



Return Service Requested

The CHALLENGE September 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

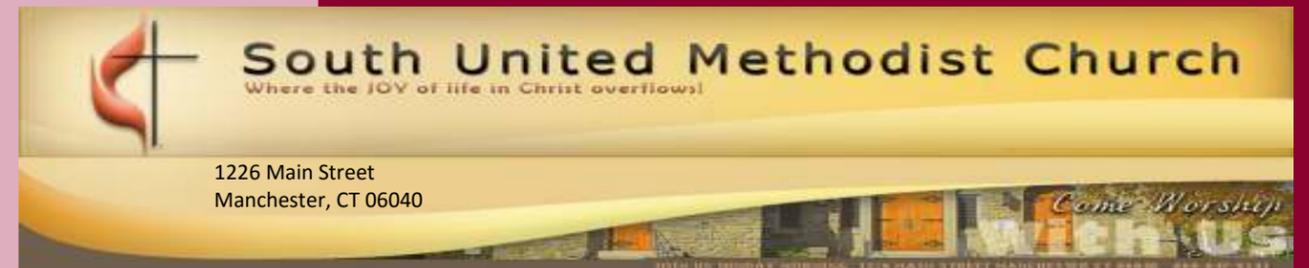
Tues, Thurs 6:00p-9:00p

Email address: office@southumc.com

Web address: southumc.com

October Challenge Deadline:

Sunday, September 18, 2016



THE CHALLENGE

SEPTEMBER 2016

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

*September 18th
Summer hours end

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

11:45a - Contemporary
Worship with Wildfire
Worship Band

Sept 11th 10am service

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Peace in Stressful times!

"I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world."
(John 16:33)

Dear Friends,

Life today in our world is characterized by uncertainty more than ever. Terrorism seems to be out of control, in our country, and in our world. These are stressful days! Our nation is in the midst of struggles related to race, and gun violence, and the fact that our elected officials seem to have such different solutions only heightens the anxiety. We are stressed. As individuals and families, we also struggle with economic pressures, health concerns, and even communication breakdowns, all of which threaten the stability of our households. Yes, we are stressed. The good news is that God offers peace in the midst of the most violent of storms. Jesus invites us to come to Him with our stress, our anxiety - in fact every burden that we carry. As we turn to the Lord we can discover and experience peace in stressful times

The first Sunday of this month's series will take place on September 11, 2016, the fifteenth anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and the downing of Flight 93 in Pennsylvania. As we gather on this Sunday, we will remember in prayer the families and friends of the victims and first responders who died on that terrible Tuesday morning in 2001. In many ways the world feels more dangerous today than it did 15 years ago. Yet we remember today, what we reminded ourselves of then; we can find our peace and ultimate security in Jesus Christ.

In Jesus, we find our peace and ultimate security.

Yes we *can* find great comfort and encouragement in the words of Jesus, *"I have told you this so that in me you may have peace."* Since 9/11, we have learned about the limits of our government leaders to completely protect us. Thankfully since 2001, we have not experienced an attack of that scale, but we have witnessed many smaller acts of terror just as frightening: from Sandy Hook to Nice, France. Jesus, our Lord and leader, told us that there would be times like these; days when fear and terror would seem to reign. But he encouraged those of us who follow him to find our true and ultimate source of peace in Him and Him alone. We find peace in Christ as we turn to him in trust; depending on him, "to guard our hearts and our minds."

So as we gather to worship on September 11, 2016, we will remind ourselves that there are no simple answers, or easy solutions to our world's struggle with terror. We will remember those who were lost. We will also remember the one who suffered, died and was raised to offer all people understanding and ultimate victory in and through all pain and grief. We will gratefully turn to, and worship the one who offers all people His perfect peace in stressful times. I hope and pray you will join me.

In Service to Christ,
John



September 2016 Worship Themes

September 11, 2016: "Peace; In the Eye of the Storm"

Scripture: John 16:29-33 Jesus predicts challenging days

Focus Verse: Jesus said, "I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!" (John 16:33)

Theme: Even in perplexing times, we can have peace through Christ.

