

THE STEEPLE

NOVEMBER 2024



South Congregational Church

An Open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ

535 Main Street, Centerville, MA 02632

508-775-8332 sochurch@comcast.net

Website: <https://southcongregationalchurch-centerville.org/>

YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/@SouthCongregationalChurch_cent



The Rev. Sally Norris, Senior Minister

Karen Crosby, Minister of Music

Mary George, Soloist

Tony de Fazio, Sexton

Karen Morin, Office Administrator



Did you know that 75% of newcomers to a church come at the invitation of someone already in the church? I learned this surprising but very illuminating statistic at a recent webinar hosted by the SNEUCC (Southern New England Conference UCC) entitled “Hospitality and Extravagant Welcome.”

This webinar was filled with creative and practical strategies for strengthening a church’s hospitality and welcoming outreach. In the coming weeks, I will share these with you. But for now – what if we each commit to inviting a friend(s) to worship in November and December? We have wonderfully inspiring, uplifting, and creative worship and praise of God!

Jazz worship (music by Duke Ellington, Thelonius Monk, and more!)

Candida Rose

Thanksgiving

Advent and Christmas

Which Sunday will you bring a friend?

Let’s all participate in growing the church together and sharing the joys of South Church with the community!

Love,

Sally

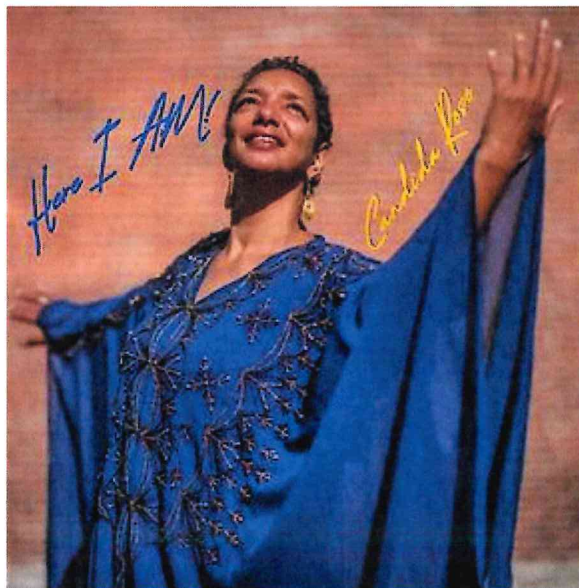
Karen's Corner

On Sunday, November 17th, we will have a guest musician joining us for worship. “Candida Rose”, whom Sally met at the Juneteenth Ceremony in Hyannis, is an artist who describes herself as one “where music, culture and spirit entwine”.

Born and raised in New Bedford, Massachusetts, “Candida Rose” Baptista is a 2nd generation American-born Cape Verdean. She is a vocalist, song-writer, entertainer, music and cultural educator, as well as a mother and grandmother. She is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth where she graduated “Summa Cum Laude” with a Bachelor of Arts – Music Degree, specializing in African-American/World music performance, with a minor in African-American Studies.

In addition, she recently graduated from UMASS Boston with a Masters of Science Degree in Transnational, Cultural, and Community Studies (now known as Critical Ethnic and Community Studies). As a working performer, in addition to her work with various jazz, R&B, and Cape Verdean musical groups, through her company Golden Rose Music, Candida spends her days traveling the SouthCoast region of Massachusetts and Rhode Island as a Life Enrichment Entertainer singing for Nursing Home, Assisted Living and Adult Day Care facilities, as well as for various churches, senior groups and associations. It is said that she captivates her audiences and stirs them with a uniquely compelling voice that combines the overtones and undertones of jazz, rhythm and blues, and gospel with just the right touch of international spice.

We look forward to welcoming Candida Rose on November 17th. Please be sure to join us in person, or online, for this exceptional worship experience.



Join us for worship in November every Sunday at 10:00 am

Sunday, November 3

Jazz Worship with Harmony Grove!

Music by Duke Ellington and Thelonius Monk and the beautiful "TAKE ME TO THE ALLEY" by Gregory Porter

All Saints' Remembrance Receiving of Pledges Holy Communion

Rev. Sally Norris, preaching

Sunday, November 10

Honoring of Veterans

Admiral Harold Robinson preaching, with Rev. Sally Norris

Retired Admiral Harold Robinson is a retired rabbi, Centerville resident, and active in the community as an advocate for peace and justice.

