

Avon Congregational Church's Electronic Weekly Newsletter

November 18, 2026 **www.avon-church.org**

Worship and Hospitality Worship Volunteers for Sunday, November 22:
Reader - Jenny Boswell, Usher - Kent May, Trustee - Alex Harris, Videographer - Nora Howard, Coffee Hour Hosts - Sally Albrecht, Food Providers - Gail and Katy Alvord and Molly, Elle and Audrey Roselli



Mulled cider, raking leaves, football games and the start of the 'comfort food season.' These are all well-known hallmarks of settling into the heart of autumn. It's also the time of year our family of faith thinks about ways we can partner with God to be yet more light breaking forth into a wondrous yet fractured world.

What ways can we be the change we want to see in the world? How can we help women and men in our community and beyond through our ministries? Feeding, clothing, comforting, supporting, educating…all possible through our collective efforts.

To ensure our two-hundred-plus-year ministry continues sure and strong, won't you please bring your Pledge Form THIS Sunday, November 22, to worship where will collect and bless our promise of shared resources?

Remember, your guesstimate of what you are able to spend for the tangibles of our shared ministry is not a contract, but rather a sacred statement about striving to partner for the mission and vision of our church.

Together we can make a difference. Together we can enact our hopes and dreams for bringing about a more just, more loving world. And then friends, stretching out with our cider and comfort food as we settle into an easy chair to watch football, we can smile broadly about our contribution to living into the true season of Thankful-giving!!

Ever Grateful for Our Shared Ministry,
Pastor Chris

Welcome New Members Eleven new members were blessed into membership during worship on Sunday, November 15. We made sacred promises to each other, to uphold and support each other as we do the work of Avon Congregational church. We are so very grateful for each new member and excited to see how God will work in all of our lives…ever transforming our family of faith into something new!







WELCOME
New Members





Thanksgiving Baskets The Christian Service & Outreach committee will be sponsoring four Thanksgiving food baskets to benefits the clients of Avon Social Services. Sign-up sheets for individual food items are posted in the main hallway near the office. Items may be dropped off starting Sunday, Nov 18th and no later than Sunday, Nov 22nd. Please store and label perishables in the refrigerator or freezer. Non-perishable items may be put in the marked collection boxes in Fellowship Hall. Your generosity is appreciated. If there are any questions, please contact Lynn Del Cegno or Beth Ferrari.

Toddler Adult & Child Classes--Twoodles



Avon Nursery School is very excited to start their very own Toddler program, Twoodles. This class is for children ages two and up and will be a time for them with an adult to attend an hour-long program instructed by the Director Jolene Tefoe in our meeting room twice per month. We will sing, dance, and learn through developmentally appropriate activities.

Children are invited to play on the playground after class. This is open to the community, so feel free to invite neighbors and friends. The cost of the class will be $10.00 per child.

The members of our Toddler classes will also be invited to our family programs, such as Table 'or Treat and Harvest Feast.

Future dates for Twoodles class will be:
Thursday, November 19th 10:00-11:00 am
Thursday, December 3rd 10:00-11:00 am
Thursday, December 17th 10:00-11:00 am

*Please sign up by contacting Jolene Tefoe, Director of Avon Nursery School, at 860-845-3704 or ans@avon-church.org.



Stewardship News – The Thanksgiving season is upon us; it's a time to reflect and be grateful for our blessings. November is Stewardship Month at Avon Congregational Church, a very important month celebrating our church blessings and planning and budgeting for our year ahead. The following are important dates during the Stewardship season:

November 22nd - Pledge Sunday (pledges received and blessed)

Service of Thanksgiving: A Meal of Gratitude - Tuesday, November 24 at 6 pm
Members of various Jewish, Muslim and Christian faith communities fro m the Greater Farmington Valley are coming together at Memorial United Methodist Church for a wonderful soup & bread supper followed by an interfaith Service of Thanksgiving. Each faith community is invited to bring soups and breads of their tradition, which will be shared at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall. At 7 pm, a Service of Thanksgiving, filled with song, prayer and spoken word from each tradition will center and ground us to add special meaning to Thanksgiving. Memorial United Methodist Church, 867 West Avon Road, Avon, CT 06001



Salvation Army Bell-Ringing - Jingle-jingle! Come ring the bells for Salvation Army on **Saturday, December 5th at Walmart!** Greeting shoppers with a cheery "Merry Christmas" is a fun and easy way to help those in need and 90% of the proceeds are used to support local residents! This is only a 1-hour commitment & no experience is necessary. You can bring a partner or we will find one for you, if you don't want to ring alone. Sign up in the hallway and Lynn Del Cegno will contact you with further details. Questions? Call Lynn Del Cegno: 860-690-9675.

