



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](http://www.southchurch-uu.org) Email: [info@southchurch-uu.org](mailto:info@southchurch-uu.org)**

**Phone: 603-436-4762**

**Board of Trustees Email: [Board@southchurch-uu.org](mailto:Board@southchurch-uu.org)**

**The Board meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

Ben Abbott - Tech & Attendant

# **SOUTH CHURCH**



**“Freedom Delayed; Still Calling”  
A Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation**

**June 14, 2026**



### **200TH ANNIVERSARY TEE-SHIRTS FOR SALE!**

Celebrate the 200th Anniversary of South Church with some merch! Commemorate this special anniversary with an official South Church 200th Anniversary t-shirt; a wonderful way to honor our church's history, celebrate our community, and share our spirit beyond our walls. Special edition shirts are available for the PGT and Pride weekend celebrations - check the shipping information to see if it will arrive in time! Multiple styles, sizes, and colors available through the online store. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/SCTees> or scan the QR code to place your orders today. Don't miss your chance to own a keepsake from this historic milestone year!

### **SOUTH CHURCH CELEBRATES PRIDE!**

Please join us for the 2026 Portsmouth Pride March and celebration at Strawberry Banke on Saturday, June 20. Your presence means so much to the LGBTQ+ community. The short walk from Market Square to the festival grounds steps off around noon. We'll meet on the church steps and walk over together.



### **PGT TICKETS FOR SALE**

Purchase your tickets through June 14th for \$25/ticket! Cash, checks, and credit cards accepted! Or scan the QR code to buy your ticket online! Tickets are also available during coffee hour.

### **PGT COOKIES!**

Cookies are a tradition at the Pocket Garden Tour, so sign up today to make some for our guests to enjoy! Scan the QR code or visit <http://tinyurl.com/2026pgtcookies> to sign up.



### **SUMMER RE VOLUNTEERS**

Beginning June 14, we will shift into summer Religious Education; simple, joyful, connective, and playful, and we'd love your help to make it happen. We're looking for at least 2 volunteers each week to facilitate. Bring an activity, craft, game or story to share, or we can set you up with something fun! Since Jen DB will be away for part of the summer, we especially appreciate extra support from those available to help create a warm and joyful space for our kids and youth. Take a look at the schedule by scanning the QR code or visiting <https://tinyurl.com/26SummerRE> and let Jen know what date(s) you would like to sign up for! [JenDelDeo@SouthChurch-UU.org](mailto:JenDelDeo@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 Playground 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](mailto:jendeldeo@southchurch-uu.org)*

### **ONGOING GROUPS**

***Aging with Grace*** meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month at noon at the Ports Senior Center. Contact Ingrid at [inkyjapan@yahoo.com](mailto:inkyjapan@yahoo.com) for more info.

***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](mailto:cathomusic@gmail.com)

***The Knitting Ministry*** meets on the 3rd Sunday at 11:30am in the Emerson Room. Contact: Jan Marston at [jmarston@comcast.net](mailto:jmarston@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](mailto:ayuh.ken@gmail.com)

***Morning Poems*** meets Thursday mornings at 7:30am on Zoom. Contact [Kirsten@SouthChurch-UU.org](mailto:Kirsten@SouthChurch-UU.org) for more information. On hiatus until Sept. 2026

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](mailto:turningtide@comcast.net)

***Covenant Groups*** are ongoing groups that meet twice a month from October-May. For more info, email [covenantgroups@southchurch-uu.org](mailto: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](mailto:bookgroupsouthchurch@gmail.com)

***Court Street Yoga*** meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings, and Tuesday and Thursday nights. Check website for times and class info. Suggested donation \$10/class or \$75/month. For more info, email [yoga@southchurch-uu.org](mailto:yoga@southchurch-uu.org)

***The South Church Cancer Support Group*** meets on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 11:30am in the Emerson Room. For more information, contact Anne Mackin at [4am76virginia@gmail.com](mailto: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@southchurch-uu.org](mailto:cathomusic@southchurch-uu.org)

## CALENDAR

### Sunday, June 14

- 9:00am 200th Anniversary Meeting  
10:00am In Person and Online Worship  
11:30am Learning Associates Convenor Meeting  
11:30am Cancer Support Group  
12:30pm Nuclear Weapons Now: The Threat and Opportunity