September 18, 2016: "Take Your Burdens to the Lord"

Scripture: Matthew 11:25-30. Rest for the Weary

Focus Verse: Jesus said, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)

Theme: We can find peace and rest when we give our burdens to the Lord

September 25, 2016: "Peace; Even When Life is Hard"

Scripture: Romans 5:1-5. Peace and Joy through Faith

Focus Verse: "Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ..." (Romans 5:1)

Theme: The relationship that sees us through life's turbulent times.

October 2, 2016: "Peace-Producing Thoughts"

Scripture: Philippians 4:4-9

Focus Verse: "And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:7)

Theme: We will experience peace as we give our thoughts and worries to the Lord.

South United Methodist Church Contact Information

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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)



S

There are times when every one of us experiences difficulties...

U

- *Loss of a loved one
- *Spiritual Crisis
- *Cancer/illness
- *Hospitalization
- *Imprisonment
- *Disability

- *Discouragement
- *Divorce
- *Rehabilitation
- *Job loss
- *Loneliness
- *Many other challenges

M

God never intended for us to go through these experiences alone. That's why God has brought us together as a congregation-AND why we have Stephen Ministry.

C

Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who have received 50 hours of caregiving training to minister to people experiencing a crisis, facing a challenge, or simply going through a tough time.

A Stephen Minister will meet with you-privately and confidentially-on a weekly basis to listen, care, encourage, support, and remind you of Christ's presence in your life.

If you'd like to learn more about Stephen Ministry for yourself, a family member, or a friend, neighbor, coworker or someone else you know...call 860-647-9141 and talk with Pastor John (ext.14) or Terry (ext. 15).

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.

E

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.

W

S

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.

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>



*Checks can also be sent to the church (SUMC) with Robert/Van in memo line.

Upcoming Youth Events

The Youth schedule for the Fall is now available on the church calendar! On Spirit Sunday, September 11, the Youth will introduce its newest members, the 7th graders, to the Youth program at South Church by going to play mini-golf and eat ice cream. Each Youth will need \$10 for this event, and it is the perfect time to invite a friend or two!

9/4	NO Youth Group
9/11	Youth Group at 12:30pm - Mini Golf & Ice Cream
9/18	Youth Group at 5pm at South
9/25	Youth Group at 5pm at South



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.



HI HO FAIR CHAIRPERSON MEETING



Sunday, September 18th - 10:30
(between services)

Location TBD - meet in Reception Hall
Please contact Linda Vesho (860) 646-4823 if you or your representative can not attend.



Young Men's and Women's Bible Studies are starting up on Monday, September 12, and both will run from 6:30-8:00 pm. The Young Men's Bible Study will meet in the Youth Room at the church, and the Young Women's Bible Study will meet at 20 Hartford Road. If you'd like to join us please contact JT or Catey via email (nextgen@southumc.com) for more info!

Hi Ho Fair, Saturday, November 5th



The date of the fair is fast approaching, here's how you can help!

TAG SALE & BOOKS - contact Marilyn Broneill at 860 649-9843
"Trash & Treasures", "Antikews" and "Book Sale" booths are very popular places at the fair. We are looking for household & decorative items as well as books. Small electrical appliances are ok, but please no TVs, computers, stereo systems, records, clothing or large exercise equipment. Donations can be left on the stage in Cooper Hall, after Labor Day, whenever the church is open.

COUNTRY STORE - contact Nancy Dawson at 860 978-5480 or dawsonaff@gmail.com
This booth is all about wonderful canned goods and other delicious prepared foods from the kitchen. As you harvest your gardens, please think of us. We need cucumbers (all shapes and varieties - about 40 - 50) and tomatoes - as many as you can share. Your ideas are always welcome. Please coordinate your contributions with Nancy. NOTE: Nancy cannot take produce between August 31 and September 7.

COOKIES IN A CAN - contact Marcia Memery at 860 646-4513
Thank you to everyone who donated coffee cans. We now have more than enough for this year and so far 130 have been covered with fabric. Sign-up sheets for cookie baking will be in the reception hall in late September.