Sunday, November 17

Special guest musician – Candida Rose

The music of Candida Rose celebrates love and unity ~ see attached article by Karen Crosby

Rev. Sally Norris, preaching

Sunday, November 24

Thanksgiving Sunday

Gratitude Tree

Rev. Sally Norris, preaching



Gratitude!

The Stewardship Team (Nancy Beauchamp, Bill Coughlin, Gail Maguire, Sally Norris) gives hearty thanks to all who have sent in their pledges, helping us towards our 2025 goal!

Prayer for our Country on November 5

On Tuesday, November 5, our Sanctuary will be open at a designated hour for prayer and reflection. **We will inform you of the time of day for this prayer before Tuesday.**

Our Beautiful Sanctuary

We are delighted that Judy Fackre has enthusiastically volunteered to keep our Sanctuary looking beautiful! She will tend to the pews and make sure they are welcoming. Thank you, Judy!

With Judy, and Jan Fletcher (Usher Chair) and our Sexton Tony de Fazio – our Sanctuary will be a welcoming spiritual oasis.

Film – “Leap of Faith”

In the spirit of unity and coming together across difference, a new documentary will be showing at Cape Cinema on Sunday, November 3 at 4:00 pm and Thursday, November 7 at 1:00 pm. Let Sally know if you expect to attend one of the showings.

“Leap of Faith” is a new documentary produced by Nicholas Ma (son of Yo-Yo Ma). Here is the synopsis:

“Twelve diverse Christian leaders find hope and fellowship at a series of boundary-breaking retreats in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Brought together by Michael Gulker of The Colossian Forum, five women and seven men struggle with some of today’s most contentious issues. The divisions between them become apparent and test both their common belief in the universal importance of love and kindness and the bonds they build over the course of a year. Inspiring and provocative, LEAP OF FAITH explores whether we can disagree and still belong to each other in a divided world.”

We will schedule a South Church time to discuss the film – look for details.

Worship Livestream

Each week our Sunday worship is streamed live at 10:00 am. Perhaps you cannot attend Sunday on a given Sunday. Maybe you have friends and family in other parts of the country and around the world who are eager to worship with us.

And, of course, you can view any worship recording at any time! Here is the church’s YouTube page where you will find the livestream:

https://www.youtube.com/@SouthCongregationalChurch_Cent

It Wasn’t All Bad

Shared by Jan Fletcher

On a hot August day, Josh and Rebecca Caldwell, ages 8 and 10, were selling lemonade outside their Chesapeake, VA., home when a stranger walked up to their stand and stole \$40 from their money jar. After their mom, Annetta, encouraged them to set up a new stand, neighbors learned about the incident, and 10 days later, some 650 people came to the sale, including a group of 130 bikers. Strangers from Indiana to Pennsylvania even mailed them money. That day, the siblings collected around \$6,500, and the thief was later apprehended. “My kids feel so loved,” said Annetta.

It Wasn't All Bad

When police in Lebanon, N.H., responded to a report of a German Shepherd on a snow-covered highway, they thought it was a stray. Then, the dog ran away from them and led them into Vermont, where it stopped near a broken guardrail and its owner's wrecked pickup truck. "It quickly became apparent that Tinsley led (Police) to the crash site and injured occupants," the New Hampshire State Police wrote on Facebook. The truck's two occupants were hypothermic and seriously injured and were transported to the hospital. Tinsley, the heroic pup, was not injured in the crash.

It Wasn't All Bad

A 10-year-old saved his grandfather's life when he grabbed the wheel of a pickup truck traveling on the highway at 70 miles per hour. After Hugh Cox, a 68-year-old Georgia man, suddenly lost consciousness, his grandson Drake Linn climbed onto his lap and took over. Thanks to his experience driving golf carts and ATV's, Linn was able to steer the car through busy traffic and pull over. He called 911 from the side of the road; rescue workers quickly revived Cox, who had fallen into a diabetic coma. "My own child saved my own parent." Said Linn's mother. "It made my heart swell."

Would you be interested in.....?

Let Sally know if you would participate in any of the following. Note – it's okay if none of this is of interest!

- Bible Study
 - Bible 101 – a general overview
OR
 - The Bible in Art
OR
 - Weekly study of the lectionary texts

- A mid-week quiet time of prayer and reflection
-
- Would you participate in something during Lent?
-
- Other subjects you would like study? Please give examples

“Forest Bathing”

Dr. Carol Macy is available to lead us on a “Forest Bathing” walk. We will keep you informed on the time!

