

E-Tidings

Avon Congregational Church
avon-church.org

October 16, 2024

Interested in becoming a member of Avon Congregational Church?

Call 860-678-0488 or email Pastor Chris at pastor@avon-church.org by Oct. 27



WELCOME
New Members

New Member Orientation, Sunday, Nov. 3rd, following worship - Does God call you to share your gifts in ways that will provide you with deep meaning? Do you seek lifelong friendships here with us? A New Member Orientation Lunch will be held on Sunday, November 3rd, following the worship service. If you haven't already spoken to Pastor Chris or Pastor Jennifer, and you have discerned that God is calling you to be a new member here, please call 860-678-0488, ext. 11.

New Member Sunday, November 10th during worship - **This is the day when the congregation recognizes your choice** to join our journey of faith. Please reach out to Pastor Chris or Pastor Jennifer if you would like a conversation or have questions regarding your interest in becoming a new member of Avon Congregational Church. Indeed, God has a plan for you!



Worship and Hospitality Volunteers for Sunday, October 20 - Trustee – Rich Carpentier, Reader – Lisa Eells, Usher – Wally Eells, Videographer – Patti Nevin, Prayer Partner – Gail Alvord, Host & Hospitality – Beth Ferrari, Connie Held & Emilie Hutt



Coffee with the Pastor, Wednesdays at 10:00 AM at the Coffee Trade (21 West Main St.) Come by for conversation and fellowship. Pop in or stay for the hour. If you haven't tried it, check it out – we have lots of fun! See you there!

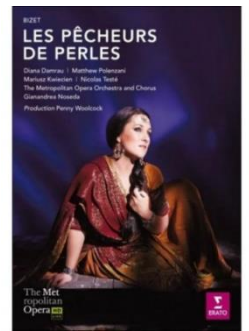
Avon Nursery School is looking for donations of candy and small toys for their "Trunk or Treat" event for their children on October 30th. Please drop donations off in the church office **by October 28th**. Thank you!



Bible Study Opportunity beginning Thursday, October 17th, 10:30 AM – Noon, in the church library. Join Pastor Jennifer on Thursday mornings for a fascinating study on the Gospel of John. The fourth of the gospels, John's is the only one not to be considered a Synoptic Gospel. With its own distinct style and theological aims, John does not merely narrate the events of Jesus, but shapes those events to offer a distinct

theological interpretation. Because of its special theological character, the Gospel of John has been considered since ancient times to be the "Spiritual Gospel." Come to any or all of these studies to learn more about this book, and see how the story of Jesus told in symbolic ways can lend richness and meaning to our spiritual journeys. Classes held for five weeks.-- October 17, 24, 31 and Nov. 7 & 14. Sign up on main hall bulletin board. The first meeting will be held in the Church Library. All welcome!

A Day at the Opera featuring Georges Bizet's "Les Pêcheurs de Perles" (The Pearl Fishers), Sunday, October 20th, 11:45 PM – All are invited to the viewing of "the Pearl Fishers", an opera in three acts by the French composer Georges Bizet. It was first performed on September 30, 1863 in Paris, and was given 18 performances in its initial run. Set in ancient times on the island of Ceylon, the opera tells the story of how two men's vow of eternal friendship is threatened by their love for the same woman, whose own dilemma is the conflict between secular love and her sacred oath as a priestess. Sign up on the main hall bulletin board. Questions? Contact Leslie Desmangles at ldesmangles@gmail.com.



Classic Movie Night, October 25 at 6:00 PM - Join us in Fellowship Hall for a showing of Nightmare Alley, with Tyrone Power. Light refreshments will be served. Admission is free. Questions? Contact Ray Ramezzana at curlyqlink115@aol.com.

First Friday Dinner at Avon Congregational Church, 6 West Main St., on November 1st at 5:30 – 7:00 PM. Join us for a family favorite, **Chicken Pot Pie**. A Vegetarian Chicken (plant-based) Pot Pie will also be available. This month's entrée is served with biscuits and salad, and includes our fabulous dessert buffet, and coffee or tea. **The dinners are \$17.** No reservations necessary. Take-out is available. For more information, call the church office at 860-678-0488 or email us at secretary@avon-church.org.



Sign up on the main hall bulletin board if you'd like to help cook, set-up, serve or clean-up at the First Friday Dinner on November 1st, or make a delicious dessert for our famous "Dessert Buffet". Many hands make light work!

Stone Soup Ministry

Our Stone Soup volunteers were busy in our church kitchen on Monday making our popular chicken and yellow rice casserole and cornbread for the clients of Loaves & Fishes soup kitchen in Hartford. Look at all the food these four women prepared...wow!



