

Return Service Requested

The MINI CHALLENGE

South United Methodist Church
with Rev. John Marshall



“Where the joy of life in Christ overflows”

Sunday Schedule

Sundays - Livestream at 10am Facebook/through our website
 Sunday School - pre K - G6 via email sent each Friday
 Youth via ZOOM - contact JT (nextgen@southumc.com)
 Bible Study with Pastor John @ 6:30pm ZOOM

*See front page for full schedule

Contact Information:

Parsonage (860) 643-4014
 Church office: (860) 647-9141
 NO Office Hours: Due to COVID-19
 Email address: office@southumc.com
 Web address: southumc.com



THE MINI CHALLENGE

MAY 2020

CURRENT WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

10am - Livestream worship (On Facebook, by ZOOM Call & through our website)
3pm - Youth Group via ZOOM
6:30pm - Bible Study with Pastor John via ZOOM

TUESDAY

5:30pm - Prayer meeting via ZOOM

WEDNESDAY

3pm - Youth Bible Study via ZOOM
8pm - Livestream Evening Devotion (On Facebook, by ZOOM Call & through our website)

FRIDAY

8pm - Livestream Evening Devotion (On Facebook, by ZOOM Call & through our website)

“Through Christ you have come to trust in God. And you have placed your faith and hope in God because he raised Christ from the dead and gave him great glory.”
 (1 Peter 1:21)

Dear Friends,

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! In the very middle of the seven-week season of Easter, I am writing to encourage you during what has become a difficult, sometimes sad time, as days stretch into weeks of living through the Coronavirus pandemic. This has been a very odd time around the church building. We have seen a few of you stopping by to drop off food or to pick up your palms. It has been very sad and strange for us to lead “worship” in an empty sanctuary. I know that it has been quite difficult for all of us as we wonder just when all of this will end and when we will get back to something approaching normal. Especially in these challenging days, we do place our faith and our hope in God who did the impossible, raising Christ from the dead.

In this abbreviated newsletter, we hope and pray that you are reminded that as we place our faith and hope in God, who raised Jesus from the dead, we your church are here for you, even during times of uncertainty.

We will continue to livestream a worship experience for you (and any friends who desire to watch) **each Sunday at 10am** throughout the month of May and as long as is needed. As we make our way through the season of Easter, celebrating the resurrection of our Lord, our worship experiences will focus on passages taken from the book of 1 Peter. The apostle Peter wrote in the middle of the first century to believers who were suffering the effects of being isolated in a world. We don’t know all the specifics of what they were going through, but we do know that God can use the same wisdom Peter shared, to help us through our trying days.

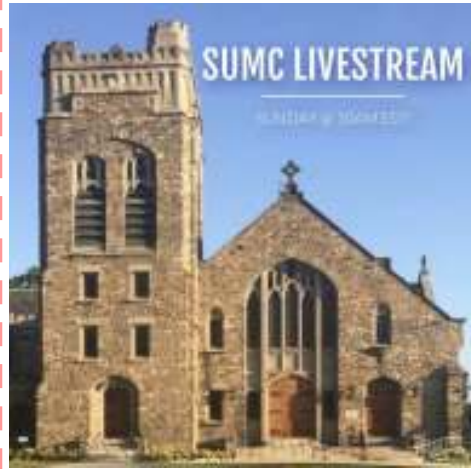
In addition to worship, we, the people of South Church are continuing to pray for one another through worship and the prayer chain. We are continuing to serve those in need through our gifts of non-perishable food items placed in the bin outside of the Upper Ed wing door ramp. We are continuing to grow in our faith through Sunday School video lessons and “Zoom” Bible studies for youth and adults as well as on-line devotionals. We are currently sending out a bulletin each week with up to date needed information either by e-mail (to be added to the list email me at pastorjohn@southumc.com) or by USPS (to be added to the mailing list, call the parsonage at 860-643-4014 and leave your name and mailing address.)

Yes, Christ is risen! He is alive! He is with us! As we place our faith and hope in Him, The Lord will see us through! I believe that by His grace and in His timing, we will be together again sometime soon!

