



# Crossroads

**News from South Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ**

45 Maple Street, Springfield, MA 01105  
(413) 732-0117 [www.sococh.org](http://www.sococh.org)

**July/August 2010**

## ***Summer Events***

*brought to you by the*

## ***Christian Education Dept.***

**Tuesday, July 13 at 6:30 p.m.** – Golf outing at Fenway Golf Pitch & Putt, 112 Allen Street, East Longmeadow. The evening will start with a potluck supper, so bring a dish, snack or beverage to pass. Children and youth will get one free round of mini-golf and one free ice cream treat! Sign up by July 11 on the easel in the Parish Hall!

**Saturday, August 14** – Family outing to the Ecotarium in Worcester, a museum of science and nature with a focus on hands-on exploration and discovery. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the Parish Hall.

**Sunday, September 19 after church** – Our annual all-church picnic at King Phillip's Stockade! Bring a dish, snack or beverage to pass. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the Parish Hall.

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### **July Advisory Council Meeting**

The Advisory Council will meet on Thursday, July 22, 2010 at 7pm in the Guild Room with Beverly Prestwood Taylor to hear her suggestions with respect to a process and the questions we should be asking ourselves concerning a fresh look at our structure as a church over the next year. This meeting will be open to all church members.

## Mustard Seeds...

Dear Members and Friends:

I hope summer brings you warm, healthy days and some rest! Several people have asked (very thoughtfully!) to see pictures from my daughter Annalies' wedding to Damjan DeNoble on June 12, so I thought I would include two pictures. One is of the happy couple on the steps of the Duke University Chapel right after their ceremony. The other picture is of my three daughters (from left to right, from youngest to oldest): Lydia, Annalies and Johanna. Thanks for asking!



Below you will see a report shared with me from our licensed minister, Marrie Sypher. Marrie has expanded her hours at South Church to complete a year of field education work. So she is doing some pastoral work, observing some of our ministries, and getting more deeply involved in the life of the church. Among the things she has been up to is visiting with our Sewing/Quilting Group that meets on Wednesday afternoons. She finds that much more happens than just stitching, and I thought you might like to hear what Marrie has to say!

*Peter*

### **My visit with the Wednesday Sewing Ministry - G. Marrie Sypher, Licensed Minister**

I had no idea what to expect on my first visit with the Sewing Ministry of South Congregational Church UCC. During my visit with them I found components of prayer, laughter, relaxation, harmony and food. Its mission is to teach quilting on Wednesday evening from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. It is a creatively structured ministry. The participants are allowed to arrive at the sewing class when they can, and work on their quilt at their own pace. It was exciting for me, and the atmosphere is contagious.

I sat and observed quietly at first. Then, I asked one person, "What do you get from this sewing group?" First, I noticed that she hesitated, but she did not lose her concentration, neither did she take her eyes off what she was doing. Then she paused, and said, "Quilting is relaxing. I could not do this at home. Besides, there is a kind of a partnership here." Slowly pushing her brown shoulder-length hair out of her face, she said, "After all the things I've dealt with during the day at work, sewing takes me to a different place, and I look forward to coming here." What did I learn, and what is my theological viewpoint from my visit?

I believe this ministry has a theological mannerism that is worthy of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For me, it is one having the same spirit by showing love for one another; acceptance for new people, and obedience for the gentle instructions given by its leader Polly Southworth. I do believe the harmony helps to bring each project to completion, and that acceptance witnesses to one-on-one in conversation, and as a group. (*cont. next page*)

To the group: I count my visit with you as one of great joy, and my time with you was well spent. I feel blessed and privileged. I offer my words of thanks for having been invited. It was beautiful, precious two days.

<sup>1</sup> "So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, <sup>2</sup> Complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, united in heart thinking one thing. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing from selfishness or vainglory, but in humility count others better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Each one of you look not only on his own interest, but also on the interest of others. <sup>5</sup> Have this mind/attitude which is yours in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 2:1-5 RSV)

## From the Director of Music Ministries

I'm wearing a few different hats in this article. First, I'll be the music man and let you know about a few things I have rolling around in my head that you can look forward to in the fall. First, on **September 26** you'll have a chance to come out and support your local opera singers. Singers from our Chancel Choir, many of whom are well-trained, experienced opera singers, will be giving a concert right here at South Church.



Our **Fall Jazz Sunday** happens **October 17** at the 10 a.m. worship service. In response to your feedback our beloved **Hot Cat Jazz Band** will again be the featured group and yes, they will play at the coffee hour afterward.

