have cash or a checkbook and would like to give, now there is a way! Using your cell phone, send a text message to 860-512-7185. Then Type in the text message with the amount of your gift followed by the keyword, SUMC. (For example: \$20 SUMC) You will receive a simple one time form in reply that requires your name, email, zip code and the information for the card to be charged for your gift.



Being in our "home church" with all our friends and relatives made Augie's funeral so much easier. Thank you for all who participated. I know he was happy with the day.

Shirley Davis and Family



Tuesday, August 2nd

Thursday, August 4th

Tuesday, August 9th

Thursday, August 11th

Upcoming Youth Events

Stay tuned for the Youth to tell everyone about their Mission Trip!!

7/31	NO Youth Group
8/7	NO Youth Group
8/14	VBS Training at 3pm in Café - Youth Group at 5pm
8/18	Ice Cream Social at 6:30pm
8/21	Youth Group at 5pm at South
8/21	Youth Group at 5pm at South



GARRISON KEILLOR ON "METHODISTS" (submitted by Bill Reid)

We make fun of Methodists for their blandness, their excessive calm, their fear of giving offense, their lack of speed, and also for their secret fondness for macaroni and cheese. But nobody sings like them. If you were to ask an audience in New York City, a relatively Methodist-less place, to sing along on the chorus of "Michael Row the Boat Ashore," they will look daggers at you as if you had asked them to strip to their underwear. But if you do this among Methodists, they'd smile and row that boat ashore and up on the beach! And down the road!

Many Methodists are bred from childhood to sing in four-part harmony, a talent that comes from sitting on the lap of someone singing alto or tenor or bass and hearing the harmonic intervals by putting your little head against that person's rib cage.

It's natural for Methodists to sing in harmony. They are too modest to be soloists, too worldly to sing in unison. When you're singing in the key of C and you slide into the A7th and D7th chords, all two hundred of you, it's an emotionally fulfilling moment. By joining in harmony, they somehow promise that they will not forsake each other.

I do believe this: People, these Methodists, who love to sing in four-part harmony are the sort of people you can call up when you're in deep distress.

*If you're dying, they will comfort you.

*If you are lonely, they'll talk to you.

*And if you are hungry, they'll give you tuna salad.

*Methodists believe in prayer, but would practically die if asked to pray out loud.

*Methodists like to sing, except when confronted with a new hymn or a hymn with more than four stanzas.

*Methodists believe their pastors will visit them in the hospital, even if they don't notify them that they are there.

*Methodists usually follow the official liturgy and will feel it is their way of suffering for their sins. *Methodists believe in miracles and even expect miracles, especially during their stewardship visitation programs or when passing the plate.

Methodists think that the Bible forbids them from crossing the aisle while passing the peace.

*Methodists drink coffee as if it were the Third Sacrament.

*Methodists feel guilty for not staying to clean up after their own wedding reception in the Fellowship Hall.

*Methodists are willing to pay up to one dollar for a meal at the church.

*Methodists still serve Jell-O in the proper liturgical color of the season and think that peas in a tuna casserole adds too much color.

*Methodists believe that it is OK to poke fun at themselves and never take themselves too seriously.

And finally, You know you are a Methodist when:

It's 100 degrees, with 90% humidity, and you still have coffee after the service.

You hear something funny during the sermon and smile as loudly as you can.

Donuts are a line item in the church budget, just like coffee.

When you watch a Star Wars movie and they say, "May the Force be with you," you respond, "and also with you."

And lastly, it takes ten minutes to say good - bye !



Hi Ho Fair Saturday, November 5th



TAG SALE & BOOKS - contact Marilyn Broneill at 860 649-9843

The "Trash & Treasures", "Antikews" and "Book Sale" booths are very popular places at the fair. Because of storage constraints, we are not able to take donations until after Labor Day. However, it's not too early to start saving a pile of "tag sale items." We are looking for household & decorative items as well as books. Small electrical appliances are ok, but please no TVs, computers, stereo systems, or records. Also, we do not accept clothing or large exercise equipment. Please watch the bulletin and September Challenge for information on where and when you can bring in your donations.