This is from Carol’s website:

“The concept of forest bathing grew out of a practice in Japan called Shinrin-yoku that spread to China and Korea and now to the United States. It is about swimming in the living being of the forest: drinking in the smells, feeling the breeze on your skin, hearing it move through the trees, soaking up the warm healing rays of the sun, noticing the vast array of colors and shapes of life around you, experiencing Nature. This is a meditative practice. By slowing down, connecting with awareness to the abundant life in and around you, these walks can be immensely healing. This experience helps you to feel refreshed, calmer and at peace. Your body, mind, spirit and heart have an opportunity to feel a deep sense of connection between yourself and life. Cape Cod gives you a very special opportunity to deepen your relationship with Nature because of the unique environments provided by marsh, creek, ponds, forest, dunes and beach.”



Reiki is a Japanese spiritual healing technique in which practitioners can help your body heal itself. “Rei” translates to “Universe” or “life force, and “ki” translated to the physical energy of the body (also known as qi); put together , Reiki translates to “universal life force energy.” To find out more information contact Bev Fogg or Jan Fletcher or come to one of their Reiki Session. Time and date to be announced for November.

Fellow Christians,

Our exciting annual November and December events are right around the corner!

Here's the Line-up...

Centerville Christmas Stroll Meeting

November 17th following church services.

Her and Now Ministry Turkey "Gobbler" sandwiches

Saturday November 23rd, 10:00 am – Sandwich making in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, November 24th 12:30-3:00pm – Heat, Transport and Serve Sandwiches at 2:00 pm Here and Now Outdoor Service.

To participate, see the easel in Fellowship Hall to select and donate some of the needed ingredients and/or sign up to make the sandwiches and/or be part of the team to serve.

Here and Now Coat Collection

Donate a new or gently used coat for our Unsheltered Brothers and Sisters.

Sunday, November 24th – Please bring in donations by this date.

To participate, bring in your donations by Sunday, November 24th. There will be marked bins in the Fellowship Hall. Please remember that the best coats in this case are lightweight and waterproof/resistant.

Decorating the Church for Christmas

Sunday, December 1st following church services.

We will be Decking the Halls and Sanctuary, setting up our outside Crèche and lights. To participate, stay and play after church.

Centerville Christmas Stroll

Sunday, December 8th, 3:00 – 6:00pm

To participate, come to the November 17th meeting following the church service or email Deb Weinstein to sign up ~ Debw.capecod@gmail.com

In His service together,

Deb W





HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY'S

11/6	Suzanne Johnson	11/7	Dan Dray
11/7	Ted Merton	11/9	Dan Packer
11/11	Bev Fogg	11/13	Judy Fackre
11/15	Bonnie Coutu	11/19	Craig Valenti
11/28	Molly McLaughlin		

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR DEPLOYED TROOPS

Thank you to all who have dropped off unused Christmas cards! We welcome more cards (no envelopes). Please drop them in the box near the office. We will be signing cards in November, in time for the Dec. 5th deadline for card to be sent by the USASOA <https://www.usasoa.org/christmas-cards-for-our-deployed-troops> (we will also have general greeting cards for people to sign at the Christmas Stroll, which will be distributed over the year.)





St. Joseph's House Cooking Update

We had a successful first month of communal cooking for the 60 guests at St. Joseph's House! We have two professionals assisting us – Karen Morin and Marcia Raftery – who have helped immensely on cooking for a crowd! Thank you to Nancy, Barbara, Bev, and Karen Morin for cooking. A celebratory menu of ham, potatoes and other roasted vegetables were provided.

- We welcome 2-3 cooks to assist us on the 4th Monday morning (around 10am) of each month. Please contact Nancy Beauchamp 508-737-8584 or Jane de Groot at 774-487-4476.
- We rely on your donations to pay for the food each month (we buy in bulk as much as possible). Please make checks out to South Congregational Church with “St. Joseph's meals” in the notes.

An emergency shelter, although full of people, can be a lonely place. To meet the basic need for the human connection, several church members also help serve the men and women, and then during dinner, host a trivia contest, which reduces the isolation people feel and brings out smiles, laughter, and good energy to the evening. Those who have served the guests have experienced many moments of grace and this has called them to return with joy!

Please contact Bev Fogg at 508-560-7397 for more information about serving.