Poinsettias in Honor and Memory of Loved Ones for Christmas.
Christmas Poinsettias add sacred beauty and help make our Advent and Christmastide celebration more meaningful. Would you like to provide one (or more) to grace our sanctuary? It is a wonderful way to remember or honor a loved one. Please fill out an order form and return with your money no later than Sunday, December 6th. Each plant costs $12.00. Include check or cash for the full amount with the order form. Forms are available in E-Tidings and the office. Make checks payable to Avon Congregational Church and return to the church office.



Looking for a meaningful way to dispose of your Halloween decorations?

Sub Edge Farm, located at **199 Town Farm Road in Farmington**, is accepting pumpkins and gourds for recycling through **November 30**.

To be accepted, pumpkins and gourds must be:

- Unpainted
- Free of any non-organic materials, such as candles, wax, or other decorative items

Donations can be dropped off in the trailer located next to the farm shop.

Recycling your pumpkins and gourds is a simple, environmentally friendly alternative to throwing them in the trash. It helps reduce landfill waste while providing food and nutrients for animals and the surrounding environment.

The **Social and Environmental Justice Ministry** will continue to share periodic tips and opportunities to help care for our environment. If you know of other environmentally friendly initiatives that should be highlighted, please let us know.

Thank you for helping make a positive difference in our community and for our planet.





Gathering Ideas for 2027 Fundraising for Avon Congregational Church Church leadership wants to hear your ideas on effective fund raisers. Please complete the poll (attached at the end of E Tidings and located at church). The Avon Congregational Church depends on a combination of member pledging, fundraisers and income from 12 West Main Rentals, 1st Friday Dinners, our Hidden Treasures store and other nominal rentals to achieve our income goals. While in recent years we have reduced the need for how much fundraising we do, it is still a vital need for our congregation's solvency. Moreover, it gives other intangible benefits through building community, offering outreach and providing wonderful memory-making. Have an idea for something new? Let us know your thoughts!

Coffee with the Pastor will take place the 2nd through 4th (or 5th) Wednesdays, 10 am at the Coffee Trade (21 West Main St.) each month. **Please note: there is no Coffee with the Pastor Wednesday, November 23. Enjoy your Thanksgiving** and there is no longer CWTP on the 1st Wednesday of each month, often when we are cooking for 1st Friday Dinners. **Come by for conversation and fellowship.** Pop in or stay for the hour. See you there!





We Care About You! A Quick Safety Checklist
regarding your Carbon Monoxide Detectors at Home

As the weather turns from autumn chilly to winter cold and folks start firing up those heaters and fireplaces, PLEASE be sure to take a moment to review some safety precautions. Most people assume once they install a Carbon Monoxide Detector and check the batteries, all is good. However, if you check the 'small print; on your detector, you'll see that after 5-10 years, the device may not properly work and needs to be replaced. So, go ahead and fire up those fires till you are toasty as a s'more, but please read and take care of the quick safety check as follows:

• Test Monthly: Press and hold the test button on each alarm until it sounds to check the electronics and sounder.

• Battery Care: Replace standard replaceable batteries at least every 6 months.

• Placement: Install alarms on every level of your home and near all sleeping areas.

• Lifespan: Replace the entire CO detector unit every 5 to 10 years, depending on the manufacturer's instructions.

• Annual Maintenance: Have your furnace, fireplace, and fuel-burning appliances inspected and vented yearly



Christmas Poinsettias in honor or memory of your loved ones.

Christmas Poinsettias add sacred beauty and help make more meaningful our late Advent and our Christmastide celebration.