August 2016 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:30am Traditional Children's Story 9:45am K- 2nd Children's Church 10:45am NO Sunday School 10:45am Wildfire 11:15am Contemporary in Café 5:00pm NO Youth Group	1 6:30pm NO Young Women Bible 6:30pm Young Men Bible Study	2 12pm Bulletin Deadline 7:00pm NO Committee & Commissions	3 11:00am Staff Mtg 6:30pm NO Wildfire 6:30pm NO Wesley Ringers 7:30pm NO Chancel Choir	4 7:30pm SM Supervision	5	6 7:30am Men's Fellowship 9:30am NO Knitting Group
7 9:00am Cruisin' Youth Parking 9:30am Traditional Children's Story 9:45am K- 2nd Children's Church 10:45am NO Sunday School 11:15am NO Contemporary in Café 5:00pm NO Youth Group	8 6:30pm NO Young Women or Men Bible Study	9 12pm Bulletin Deadline 7:30pm NO Ad Board	10 11:00am Staff Mtg 6:30pm NO Wildfire 6:30pm NO Wesley Ringers 7:30pm NO Chancel Choir	11	12	13
14 9:30am Traditional Children's Story 9:45am K- 2nd Children's Church 10:45am NO Sunday School 10:45am Wildfire 11:15am Contemporary in Café 3:00pm VBS Training 5:00pm Youth Group	15	16	17	18	19	20 9:30am Knitting Group
	VBS Week				6:30pm Ice Cream Social 7:30pm SM Supervision	
21 9:30am Traditional Children's Story 9:45am K- 2nd Children's Church 10:45am NO Sunday School 11:15am Contemporary in Café 5:00pm Youth Group	22 6:30pm NO Young Women or Men Bible Study	23 12pm Bulletin Deadline	24 11:00am Staff Mtg 6:30pm NO Wildfire 6:30pm NO Wesley Ringers 7:30pm NO Chancel Choir	25	26	27
28 9:30am Traditional Children's Story 9:45am K- 2nd Children's Church 10:45am NO Sunday School 11:15am Contemporary in Café 5:00pm Youth Group	29 6:30pm NO Young Women or Men Bible Study	30 12pm Bulletin Deadline 7:30pm NO Finance Mtg	31 11:00am Staff Mtg 6:30pm NO Wildfire 6:30pm NO Wesley Ringers 7:30pm NO Chancel Choir	1	2	3 7:30am Men's Fellowship 9:30am Knitting Group

More South News



South UMC VBS 2016 ~ August 15-19 ~ 9am-12pm

We need YOUR help for our Vacation Bible School to be the great success we all hope it will be. People of all ages, in all capacities with all kinds of talents are NEEDED. Please consider giving some of your time and talents to make this year's VBS the best one ever!

Please complete this volunteer survey and place it in the offering plate or the collection box by the donation board in Reception Hall or The Café.

THANK YOU!

Yes I want to help with our VBS (Aug. 15-19)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

I can be there every morning, all week (8:30am to 12:30pm) as a volunteer

I am available on: M T W R F (circle)

I can help with preparations prior to the week of VBS - Please call me!

I am interested in helping in the following areas: (Please check all that apply)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help w/Registration | <input type="checkbox"/> Help w/Skits/Drama | <input type="checkbox"/> Crew Leader in Training (6/7 grade) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help w/Decorating | <input type="checkbox"/> Help w/Snack Time | <input type="checkbox"/> Crew Leader (8th grade and up) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help w/Nursery | <input type="checkbox"/> Help w/Games | <input type="checkbox"/> Help w/Ice Cream Social (Thurs, 18th) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help w/Sciency-fun | <input type="checkbox"/> Help where needed | <input type="checkbox"/> Help w/Clean-up (Fri, 19th) |

Registration Forms available at Southumc.com

Hi Ho Fair

Saturday, November 5th



Plans are already underway for the church fair & there are lots of ways you can help during the summer. Check out the bulletins each Sunday or pick up a gold fair flyer in Reception Hall.

Remember, all the proceeds from the Hi Ho Fair go toward various mission projects, locally, nationally and internationally.

If you need further information, call Marilyn Broneill at 860 649-9843 or Linda Vesho at 860 646-4823.



Everyone is invited to our... All-Church Picnic ~ Spirit Sunday

Sunday, September 11

following our ONE Service at
10am

Bring a side-dish to share
Meat, Drinks and Dessert provided.

