



Return Service Requested

The CHALLENGE August 2018

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 17-Sept 9)**
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 26, 2018



**SUNDAY
WORSHIP
SCHEDULE**

- 9:30a - Traditional
Worship with Choir
and Children's Story
- 9:45a - Sunday School
for Nursery-Grade 2
- 10:45a - Sunday School
for all Ages
- 11:15a - Contemporary
Worship with Wildfire
Worship Band

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THE CHALLENGE

AUGUST 2018

Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus!

*"Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the LORD rescues them from them all." -Psalm 34:19*

Dear Friends,

On July 10th the last members of a boys' soccer team and their coach were rescued from an underwater cave in northern Thailand. On June 23, the boys and their 25 year old coach entered the network of caves for a time of post-practice fun. What started out as fun, rapidly turned into a dangerous, life-threatening crisis. The monsoon rains came early and flooded the caves. Due to the patient, heroic efforts of a team of international divers, the entire team was safely rescued. People are fascinated and captivated by events such as these. We all pray for those in harm's way and for their would be rescuers.



Jesus rescues us from our troubles..

Life is full of many dangers which threaten our physical, emotional, mental and spiritual well-being. There can be feelings of loneliness, fear and anxiety, guilt and powerlessness. Jesus Christ came into our world to rescue and delivers us from danger in every form. This month's top verse reminds us that Christian people are not exempt in any way from hardship and trouble. None of us are immune to suffering or from any variety of trials and struggles. The good news is that, "The Lord rescues us from them all."

That we can be Rescued by Jesus is the theme of this year's VBS, Bible camp. Shipwrecked will be held at the church August 20-24 from 9am-12 pm. Our VBS is for children from pre-school age through grade 6 and Youth, grade 7 and up can sign up to be junior or senior crew leaders. These are volunteer members of our staff who guide the children through their morning activities at VBS Day Camp. Adults are still needed to serve in a variety of capacities as well. E-mail Director of Ministries, Terry Marshall (terry@southumc.com) to sign up your child or to volunteer as a youth or adult. Even if you are not able to serve on this year's team, please DO pray! Prayers are needed now for Terry and the Christian Education team as they make final plans for Shipwrecked at South Church. Pray as well for each of the children and youth who will take part this year, that they will learn that Jesus came to rescue them from all of their troubles!

In Service to Christ, our rescuer,

Pastor John



August 2018 Worship Themes

July 29, 2018: Shipwrecked VBS Theme- week 1!
Scripture: Luke 15:1-7; The parable of the lost sheep
Focus Verse: "Jesus said, "I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance." (Luke 15:7)
Theme: When you're lonely...Jesus rescues.

August 5, 2018: Shipwrecked VBS Theme- week 2!
Scripture: Luke 10:38-42; Jesus at the home of Martha and Mary
Focus Verse: "But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things.'" (Luke 10:41)
Theme: When you worry...Jesus rescues!

August 12, 2018: Shipwrecked VBS Theme- week 3!
Scripture: Luke 22:47-53; Jesus' followers try to prevent his arrest.
Focus Verse: "Jesus said, 'No more of this!' And he touched his ear and healed him." (Luke 22:51)
Theme: When you struggle...Jesus rescues!

August 19, 2018: Shipwrecked VBS Theme- week 4!
Scripture: Luke 23:32-43; Jesus forgives the thief on the cross.
Focus Verse: "Jesus replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'" (Luke 23:43)
Theme: When you do wrong...Jesus rescues!

August 26, 2018: Shipwrecked VBS Theme- week 5!
Scripture: John 5:1-9; Jesus heals the lame man at the pool.
Focus Verse: "Jesus said to him, 'Stand up, take your mat and walk.'" (John 5:8)
Theme: When you're helpless...Jesus rescues!

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 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
 Organists - Christopher Walton & Tatianna Lukyanova
 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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"Bear one another's burdens,
 and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."
 Galatians, 6:2

Congregational Care At SUMC

We all experience times when we could use a little extra support. . .
 Our Congregational Care Team is here to help. . .

At South Church we are working to care for one another better...

