



December 11, 2024



Worship and Hospitality Volunteers for Sunday, December 15th
Trustee – Bob Linderman, Reader – Jennie Boswell, Usher – Nora Howard, Videographer – Tom Transue, Prayer Partner – Dick Lytle, Host & Hospitality – Laurie McBride, Sandy and Dick Lytle, and Beth Ferrari.

Looking for ringers to fill the 4:00 – 5:00 PM time slot at the Walmart in Avon on Saturday, Dec. 14! Contact Lynn DelCegno at (860) 690-9675 if you're available. Also, thank you to everyone who signed up to ring bells for the Salvation Army at Walmart. Lynn DelCegno will contact you soon about a reminder of your time slot.



Worship Volunteers Wanted – Your Worship Ministry is looking for readers and ushers to assist with Sunday services. Interested? Please e-mail: Sue Crowther @ sdcrowther@aol.com or Laurie Petrin @ Ljpkra@gmail.com.

Our Outreach Ministry members would like to extend their thanks to everyone who donated items or a gift card to our Gifts of Love collection this year. We appreciate all you do!



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!

Christmas Pageant Sunday, December 15, at 10:00 AM - Our Annual Christmas Pageant takes place during the service. Many of our church friends and children are participating – hope you can join us!





Christmas Market - Be sure to browse and shop Avon Congregational Church's Christmas Market, which is open now. A selection of Christmas and Holiday décor, decorations, dishware and linens will be complimented by a smattering of unique and beautiful gift ideas for all you love! Located in Fellowship Hall, the market will be open during office hours of the church and following worship services on each Sunday in Advent. Cash or checks payable to Avon Congregational Church.

Come caroling on Sunday, December 15th at 1:30 PM - No matter what your singing ability, all are invited to join us in spreading good cheer! Meet at the church at 1:15 PM in Fellowship Hall to carpool.



Following caroling, all are invited to **the Church Open House & Potluck from 3:00 – 5:00 PM in Fellowship Hall** – Please note the change of venue, due to our growing congregation! To sign up to bring a pot-luck dish, contact the church office at secretary@avon-church.org or sign up on the main hall bulletin board.



December Stone Soup, Monday, December 16th at 2 pm – Join us in the church kitchen to make casseroles to send in with holiday hams for the clients of the Loaves & Fishes soup kitchen. All ingredients have been provided through generous donations to our Stone Soup ministry fund. If you would like to make a donation, please make your check payable to ACC with "Stone Soup" in the memo section.

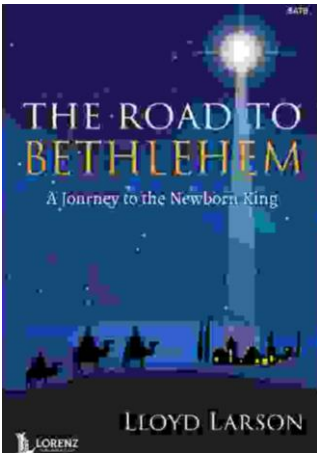
Loaves & Fishes Serving Opportunity - We serve lunch from 11:30 am-12:45 pm to the clients at Loaves & Fishes soup kitchen on the fourth Monday every month. We are looking for a volunteer to join the setup crew of three arriving at 10:30 am. We also have two volunteers arriving at 11:00 am to join the crew to help serve. If interested in either opportunity, please contact Beth Ferrari. Volunteering can be as little or as much as your schedule allows. Carpooling from the church is encouraged.



Caroling at River Ridge, Wednesday, December 18, 10:30 AM - Carolers wanted! We've been invited to sing for residents of River Ridge, 101 Bickford Extension, Avon. Sign up on main bulletin board by the Church Office, or email Karen Levan at music@avon-church.org. We'll meet at the church **at 10:15 AM** and carpool!

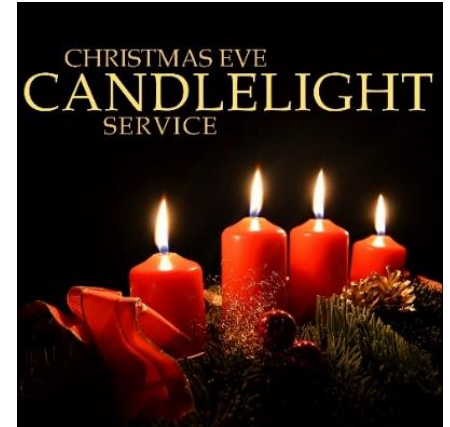
Thursday, December 19, 7:00 PM: Darkest Night Service of Healing - Dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce or separation, coping with job loss, health challenges or simply feeling overwhelmed by the stress and pressures of the season, grief comes in many forms and might lay an emotional pall over the holidays. That's why we're holding a service of reflection and healing on the longest night.





Christmas Cantata Sunday, December 22, 10:00 AM: We near the birth of Jesus with an Advent focus of Love being born into our lives. Please join us for a very special worship, including an expanded choir, who will together with our ministers, present "The Road to Bethlehem." Bethlehem seems an unlikely remote village for the love of God to be born. Yet, Mary and Joseph took a road that led there. So did the shepherds and the Magi. And so can we! Experience this fresh and powerful music by Lloyd Larson interspersed with familiar Christmas melodies and narration by Pastors Chris and Jennifer. Embrace this musical message of joy and love and enrich your Advent journey to Christmas!

Tuesday, December 24, 7:30 PM: Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols - Join us for a joy-filled family Christmas Eve service. The choir and musicians will enhance the Christmas Story with traditional music. The service will close with the congregation lighting their candles while singing Silent Night.



What is your favorite Christmas movie? We'd love to know!

***Our amazing staff was asked this question,
and here are their answers:***

Pastor Chris:	<i>Miracle on 34th Street</i>
Pastor Jennifer:	<i>Klaus</i>
Karen Levan:	<i>Elf</i>
Jolene Tefoe:	<i>Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer</i>
John Carlson:	<i>The Holiday</i>
Kathy Smith:	<i>Emmett Otter's Jug Band Christmas</i>
Jennifer Oligino:	<i>Home Alone</i>
Charity Tang	<i>It's a Wonderful Life</i>
Gene Martin:	<i>A Charlie Brown Christmas</i>
Tom Keough:	<i>It's a Wonderful Life</i>



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No matter what your singing ability, all are invited to join us in spreading good cheer! Meet at the church at 1:15 PM in Fellowship Hall.

...followed by the Church Open House & Potluck

3:00 – 5:00 PM

After caroling all are invited to our Fellowship Hall for potluck and fun! To sign up to bring a pot-luck dish, contact the church office at secretary@avon-church.org or sign up on the main hall bulletin board.



CHORUS ANGELICUS & GAUDEAMUS PRESENT

CHRISTMAS ANGELICUS

A NEW ENGLAND TRADITION



12.14 - TORRINGTON - 4:00 PM

12.20 - AVON - 7:00 PM

12.21 - SALISBURY - 4:00 PM

12.22 - WEST HARTFORD - 4:00 PM

ANDREW THOMSON, PERCUSSIONIST

JOHN DANKOSKY, NARRATOR

EZEQUIEL MENÉNDEZ, ORGANIST

GABRIEL LÖFVALL, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



CHORUS ANGELICUS

BUY TICKETS AT WWW.CHORUSANGELICUS.COM

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.

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