



Return Service Requested



The CHALLENGE September 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  
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](mailto:office@southumc.com)  
Web address: [southumc.com](http://southumc.com)

October Challenge Deadline:  
Sunday, September 23, 2018

**THE CHALLENGE SEPTEMBER 2018**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Sept 9th 10am service

**\*September 16th**  
**Fall schedule resumes**

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

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**We are What We Believe!**

*“To all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.” (John 1:12-13)*

Dear Friends,

What is it that determines our identity as followers of Jesus Christ? What distinguishes and sets us apart as a unique people? It is not primarily our good deeds: feeding the hungry and responding to disasters. This is good work done by many people of various backgrounds and faiths and even by those who have no particular faith.

If not our deeds, perhaps then what makes us stand apart is our character. Being kind, patient, selfless and loving are aspects of Christian conduct. Yet we all know good, decent, law-abiding people, people of good character, who would never claim to be disciples of Jesus. Is it the fact that we speak and work on behalf of the weak, the powerless, the poor and the voiceless? No. While it is true that justice for all is a value we are called to work for, and do in fact engage in, it is not what defines us as Christian people. Again, there are many groups and organizations who though not worshipping with us, do work for justice for the forgotten people of our world.

What made people followers of Jesus in his time was the **faith** they placed in him. In any age, a disciple of Christ is someone who believes him to be the Son of God and the savior of the world. When we are asked when we became, a \_\_\_\_\_ Christian, by \_\_\_\_\_ another follower of Jesus or someone else, there is one definite reply. We became a disciple of Jesus when we recognized that we believed in Him, that he died for us, for our sins and rose to give us a new life, abundant and never-ending! We might even identify with a particular verse, in my case that would be John 3:16. What makes us a follower of Jesus today, as in the past, is that we believe in Him.

**What we believe impacts  
how we live.**

Since faith in Jesus is what defines us as a people, it should not come as a shock that throughout the history of the church there have been many threats to our common faith. In the first three centuries of its existence, the Christian church was a persecuted, somewhat struggling faith held by a small but growing group of people. In the year 313, the emperor Constantine issued the Edict of Milan, making the persecution of Christians to be illegal. One might think that with the external threat eliminated, the church would have thrived. It did, yet within a short period of time, internal threats emerged when various individuals rose up and defied the common understanding of what it meant to be a follower of Jesus. In response to one of these controversies, concerning the identity of Jesus, Constantine called together a Council of all the bishops and leaders of the church from around the empire to meet in Nicaea in 325. Out of that Council, the creed we know as the Nicene Creed was overwhelmingly adopted. This creed based upon the Scriptures, provides a common summary of what we believe as followers of Jesus and has been accepted by the three major branches of the church eastern orthodox, catholic and protestant.

In the coming weeks at South Church, we will explore this ancient creed, rediscovering in the process what we believe as Christians and why we believe it. A guiding conviction for me in preparing these messages is that what we believe determines how we live and function in our world. That is what I mean by the phrase, “We are what we believe.” I hope you will join me in worship and take this opportunity to invite others to attend with you who might be interested in learning more about what followers of Jesus believe.

In Service to Christ,

John



# September 2018 Worship Themes

**September 9, 2018: "We believe in God, the maker of heaven and earth..."**

**Scripture:** Genesis 1:1-5; The beginning of creation  
**Focus Verse:** "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." (Genesis 1:1-5)  
**Theme:** The world in which we live was created by God.

**September 16, 2018: "We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ..."**

**Scripture:** John 1:1-14; In the beginning was the word...  
**Focus Verse:** "In him was life, and that life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. (John 1:4-5)  
**Theme:** Jesus is the Lord, the source of light and hope for the world.

**September 23, 2018: "For us and for our salvation..."**

**Scripture:** Philippians 2:5-11; The humility of Christ.  
**Focus Verse:** "Jesus gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being." (Philippians 2:7)  
**Theme:** Jesus, God's only Son, became human in order to offer salvation to the world.