Home Communion, visitation, prayer, hospitality, transportation, One-on-One care for acute crisis or grief

We have **2** Expressions of Caring:

C.C.C. = Congregational Care Contact
 1-1 = One-on-One Care Givers

The Role of the C.C.C.: To engage with Congregants and act as an additional contact between the Pastor/Staff and the congregation. C.C.C.'s are identified by wearing Name tags, and are assigned sections of the Sanctuary or Café. They will be given contact cards, and are encouraged to greet others regularly, be aware of attendance patterns, and reach out when someone has been absent outside of their regular pattern. They will assist in the filling out and handling of the Pew cards as well. Some C. C. C.'s have also agreed to help distribute Holy Communion, Flowers, cookies and prayer shawls to our homebound members as well. This group is encouraged to meet monthly (currently on the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:30pm) for planning, support and updates.

The Role of the 1-1: One-on-One caregivers are currently trained as Stephen Ministers (50+ hours of study). They are equipped to meet with individuals weekly - (or as needed) to offer Christian help to work through acute crisis or grief. They are not trained counselors. Their role is an extension of the Pastor's care. They are required to meet monthly (currently on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:30pm) for support and accountability. Some 1-1's have also agreed to assist in the handling of pew cards as well.

Home Communion/Visitation/Delivery Coordinator: Bill McGugan

C.C.C. Coordinator (Sanctuary): Bill McGugan

C.C.C. Coordinator (Café): Dave Bidwell

Support Group Coordinator (for 1-1's): Dave Bidwell (Alberta Hoagland, Don Wilby)

1-1 Coordinator: Alberta Hoagland

Funeral Luncheon & Reception Coordinator: Alberta Hoagland

Staff Liaison: Terry Marshall

Bill & Judy Hyde (C.C.C.)
 Deb Grehn (C.C.C.)
 Marilyn Broneill (C.C.C.)
 Mary Koduah (C.C.C.)
 Don Wilby (C.C.C.)
 Amy Cooper (C.C.C.)
 Carlyn Arruda (C.C.C.)
 Dave Bidwell (C.C.C.)
 Brenda Langford (C.C.C.)
 Bill McGugan (C.C.C.)

Colleen Olbert (1-1)
 Deb Grehn (1-1)
 Dave Burgess (1-1)
 Amy Cooper (1-1)
 Sue Bidwell (1-1)
 Sarah Kania (1-1)
 Sylvia Bruno (1-1)
 Marnie Meek (1-1)
 Carlyn Arruda (1-1)

Linda Vesho (Ex-officio)
 Denise Roman (Ex-officio)
 Ray McKay (Ex-officio)
 Alberta Hoagland (Ex-officio)

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.
 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers."
 Galatians 6:9-10



You can NOW support SUMC with Amazon Purchases

The Finance Committee has registered South United Methodist Church on Amazon Smile. Instead of going to www.amazon.com to make your online purchases, just go to www.smile.amazon.com, enter your email, Amazon password, add the character image, identify South United Methodist Church as your selected charity, and then start shopping. Please make sure you select South United Methodist Church in Manchester, CT because more than one charity will be listed.

How is this helping SUMC? Each purchase through Amazon Smile will result in a payment to SUMC for 0.5% of your purchase. Say your order comes to \$100.00, SUMC will be paid \$.50.

Adding Amazon Smile as a convenient fund raiser for SUMC is a step being taken by the Finance Committee to keep up with current trends. You already have the opportunity to support SUMC through Electronic Fund Transfers (EFT) from your checking account and supporting SUMC from your

Youth Mission Trip Portland, ME July 22-27



Young Adults



THE CROSSING

The Young Men will continue meeting each Monday from 8:30-9:30 for the month of August for the duration of our study, Relat(able) by Louie Giglio, which will end on August 20th. If you are interested in joining the group please contact JT by text: 623-670-2612. Also Vacation Bible School is coming up, and we are looking for helpers! There is a training in the afternoon on August 19th and VBS is every morning from 8:30-12:30. If you are willing and able to help we would really appreciate it as we endeavor to spread the gospel to children!

Come and join us for Teen Class (10:45-11:30) and Youth Group (5-7) most Sunday mornings and evenings! All Youth are welcome and encouraged to bring a friend and their game face for a fun time! After we play we will spend time in prayer and in deeper study of the sermon passage for the week!

