

August 7, 2024

Worship and Hospitality Volunteers for Sunday, August 11 - Trustee – Rich Carpentier, Reader – RJ Jarrett, Usher – Walt Rusczyk, Videographer – Nora Howard, Prayer Partner – Sue Crowther, Hospitality – Marion Stuenkel and Kate Lynch



**Summer Church Office Hours**: During the month of August the Avon Congregational Church office will be open **Tuesday – Thursday**, **9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.** Please continue to leave voice mail messages or send emails, and we will respond as soon as possible.

**East Avon Cemetery Event, Thursday, August 8 at 8:30am.** We keep getting rained out, so thank you for your patience with this. Plan to meet near the Route 10 door. We will have a few chairs set up there, for the 15-minute introduction by the archaeologist. He will then do the radar 'sweeping' of the nearby corner for about 1 or 1 1/2 hours. If you have any doubt about the weather on Thursday, feel free to text or call Nora Howard, Church Historian, at 860-970-2020

**August Stone Soup** - Please join us in the church kitchen on **Monday**, **August 12th from 2-4 pm** to prepare a hearty pasta salad and brownies for the clients of Loaves & Fishes soup kitchen in Hartford. We will need help chopping vegetables and cooking lots of pasta. We look forward to seeing you! If you have any questions about our Stone Soup ministry or other Outreach ministries, please contact the co-leaders Patti Nevin or Marcia Cox.

A Special Invitation from Nora Howard: Monarch Nursery Open Porch, at Roger & Nora Howard's, at 2 - 4 p.m on Sat. Aug. 10. Drop in to see the life cycle of Monarch Butterflies, a fascinating topic that Pastor Chris has preached on in the past! Depending on the luck of the day, you may see eggs, caterpillars in various stages of growth, chrysalises, and perhaps an emerging butterfly. Lemonade and fellowship too! Please



send an email to say if you hope to come (no commitment!) and that helps me plan. Roger and Nora Howard, 215 Cider Brook Road, Avon. (near the Fisher Meadows bridge), oakeshoward@gmail.com



### Picnic at the Parsonage, Wednesday, August 14th at noon.

Pastor Chris welcomes one and all to the church parsonage for a midweek picnic on the lawn. This monthly gathering gives the 'Coffee with the Pastor' folks a summer rest as well as encouraging all ages to join us for fellowship and shared picnicking. Bring a chair and your own favorite picnic lunch. Is it raining or oppressively hot? No problem. We'll crank on the AC and picnic in Fellowship Hall. Call Kathy in the office at 860-678-0488 if unsure.

Coffee Hour Coverage - We love our coffee hour time at ACC! Would you like to help provide food for coffee hour? We are scheduling dates through June 2025 and have 3 dates remaining: March 30, April 13 (Palm Sunday), and June 1st. If interested, please contact Beth Ferrari at 860 675-8246. Thank you!



The Outreach Ministry has three "hands-on" on-going opportunities open to members and friends of the church. Please contact the co-chairs Patti Nevin or Marcia Cox if interested in participating or trying out one time as a substitute.





Southern New England United Church of Christ presents the "2024 Justice Summit: Politics as an Act of Faith". This day-long program will equip local church leaders, both lay and clergy, to engage with politics as people of faith. This Summit has something for everyone, including: a workshop for preachers; sessions on the challenges of engaging political conversations, especially in such a polarized time; and connection with faith-based justice leaders for practical opportunities to take your faith beyond the pews. Those interested may check out the following link:

### What's New in Our Community



Playhouse 44, the brand-new community theater group here in Avon is putting on its first ever performance this weekend. The group will perform nine, 10-minute plays. Each play was written by a Connecticut Author/Personality. This Friday, Saturday and Sunday Jennifer Valentine, one of our former preschool teachers

at ANS and one of Pastor Chris' actors in "The Witch Tryals" and the Graveyard Tours, will have her Directorial debut! Jennifer is directing a play called "Joanie and Freddie on Valentine's Day" written by Charlene Donaghey. This is a sweet, funny and touching story based loosely on the story of how the playwright's parents first met as kids in 1945.

Jennifer has been having the time of her life directing this play! She boasts about the enormous talent of the pre-teens she is directing and is having such fun with them! The character of Joanie is serendipitously being played by one of Jen's first preschool students here at ANS.

The shows are at Avon High School on Friday, August 9 at 7:30 pm, Saturday, August 10 at 7:30 pm, Sunday, August 11 at 2:00 pm. Tickets and information can be found at: <a href="https://www.playhouse44.org">www.playhouse44.org</a>

There are so many events going on in the area this summer! How would you like to attend some together? Members and friends of Avon Congregational Church are invited to check out the list below. Contact Sue Crowther, Chair of Extra All-Church Events, at <a href="mailto:sdcrowther@aol.com">sdcrowther@aol.com</a> if you're interested in attending an event.

**Music on Main**, in Collinsville, CT - an outdoor concert series held next to LaSalle's on Main St. on Saturdays from 6-9 pm. Bring a chair and dinner (if you'd like). Check out https://mainstreetcanton.org/events/.

Canton's Mills Pond Park's Summer Concert Series is Thursdays, 6:30 – 8:00 PM. See link below:

https://cantonct.myrec.com/info/activities/program\_details.aspx?ProgramID= 29388

**Events at Elizabeth Park Conservancy**, 1561 Asylum Avenue, West Hartford, CT. Check out their Wednesday concert series, at 6:30 – 8:00 pm in August: Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup> is Jazz with Nate Reeves and Friends. Link to events – https://elizabethparkct.org/all-park-events/.

Farmington Public Library Summer Concerts, Thursdays, 6:30 – 8:30 PM. New

**Britain Museum of American Art –** On September 5<sup>th</sup>, Mass Conn Fusion Duo is performing.

# 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

## **Our 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.

### <u>Staff Contact List - Online Church Information</u>

Rev. Chris Solimene, Pastor Rev. Jennifer McCleery, Associate Pastor Karen Levan, Dir. of Music Ministries/Organist Jolene Tefoe, Dir. of Avon Nursery School Kathy Smith, Office Manager John Carlson, Finance Administrator Gene Martin, Sexton Tom Keough, Sexton pastor@avon-church.org pastorj@avon-church.org music@avon-church.org ANSDirector2@gmail.com secretary@avon-church.org administrator@avon-church.org



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

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## <u>Steering Circle 2024 – 2025</u>

Moderator – Susan Elliott; Treasurer – Bob Linderman; Clerk – Jerry Humble; Worship – Sue Crowther and Laurie Petrin; Nurturing – Donna Lynn Young and Lee Egan; Outreach – Marcia Cox and Patti Nevin; Support – Beth Ferreri and Betsy Van Loon; Members – at - Large – Sally Albrecht and Don DelCegno