**September 30, 2018: "For our sake, he was crucified..."**

**Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 15:1-8; Paul shares the importance of Jesus' death and resurrection.  
**Focus Verse:** "For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures..." (1 Corinthians 15:3)  
**Theme:** Jesus died and rose from the dead for our sake.

## South United Methodist Church Contact Information

<b>Church office:</b> (860) 647-9141	<b>South Church Staff</b>
<b>Office Hours:</b> Mon Wed Fri 9:00a -12:00p Tues, Thurs 6:00p-9:00p	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)
<b>Email address:</b> <a href="mailto:office@southumc.com">office@southumc.com</a>	
<b>Web address:</b> <a href="http://southumc.com">southumc.com</a>	
<b>Facebook:</b> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/southumc">facebook.com/southumc</a>	
<b>Prayer Chain:</b> (860) 337-2793 or <a href="mailto:prayer@southumc.com">prayer@southumc.com</a>	
<b>Text Giving:</b> 860-512-7185 (\$20 SUMC)	



*"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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.)	Colleen Olbert (1-1)	Linda Vesho (Ex-officio)
Deb Grehn (C.C.C.)	Deb Grehn (1-1)	Denise Roman (Ex-officio)
Marilyn Broneill (C.C.C.)	Dave Burgess (1-1)	Ray McKay (Ex-officio)
Mary Koduah (C.C.C.)	Amy Cooper (1-1)	Alberta Hoagland (Ex-officio)
Don Wilby (C.C.C.)	Sue Bidwell (1-1)	
Amy Cooper (C.C.C.)	Sarah Kania (1-1)	
Carlyn Arruda (C.C.C.)	Sylvia Bruno (1-1)	
Dave Bidwell (C.C.C.)	Marnie Meek (1-1)	
Brenda Langford (C.C.C.)	Carlyn Arruda (1-1)	
Bill McGugan (C.C.C.)		

*"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*



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) **Shipwrecked**, held here at SUMC from August 20-24!

Many hands, feet, hearts, prayers etc...all combined to help approximately 75 pre-k through grade 6 children learn how we are created by God and Built for a purpose. They roamed through our hallways and classrooms learning...How God made us, How God is for us, How God is always with us, How God will always

love us and How God made us for a reason! 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 one and all for your faithful support and prayers, we couldn't have done it without you!

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

Many people were reminded that: "**Jesus Rescues**"

Looking Forward to 2019: **ROAR!**



**Prayer Works... Submitted by Marnie Meek, Prayer Coordinator**

Among many other reasons, we pray so God can get all the glory. After trying unsuccessfully to sell 48 Hartford Rd and scratching our heads for years about what to do with 21 Hartford Rd. We had a season of prayer at South UMC. In early 2017 a small group prayer walked our church properties, asking God to reveal His good purposes for the buildings. We asked God to allow them to be used to support ministries and organizations that honored Him. Then God went to work. NOW:

48 Hartford Rd is home to foreign exchange students with United Schools Association who attend East Catholic High School.

21 Hartford Rd hosts not only next generation Bible studies and fellowship events but also houses our Director of Next Generation Ministries and his growing family.

20 Hartford Rd in addition to housing Manchester Chamber of Commerce has become the base of operations for Building Healthy Families, a nonprofit family support organization, offering personalized universal family support and education programs for parents, caregivers, parents-to-be, students and children through diversified programming. There is also a full apartment available to house a much needed ministry intern (Won't you join us in praying for God to fill that apartment with a student of His choice?).

John 14:13 "And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son"

**Young Adults**



THE CROSSING

The Young Men met throughout the summer for a Bible Study called Relat(able) by Louis Giglio, and we focused on having godly relationships that glorify Christ. God moved in great ways, so praise Him for what He has done! Our Young Men's and Young Women's Bible Studies will be continuing this Fall. This is a great time to grow deeper in your faith while enjoying fellowship, snacks, and biblical study. Stay tuned for details on exact times and locations. Contact JT or Catey by text for more details: 623-670-2612. Join us September 29th from 10 am - Noon for an Apple Picking at Belltown Orchard in Glastonbury! Get to know other young adults and young families in our church community while enjoying a favorite Fall outing. Contact JT or Catey with any questions: 623-670-2612...Looking forward to seeing you there!