- 8/5 Youth Parking cars 9am/if Cruisin' is postponed Youth Group @5pm
- 8/12 Youth Group @5pm
- 8/19 Youth Group @5pm
- 8/26 Youth Group @5pm
- 9/2 NO Youth Group (Labor Day)



The Youth will be parking cars during the Cruisin' On Main event on August 5th weather permitting in order to raise money for the YMF as we are planning to go on another mission trip next year! If you are willing to help please contact JT ASAP. Also in addition to Summer Youth Groups we will be having Game Nights on August 8th and August 15th, so put it on your calendar and invite a friend or two!

Vacation Bible School is coming up, and we are looking for helpers! If you're a Youth at the church or in the area this is a great way to serve Christ AND to complete those service hours you've been hoping to fulfill but have been putting off because of Summer. Let JT know by text if you are willing and able to help: 623-670-2612



You are invited. . .
to our VBS Ice Cream Social

Thursday, August 23 ~ 6:30pm

Cooper Hall

Suggested donation:

\$3 ~ person ♦ \$12 ~ cap per family

The children from our VBS will
share some of what they have
learned at 7:00pm



!!!! OUT DOOR SERVICE
PLANNED!!!!

Which ever week "Cruisin' on
Main" takes place (See note below)

The 11:15am "Café"

Service will be OUTSIDE across the Street in
the "Sonrise Garden".

Please bring a blanket or your own chair *and*
snacks to share. A table (for food) and drinks
will be provided.



*** PLEASE NOTE ***

Traffic Restrictions for Cruisin' on Main
Sunday, August 5 (Rain dates 8/12, 8/19)

Street Closing 7am-5:30pm
Main Street between Center St. and Charter Oak Street
WILL CLOSE to through traffic.

South UMC -

Please plan to access and exit the church parking lot
via Hartford Rd. and Main St.

Traffic is expected to be heavy at the intersection of
Hartford Rd. and Main St. and along Charter Oak
between Spruce St. and Main St.

As this is the primary show car registration route.



Don't forget
The Café
Is
Air Conditioned!!



August 2018 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 9:30am Traditional Service w/Children's Story 9:45am K- 2nd Children's Church 10:45am NO Sunday School 11:15am Contemporary in Café 5:00pm NO Youth Group	30 6:30pm NO Young Women Bible Study 8:30pm Young Men Bible Study	31 12pm Bulletin Deadline	1 11:00am Staff Mtg 6:30pm Wildfire 6:30pm NO Wesley Ringers 7:30pm NO Chancel Choir	2 7:30pm NO Cong. Care Mtg.	3	4 7:30am Men's Fellowship 9:30am Knitting Group
5 9:00am Cruisin' parking Youth Event 9:30am Traditional Service w/Children's Story 9:45am K- 2nd Children's Church 10:45am Sunday School 11:15am Contemporary in Café 5:00pm NO Youth Group	6 6:30pm NO Young Women Bible Study 8:30pm Young Men Bible Study	7 12pm Bulletin Deadline 7:00pm NO Commission Mtg	8 11:00am Staff Mtg 6:30pm Wildfire 6:30pm NO Wesley Ringers 6:30pm Youth Game Night 7:30pm NO Chancel Choir	9	10	11
12 9:30am Traditional Service w/Children's Story 9:45am K- 2nd Children's Church 10:45am NO Sunday School 11:15am Contemporary in Café 5:00pm Youth Group	13 6:30pm NO Young Women Bible Study 8:30pm Young Men Bible Study	14 12pm Bulletin Deadline 7:30pm NO Ad Board	15 11:00am Staff Mtg 6:30pm NO Wildfire 6:30pm NO Wesley Ringers 6:30pm Youth Game Night 7:30pm NO Chancel Choir	16 7:30pm 1-1 Caring Mtg.	17	18 9:30am Knitting Group
19 9:30am Traditional Service w/Children's Story 9:45am K- 2nd Children's Church 10:45am NO Sunday School 11:15am Contemporary in Café 5:00pm Youth Group	20 6:30pm NO Young Women Bible Study 8:30pm NO Young Men Bible Study	21 12pm Bulletin Deadline 7:00pm NO Lydia Circle 7:00pm NO Staff Parish	22 11:00am Staff Mtg 6:30pm NO Wildfire 6:30pm NO Wesley Ringers 7:30pm NO Chancel Choir	23 6:30pm VBS Ice Cream Social	24	25
Vacation Bible School (VBS) - 9am to 12pm						
26 9:30am Traditional Service w/Children's Story 9:45am K- 2nd Children's Church 10:45am NO Sunday School 11:15am Contemporary in Café 5:00pm Youth Group **Challenge deadline	27 6:30pm NO Young Women Bible Study 8:30pm NO Young Men Bible Study	28 12pm Bulletin Deadline 7:30pm NO Finance Mtg.	29 11:00am Staff Mtg 6:30pm NO Wildfire 6:30pm NO Wesley Ringers 7:30pm NO Chancel Choir	30	31	1 7:30am Men's Fellowship 9:30am Knitting Group

