South Church is a covenanting member of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations and is an accredited Welcoming Congregation and Green Sanctuary. Unitarian Universalism is a liberal religion with Jewish-Christian roots. We draw from our heritages of freedom, reason, hope, and courage, building on the foundation of love. We strive to be a congregation that truly welcomes all persons who share our values. We commit to being a congregation that empowers and enhances everyone's participation, especially those with historically marginalized identities.

Love is the power that holds us together and is at the center of our shared values. We are accountable to one another for doing the work of living our shared values through the spiritual discipline of Love.

Inseparable from one another, these shared values include:

Interdependence: We honor the interdependent web of all existence.

Pluralism:We celebrate that we are all sacred beings, diverse in culture, experience, and theology.

Justice: We work to be diverse multicultural Beloved Communities where all thrive.

Transformation: We adapt to the changing world.

Generosity: We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope.

Equity: We declare that every person is inherently worthy and has the right to flourish with dignity, love, and compassion.

SOUTH CHURCH
A Unitarian Universalist Congregation
Sunday Services: 10am on State Street & our YouTube Channel
Office Hours: 9am-2pm Tuesday-Friday
WiFi Network: SouthChurchPublic
Wifi Password: SundayMorning
Website: www.southchurch-uu.org **Email:** info@southchurch-uu.org
Phone: 603-436-4762
Board of Trustees Email: Board@southchurch-uu.org
The Board meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7pm. All are welcome.
Rev. Ellen Quaadgras – Minister
Kirsten Hunter – Director of Lifespan Ministries
Jen Del Deo-Barry – Director of Children and Family Ministry
Jonny Peiffer – Director of Music Ministry
Jennifer Leyden – Congregational Admin
Sasha Howard - Camera & Sound

SOUTH CHURCH



"True Kinship:
Thanksgiving, Truth, and Healing"

A Unitarian Universalist Congregation

November 22, 2026

MISSION UUNITED: THANK YOU!

Our formal campaign closes today, November 22. Help us meet or exceed last year's 223 pledging households. Every pledge, at every amount, matters! Join us at coffee hour today for extra snacks and a celebration of our community's generosity. We'll draw the raffle for two days on Star Island, a thank-you for households that submit their 2027 pledge by today. Everyone is welcome!

SIGN UP TO HELP AT THE WELCOME DESK!

Help make South Church more welcoming for new folks and long-time members alike! Answer questions, connect folks with others in the congregation, or pass along info/questions to staff. Contact SharedMinistry@SouthChurch-UU.org

JOIN THE WIDER NETWORK OF CARE

The Pastoral Associates offer support to South Church members by organizing a large group of volunteers called the Wider Network of Care (WNC). Send cards, make meals, offer companionship, give rides, do light shores, provide pet care, and help with memorial receptions. It's up to you how often you participate. Scan the QR code to sign up.

LECTIO DIVINA - TUESDAYS AT 5:15PM

Lectio Divina (Latin Reading) is an ancient spiritual discipline of slow, contemplative reading and reflection meant to foster a deeper communion with one's own spirituality. We meet in person on the first Tuesday of each month, and on Zoom for subsequent Tuesdays. Meditation begins at 5pm, Lectio practice begins at 5:15. Consider bringing a journal or notebook for written reflection. Please email Kirsten@SouthChurch-UU.org to receive the zoom link.

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE - TODAY AT 4PM AT ST. JOHNS

Join the Seacoast Ministerium for the annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, held this year at St. John's Espiscopal Church today at 4pm. This year's service is called "Anchors and Buoys" and all are welcome.

HOLIDAY MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Our sanctuary is decorated for the holidays, in part thanks to the generosity of our members. You are able to make a donation to the decor fund in honor or in memoriam of a loved one, with your memorial being listed in the Christmas Eve Orders of Service. See Jen Leyden downstairs after worship through November! Any size donation accepted, but not required for a memorial listing.

