



The Spire

SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
35 Conant Street, Beverly MA 01915

Rev. Adam Isbitsky: Legacy Pastor
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November 2024



**Second Congregational
United Church of Christ
Sunday – 9:30 a.m.**

For the first week in November, we focus on celebrating all saints: those living and those who have gone on to glory. You are invited to be in worship that day when there will be a time to remember loved ones' names aloud. The remaining three weeks in November will center our 2025 stewardship campaign. Our worship will feature past, present, and future themes using the lens of the classic hymn, "Great Is Thy Faithfulness." We will also have themes of gratitude and thanksgiving spread throughout the month in hymns and liturgy.



November 3: Celebrating All Saints

Worship with Communion

Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians 5:1-11

Rev. Adam preaching: "Another Year?"

Liturgist: Cheri Marquart

November 10: First Week of Stewardship

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness: No Shadow of Turning with Thee"

Letter of James 1:16-27

Rev. Adam leading a group reflection on favorite church moments from the past

Liturgist: Doug Marquart

November 17: Second Week of Stewardship

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness: Join with all Nature in Manifold Witness"

Rev. Adam preaching on Psalm 148

Liturgist: Peggie Morris

November 24: Third Week of Stewardship

Dedication of 2025 Pledges

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness: Strength for Today and Bright Hope for Tomorrow"

Rev. Adam preaching on Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:22-26

Liturgist: Dale Miller Bouton

Mark your calendars: Christmas Eve worship, Tuesday, 12/24: 4:00pm at SCC, 11:00pm at First Baptist Church in Beverly

All Saints' Day

You are invited to share names of your loved ones who have died to have their names read aloud on November 3rd. Please submit those names



to church office to be included in the bulletin. Names will also be received during the service.

Tree of Life

Christian Love & Sympathy is extended to family and friends of **Frances Hicks Whitaker** (wife to d. David Whitaker), who died on September 28.

Election Prayer Vigils

Join together with neighbors and the wider community as we pray for a smooth national election process and for peace and calm after the election.

Sunday, 11/3, 6:00pm at West Parish Church, UCC, in Andover

Monday, 11/4, 6:00pm at Second Congregational Church, UCC, in Beverly

Wednesday, 11/6, 10:00am–2:00pm Open Chapel at SCC for quiet personal reflection, prayer, and candle lighting



Northeast Association Events

Northeast Association Music Festival on Sunday, 11/3 at 3:00pm at First Church in Swampscott



Thank You

*“Thank you for your cards, phone calls, and prayers since our dad died on August 25th. Scott and I really appreciate your love and support. There will be a memorial service for our dad (**Rev. J. Yorke Peeler**) on Saturday, November 23, at 11:00a.m. at South Church, 27 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH. Luncheon follows in fellowship hall. If you are able, we’d love to see you there.” (Steve & Scott Peeler)*

“Thank you for your Proportional Giving contribution (\$1,087.24) to the Southern New England Conference. With your gift we can continue to inspire disciples, transform our communities through justice work, and spread the spirit of radical welcome.” Blessings, Lisa Steinberg

Gratitude & Good Wishes are extended to Custodian Brad Ramsdell, who has served us faithfully for the past several years. He has resigned from his position at the church and his last day is November 1. He will continue to be employed by the North Shore Christian School at their new location, 255 Grapevine Road in Wenham.

Central Board News and Notes:



MEETING MINUTES

The Central Board met October 16th as announced in church and weekly E-News.

Rev. Adam and the Central Board discussed special Fall services including wrap up of the Season of Creation with the October 6th Blessing of the Animals, as well as a chapel blessing service with North Shore Christian School October 15th as NSCS moved to their new campus at Gordon College. Rev. Adam, Jack Terrill, and Ruth Moran also represented SCC at an ecclesiastical council at the First Church of Ipswich on October 8th held for their member Stacy Keane Blagg, who was approved for ordination pending call.

The Legacy Team briefed the CB on their continued progress. Historic Beverly was selected to receive and archive our records and possibly other artifacts, too. An MOU is being drafted, subject to congregational vote, that will allow the records transfer to happen, while allowing us access to records we might need while moving down our legacy path. Kaminski Auctions also toured the building and reviewed some of our more valuable artifacts. They recommended we have the appraisals for a few of the more valuable items updated, and that we consider an onsite auction when the time comes to dispose of other hard assets not remaining with the building after sale. The Legacy Team and our real estate lawyer also sent the updated P&S agreement to Lifebridge attorneys. Once agreed, it will be presented to the Congregation for vote. Separately, with NSCS moving out and terminating their occupancy license, the CB confirmed the Property Team recommendation to pursue a lease with Lifebridge to rent the 3rd floor office suite for their administrative team usage.