Thank you to all of you who prayed for and assisted in our Youth program this past summer! It was an amazing time filled with fun events, ice cream/popsicles, a mission trip to Portland, Maine, VBS decorating and volunteering, parking cars for our next mission trip, and Youth Group most Sundays! We are grateful for the work God is doing in our Youth here at South Church. The Youth Leadership Team gathered on Sept. 4th to pray for our upcoming Youth program year. We are so thankful that God allows us to partner in ministry with Him, and we are excited for all that God is going to do in our Youth this year! Spirit Sunday, Sept. 9th, is our Youth Kick-off Night from 5-7 pm! We are excited to welcome incoming 7th graders to the fold and welcome back our 8th-12th graders. We will be playing games and doing activities that build community as well as some worship and biblical study. Of course there will be great snacks too! Contact JT by text if you are/your Youth is interested in coming: 623-670-2612

9/9 Youth Group @5pm  
Move Up Day for 7th Grade  
9/16 Youth Group @5pm

9/23 Youth Group @5pm  
9/30 Youth Group @5pm



You are invited to come and build with us! Hartford Habitat has invited SUMC to come and build September 29 during the Thrivent-sponsored Building on Faith Event. We will most likely be working in Hartford on Main St. helping Habitat construct two single family homes and two duplexes.

Anyone age 16 and up interested in using your home-building skills or learning a new skill can participate. Habitat Build Days are usually relaxed and productive, and full of fellowship with other builders, friendly supervisors, and

prospective homeowners. The workday runs from 7:45 am to 3 pm with safety talk, coffee and donuts, and water provided. Bring your water bottle and lunch.



**"I Scream, You Scream, we ALL Scream for Ice Cream!!!"**

On Sunday, September 9

following our **One 10am Service**

The SUMC Education Commission will sponsor an

**ALL Church Ice Cream Social**

No need to bring anything, but **DONATIONS** will be gratefully accepted

Come enjoy each other's company, and your favorite ice cream with toppings

Sunday School Registration will take place, Classes for Pre-K through Adult will begin, on Sunday, September 17 (10:45-11:30am)

Hope to see you there!

New Series: starts September 9  
We Believe: The Nicene Creed



**Help is NEEDED!!**

**Wildfire is Drummer-less!!**



**Wildfire needs a drummer!**

**If you are interested**

**Or know someone... See Terry**

**Flower Coordinator Needed**



**It takes approximately 2 hours the beginning of each month...plus occasional phone calls and emails during the month.**

**See Terry Marshall**



**Our Fall Schedule begins Sunday, September 16**

9:30 am - Traditional Service w/ children's message & Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)

9:45 am - Nursery and K-2 Sunday school class available (Ed. Wing)

10:30 am - Fellowship Time (Reception Hall directly adjacent to the Sanctuary)

10:45 am - Sunday School for ALL ages Pre-k through Adult (see posted signs for locations)

11:45 am - Contemporary Service with Wildfire Worship Band (in The Café)