Here is an event the whole family can enjoy for sure. On **October 30, 2010, at 7 p.m.** the Springfield Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is coming to South Church to present an **Organ Phantasmagoria**. A *what*, you ask? This will be a Halloween concert of scary and/or silly-sounding organ music played by members of the chapter who will be wearing scary and/or silly costumes. Everyone will be encouraged to wear a costume and Halloween treats will also be a part of the evening.

And now I put on my website manager's hat. I consider it to be part of the job not only to keep the website updated, but to find ways our site can better serve the South Church congregation. I'm still learning, of course, so hopefully you will soon see changes that enable us to use our website in new ways.

One area that perplexed me about the site was our Open & Affirming page. The LGBT presence at South Church is very strong, but the Open & Affirming page did not reflect that, mainly because there has been no single entity whose role it is to offer guidance, support and vision for the LGBT community at this church. I spoke to several members of the LGBT community about it and a small group of us gathered recently to talk about the possibilities. As a result of that meeting South Church now has an "Alliance" (official name to be discussed). This is not a committee with term members. Anyone can come to a monthly meeting and not feel obliged to "sign-on" to anything. Part of the recent meeting was spent discussing events that would be relevant to everyone at the church, gay or straight, but that would also be geared toward helping us understand each other better and build a stronger community. Examples might include a Bible Study series, an all-church fun night, an outreach program for younger members of the LGBT community, support events for families with same-sex parents, or other issues that might present themselves. Sometimes these issues overlap with those being addressed by other groups in the church, like Christian Education, and in those cases the alliance would be there to offer help and support.

We found at this first "exploratory" gathering that we also spent a lot of time talking to each other about what it means to be an LGBT member of a Christian Church. Sometimes the discussion was emotional and the energy was high for the entire evening. The next meeting, which is open to anyone and will happen at the home of Victor Olivas and Fernando Cruz, 32 Eddywood Street in Springfield, on Tuesday, July 20 at 7 p.m. If you have any other questions please contact me at [lpicard@sococh.org](mailto:lpicard@sococh.org) or 413-732-0117.

And now my Crossroads Editor hat? This summer issue omits a few features that will return in September, but did you notice the one that was added? Several people have asked me to include a list of birthdays each month which appears on page 4. Have a great summer! - **Larry**

## New Church Leadership

**Here are the new officers for South Congregational Church for 2010-2011:**

Moderator	Jonathan Rice
Clerk	Catherine Rossi
Treasurer	Mary Simpson
Assistant Treasurer	Polly Southworth
Registrar	Robert McCarroll

The new committee chairs are:

Nancy Montagna	Benevolence Committee
Jeanne O'Brien	Christian Education Committee
Alberta Montagna	Senior Deacon
Virginia Hartnett	Assistant Senior Deacon
Nicholas Lentino	Finance Committee
Susan Rice	Nominating Committee
Carol Stewart	Pastor-Parish Relations Committee

There are still a few openings that have not been filled. If you are interested in serving on the Christian Education Committee or the Finance Committee (or would like to recommend someone for those committees), please contact Sue Rice at [snrice@comcast.net](mailto:snrice@comcast.net).

### **JULY/AUGUST WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Sunday services take place at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel.

July 4 (Communion)	G. Marrie Sypher
July 11	Rev. David Hughes
July 18	Rev. David Hughes
July 25	Rev. Heinrichs
August 1 (Communion)	Rev. Heinrichs
August 8	Rev. Heinrichs
August 15	G. Marrie Sypher
August 22	Marisa Brown-Ludwig
August 29	Louis Mitchell

### **Happy Birthday!**

#### **July**

Allie Lou Bowen  
 Virginia McCray  
 Elizabeth O'Neill  
 Nicholas Lentino  
 Shirley McCready  
 Elizabeth Viens  
 Montagna III  
 Gordon Dodge  
 Deborah Price  
 Mark Welch  
 Margaret Caplette  
 Allison Colbert  
 Richard Drummond  
 Justin Mitnik  
 Emily Bourdeau  
 Michael Ernst  
 Morgan Brown-Ludwig  
 Don Webb  
 Jason Jakubasz  
 Justin Smith  
 Marrie Sypher

#### **August**

Carl Thormeyer  
 Dorothy Strebel  
 Julia Russell  
 Fay Craven  
 Diana Lyman  
 Ernest  
 Louis Mitchell  
 Nancy Olson  
 Andrew Pang  
 James Moratto  
 Scott Scussel  
 Lydia Heinrichs  
 Sarah Fernandes  
 Jace Stewart-O'Brien