(l - r) Kathy Hine, Kate Lynch, and Margaret Abbott, along with Beth Ferrari

**Letter from Kent Siladi, Interim Director of Philanthropy
at the United Church of Christ**

Dear Friend,

In less than two weeks, Florida has faced yet another disaster—Hurricane Milton. As we work to understand the full extent of the damage, the United Church of Christ continues its longstanding commitment to stand with communities through their recovery long after the headlines have faded.

You can help. As we respond to Hurricane Milton and continue relief efforts for Hurricane Helene, we invite you to give to the **Hurricanes 2024 Appeal**. Your gift will make a direct impact, providing relief to those suffering, rebuilding homes, and helping restore communities. Together, we can extend the support and hope so desperately needed during this time.

Our heartfelt thanks to all who have already donated to support the victims of the recent Hurricane Helene. Your generosity is making a real difference in the lives of those affected by these devastating events.

With deep gratitude,

DONATE



Free Items available – Parishioner Brenda Transue is looking to give away a canoe and an antique steel cabinet from Hartford Special Machinery. The cabinet has 35 drawers, 4 stackable sections, and would be ideal for someone's workshop, Contact Brenda at adnerb36@comcast.net for more information or to arrange pick-up. Items are free.



Opportunities for Fellowship

**LEGALLY
BLONDE**
The Musical

Legally Blonde is being performed by the Theatre Guild of Simsbury on Sun., Nov. 10 @ 2 pm. Contact Sue Crowther asap, as she was able to buy a block of 4 tickets for \$28 ea. for Sun., Nov. 10 @ 2 pm, if you're interested in going together. Also, let Sue know if you'd like to gather with a bag lunch in Fellowship Hall beforehand, or just meet at the show, which takes place in Simsbury High School's auditorium.

As of now, tickets are available according to the website:

<https://www.theatreguildsimsbury.org/tickets> . Tickets already purchased by Sue are in Row H, 101-104. **The first three people** to contact Sue at 860-678-0713, may purchase a ticket from her. Others may purchase tickets at the link about. On a side note - Jennifer Valentine, a former Avon Nursery School teacher is performing in the show!

Happenings around Avon

NAMI Farmington Valley Presents: *1 Degree of Separation* - A live comedy show about depression & destigmatizing mental illness, **Friday, October 25, 2024, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm at Avon High School Auditorium**, 510 West Avon Rd: This life-changing & life-saving event is free, suggested for ages 12+. Doors open at 6:30pm. Stay after the show for a Meet & Greet with the comedians! For details & to register, please visit <https://www.namifarmingtonvalley.org/2024/08/oct2024/>



FRIENDS FOR EQUITY

Next Thursday, October 24th at 6:30pm is the LAST session in Avon Friends for Equity (AFFE)'s [panel series](#) based on Matthew Desmond's book *Poverty, by America*. Event to be held in the Avon Free Public Library community room. [\(Community Room, AFPL\)](#): All are welcome to attend.

The final session will focus on the many housing issues faced by the poor and will be led by *CT Mirror* Housing Reporter Ginny Monk, Peter Harrison of Desegregate Connecticut, and CT State Representative DeGraw, Chairwoman of the Planning and Development Committee and member of the Public Health and Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committees.

Background: Matthew Desmond educates us as to why poverty exists in America, how it touches all of us, and that there are ways to help eradicate poverty and create equity, starting with understanding the current crisis. This is the goal of the series: Many in town might not realize that, in Avon alone, roughly 5% or 1,000 of our neighbors live below the poverty level.

Haleigh Guerrero
[Avon Friends for Equity Steering Committee Member](#)

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

The art of storytelling, blossoming across the country in cafés, galleries, and conference rooms, and popularized by such radio programs as The Moth Radio Hour, is coming to Avon!



presents

It's Only a Job!

Join us for a night of true, intriguing, and hilarious stories from our exclusive group of storytellers—from a wardrobe malfunction at an important meeting, to a job interview that sparked a heated plan, from an exciting public relations idea that almost fell off the rails, to the colorful office characters who were just too much to handle.

When: Monday, October 28, 2024, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Where: Avon Congregational Church, 6 West Main, Avon.

Admission: Register to attend at AvonPlayhouse44@gmail.com

Seating is limited, so please register early for this free event.



Donations are accepted, which will assist Playhouse 44 with future productions. They can be made online at <https://playhouse44.org/> or during the event.

Extending a helping hand: We're collecting toiletries and nonperishable food on the night of the event to deliver to local Avon organizations that help individuals and families in need.

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.

Staff Contact List – Online Church Information

Rev. Chris Solimene, Pastor	pastor@avon-church.org
Rev. Jennifer McCleery, Associate Pastor	pastorj@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
Kathy Smith, Office Manager	secretary@avon-church.org
John Carlson, Finance Administrator	administrator@avon-church.org
Gene Martin, Sexton	
Tom Keough, 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 for giving

Steering Circle 2024 – 2025

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 Ferrari and
Betsy Van Loon; Members – at - Large – Sally Albrecht and Don DelCegno