CRAFT BOOTH - contact Ginny Hartzog 860 646-3962 or ginhartz@gmail.com
Crafters - The crafters have been meeting during the summer on Saturday mornings in Bolton. We have a lot done already, but will be meeting a few more times in the fall. If you are interested in helping, contact Ginny.
Crafts - If you have a craft that you would like to make and donate to our booth at the fair, we would welcome any contributions. To help with our planning, please contact Ginny to let us know what you will be donating.
Crocheters - Our nylon scrubbies were a big seller last year! We sold over 100 and now that everyone knows how great they work, we are sure we will sell even more this year! If you know how to crochet and would be willing to make some for us at home at your convenience, please contact Ginny (info above). We can provide the pattern and nylon netting for you to use.

USED JEWELRY - contact Marilyn Broneill at 860 649-9843
Last year we resurrected the **Used Jewelry** booth and it was very successful. So successful in fact, our jewelry supply is almost wiped out! Donations of used jewelry, scarves and jewelry gift boxes would be very much appreciated. These can be brought to church now and left in the "Used Jewelry" box on the table in Reception Hall.

NEEDLECRAFTS - contact Jane Zadnik at 860-647-9925 or jane.zadnik@sbcglobal.net
Scarves, hats, mittens, sweaters, baby clothes (please mark the size), quilted and sewn goods are all needed. If you love to knit, crochet or sew, this is the booth for you!

PLANTS - contact Marilyn Broneill at 860 649-9843
If your houseplants need splitting, please consider potting them and donating them for the renewed plant table at the fair. These can be brought to the church & left in the reception hall two weeks before the fair. Please put a sign on the plant that it is for the fair.

LUNCHEON - contact Deb Grehn at 860 233-8054 or dgrehn@sbcglobal.net
Deb Grehn has graciously offered to take over the luncheon for the fair this year. Stay tuned - menu details coming in the October Challenge!

PUBLICITY - contact Ginny Hartzog 860 646-3962 or ginhartz@gmail.com
If you are available to help get the word out to newspapers etc, please contact Ginny.

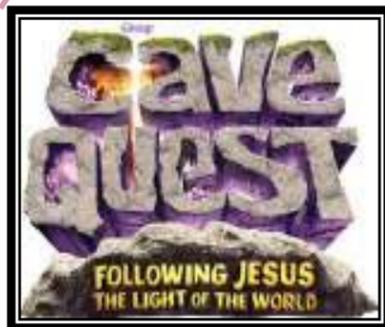
BAKED GOODS & CANDY
Start thinking of your favorite recipes and set aside some time just prior to the fair to whip up a few batches. More info to come!

FAIR WORKERS - contact Marilyn Broneill at 860 649-9843 or Linda Vesho at 860 646-4823
Many volunteers are needed to help at the booths on the day of the fair. The fair hours are 9 to 2, but we can use help before and after, for set up and clean up. If you need further information on the fair or to sign up to help, please contact Marilyn or Linda (see above).

September 2016 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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 Wesley Ringers 7:30pm NO Chancel Choir	1 7:30pm SM Supervision	2	3 7:30am Men's Fellowship 9:30am Knitting Group
4 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 NO Youth Group	5 6:30pm NO Young Women or Men Bible Study	6 12pm Bulletin Deadline 7:00pm Committee Mtgs	7 11:00am Staff Mtg 6:30pm Wildfire 6:30pm Wesley Ringers 7:30pm Chancel Choir	8	9	10
11 10:00am Combined Service 10:45am NO Sunday School 11:15am All Church Picnic 11:45 am NO Contemporary 12:30 Youth Group Golf/Ice Cream	12 6:30pm Young Women Bible 6:30pm Young Men Bible Study	13 12pm Bulletin Deadline 7:30pm Ad Board	14 11:00am Staff Mtg 6:30pm Wildfire 6:30pm Wesley Ringers 7:30pm Chancel Choir	15 6:30pm SM Leaders 7:30pm SM Supervision	16 4:00pm Wedding Rehearsal	17 9:30am Knitting Group 4:00pm Garrison Wedding
18 9:30am Traditional Children's Story 9:45am K- 2nd Children's Church 10:45am Sunday School 11:45am Contemporary in Café 5:00pm Youth Group **Challenge deadline	19 6:30pm Young Women Bible 6:30pm Young Men Bible Study	20 12pm Bulletin Deadline 7:30pm Staff Parish	21 11:00am Staff Mtg 6:30pm Wildfire 6:30pm Wesley Ringers 7:30pm Chancel Choir	22	23	24 3:30pm Nick Adams Wedding
25 9:30am Traditional Children's Story 9:45am K- 2nd Children's Church 10:45am Sunday School 11:45am Contemporary in Café 5:00pm Youth Group	26 6:30pm Young Women Bible 6:30pm Young Men Bible Study	27 12pm Bulletin Deadline 7:30pm Finance Mtg	28 11:00am Staff Mtg 6:30pm Wildfire 6:30pm Wesley Ringers 7:30pm Chancel Choir	29	30	1 7:30am Men's Fellowship 9:30am Knitting Group