The CB affirmed the need for a Stewardship Campaign, and thanked the Finance Team and Rev Adam for the kickoff letter sent out mid-October along with pledge cards. Pledges will be dedicated during our November 24 service. Work has begun on an initial draft budget for 2025, assuming a full year's operation, including asking teams and staff for inputs. There will be significant changes with the loss of NSCS rental income and projections for utility usage, as the framework matures. The Finance Team will submit to the CB for approval ahead of distribution of drafts to the SCC congregation December 1, two weeks ahead of the December 15 congregational budget meeting.

We Need Your Help



Mission and Social Action will be hosting a Thanksgiving Meal for Recovery High School at the Church on Wednesday, November 20th. Help is needed for set up, serving and clean up.

Set up starts at 10:00am. Contact Dale Miller Bouton at 978-998-9031 or email: dalemillerbouton@gmail.com if interested.

It is a great way to meet and hear stories of strength and perseverance from these amazing students and teachers.



Donations of non perishable Thanksgiving items are being collected for Bootstraps as well and should be dropped off before November 20th.

Mission and Outreach – The Central Board was pleased to learn that the Mission and Social Action Team continues to thoughtfully deploy SCC resources in the community. At their recent meeting, donations were authorized to the UCC Hurricane Relief Fund helping with Helene and Milton recovery, and Family Promise North Shore Boston. The Mission Team also shared plans to continue a tradition of hosting North Shore Recovery High students and staff for a Thanksgiving dinner celebration. The CB was pleased to accept Lauren Noonan and Jay Swallow’s offer to once again prepare Thanksgiving takeout meals for November 23rd – which allows us to continue this outreach to the largely senior citizen community that previously enjoyed our Bean Suppers so much.

**The next Central Board meeting will be Wednesday November 20 at 7pm via Zoom.
Contact Dale Earl or another CB member if you’d like to attend.**

Pick Up Turkey Dinner



Saturday, November 23rd

1-3pm, handicap door

Menu: turkey, gravy, stuffing, mashed potatoes, vegetables

\$8.00 per meal cash/check

Order deadline: November 16th

Phone office: **978.922.5722** or

Email: parishadmin@beverlysecond.com

Caregivers spend their times helping others. We want to do something for you!

HONORING CAREGIVERS

You are invited to a FREE Caregiver Event.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2024, 10am - 1pm
Hamilton Community House, 284 Bay Rd, Hamilton, MA

Enjoy FREE chair massages, yoga, guided mediation, virtual reality experience, and **lunch at noon.**

Meet with vendors offering services to caregivers.

All attendees will receive a gift bag and a ticket to enter FREE raffles, including a grand prize worth \$350!

RSVP is appreciated, but not required

carepartners@seniorcareinc.org

978-865-3591

This event is open to the public and is intended for those who are caregivers for adults.



Church Piano

In October, we worked with piano technician Alexander LaCava to bring our sanctuary piano back into tip-top shape. Our 23-year-old instrument is now ready for its second generation of making beautiful music. Thank you to Marshunda Smith, Josh Del Dotto, Rev. Adam, Mary Jane Clark, Jan Allen, and the Finance Team for working together to accomplish this project. Some funding for this work came from the remainder of the Helen Brown Piggott fund, which was created in 1989 from a bequest from her estate to support the church's music program.





SPIRITED WOMEN GATHERING

Spirited Women will be meeting again on **Nov 24th** after worship. We will meet in the parlor. We are calling the program Blind Dates With Books! Please bring a book that you are willing to part with. Wrap it with wrapping paper or newspaper etc. It can be any book that you think someone might like to read. Children's or adult booksany book! We will each choose a book, unwrap it in front of the group and read the inside flap to let others know what we received. I will bring extras so no worry if you don't have a book to give away. You will still take part and receive a book. Just remember to have it wrapped so it will be a surprise for whoever chooses it. It should be fun! In addition, we will also be making simple bookmarks. Wendy will bring supplies!



Hope you can make it!!



Daylight Saving time ends Sunday November 3, please remember to move your clocks back 1 hour!



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The Finance Team thanks all who have already turned in a pledge for 2025. Please turn in all remaining pledges as soon as you can so we can draft our 2025 budget. Pledges will be dedicated during worship on 11/24.