# September 2018 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2</b> 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	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 12pm Bulletin Deadline 7:00pm Commission Mtg	<b>5</b> 11:00am Staff Mtg 6:30pm NO Wildfire 6:30pm Wesley Ringers 7:30pm Chancel Choir	<b>6</b> 7:30pm NO Cong. Care Mtg.	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 10:00am Combined Service 10:45am NO Sunday School 11:15am Ice Cream Social 11:15 am NO Contemporary 5:00pm Youth Group	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 12pm Bulletin Deadline 7:30pm Ad Board	<b>12</b> 11:00am Staff Mtg 6:30pm NO Wildfire 6:30pm Wesley Ringers 7:30pm Chancel Choir	<b>13</b> 7:30pm Cong. Care Mtg.	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9:30am Knitting Group
<b>16</b> 9:30am Traditional Service w/Children's Story 9:45am K- 2nd Children's Church 10:45am Sunday School 11:45am Contemporary in Café 1:00pm Music Ministries Picnic 5:00pm Youth Group	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 12pm Bulletin Deadline 7:00pm Lydia Circle 7:00pm Staff Parish	<b>19</b> 11:00am Staff Mtg 6:30pm NO Wildfire 6:30pm Wesley Ringers 7:30pm Chancel Choir	<b>20</b> 7:30pm 1-1 Caregivers Mtg.	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 9:30am Traditional Service w/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	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 12pm Bulletin Deadline 7:30pm Finance Mtg.	<b>26</b> 11:00am Staff Mtg 6:30pm NO Wildfire 6:30pm Wesley Ringers 7:30pm Chancel Choir	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 9:30am Young Adult Event
<b>30</b> 9:30am Traditional Service w/Children's Story 9:45am K- 2nd Children's Church 10:45am Sunday School 11:45am Contemporary in Café 5:00pm Youth Group	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 12pm Bulletin Deadline 7:00pm Commission Mtg	<b>3</b> 11:00am Staff Mtg 6:30pm NO Wildfire 6:30pm Wesley Ringers 7:30pm Chancel Choir	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 7:30am Men's Fellowship 9:30am Knitting Group

## More South News

### Hi Ho Fair Saturday, November 3rd

#### WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

The 2017 UMW fair proceeds are being used to support:

**Locally** - MACC, SUMC Scholarship Fund, SUMC Vacation Bible School & Seasonal Sharing

**Internationally:** UMCOR, Christmas Shoeboxes, Rise Against Hunger, Compassion International, the blanket drive and clean wells.

Here's how you can help us support these wonderful causes for 2018!

**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, starting September 4th, whenever the church is open.** Call the church office to arrange for help if you need it.

**CANDY** - CONTACT NEEDED - CAN YOU HELP? - 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](mailto:ginhartz@gmail.com).

**USED JEWELRY** - contact Marilyn Broneill at 860 649-9843 - Our Jewelry booth is always very popular. If you have used jewelry to donate, **please leave it in the box in Reception Hall now** so we can sort, clean, box and price it. This is a big job and can't be done at the last minute. We have volunteers who are ready to work on this project now, so please bring in your jewelry ASAP.

**COUNTRY STORE** - contact Nancy Dawson at 860 978-5480 or [dawsonaff@gmail.com](mailto:dawsonaff@gmail.com) - Several congregation members have been busy, busy making pickles and jellies for the Country Store. As the season's bounty is harvested, we will continue to make other canned items. Any help you can give in this area would be most appreciated. In addition to delicious food items, the Country Store is expanding its offerings to include other types of handmade items for personal use and for gifts. Please contact Nancy Dawson if you would like to help in any way.

**THREADS** - contact Nancy Dawson at 860 978-5480 or [dawsonaff@gmail.com](mailto:dawsonaff@gmail.com) - The newly-named "Threads" area includes quilted, sewn, knitted and crocheted items. While some clothing items are being included, the focus of the area this year is home décor items for Fall and Winter. Come check out this new section, and, if you can help make some simple, quick-to-make items, please contact Nancy.

**COOKIES IN A CAN** - contact Marcia Memery at 860 646-4513 - We still need coffee cans, so please continue to leave them in the box in the Reception Hall. 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](mailto: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.

The crafters have met a few times during the summer and have accomplished a lot already. If you are interested in joining us in the fall to make crafts, contact Ginny for dates and locations. Also, if you have a craft that you would like to make and donate to the booth for the fair, we would welcome any contributions. To help with our planning, please contact Ginny to let us know what you will be donating.