More South News

Hi Ho Fair Saturday, November 3rd

Although the fair isn't until the fall, plans are already underway. Here's how you can help during the summer:

CANDY HELP NEEDED!

While we have sold some candy over the past years as part of the Bake Sale, we are looking to once again have a booth devoted to just candy - but we need help! We are looking for someone willing to organize the booth and people to make candy, especially fudge. If you are interested in getting involved with the candy booth, contact Ginny Hartzog at 860 646-3962 or ginhartz@gmail.com.

USED JEWELRY - contact Marilyn Broneill at 860 649-9843

Donations of used jewelry, scarves and jewelry gift boxes this summer would be very much appreciated, so it can be cleaned, boxed and priced for the fair. Please leave them in the "Used Jewelry" box on the table in Reception Hall.

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

As you go through the summer, consider putting aside a pile of household & decorative items and books that you no longer need and save them for the fair. Our popular Trash & Treasures, Antikews and Book sale booths will be accepting your donations after Labor Day.

CRAFTS - contact Ginny Hartzog 860 646-3962 or ginhartz@gmail.com

If you crochet and can make scrubbies for us, let Ginny know - patterns and material are available. We are also collecting corks to use for crafting - please put them in the box in Reception Hall.

PLANTS - contact Marilyn Broneill at 860 649-9843

If your houseplants or perennials need splitting, please consider potting them and donating them in November for the plant table at the fair.

COUNTRY STORE - contact Nancy Dawson at 860-978-5480 or dawsonaff@gmail.com

Please consider making fresh or preserved jams, jellies, homemade catsup, or pickles. Some diabetic-friendly options would be great! Other welcome contributions could be baked beans, homemade sausage, hostess gifts, "desserts in a jar" and/or handcrafted soup mixes. Also, please donate small wicker baskets and old picture frames (from itsy bitsy to approximately 12 X 16) which would magically turn into something else at the fair. Please contact Nancy to discuss your ideas and how we can bring them to life.

THREADS (formerly QUILTS AND NEEDLECRAFTS) - contact Nancy Dawson at 860-978-5480 or dawsonaff@gmail.com

This area has tremendous opportunities and needs! Please consider making simple fleece blankets focused on children's prints or specific area sport teams. Home goods would also be welcome such as holiday-themed pillows or simple wall hangings / table runners. Donations of polyester fiberfill would be appreciated. We are looking for plastic milk crates (approximately 13 x 13 x 13) that could be used the week before the fair and the day of the fair. We are happy to return them afterwards. Please contact Nancy to discuss your ideas and how we can bring them to life.

COOKIES IN A CAN - contact Marcia Memery at 860 646-4513 or memjam@cox.net

Donations of empty, clean coffee cans are always needed. Please leave them in the box in Reception Hall over the summer.

BAKED GOODS

Once we get closer to fair time, we will be looking for homemade cookies, baked goods, fudge, candies and other perishables. More info will be coming will be coming in the fall.

As you enjoy your summer, please keep the fair in mind, and think about how you can help. Remember, all the proceeds from the Hi Ho Fair go toward various mission projects, locally, nationally and internationally.

If you need further information, contact the person listed with each booth or call Marilyn Broneill at 860 649-9843, Linda Vesho at 860 646-4823 or Ginny Hartzog at 860 646-3962.



