



E-Tidings

Avon Congregational Church

www.avon-church.org

January 21, 2026



Religious Cults and Why They Matter? Thursday, January 22 at 10:30 am in Fellowship Hall

- Retired Religious-Studies Professor and church member, Leslie Desmangles offers a study on cults and cultism in the U.S. This short course will also offer discussion of the development, and the future prospect of many religious movements in our society today. Why are cults enticing and how

do they work? Emphasis is given to the personalities and influence of the cult leaders, their various methods of conversion, programming, and more. Come to one session or come to all. Check with the office or our Facebook page if there is snowy weather to see if the study will take place.

Outreach Ministry News - A wonderful opportunity for giving!

This week our Outreach Ministry received a request for immediate assistance from Center Church (60 Gold St.), a sister congregation in downtown Hartford. They have recently opened their church every night to offer 40 beds to men needing shelter through these cold winter months. On their behalf, we are asking for donations from you, the warm-hearted members of our congregation, for these specific items: warm socks, adult wipes, paper coffee cups, plates and napkins, and bath tissue. **These items will be gratefully received from January 15-26 in the labeled baskets in the narthex, fellowship hall and outside the hallway doors leading into the sanctuary.** It is always heartening to see how much we are able to do together. Stay tuned for photos of our collective efforts. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



Coffee with the Pastor - Our next meet-up is Wednesday, January 28 at 10 AM at the Coffee Trade (21 West Main St.). Join us for conversation and fellowship. Pop in or stay for the hour. See you there!



The 2026 Flower Sign Up Chart is up! We are looking for donations of flower bouquets for Sunday Worship Services. Sign up on the bulletin board in the main hall. Questions? Contact Trudy Desmangles at 860-306-8377 or Trudy.desmangles@gmail.com.

Volunteers Needed for Sunday Coffee Hour - Sign up today! Our weekly coffee hour is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and connection. We are currently seeking volunteers to provide simple snacks - see which dates are still available on the main hall bulletin board.



Worship and Hospitality Volunteers for Sunday, January 25: Trustee – Susan Elliott, Usher – Dick Lytle, Reader - Donna Lynn Young, Videographer – Betsy Van Loon, Coffee Hour - Jane Keeney, Laurie McBride, Margaret Abbott



First Friday Dinner at Avon Congregational Church, Dine In AND Take Out!! 6 West Main St., on February 6 at 5:30 – 7:00 PM.

We know life is busy, but to live well, we must eat well! Come meet new friends from all over the Farmington Valley for a family favorite, Shepherd's Pie with traditional meat or vegan version with assorted vegetables. This month's hearty entrée is served with a tossed salad with house made vinaigrette, garlic bread and our wonderful dessert buffet! Includes coffee and tea as well, to complete your dining experience. **\$20 each.** No reservations necessary. Too busy to eat in or looking for a great option to feed your friends and family at home?? Take-out is available. No fuss! For more information, call the church office at 860-678-0488 or email us at secretary@avon-church.org.



Dinner Volunteer Sign-Ups are on the main hall bulletin board by the office. We are looking for helpers who can assist with take-out, cook, serve the meal, clean up during and afterwards, and make a dessert. We are very thankful for all of our volunteers and look forward to another year of delicious dinners!

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
Kathy Smith, Office Manager	secretary@avon-church.org
John Carlson, Finance Administrator	administrator@avon-church.org
Tom Keough, Kenny Keough, Sextons	

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 2025 – 2026

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