**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 along with any available information about the plant.

**LUNCHEON** - contact Deb Grehn at 860 233-8054 or [dgrehn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dgrehn@sbcglobal.net)

Deb Grehn and her team will once again be offering their delicious food for the luncheon. Stay tuned - menu details coming in the October Challenge!

**PUBLICITY** - contact Ginny Hartzog 860 646-3962 or [ginhartz@gmail.com](mailto:ginhartz@gmail.com)

If you are available to help get the word out to newspapers etc, please contact Ginny.

#### BAKED GOODS

Start thinking of your favorite recipes and set aside some time just prior to the fair to whip up a few batches. As noted above, we also are looking for candy and fudge this year. More info to come!

**FAIR WORKERS** - contact Ginny Hartzog at 860 646-3962 or [ginhartz@gmail.com](mailto:ginhartz@gmail.com), 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 want further information on the fair or to sign up to help, please contact one of us listed above.

**We especially need help to pack up Trash & Treasures starting at 2 pm after the fair on 11/3.**  
If you can help with this, please let us know!

Remember, the proceeds from the Hi Ho Fair help support various mission projects, locally, nationally and internationally. Your help is very much appreciated!



## Outreach News

### South Church is Reaching out Through:

....RISE AGAINST HUNGER

.....BLESSING BAGS (MACC)

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

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

.....MAD MACC SHOPPERS

#### COMING UP:

**HABITAT BUILDING:** Jeff Keift has obtained a spot for folks from South Church to do some home building in the greater Hartford area on the last Saturday in September. See his article elsewhere in this newsletter for more information.

**FOOD FOR WASHINGTON SCHOOL KIDS:** We will be working with Trinity Covenant Church to take refrigerated bags across the river in the middle of each week where they will be filled with food and then be ready for us to pick up on a Friday and brought to Washington School for kids from more impoverished families to take home for the weekend. Sound like something you would enjoy? Be in touch with Donna Costello (860-539-8151).

#### SUCSESSES:

**Rise Against Hunger** .... remember that fabulous April event at which we packaged 11,000 meals to be distributed to those in need? We just received word that our meals were received in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. We are so blessed to be a part of this event and pray that the meals we packaged will be used to ease people's suffering.

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 **22 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.** Purchases have been made and delivered to MACC using that money. In addition, the participants in the Vacation Bible Camp collected a whole "boat load" (literally) of food for MACC. The need is always there .... please continue to bring in food and leave it in the grocery basket in the Narthex (entrance to the sanctuary).

We're ready to get started with the new "season" which 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!

#### ...More Outreach

October, November and December are busy months for Outreach! We plan to provide assistance to MACC for Thanksgiving and Christmas, supporting local families who need our help. We will also be collecting Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. We understand that we ask much of you the last few months of the year - but please be in prayer now about how you'd like to participate in these programs so you can be prepared to assist. Outreach will ask for donations food, gifts, and also your time to help us carry out these programs. As we obtain more details from MACC about their programs this year, we will communicate them to you and ask for more specific ways you can help. As in years past, we have been able to do much for many people, both locally and world-wide. We wait in anticipation for how God will use us individually and as a church to do the same this year.

#### Washington School News

Fall is upon us, and Washington School will be opening their doors for the last school year. The town's consolidation plan to close and reconfigure the elementary schools is in progress. South United Methodist Church is committed to supporting the students and staff of Washington School for their final year.

As part of this, we will once again be partnering with Trinity Covenant Church to provide food to twenty struggling families through our Weekend Snack Program. Rolling suitcases will be picked up from the school on Wednesdays and delivered to the First Congregational Church in Bloomfield, where the Hyacinth Williams Foundation volunteers will pack the bags with food. Then on Fridays we will pick up the suitcases in Bloomfield, and bring them back to Washington School for students to bring home for the weekend. South church is providing this transportation for the months of October, December, February, April, and June. Please consider helping out with this transportation! Call Donna Costello at 860-539-8151.

Look for more Washington School news to come in the following months!

**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  
(Ice Cream Social!!!)**

**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*