Outreach News

South Church is Reaching out Through:

.....FATHER'S DAY - WORLD HOPE INTERNATIONAL

.....BLESSING BAGS (MACC)

.....MAD MACC SHOPPERS

.....GET READY FOR FALL!!!!

Blessings continued to "pour out" (get it?) in our June Father's Day campaign to honor and memorialize important male figures in our lives through contributions to the World Hope International organization. **We raised a whopping \$1,225.** The WHI helps impoverished communities throughout the world drill wells and install solar powered, piped water systems (among other things). When you consider that 1 in 5 children in these communities will die from drinking dirty water, our contributions will go a very long way to make a difference.

The Blessing Bag collection program came to a close with the delivery to MACC of **15 purses** loaded with "goodies". The bags are distributed to women in crisis who could benefit from a small "pick-me-up". Thanks to all of you for your help in this endeavor.

Donations to the MAD MACC shoppers totaled \$270. Our shoppers have bought and will continue to buy food items for the Food Pantry throughout the remaining summer. MACC always has a significant need for food donations. The summertime is the slowest time for receipt of donations and one of the times when demand is the greatest. Please continue to bring in food and leave it in the grocery basket in the Narthex.

The fall is a super busy time for the Outreach group. Please watch for upcoming information on the Crop Walk, Seasonal Sharing and Christmas Shoeboxes. Please help when you can!

Do what you love ... love what you do!

South UMC VBS 2018 ~ August 20-24 ~ 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. 20-24)

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)

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| ____ Help w/Registration | ____ Help w/Skits/Drama | ____ Crew Leader in Training (6/7 grade) |
| ____ Help w/Decorating | ____ Help w/Snack Time | ____ Crew Leader (8th grade and up) |
| ____ Help w/Nursery | ____ Help w/Games | ____ Help w/Ice Cream Social (Thurs, 23rd) |
| ____ Help w/Sciency-fun | ____ Help where needed | ____ Help w/Clean-up (Fri, 24th) |

Registration Forms available at Southumc.com

**SUMC Administrative Board Meeting
May 8, 2018
Meeting Minutes**

In Attendance: Carol Goodwin, Jill Smith, Margaret Callaway, Earle Bidwell, J.T. Himmelstein, Nancy Dawson, Jane Zadnik, Don Wilby, Phil Susag, Jennifer Dupont, Terry Marshall, Pastor John Marshall, Bill Hyde, Deb Grehn, Kim Grehn

Opening Prayer/Reading of Vision and Mission Statements:

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by Chairperson Deb Grehn. Pastor John shared scripture, Romans 4:18-25, and J.T. Himmelstein read SUMC's Mission and Vision Statements.

Acceptance of Outstanding Minutes:

Draft minutes from the April 10, 2018 Administrative Board meeting were reviewed.

There was a motion (Bill Hyde, Margaret Callaway) to accept the April 10, 2018 Administrative Board minutes as drafted. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business discussed.

Committee Reports:

Next Generation Ministries: J.T. Himmelstein reported that young men's and young women's Bible studies have each started a new series. The men are studying the Book of Daniel and the women are studying Women in the Bible. Care packages were sent to 31 college students – the most ever sent. Youth Group is going strong preparing for Youth Sunday. Thanks to Kim Grehn and Pat Conti, who led Youth Group while the Himmelsteins were away. Youth Group has some new attendees, including some from the confirmation class.

Music: Earle Bidwell stated that the Spring Concert will be held May 20 and includes several instrumental features.

Trustees and Property Committee: Earle Bidwell reported that asbestos abatement has been completed in the youth lounge and repair/replacement of the heating zone valve will be completed in that room. The main doors to the sanctuary are in need of repair and Trustees are searching for a contractor to replace the door framing with welded steel. Plans are being drawn to increase the parking spaces on the West side of the building from four to 14-16. All will be assigned "for worshippers with limited mobility". Walk through and final inspection of 21 Hartford Road was completed, with only a few remaining items to finalize the project. The building is gorgeous! A number of trees were removed at the edge of the property and stumps ground out. The wall between 21 Hartford Road and the church is crumbling and needs to be replaced. Other cleanup work is being undertaken to make that area safe and presentable. Painting and redecorating the downstairs bathroom at 20 Hartford Road is in process. Work is being done to address a side entry door and a second floor window at 48 Hartford Road. Thank you to new Property Manager Don Wilby for all his great work.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Hyde reported that our envelope income for the month exceeded the budget by over \$5,000 and our Easter income exceeded our projected budget. Total revenue for the month was nearly \$7,000 above budget and our year-to-date income exceeds the budget by over \$9,000. All invoices have been paid and there are not any line items that are out of line. Mission Shares are paid to 33.3% of the annual requested amount. We are in very good financial condition right now.