## South Church Cooks

On Saturday, June 19, seven cooks served 90 people at South Church. The cooks were Glenn Rossi, Jan McDonald, Nancy Montagna, Marge Munroe, Bob McCarroll, Betsy O'Neill and Carol Murphy. Glenn deserves a special thank you because after the meal he drove to New Jersey with Cathy to see his two sons for Father's Day. He was back for church on Sunday. The menu was a Bert Montagna special: turkey sandwiches with whole cranberry sauce and lettuce, and a salad of cucumber, red onions and grape tomatoes. Chocolate cookies were the dessert.

The Emergency Food Pantry shelves across from the office and water fountain have looked empty lately. The following items are always in demand: tuna fish, baked beans, pasta, spam, cereal, stews, macaroni and cheese, juice, rice, spaghetti sauce and soups. Canned products include vegetables, meats, fruits and ham. In other words, any food that makes a meal. Non-food items like toiletries, baby diapers and formula, shampoo and toothpaste are also needed.

And the cooks welcome new cooks. Our next meal is on Tuesday, July 20 at 10:30 a.m. at Christ Church Cathedral. Glenn Rossi will be the chef while I enjoy my daughter's vacation. Call me at 732-0509 if you would like to enjoy a fun group. Come when you can. Bon Appétit. – **Carol Murphy**

## Church School Picnic – Sunday, June 6



South Church families enjoyed a great time at the home of Bob Bardwell and James Moratto.



Bob recruits Alan Jack as sous-chef. The adults got out of the rain and into the living room.

## JULY 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>27</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday Service (Chapel) <b>10:30 AM</b> Coffee Hour (PH) <b>1:00 PM</b> Morning Star Church* (Chapel)	<b>28</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting (GR) <b>6:30 PM</b> Morning Star Church Bible Study* (Chapel)	<b>29</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> AA Meeting* (PH)	<b>30</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Prayer Shawl (GR)	<b>1</b> <b>7:15 PM</b> Advanced Round Dance* (PH)	<b>2</b> Office Closed	<b>3</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Loaves & Fishes meal* (PH) <b>5:00 PM</b> Loaves & Fishes meal* (PH)
<b>4</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday Service (Chapel) <b>1:00 PM</b> Morning Star Church* (Chapel)	<b>5</b> Office Closed <b>6:30 PM</b> Morning Star Church Bible Study* (Chapel)	<b>6</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> AA Meeting* (PH)	<b>7</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Prayer Shawl (GR) <b>4:30 PM</b> Sewing Group (PH) <b>5:00 PM</b> Youth Music (ML)	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Office Closed	<b>10</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Loaves & Fishes meal* (PH) <b>5:00 PM</b> Loaves & Fishes meal* (PH)
<b>11</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday Service (Chapel) <b>10:30 AM</b> Coffee Hour (PH) <b>1:00 PM</b> Morningstar Church* (Chapel)	<b>12</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting (GR) <b>6:30 PM</b> Morning Star Church Bible Study* (Chapel)	<b>13</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> AA Meeting* (PH) <b>6:30 PM</b> Church Golf Outing (Fenway Golf)	<b>14</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Prayer Shawl (GR)	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Office Closed	<b>17</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Loaves & Fishes meal* (PH) <b>5:00 PM</b> Loaves & Fishes meal* (PH)
<b>18</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday Service (Chapel) <b>10:30 AM</b> Coffee Hour (PH) <b>1:00 PM</b> Morning Star Church* (Chapel)	<b>19</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Morning Star Church Bible Study* (Chapel)	<b>20</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> South Church Cooks (Christ Church Cathedral) <b>5:00 PM</b> AA Meeting* (PH) <b>7:00 PM</b> Gay-Straight Alliance (Olivas-Cruz home)	<b>21</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Prayer Shawl (GR) <b>4:30 PM</b> Sewing Group (PH) <b>5:00 PM</b> Youth Music (ML)	<b>22</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Advisory Council (GR) <b>7:15 PM</b> Advanced Round Dance* (PH)	<b>23</b> Office Closed	<b>24</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Loaves & Fishes meal* (PH) <b>5:00 PM</b> Loaves & Fishes meal* (PH)
<b>25</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday Service (Chapel) <b>10:30 AM</b> Coffee Hour (PH) <b>1:00 PM</b> Morning Star Church* (Chapel)	<b>26</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Morning Star Church Bible Study* (Chapel)	<b>27</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> AA Meeting* (PH)	<b>28</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Prayer Shawl (GR)	<b>29</b> <b>7:15 PM</b> Advanced Round Dance* (PH)	<b>30</b> Office Closed <b>6:00 PM</b> Olivas-Cruz wedding rehearsal (SA)	<b>31</b> <b>3:00 PM</b> Olivas- Cruz Wedding (SA- PH)