More South News



It's been said, "It takes a village to raise a child." And we certainly helped to prove that to be true during our very successful VBS (Day Camp) **Cave Quest**, held here at SUMC from August 15-19!

Many hands, feet, hearts, prayers etc...all combined to help over 95 pre-k through grade 6 children learn how to better **"Follow Jesus: the light of the world"** They roamed through our hallways and classrooms learning how Jesus gives us hope, courage, direction, love and his power. Thank you to everyone for everything, We had a wonderful week!

Some of you worked each (or many) days. Many others helped with our Thursday evening Ice Cream Social, donated items, helped with registration, decorating, publicity or prayed for us.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you-one and All!

Many people experienced *Jesus: The light of the world*, because you shared your time, energy, resources and talents!

Looking Forward to 2017:



Our Fall Schedule begins

September 18

- 9:30 am** Traditional Service with children's message and Chancel Choir
- 9:45 am** Nursery and K-2 Sunday school class
- 10:30 am** Fellowship Time in Reception Hall (directly adjacent to the Sanctuary)
- 10:45 am** Sunday School for ALL ages (Pre-k through Adult) see posted signs
- 11:45 am** Contemporary Service with Wildfire Worship Band (in *The Cafe*)



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:

Another water buffalo was purchased from the Outreach Committee to Heifer International this summer in honor of Edith and Boris Gerber as they headed off to their new home. We trust they will find ample opportunities for outreach work there.

Vacation Bible School took place in August amid great flocks of bats and wonderful activities. Approximately 95 kids came each morning, which is outreach in its own right. Then we have all the food items the kids brought in to be delivered to MACC for distribution in the food pantry. Good work!

Things are already taking shape for Seasonal Sharing. There will apparently be some changes (including, we have heard, a new name). We'll keep you informed.

Terry Marshall uncovered a really good deal for diapers in bulk for charitable organizations, so we are working with MACC to try to make use of the opportunity. The first 4 packages (about 700 diapers) have been ordered and we are anxiously waiting to see how that goes.

Our youth went westward to the Niagara Falls area for a week of mission work this summer. We thank them for representing us in such a wonderful way.



Nick Adams and Amy Fair are excited to celebrate their wedding at South United Methodist Church. Nick and Amy worked with the youth and children's ministries during Nick's time as South UMC's Director of Youth Ministries. All are invited to attend the ceremony in the sanctuary at 3:30pm on September 24th.



Washington School

Thanks very much for all your donations of clothing and money to purchase shirts and pants for Washington School. 55 shirts, 42 pants and 5 pair of underwear were delivered to the school this past week and very much appreciated.

Come and check out an Adult Sunday School Class!

10:45am
Starting Sept. 18th



- Cup of Joy - Women meet in Cooper Hall
- Cup of Joe - Men meet in 3rd floor classroom
- Social Justice Class - meets in 3rd flr classroom

Help is needed!

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

HELP WANTED

**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

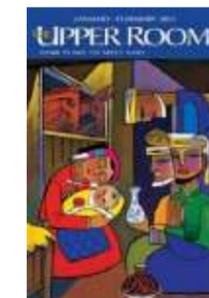
What can I do on the church website?



Read the
Challenge



Look at
Announcements



Do daily
Devotions



Listen to
a Sermon



Check the
Calendar

www.southumc.com