Finance: Kim Grehn reported that the half year giving statements will go out in July.

Outreach: Jill Smith reported on activities of the Outreach Commission. Washington School activities have included: providing breakfast for teachers for Teachers Appreciation Week, partnering with a group from Trinity Covenant Church in the Luggage Program where weekend food is provided to children below the poverty level, funding an end of year party for 4/5 grades and connecting the school to Urban Alliance for resource needs. There was a very successful Rebuilding Together event May 5, with 20 volunteers from SUMC. The Rise Against Hunger event went well, but several who signed up did not attend. Sign-ups will be closer to the event next year. The Blankets for Mother's Day campaign is in process with a portable display of hearts vs. the large banner in prior years, and for Father's Day there will be a special collection for World Hope International, a new group to SUMC whose mission is providing wells and clean drinking water. We continue our support for the MACC pantry and we're participating in Blessing Bags to benefit MACC clients. SUMC web content has been updated to reflect current Outreach programs.

Education / Director of Ministries: Terry Marshall reported that we are considering new options for Sunday School class structure in the fall. Curriculum is also under review and may include a survey for parent input. June 10 is Youth Sunday with one 10:00 a.m. service. VBS (August 20-24) includes some new volunteers this year and donation boards will be up 5/20. Congregational Care is looking into new name tags for anyone who would like to have one, to be available in the fall. A picture tree idea (with pictures from the new directory) is also being explored. Cards with the "5-10-LINK Rule" are being utilized to help people make connections during services. The Stephen Leaders met and completed documentation transitioning to the 1 on 1 Program.

UMW Representative: Jennifer Dupont reported that UMW voted in their 2018 budget. Booth leaders have been assigned for the Fair.

Scouts Representative: A report was read from Ed Dupont, who was unable to be in attendance. Pack 47 had an overnight trip to Old Sturbridge Village in April and all the scouts advanced to the rank they have been working toward all year. In May there will be a camping trip to Gay City State Park. Scouts will participate in the Manchester Memorial Day Parade and will be setting up flags with the VFW for veterans at Saint Bridget and Northwest Cemeteries. Dennis Stechholz, the current Cubmaster, will be stepping down. Assistant Cubmaster David Staba will take on the role.

Lay Leader: Don Wilby reported that he has been busy with church activities and he has a confirmand. He plans to attend Annual Conference.

Memorials: Jane Zadnik stated that there have been no new memorial funds in the past month.

Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC): Nancy Dawson reported that SPRC did not meet in April. The staff is doing great. District Superintendent Rev. David Calhoun is taking a summer sabbatical. SPRC will work to finalize the draft of the Church Covenant at their next meeting.

Pastor's Report: Pastor John reported that things are going well for SUMC. Attendance is strong. Financially, we have a lot to be thankful for, with 1/3 of our 2018 mission shares paid. Pastor John stated that the United Methodist Church is a very diverse group of people. This is an important time for our denomination and activities are in process at the leadership level, through the Way Forward Commission, to determine our future direction. A special General Conference has been scheduled for February 23-26, 2019, where three different plans will be considered. The bishops have proposed that the One Church Plan be adopted, which would allow pastors and individual churches decide on certain matters. Pastor John advised the group that we are still checking with Manchester Police for advice on handling potential incidents that could occur at the church.

New Business:

There was no new business discussed.

Adjournment:

There was a prayer by Pastor John and the meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Goodwin



Spirit Sunday

September 9, 2018

**One Combined 10:00am service
(in The Sanctuary)
Chancel Choir Returns
Wildfire Worship Band will be there**

**Special Fellowship Time to Follow
(Stay tuned for details)**

Fall Sunday School Registration will begin



*Together we're . . . "Growing in the grace and
knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."
2 Peter 3:18*