

# *The Steeple*

## **JANUARY**

### **2024**

**A monthly newsletter from  
South Congregational Church**



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Dear Beloved South Church,

Abundant gratitude to all of you who made our observance of Advent and Christmas especially beautiful and meaningful. You are all extraordinary! May the wonder of Christ's birth find a deep place in all of our hearts, and like the Magi, may we all be led by the star of love and peace throughout this year.

As we go forward into the New Year, I wonder how you are feeling – eager? hesitant? The new year can stir up many emotions both of our own lives and also for what may lie ahead for our nation and for the world. I invite you to ponder the beautiful words of a poem by Rev. Steve Garnass-Holmes (retired pastor, poet, musician) as you venture forth into 2024:

For the oak trees New Year's Day is just another day  
For the chickadee we have not turned a new year.

But we humans are creatures of hope;  
we dare to believe that today is new,

That from this day forward  
we can begin anew,

Forgive and be forgiven,  
learn and unlearn some things,  
step out of old ruts and into new adventures,  
new ways of being.

God, give me courage to start over,  
to start, to be open to new ways,

May the new year bring healing of wounds past,  
gratitude and trust in the present moment,

And abundant grace and blessing  
in what lies ahead.

Love,  
Sally

Sometimes January can be a quiet reprieve from the frenetic pace of the Christmas season. But we will be busy here at South Church:

Sunday January 7<sup>th</sup> - 3:00pm service of installation for Rev. Sally Norris which will include Glorious music from the choir and handbells. **PLEASE NOTE – there will be no morning Worship service on January 7<sup>th</sup>.**

Sunday January 14<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 am service MKL Sunday

Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> – 3:00 pm is the annual MKL remembrance at Hyannis Federated Church.

Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup> – There will also be a special MKL breakfast in Falmouth and Orleans.

Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup> – 10:00am service “discipleship” (Is Jesus calling you?)

Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> – After service Annual Meeting

## **ANNUAL MEETING**

***The annual meeting for 2023 will be held after service on January 28<sup>th</sup> .***

***Please have your reports into the church office no later than Monday January 8<sup>th</sup>.***

***Thanking you in advance !!***



**HAPPY JANUARY BIRTHDAY'S**

2<sup>ND</sup> ~ Bill Coughlin

7<sup>th</sup> ~ Rick Mee

10<sup>th</sup> ~ Deb Weinstein

21<sup>st</sup> ~ Florence Brassard

**SAVE THE DATE!!**  
**Sunday January 7<sup>th</sup> @ 3:00pm**

Installation by the Barnstable Association UCC of:  
The Reverened Sally E. Norris/Senior Minister  
South Congregational Church

**Glorious music for the choir and handbells**  
**Reception to follow in Fellowship Hall**

**Steeple Suggestions for Holiday Stroll (2024)**

**Girl Scouts Troop from Club Pack 54, Lilly Donahue makes Cotton Candy (Stroll Cotton Candy.pdf)**

**Girl Scout Troop 82552 helps Christmas Strollers toast Marshmallows' (Stroll Marshmallows Toasting.pdf(3MB))**

**Suggestions made by Tim Tudor**

**REMINDER!!**

Fran Merton has concluded taking pictures for the directory!

If anyone does want a photo

Please get in touch with Karen in the church office.

We're looking forward to starting the new Directory!!





## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ST. JOSEPH'S

Thank you for volunteering to provide a dish for St. Joseph's House adult emergency shelter! Dishes can be brought to church the Sunday before and stored in the fridge or brought in on Monday by 11am. There will be a schedule taped to the fridge when you drop it off, so the driver can tell all dishes are accounted for. You will receive an email the week before your scheduled to provide a dish.

Six South Church volunteers cook a dish on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month. A driver is scheduled for each month. Listed below are the dates for 2024!!

Reminders	Drop off.
• January 15 <sup>th</sup>	January 22 <sup>nd</sup>
• February 19 <sup>th</sup>	February 26 <sup>th</sup>
• March 18 <sup>th</sup>	March 25 <sup>th</sup>
• April 15 <sup>th</sup>	April 22 <sup>nd</sup>
• May 20 <sup>th</sup>	May 27 <sup>th</sup> (Memorial Day)
• June 17 <sup>th</sup>	June 24 <sup>th</sup>
• July 15 <sup>th</sup>	July 22 <sup>nd</sup>
• August 19 <sup>th</sup>	August 26 <sup>th</sup>
• September 16 <sup>th</sup>	September 23 <sup>rd</sup>
• October 21 <sup>st</sup>	October 28 <sup>th</sup>
• November 18 <sup>th</sup>	November 25 <sup>th</sup>
• December 16 <sup>th</sup>	December 23 <sup>rd</sup>

When providing a dish please put in disposable container and that it feeds at least 10 people. Write on the cover what the dish is and special instructions and any special ingredients (nuts etc.) to alert for allergies.