Would you like to provide one (or more) to grace our sanctuary? It is a wonderful way to remember or honor a loved one. Please fill out the order form and return with your money no later than Sunday, December 6th.

Each plant costs $12.00. Include check or cash for the full amount with the order form. Make checks payable to Avon Congregational Church and return to the church office.

CUT HERE

Color and number of plants: Red_____ White _____

The flowers you are ordering on this form may be taken home by donors following the Christmas Eve service.

Amount enclosed: $_____

Flowers are given by (your name(s)):

_____

In HONOR or MEMORY (circle one) of _____

Gathering Ideas for 2027 Fundraising for Avon Congregational Church

The Avon Congregational Church depends on a combination of member pledging, fundraisers and income from 12 West Main Rentals and other nominal rental income to achieve our income goals. While in recent years we have reduced the need for how much fundraising we do, it is still a vital need for our congregation's solvency. Moreover, it gives other intangible benefits through building community, offering outreach and providing wonderful memory-making. Our ongoing fundraising through some First Friday Dinners and our Hidden Treasures Store will continue.

Looking forward, church leadership wants to hear your ideas on effective fund raisers. The list below includes tried and true fundraisers and some newly posed ideas. **Please check off two or three events you would support with your time and talents. In addition, we'd love for you to share any ideas you have for any new approaches.**

Tried and True Fundraisers over Recent Years:

____ Rummage sale ____ Cemetery Tour with live actors

____ Quilt Show ____ The Joys of Christmas Dinner Show

____ Live Auction ____ A Ladies Tea Party with Guest Speaker

____ The Wytch Trial

____ No Work Fundraiser (people pledged money in lieu of having an event.)

Newly Proposed Ideas:

____ Theatrical performance (using fellowship hall for set building and rehearsal space)

____ Musical Dinner Theater

Your ideas:

_____

_____

Print your name_____

Please print your name here. Anonymous data is not helpful. And while we may ask for clarification on your ideas, we don't suggest that you need be the fundraising event chairperson!

Please complete and return your survey by Sunday November, 22nd. You are welcome to:

- Email your responses to the church office at office@avon-church.org
- Mail responses to the church at 6 West Main Street, Avon, CT 06001
- If you are attending worship in person, there will be paper surveys available in church & the Hall
- Paper surveys can be placed in the collection plate or in the provided basket in fellowship hall.

Livestreaming Services and Accessing Church Social Media

Sunday services are accessible on the Avon Congregational Church Facebook page and our YouTube channel. The links for those are below:

https://www.facebook.com/avoncongregational **or**
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9C9s7fZ28HKpSllaoeGZfQ

For information about Avon Congregational Church, click on the following link:

The Avon Congregational Church Website
www.avon-church.org

Most events and lots of pictures are often posted to our ACC Facebook Page

Statement of Inclusion

In keeping with the life and teaching of Christ Jesus, we joyfully and unconditionally welcome all people of any age, gender, sexual orientation, race, culture, ability or social or economic status into our community of faith. We affirm the humanity of all people as unique individuals made in God's image. We also affirm the special gifts that each person has to offer. We invite all to participate in the full life of the church and covenant of our Christian community.

Staff Contact List – Online Church Information

Rev. Chris Solimene, Pastor	pastor@avon-church.org
Karen Levan, Dir. of Music Ministries/Organist	music@avon-church.org
Jolene Tefoe, Dir. of Avon Nursery School	ans@avon-church.org
Charry Salmon, Office Manager	office@avon-church.org
John Carlson, Finance Administrator	administrator@avon-church.org
Lenny Lebatique, Sexton	

Church Address: 6 West Main Street, Avon, CT 06001
Church Phone Number 860-678-0488
Church Website www.avon-church.org
Church Wi-Fi: avonchurch

Scan to Donate

Steering Circle 2026 – 2027

Moderator – Jerry Humble; Treasurer – Bob Linderman; Clerk – Candace Doersch; Worship – Alex Harris and Kent May; Nurturing – Lee Egan and Joan Miller; Outreach – Lynn Del Cegno and Leslie Desmangles; Support – Kate Allen and Betsy Van Loon; Members – at - Large – Fran Festa and Kate Rickson - McNally