SONGS OF
RESILIENCE, HOPE, AND JOY
with
HARMONY GROVE
Saturday November 2 at 7:00 pm
South Congregational Church

565 Main Street, Centerville

508-775-8332 sochurch@comcast.net

*Willie Sordillo, sax Zoë Krohne, vocals Doug Rich, bass Mark
Shilansky, piano*



Harmony Grove is a musical project co-led by longtime collaborators Willie Sordillo and Zoë Krohne. They offer a diverse repertoire of original compositions and personal interpretations of both known and obscure songs from jazz, folk, Latin and pop origins. Their mission is to entertain while presenting a vision which offers hope, joy and possibility in an often troubled world. *Free Admission and Open to the Public (a free-will offering will be taken)*

Elisabeth von Trapp



In Concert

From the family whose story
inspired the Sound Of Music

Magic happens whenever Elisabeth von Trapp performs. You enter her world not knowing that something wonderful is about to begin.

New York Times

Her voice is hauntingly clear and her lyrics tender and romantic.

Boston Globe

Before the concert is over she will have the crowd enthralled with the sheer beauty of her voice.

Appearing

South Congregational Church

565 Main Street,
Centerville, Massachusetts

November | 8 | 2024 | 7:00pm

Free and open to the public
Suggested donation \$10.00

For more information contact:

karencrosby@me.com | Tel: 508-775-8332

Throughout the month of October, a small but eager group met on Tuesdays for a study of the Psalms. All were encouraged to write their own Psalm. Two members of the group composed the following. I hope you will enjoy these beautiful, deeply meditative and spiritual contemporary Psalms. And...would you be inspired to write a Psalm?

A New Psalm based on Psalm 121 - written by Linda McKinney

I open my eyes to the ocean and it's wide expanse.

The Lord presents the seas for me to see life and contemplate.

As the daily tides roll back and forth

I lean on the Lord's steady unwavering hand.

White caps warn me of possible storms

But I fear not, for quiet waters will return.

As the moon comes out and reflects the steadfastness of the Lord,

The ocean is the breath of God.

A Psalm of Solace - written by Rev. Joanne Hartunian

God of light and God of solace

The brightness that brings us comfort

as waters rise

as rivers spill

lead us into joy

guiding us into gladness

singing and dancing

with song and timbral

leaping as a deer

chasing after her fawn

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 2024						
3. PLEDGES DUE 10:00am Worship Service Communion Jazz Concert Harmony Grove HANDS OF HOPE 11:00 am Pot Luck	4. 10am – 3pm Thrifty Niche	5. 10:00am OA 6:30pm Building & Grounds Meeting	6. 9:00 am AL ANON 10am – 3pm Thrifty Niche 11:00 am Caregivers 5:30 Handbell Rehearsal	 7. 8:00 am AL ANON 12:30pm Book Club 4:30-5:30 Daisy Group	8. 10:00 am OA 10am – 3pm Thrifty Niche 7:00pm Concert Elisabeth Von Trapp	9. 10:00 – 1:00 Thrifty Niche
10. 9:00am Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship Service Honoring Veterans 11:00am Fellowship Hour	11. CLOSED FOR VETERAN'S DAY Office Closed	12. 8:00 am Men's Breakfast 10:00 am OA 4-5:30pm Girl Scouts	13. 9:00 am AL ANON 10am – 3pm Thrifty Niche 5:30 Handbell Rehearsal	14. 8:00 am AL ANON 2:00pm Leadership Circle	15. 10:00 am OA 10am – 3pm Thrifty Niche	16. 10:00 – 1:00 Thrifty Niche
17. 10:00 am Worship Service Guest Musician Candida Rose 11:00 am Fellowship Hour Christmas Stroll Meeting	18. 10am – 3pm Thrifty Niche	19. 10:00am OA	20. 9:00 am AL ANON 10am – 3pm Thrifty Niche 11:00 am Caregivers 5:30 Handbell Rehearsal	21. 8:00 am AL ANON 12:30pm Book Club 4:30-5:30 Daisy Group	22. 10:00 am OA 10am – 3pm Thrifty Niche	23. 10:00 – 1:00 Thrifty Niche 10:00am Here Now Ministry Sandwich making
24. Bell Choir Rehearsal 9:15 Thanksgiving Sunday Gratitude Tree Worship Service 10:00am 11:00 am Fellowship Hour 12:30-3:00pm Here & Now ministry Serve	25. THRIFTY NICHE CLOSED FOR WEEK St. Joseph's	26. 10:00am OA 4-5:30pm Girl Scouts	27. 9:00am AL ANON THRIFTY NICHE CLOSED FOR WEEK	28. 8:00 am AL ANON HAPPY THANKSGIVING & BLESSING TO ALL!	29. THRIFTY NICHE CLOSED FOR WEEK	30. Fall clean up Boy Scouts THRIFTY NICHE CLOSED FOR WEEK