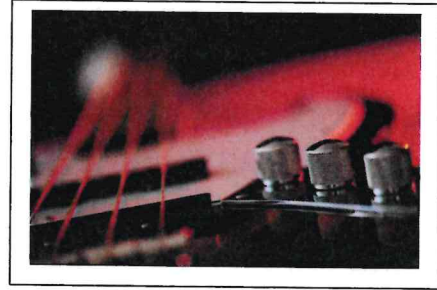
Dishes can be tasty and nutritious – casseroles, salads etc.

## WATCH THE BOYSCOUTS RACE PINWOOD DERBY

**PINEWOOD DERBY SET UP – January 26<sup>th</sup> 4:00 – 9:00 pm**

**PINEWOOD DERBY RACES – January 27<sup>th</sup> 8:00am -4:00pm**

## *Karen's Corner*



I'd like to take a minute to thank "Santa" and "Santa's Elves" who left gifts for me on the piano before Christmas. It warms my heart to be remembered by the parish of South Church and I thank each and every one of you who delivered items to me.

In January, we celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Mary and I will be singing the Civil Rights anthem, "We Shall Overcome" as a postlude for that Sunday's remembrances. I was curious about the song and its origins and found the information below to be quite fascinating. I found it on the Kennedy Center's "Resources for Educators" website, and I'd like to share it with you...

"On September 2, 1967, Dr. Martin Luther Kings, Jr., visited Highlander Folk School in Tennessee. Part of the school's mission was to help prepare civil rights workers to challenge unjust laws and racist policies that discriminated against African Americans. The school also made a point of bringing black and white people together to share experiences and to learn from each other. It was a dangerous idea. At a time when southern laws kept black and white people segregated, some white racists terrorized African Americans with deadly violence.

Dr. King delivered the main speech that day, honoring the school's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. As part of the meeting, folk singer Pete Seeger got up with his banjo. He plucked out a song he had learned at Highlander and let the audience in singing it.

Later that day, Dr. King found himself humming the tune in the car. "There's something about that song that haunts you," he said to his companion.

That song was "We Shall Overcome." It soon became the anthem of the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s. It offered courage, comfort, and hope as protesters confronted prejudice and hate in the battle for equal rights for African Americans.

"We Shall Overcome" has long history with input from many people and places. Part of the melody seems to be related to two European songs from the 1700s, "Prayer of the Sicilian Mariners" and "O Sanctissima." Enslaved black people in the U.S mixed and matched similar tunes in the songs "I'll Be All Right" and "No More Auction Block For Me."

After 1900, it seems the lyrics of another gospel song, "I'll Overcome Someday" by the Methodist minister and composer Reverend Dr. Charles Tindley, were added to the musical mix – though the music was very different. Around 1945, gospel arrangers Atron Twigg and Kenneth Morris apparently put together the essential pieces of the now-famous words and melody.

“We’ll Overcome” first appeared as a protest song during a 1945-1946 labor strike against American Tobacco in Charleston, South Carolina. African American women strikers seeking a pay raise to 30 cents an hour sang as they picketed. “I Will Overcome” was a favorite song of Lucille Simmons, one of the strikers. But she gave the song a powerful sense of solidarity by changing the “I” into “We” as they sang together. Other lyrics were improvised for pro-union purposes, including “We will organize,” “We will win our rights,” and “We will win this fight.”

In 1947, Simmons brought the song to Highlander Folk School and shared it with other labor activist there. Zilphia Horton, head of the school’s cultural program, learned it and later taught it to Peter Seeger. At some point, the nationally known folk singer revised the lyrics “We will” to “We shall.”

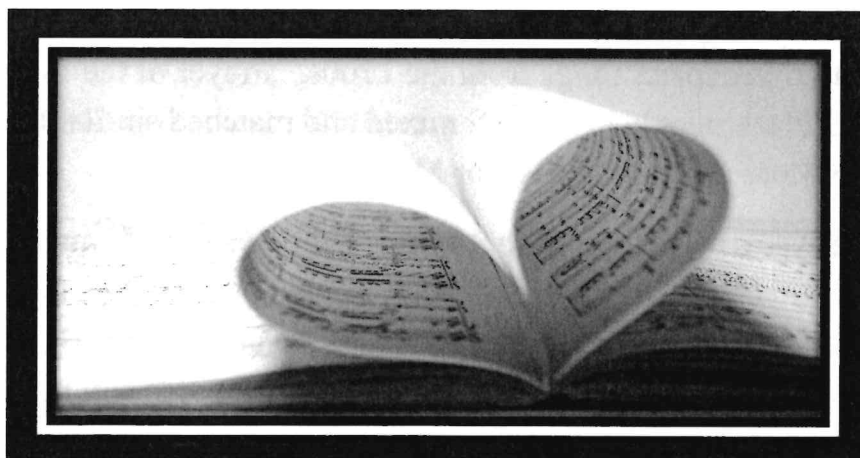
“We Shall Overcome” proved easy to learn and sing at different types of civil rights protests, such as sit ins, marches, and huge rallies. “It’s the genius of simplicity,” Seeger said about the song in a later interview. “Any...fool can get complicated.”