Hope you can join us!

The Education Commission needs
YOUR help!

We need:

- People to help set up tables and chairs before the service - outside (in Cooper Hall if it's raining)
- People to bring a side dishes to share
- People to help set out the food on tables
- People to help serve burgers and hotdogs



Outreach News

South Church is Reaching out Through:

The upcoming CROP Walk this fall. MACC has taken over leadership of the event this year. For most (if not all) of the recent years, walkers from South Church have raised more money than any other church. We'll let you know when it is happening; come and walk with us.

The Blankets for Mothers' Day project went great. A new high of just under \$2500 was realized, and many mothers were honored with a red paper heart on the banner in the sanctuary. Have you seen the banner yet? It's a piece of art.

In early June, with the help of our Sunday School students (and perhaps others) who took part in a Fill-the-Ark program for Heifer International. We collected over \$1500 to enable Heifer to send animals to farmers around the world. One of the animals we sent, a water buffalo, we named Boris after our beloved leader.

Vacation Bible School (or "Camp") will be reaching out and inviting approximately 100 children into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. This year's VBS theme is "Cave Quest". Watch for increasing numbers of paper bats flying around our church building. We much appreciate all those who work so hard on this program. You, by the way, can help finance this by picking a "need" sheet off the bulletin board in Reception Hall and bringing in what is needed.

The Mad MACC Shoppers used the second third of your contributions to find bargains for our community food pantry. They responded to the requests of MACC, primarily around extra food that will be in demand this summer for kids who will be home from school seven days a week.

Another year of sponsorship for our child, Lovendy, who will be 11 years old this September, through Compassion International.

And did we mention One Great Hour of Sharing, which resulted in \$1800 going to the Annual Conference office from those among us concerned about supporting our denominational response to the crises of our world.



ONE 9:30am Service
NO Café Service
Main St. Closed for
Cruisin' on Main

Sunday, Aug 7

(Rain dates 8/14, 8/21) 7am-5:30pm

Main Street between Center St. and Charter Oak St.
WILL CLOSE to through traffic.
SUMC - Please plan to access and exit the church parking lot via Hartford Road. Traffic is expected to be heavy at the intersection of Hartford Road and Main



Washington School

needs t-shirts and pants, especially in sizes 5-6. See Bill McGugan for more information.

Help is needed!

We need a couple people to run the PowerPoint 1x a month at the 9:30 service. See Terry or Pastor John.

HELP WANTED

Here's a way to help one of our own!

As most of you know by now my daughter Lori did not win the much needed handicapped van for my granddaughter Sarah, my brother-in-law Jim set up a go fund me page so that she can purchase a used van I am attaching the link to the go fund me page, could you please forward this to the congregation, any help would be more than appreciated.

God Bless
Wilma Schlehofer & Jennifer Robert (sister)

<https://www.gofundme.com/22w7yas>

**SUMC Administrative Board Meeting
May 10, 2016
Meeting Minutes**

In Attendance: Margaret Callaway, Bill Hyde, Patti LaForest, Phil Susag, Don Wilby, J.T. Himmelstein, Pastor Dick Thompson, Jane Zadnik, Terry Marshall, Pastor John Marshall, Deb Grehn, Bob Thulin, Carol Goodwin

Meeting Opening:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairperson Deb Grehn. Pastor John offered an opening prayer and Bob Thulin read the Mission and Vision statements. J.T. Himmelstein read a passage entitled, "My Church."

Acceptance of Outstanding Minutes:

Draft minutes from the March 8, 2016 Administrative Board Meeting were reviewed. *There was a motion (Bill Hyde, Phil Susag) to accept the March 8, 2016 Administrative Board minutes inclusive of minor edits. All were in favor and the motion carried.*

Unfinished Business:

Deb Grehn asked about the archivist project. Pastor John stated that the Trustees are continuing to study this topic.

Margaret Callaway asked about the church directory project. Deb Grehn responded that there is no progress to report and we might think toward a fall launch of the directory project.