DONATIONS AND VOLUNTEERS - CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY FAIR ON DEC 6

The annual Children's Holiday Fair will be held on Sunday, December 6 immediately after worship and RE classes. Donations of used or new items appropriate for gift giving, as well as seasonal gift bags, tissue, and gift tags are now being collected in bins in the narthex. We are also looking for volunteers the day of the fair. Contact the Fellowship Associates for more info or to volunteer! Fellowship@SouthChurch-UU.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

On most Sundays, the Nursery is open for children 6 weeks through 3 years, and kids in PreK through 7th grade are invited to participate in religious education groups downstairs following the Time For All Ages. Children are also always invited to remain in the sanctuary with their families. On multigenerational worship days, children stay in the sanctuary for worship, where they may choose to play quietly in the Prayground or sit in pews.

The mission of our RE Program is to provide programming for children, youth, and families that promotes spiritual growth, intergenerational connections, faith development, a UU identity, and social action within a safe and welcoming environment.

For more information, email Director of Children & Family Ministries, Jen Del Deo-Barry, at jendeldeo@southchurch-uu.org

ONGOING GROUPS

Chant From Different Traditions meets on the first Sunday at 9am on the balcony or in the gardens. Contact Cathy Okhuysen at CathoMusic@gmail.com

The Knitting Ministry meets on the 3rd Sunday at 11:30am in the Emerson Room. For info, contact Jan Marston at JLMarston@comcast.net

The ***Men's Breakfast Group*** meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 8am at Grill 28. Email Ken Schoman at Ayuh.Ken@gmail.com

Morning Poems meets Thursday mornings at 7:30am on Zoom. Contact Kirsten@SouthChurch-UU.org for more information.

The ***Women's Breakfast Group*** meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 8:30am at the Golden Egg. To RSVP, contact TurningTide@comcast.net

Covenant Groups are ongoing groups that meet twice a month from October-May. For more info, email CovenantGroups@SouthChurch-UU.org

South Church Book Group meets on the 2nd Wednesday at 7pm on Zoom. Contact Carrie and Alexandra at BookGroupSouthChurch@gmail.com

Court Street Yoga meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at 6:30am. Check the website for info. Suggested donation $10/class or $75/month. For more info, email Yoga@SouthChurch-uu.org

The South Church Cancer Support Group meets on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 11:30am. For more information, contact Anne at 4am76virginia@gmail.com

South Church Folk meets on Thursdays at 6:45pm in the sanctuary and typically sings during Worship one Sunday per month. For more information, contact Cathy Okhuysen at CathoMusic@gmail.com

South Church helps with ***Community Suppers at Mainspring*** various times throughout the year. For more info, contact BettyOlivolo@gmail.com

Lectio Divina meets the first Tuesday of each month in person and on subsequent Tuesdays on Zoom at 5:15pm. For more info, contact Kirsten@SouthChurch-UU.org

CALENDAR

Sunday, November 22
9:45am Coming of Age at Court Street
10:00am In Person and Online Worship
11:30am Journey to Membership Class
11:30am Social Justice Associates Postcard Writing
4:00pm Senior Youth at Court Street
Monday, November 23
6:30am Court Street Yoga
Tuesday, November 24
5:00pm Lectio Divina on Zoom
6:30pm South Church Choir
Wednesday, November 25
6:30am Court Street Yoga
Thursday, November 26
Happy Thanksgiving!
Friday, November 27
South Church Office Closed
Saturday, November 28
4:00pm Friendsgiving Potluck
Sunday, November 29
10:00am In Person and Online Worship

DECEMBER BOOK GROUP - DECEMBER 9

On December 9, the South Church Book Group will be discussing "How to Read a Book" by Monica Wood at 7pm on Zoom. Set in Portland, Maine this book is about second chances, forgiveness, the desire for connection, and found families. Anyone is welcome to drop in periodically, or to participate regularly in our monthly discussions. In January and February, we will discuss films instead of books, so look for that info coming soon. To get the Zoom link, or for more info, contact Carrie and Alexandra at BookGroupSouthChurch@gmail.com

SOUTH CHURCH VISION STATEMENT

South Church is widely known as a vibrant spiritual home where people of all ages and abilities, beliefs and identities seek meaning and purpose, inspiration and comfort.

Rooted in love, we carry forward a legacy of care for one another, our Seacoast community, and the Earth we share.