The song spread rapidly as the Civil Rights Movement gained momentum. Protesters sang it as they marched for voting rights. They also sang it as they were beat up, attacked by police dogs, and hauled off to jail for breaking laws enforcing segregation. News and pictures of brutality shocked people across the U.S. and around the world.

Slowly, gradually, more Americans of all races recognized the justice of the civil rights cause. At long last, Congress passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 nearly a century after the U.S. Civil War forced an end to slavery. The new law banned racial segregation in schools, restaurants, theaters, and hotels.

President Lyndon B. Johnson, a southerner from Texas, signed the landmark legislation on August 6, 1964. In a special speech before congress, he used the title of the song to make clear his beliefs, saying:

*“This great, rich, restless country can offer opportunity and education and hope to all: black and white, North, and South, sharecropper, and city dweller. These are the enemies: poverty, ignorance, disease. They are the enemies and not our fellow man, not our neighbor. And these enemies too, poverty, disease, and ignorance, we shall overcome.”*





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <b><u>JANUARY</u></b> <b><u>2024</u></b>	1. <b>Thrifty Niche Closed</b>	2. AA 8:00am OA 10:00am Building & Grounds 6:30pm	3. <b>Thrifty Niche Re-Open 10-3</b> AL ANON 9am <b>Bell Choir Rehearsal 5:30</b> Boy Scouts 6:30-8:00 pm	4. AL ANON 8AM AA 5:30 PM <b>Cub Scouts 6-7pm</b>	5. OA 10:00am <b>Thrifty Niche 10-3</b>	6. <b>Thrifty Niche 10-1 pm</b>
7. <b>Pastor Sally's Installation 3:00 Service Reception after Bell Choir rehearsal 2:15 Choir rehearsal 2:30 Hands of Hope</b>	8. <b>ANNUAL REPORT DUE FROM TEAMS Thrifty Niche 10-3</b>	9. AA 8:00am <b>Men's Breakfast 8am</b> OA 10:00am <b>Girl Scouts 6-7:30pm</b>	10. Al ANON 9am <b>Thrifty Niche 10-3</b> <b>Girl Scouts 4-5:30pm</b> <b>Bell Choir Rehearsal 5:30</b> Boy Scouts 6:30-8:00 pm	11. Al ANON 8am <b>Leadership Circle 2:00pm</b> AA 5:30pm <b>Cub Scouts 6-7pm</b>	12. OA 10am <b>Thrifty Niche 10-3</b>	13. <b>Thrifty Niche 10-1pm</b>
14. <b>Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour 11:00am</b>	15. <b>Thrifty Niche 10-3</b> St. Joseph's Reminder	16. AA 8:00am OA 10:00am	17. AL ANON 9am <b>Thrifty Niche 10-3</b> <b>Bell Choir Rehearsal 5:30</b> Boy Scouts 6:30-8:00pm	18. Al ANON 8am AA 5:30 pm <b>Cub Scouts 6-7pm</b>	19. OA 10am <b>Thrifty Niche 10-3</b>	20. <b>Thrifty Niche 10-1pm</b>
21. <b>Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour 11:00am</b>	22. <b>Thrifty Niche 10-3</b> St. Joseph's Drop Off <b>Steeple Newsletter Reminder</b>	23. AA 8:00am OA 10:00am <b>Girl Scouts 6-7:30pm</b>	24. AL ANON 9am <b>Thrifty Niche 10-3</b> <b>Girl Scouts 4-5:30pm</b> <b>Bell Choir Rehearsal 5:30</b> Boy Scouts 6:30-8:00pm	25. AL ANON 8am AA 5:30pm <b>Cub Scouts 6-7pm</b>	26. OA 10 am <b>Thrifty Niche 10-3</b> <b>Pinewood Derby Setup 4-9pm</b>	27. <b>Thrifty Niche 10-1pm</b> <b>Pinewood Derby 8-4pm</b>
28. <b>Bell Choir Rehearsal 9:15</b> <b>Worship Service 10:00am</b> <b>Annual Meeting 11am</b>	29. <b>Thrifty Niche 10-3</b>	30. AA 8am OA 10am <b>Miracle Kitchen 9Am</b>	31. AL ANON 9am <b>Thrifty Niche 10-3</b> <b>Boy Scouts 6:30-8:00pm</b>	<b>JANUARY 2024 HAVE A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR!!</b>		