In service to our risen Lord,
 Pastor John



South Church Services via Livestream



During this time of social distancing we have worked very hard to bring you live stream services. We began live streaming in mid March and have increased not only the number of times throughout the week we are able to reach out, but the quality of the camera and sound as well.

Currently you can see us live on **Sunday mornings at 10am**, and on **Wednesday's and Friday's at 8pm** on our Facebook page (South United Methodist Church, Manchester, CT) and through our website (Southumc.com).

We have also added access for those without computers to call in to our live stream events using their home phones (details for how to do this are located elsewhere in this newsletter).

Some have asked about our ability to maintain this as things begin returning to "normal", and the answer is maybe in some form. We have learned through several sources that copyright licenses and permissions needed to live stream which are being extended for free for a time during the pandemic, may not be available or affordable after a time. So for now, we are thanking

God for the opportunities He has provided us.

We understand that this situation is not perfect, and far from permanent, but we do appreciate the opportunity to reach out to you "live" during the pandemic.

If for some reason you are unable to access our live streaming and would like help, please contact Pastor John or Terry. The parsonage phone number is 860-643-4014, or email: terry@southumc.com or pastorjohn@southumc.com.

Weekly on-line Bible Study
Sunday's at 6:30pm
 Call 1-929-205-6099 or log into ZOOM



Get our Meeting ID and password by:
 Emailing Pastor John, USPS
 or by calling Pastor John at 860-643-4014

Your continued support of South Church throughout the COVID-19 Crisis...



enables and ensures that our ministries will continue not only for our church family, but our community and world. You can continue to support our church...
 *Through the "Giving" tab on our website
 *Through Text using the number 860-512-7185
 *Through Mailing a check to the church
 -Thank You for your continued support-

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

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)



Each Friday during the time we've been apart, Terry Marshall has been sending out video Sunday School lessons to our families with children from pre-K to grade 6 by email. These lessons have been wonderfully crafted to encourage children and their families' in discussing not only the pandemic, but how to depend on God through trying times. If you are not receiving these e-mail Sunday School lessons and would like to, please contact Terry (Terry@southumc.com.)

Next Gen Ministries



We have temporarily suspended our Youth and Young adult gathering (in person that is!)

Youth Group via "Zoom" with JT
 - Sunday's from 3-4:30pm
 - Wednesdays from 3-4:30pm
 Contact JT by email: nextgen@southumc.com



Food packing event here at SUMC has been rescheduled for Saturday, September 12

If you would like Pastor John to pray over your requests during our online services...

please submit them to us via email:

Prayer@southumc.com

or via phone: 860-337-2793

by Saturday morning of each week.



The SUMC Drive-by MACC Bin



MACC is in need of donations!

If you can... drive through and place items in the bin! (by the upper ed wing ramp door)

Items will be brought by SUMC staff members directly to MACC for distribution.

Needed: peanut butter & jelly, pasta & sauce, mayo, tuna, canned

meals, fruits, vegetables, mac & cheese, crackers, cereal, kid's snacks.

We have taken several loads of food so far during the pandemic - keep up the good work!

May 2020: Worship Themes

*see southumc.com for full description

May 3, 2020: Fourth Sunday of Easter
Scripture: 1 Peter 2:11-17 - The life we are to live.
Theme: As Christians, we are called to live holy, respectable lives.

May 10, 2020: Fifth Sunday of Easter
Scripture: 1 Peter 2:6-10. The people of God doing good in the world.
Theme: We are called to demonstrate God's goodness to the world.

May 17, 2020: Sixth Sunday Easter
Scripture: 1 Peter 3:13-17. Knowing why we believe.
Theme: We need to be ready to explain why we put Jesus first in our lives.

May 24, 2020: Ascension Sunday.
Scripture: Acts 1:1-11 The promise of the Holy Spirit
Theme: For 40 days, Jesus appeared to his disciples and prepared them for the future.

May 31, 2020: Pentecost Sunday.
Scripture: Acts 2:1-21 The Holy Spirit comes
Theme: Believers are filled with the Holy Spirit and given the power to live for and speak about Jesus Christ.