### Monday, June 15

- 6:30am Court Street Yoga  
6:00pm Property Committee Meeting

### Tuesday, June 16

- 5:30pm Court Street Yoga  
7:00pm Board of Trustees Meeting

### Wednesday, June 17

- 6:30am Court Street Yoga

### Thursday, June 18

- 7:30am Morning Poems on Zoom  
5:30pm Court Street Yoga  
6:45pm South Church Folk

### Friday, June 19 - South Church Office Closed

- 6:30am Court Street Yoga  
5:00pm Pocket Garden Tour

### Saturday, June 20

- 10:00am Pocket Garden Tour  
11:45am Pride Gathering

### Sunday, June 21

- 9:00am 200th Anniversary Meeting  
10:00am In Person and Online Worship  
11:30am Knitting Ministry  
11:30am Social Justice Associates Meeting

### UUACTIONNH NEWSLETTER

Sign up for the UUActionNH monthly newsletter to learn what other UU Social Action groups are doing around New Hampshire.



### 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.

### NUCLEAR WEAPONS NOW: THE THREAT AND OPPORTUNITY - TODAY

Please join us for a forum that will highlight world renowned expert, peace advocate, physician, and joint winner of 2 Nobel Peace Prizes, Dr. Ira Helfand, as well as Carleigh Berinot, PhD., a historian on US nuclear testing, teacher, and Chair of the Hampton Select Board. Hear, discuss, and learn what you can do on Sunday, June 14 at 12:30pm. RSVP at <https://bit.ly/NuclearForum6-14> or just show up! Hosted by the Peace with Justice Advocates of the NH Conference UCC.

### UNITY HUB - JUNE 25

Join us for the next Seacoast Unity Hub gathering on Thursday, June 25, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at South Church. We'll gather for connection, grounding, and concrete next steps as we ask: where can ordinary people make the biggest difference between now and November? All are welcome. Register at [www.tinyurl.com/UnityHub-June25](http://www.tinyurl.com/UnityHub-June25)

### JULY BOOK GROUP DISCUSSION

The South Church Book Group will be discussing the critically acclaimed novel "James" by Percival Everett on July 8 on Zoom. "James" won the 2025 Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award in 2024. This book is a reimagining of Huckleberry inn told from the perspective of the enslaved Jim as he escapes to freedom from Huck. For more information, or to get the Zoom link, please reach out to Alexandra and Carrie at [BookGroupSouthChurch@gmail.com](mailto:BookGroupSouthChurch@gmail.com). All are welcome!

# ORDER OF SERVICE

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.

PRELUDE *I Wish I Knew How It Would Feel To Be Free*  
By Billy Taylor, played by Jonny Peiffer

WELCOME Rev. Ellen Quaadgras

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

INVOCATION #155 *Circle Round For Freedom*

LIGHTING THE CHALICE Chris George 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 Magnolia Redmond

\*OPENING HYMN #95 *There Is More Love Somewhere*

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBER INSTALLATION

TIME FOR ALL AGES Jen Del Deo-Barry

CHILDREN'S RECESSIONAL #413 *Go Now in Peace*

OFFERING INVITATION Chris George

OFFERTORY *Spiritual* Jonny Peiffer, piano  
Charlie Haden

RESPONSE #1010 *We Give Thanks*

PRAYER & MEDITATION Rev. Ellen Quaadgras

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

SERMON "Freedom Delayed; Still Calling" Rev. Ellen Quaadgras

# JUNE 14, 2026

CLOSING HYMN #1017 *We Are Building a New Way*

EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE Chris George

BENEDICTION Rev. Ellen Quaadgras

POSTLUDE *Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing* Jonny Peiffer, piano  
J. R. Johnson

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*June Theme: Flourishing Together*  
*June Shared Plate: Cross Roads House*

During the month of June, our collection will be shared with the Cross  
Roads House, providing emergency shelter to unhoused individuals and  
families, and providing them with tools and resources to return to  
permanent housing. The shelter is open 24/7, and they currently house  
around 75 people per night.

Learn more at <https://www.crossroadshouse.org/>



**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!