Committee Reports:

Property Committee: Bob Thulin reported that there are currently three active items with the Property Committee: (1) a bid has been accepted for tree trimming on the church property, including removal of 1 or 2 dead trees; (2) we are seeking estimates for sidewalk replacement in the front of the church; and (3) we received a request from Manchester Early Learning Center to park a school bus in our parking lot, but ultimately rejected the request for several reasons including our need for the parking lot on weekends when the bus would be parked there, snow removal issues, etc.

Social Concerns Group: Margaret Callaway reported that the Social Concerns Group will discontinue meeting for the summer months. They will be attending a Friday Night Supper event at Grace Lutheran Church on May 27. There is a sign-up sheet in the reception hall and carpooling will be available.

Finance: Bill Hyde, Treasurer, reported that income for the month of April was \$1,635 below budget, but our year-to-date income is still above budget by \$2,544. Expenses for April, and year-to-date, are below budget. The largest savings is nearly \$7,000 in the year-to-date natural gas budget. We have paid 33.5% of our 2016 mission shares.

Lay Leader's Report: Don Wilby stated that he is still involved with Stephen Ministry activities and serving communion. He hopes to get involved in the Congregational Care initiative once it kicks off. He will be attending Annual Conference in June.

Next Generation and Young Adult Ministries: J.T. Himmelstein reported that the young women's bible study will pause for the summer months. Youth group is going well and there are a couple of slots still available for the July 24-29 mission trip to Niagara Falls. The can/bottle drive will run until May 22. Youth Sunday will be June 12 (one 10:00 a.m. service and a picnic). J.T. requested names of college or high school graduates, so they can be included in recognition.

Outreach: Pastor Dick reported that the Stop Hunger Now event went well and Blankets for Mothers Day is exceeding expectations with a record number of blankets (466!) purchased so far. Jill Smith is working on a children's Heifer International project, "Fill the Ark". Bill McGugan is looking for folks to help with Math Night at Washington School on May 19.

Memorials: Jane Zadnik reported that \$1,565 in memorial funds have been received year-to-date, through May 6.

Education: Terry Marshall reported on Education Commission activities including moving the children's library to a small room off the nursery and organizing/updating the children's book collection, and upgrading the cribs and bedding in the crib nursery. The Easter education event went very well.

Director of Ministries Report: Terry Marshall advised the group that responsibility for the International Gift Shop will be transitioning from Edith Gerber to new parties. Three people have expressed interest in picking up this area, and they will work as a subcommittee reporting to Outreach. Congregational Care initiatives are launching, with the objective of caring for our congregation more intentionally. One initiative involves segmenting our sanctuary into sections, with the intention of getting to know the people in each section, including Sunday worship attendance habits, and reaching out when an expected person is missing for a period of time. Monthly communion is being served to shut-ins who wish to receive it, by a group of Stephen Ministers led by Bill McGugan.

Trustees: Pastor John reported for the Trustees. The Trustees approved a retractable awning for the parsonage. A United Methodist Foundation representative recently visited with the Trustees. Walden Behavioral is continuing to move forward toward purchase of 48 Hartford Road. Plans are underway for refurbishing of the 21 Hartford Road property. Jim Hoagland is working on preliminary planning, including abatement work. If people have ideas for this project, they should feel free to share them with Pastor John or Robin Meggers.

Pastor's Report: Pastor John reported that Boris Gerber is stepping down as our representative to the Manchester Interfaith Social Action Committee (MISAC) and Pam Carpenter is interested to step into the role.

There was a motion (Lay Leadership Committee, Bill Hyde) to elect Pam Carpenter as one of South United Methodist Church's representatives to the Manchester Interfaith Social Action Committee. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Pastor John shared a monthly newsletter, "Connected", about happenings at General Conference. General Conference will be held May 10 – 20. Annual Conference will be held June 16 – 18.

New Business:

There was no new business to report.

Closing Prayer / Adjournment:

Pastor John offered a closing prayer and the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol E. Goodwin, Recording Secretary

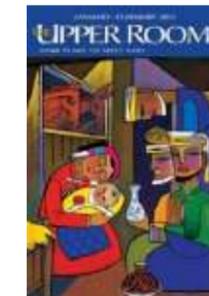
What can I do on the church website?



Read the
Challenge



Look at
Announcements



Do daily
Devotions



Listen to
a Sermon



Check the
Calendar

www.southumc.com