United in our ever-deepening practice of Unitarian Universalist values, we act with courage and serve with joy for a more just, compassionate, and thriving world.

POTLUCK FRIENDSGIVING - NOVEMBER 28 AT 4PM

A time to share a meal and deepen connections with our beloved South Church community on November 28 from 4-7pm. Sign up for the potluck at https://tinyurl.com/26Friendsgiving . If anyone would like to help come a bit early to set up, or stay late for clean up, please reach out to Kirsten@SouthChurch-UU.org

HANGING OF THE GREENS AND HOLIDAY POTLUCK - DECEMBER 4 AT 5PM

Join us to help decorate the sanctuary for the holiday season, followed by our annual All Ages Holiday Party on December 4 at 5pm! Join the FA's and the staff for this much loved evening event with festive music, delicious food, and lots of holiday cheer! We will gather in the sanctuary at 5pm to hang wreaths and place poinsettias, then head downstairs for a potluck meal. All ages are welcome! Please bring a dish to share that is traditional within your family; whether it's homemade cookies, green bean casserole, store bought treats, or a dish from your cultural background! For more information or to offer assistance in decorating, please email Jen Leyden at Jen@SouthChurch-UU.org

ADULT LEARNING JOURNEY INFO SESSION - DECEMBER 6 AT 11:45AM

Join Kirsten at 11:45am on Dec. 6 to learn about the adult learning journey to Alabama. (March 22-27) This journey will deepen our understanding of the radicalized history of our country and the direct thread tying that history to mass incarceration, and a multitude of other contemporary issues today. Alabama offers unique insight on organizing during the civil rights movement and how joy, art, creativity and community play critical roles in justice work and solidarity building. Please contact Kirsten@SouthChurch-UU.rg if you are interested and can't make the session. Scan the QR code for additional info.

ORDER OF SERVICE

NOVEMBER 22, 2026

Joys and Sorrows candle lighting will take place before worship today. You are welcome to light a candle for a joy or sorrow you are carrying before worship begins.

GATHERING MUSIC — Jonny Peiffer, piano

WELCOME — Rev. Ellen Quaadgras

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

INVOCATION — *Carry This All* by Alexandra "Ahlay" Blakely

LIGHTING THE CHALICE — Jesse Noyes and Rev. Ellen Quaadgras

MISSION STATEMENT

At South Church, we nurture spiritual growth through worship, learning and community; we celebrate the worth and dignity of all people; and we inspire one another to act on our faith in the larger community.

OPENING WORDS — Jesse Noyes

OPENING HYMN #389 — *Gathered Here*

TIME FOR ALL AGES — Jen Del Deo-Barry

OFFERING INVITATION — Jesse Noyes

OFFERTORY — *The Healer* — South Church Band
By S. Kish and R.K. Poison-Lahache

RESPONSE #1010 — *We Give Thanks*

MEDITATION & PRAYER — Rev. Ellen Quaadgras

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

REFLECTION — Kirsten Hunter

HOMILY — "True Kinship: Thanksgiving, Truth, and Healing"
Rev. Ellen Quaadgras

CLOSING MUSIC — *One Drum* — South Church Band
By Leela Gilday

EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

BENEDICTION — Rev. Ellen Quaadgras

POSTLUDE — #1017 *Building a New Way*

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November Theme: Healing
November Shared Plate: Seacoast Pathways

During the month of November, our collection will be shared with Seacoast Pathways. Seacoast Pathways is a place for adults living with mental illness to come together for purposeful work and meaningful relationships. Through participation in the Clubhouse Model, people are given the opportunities to rejoin the worlds of friendships, family, important work, employment, education, and to access the services and supports they may individually need.

Learn more at www. granitepathwaysnh.org/seacoast-pathways/

Quick Link: Donate to South Church and our monthly Shared Plate!
Point your phone camera at the QR code to the left and head to our mobile site. Make a one time gift, or log in to create recurring gifts!

Thanks to the South Church Band for the gift of music today!

Jonny Peiffer, Robert O'Brien, Chris Kiper, Jesse Lore, Will Cicola, Mitch Pivor, and Jennifer Leyden