## AUGUST 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday Service (Chapel) <b>10:30 AM</b> Coffee Hour	<b>2</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Morning Star Church Bible Study* (Chapel)	<b>3</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> AA Meeting* (PH)	<b>4</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Prayer Shawl (GR) <b>4:30 PM</b> Sewing Group (PH) <b>5:00 PM</b> Youth Music (ML)	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Office Closed	<b>7</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Loaves & Fishes meal* (PH) <b>5:00 PM</b> Loaves & Fishes meal* (PH)
<b>8</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday Service (Chapel) <b>10:30 AM</b> Coffee Hour	<b>9</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Morning Star Church Bible Study* (Chapel) <b>7:00 PM</b> Finance Committee (GR)	<b>10</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> South Church Cooks (Christ Church Cathedral) <b>5:00 PM</b> AA Meeting* (PH)	<b>11</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Prayer Shawl (GR)	<b>12</b> <b>7:15 PM</b> Advanced Round Dance* (PH)	<b>13</b> Office Closed	<b>14</b> <b>All Day</b> CE trip to Worcester Ecotarium <b>12:00 PM</b> Loaves & Fishes meal* (PH) <b>5:00 PM</b> Loaves & Fishes meal* (PH)
<b>15</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday Service (Chapel) <b>10:30 AM</b> Coffee Hour	<b>16</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Morning Star Church Bible Study* (Chapel)	<b>17</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> AA Meeting* (PH)	<b>18</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Prayer Shawl (GR) <b>4:30 PM</b> Sewing Group (PH) <b>5:00 PM</b> Youth Music (ML)	<b>19</b> <b>7:15 PM</b> Advanced Round Dance* (PH)	<b>20</b> Office Closed	<b>21</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Loaves & Fishes meal* (PH) <b>5:00 PM</b> Loaves & Fishes meal* (PH)
<b>22</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday Service (Chapel) <b>10:30 AM</b> Coffee Hour	<b>23</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Morning Star Church Bible Study* (Chapel)	<b>24</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> AA Meeting* (PH)	<b>25</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Prayer Shawl (GR)	<b>26</b> <b>7:15 PM</b> Advanced Round Dance* (PH)	<b>27</b> Office Closed	<b>28</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Loaves & Fishes meal* (PH) <b>5:00 PM</b> Loaves & Fishes meal* (PH)
<b>29</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday Service (Chapel) <b>10:30 AM</b> Coffee Hour	<b>30</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Morning Star Church Bible Study* (Chapel)	<b>31</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> AA Meeting* (PH)	<b>1</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Prayer Shawl (GR) <b>4:30 PM</b> Sewing Group (PH) <b>5:00 PM</b> Youth Music (ML)	<b>2</b> <b>7:15 PM</b> Advanced Round Dance* (PH)	<b>3</b> Office Closed	<b>4</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Loaves & Fishes meal* (PH) <b>5:00 PM</b> Loaves & Fishes meal* (PH)

**SOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
45 MAPLE STREET  
SPRINGFIELD, MA 01105**

*Log on and visit the new [www.sococh.org](http://www.sococh.org)!*

<b>Rev. Peter Heinrichs</b>	Senior Minister
<b>Larry Picard</b>	Director of Music Ministries
<b>Shalawnda Carr</b>	Administrative Secretary
<b>Melissa Gladu</b>	Bookkeeper
<b>Alax Siqueira</b>	Security
<b>Polly Southworth</b>	Sunday School Superintendent
<b>Marrie Sypher</b>	Licensed Minister

Crossroads is the newsletter of South Congregational Church, United Church of Christ in Springfield, Massachusetts. Stories and items of Church interest are welcome and are due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month for the next month's issue. Submissions should be sent to Larry Picard at [lpicard@sococh.org](mailto:lpicard@sococh.org) or by snail mail to his attention at the church address.

*South Congregational Church UCC  
A Jesus-centered, Open & Affirming Community*

God is still  
speaking,

