outh 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. It has no creed. It affirms the worth of human beings, advocates freedom of belief and the search for advancing truth, and tries to provide a warm, open, supportive community for people who believe that ethical living is the supreme witness of religion. We welcome bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgender people. There are seven principles which Unitarian Universalism congregations affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large
- The goal of the world community with peace, liberty and justice for all
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part

We are grateful for the religious pluralism which enriches and ennobles our faith; we are inspired to deepen our understanding and expand our vision.

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**SOUTH CHURCH**

**A Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

Sunday Services: 10am on State Street
Live-Stream Services: 10am on 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 – Director of Children and Family Ministry
Jonny Peiffer – Director of Music Ministry
Jennifer Leyden – Congregational Admin    Kristine Sawyer – Finance Director
Susan Adams – Accompanist    Ben Abbott - Tech & Attendant

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**“The Gift of Searching”**

A Unitarian Universalist Congregation
August 13, 2023
ARE YOU NEW TO SOUTH CHURCH?
Are you a first-time visitor? Would you like to get more information about this congregation? Fill out the green card in the pews with your contact info, give it to the morning usher, and we’ll take care of the rest! Welcome!

THE POCKET GARDEN TOUR - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
The Pocket Garden Tour is in its 34th year as our largest fundraiser and community event. So it is time for South Church members and friends to see how you can help! The committee has some short terms jobs during the final eight weeks. See Robin Schnell or Ingrid Ahlberg, or email pgt@southchurch-uu.org. We also have sign ups for being a garden host (formerly garden sitter) and cookie baking. Please look for sign ups during coffee hour, or use the links below.

Cookies: https://tinyurl.com/PGTcookies23
Hosting: https://tinyurl.com/PGThost23

POCKET GARDEN TOUR TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
We are excited to switch things up with our annual tour and share late summer gardens this year. With the abundance that comes at the height of the growing season - annuals and vegetable gardens are bursting! This year’s tour touts a lovely mix of nine professional and amateur designed and maintained gardens found in the Lafayette Park neighborhood (Middle, Aldrich, and Spinney). Also included are the Loughlin Preserve, ample parking, and the return of garden educators including John Forti, author of The Heirloom Gardener: Traditional Plants and Skills for the Modern World and Susan Pike, nature writer for the Portsmouth Herald. Early bird tickets are on sale at PortsmouthNHTickets.com for $25 or at one of the following local retailers: Churchill’s Garden Center, Eldredge Lumber of York, Gardener’s Supply at Rolling Green, River Run Bookstore, and Wentworth Greenhouse.

ALL CHURCH READ - SEPTEMBER 13
The South Church Book Group, in partnership with Kirsten and Rev. Ellen, invites you to a potluck and discussion of “Rooted: Life at the Crossroads of Science, Nature, and Spirit” by Lyanda Lynn Haupt on Wednesday, September 13. The potluck will begin at 6pm in Parish Hall, followed by a discussion of the book beginning at 7pm. There will not be a zoom option for this event. Please contact bookgroup@SouthChurch-UU.org if you plan to attend!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
The Religious Education Program at South Church is a community supported program grounded in the Unitarian Universalist principles, which promote a sense of social justice and responsibility as well as tolerance, identity and spiritual growth. Our purpose is to involve children in a religious community in which they develop a spiritual sense of themselves, their connection to others and to the world as a whole.

RE Program - Summer 2023
The Nursery is staffed and open for children of ages 6 weeks through 3 years. Children and youth are invited to join RE classes downstairs after the Time for All Ages part of Worship.

Ongoing Groups
Aging with Grace meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at noon at 411 Middle Street during the summer. Contact Ingrid at inkyjapan@yahoo.com.
Chant From Different Traditions will meet on the first Sunday at 9am on the balcony. Contact Cathy Okhuysen at cathomusic@gmail.com for more information.
The Shawl Ministry meets on the 3rd Sunday at 11:10am in the Emerson Room. For more info: Jan Marston at jimarston@comcast.net
The Men’s Breakfast Group meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 8am. Email Ken Schoman at ayuh.ken@gmail.com for details and to join the mail list.
Morning Poems is on hiatus until September 2023. Contact Kirsten at kirsten@southchurch-uu.org for more information.
The Women’s Breakfast Group meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 8:30am. For more info and to RSVP, contact willow@woodflute.net
Covenant Groups are ongoing groups that meet twice a month from October-May. For more info, email covenantgroups@southchurch-uu.org
South Church Spiritual Book Group meets on the 2nd Wednesday at 7pm on Zoom. For more info: Nancy Lambert at bookgroup@southchurch-uu.org
Court Street Yoga is offered on Monday and Friday mornings at 6:30am at 73 Court Street. Suggested donation of $10 per class or $60 per month. For more info, email Alyssa Murphy at manypennymurphy@gmail.com
GROUP CONTACTS

Shared Ministry – sharedministry@southchurch-uu.org
Pastoral Associates – pastoralcare@southchurch-uu.org
Social Justice Associates – socialjustice@southchurch-uu.org
Worship Associates – worship@southchurch-uu.org
Fellowship Associates – fellowship@southchurch-uu.org
Learning Associates – learning@southchurch-uu.org
Com. On Ministry – committeeonministry@southchurch-uu.org
Collaborative Governance – collaborative@southchurch-uu.org

CALENDAR

Sunday, August 13
8:30am  Nominating Committee Meeting
10:00am  Online and In Person Worship

Monday, August 14
6:30am  Court Street Yoga

Friday, August 18
6:30am  Court Street Yoga

Saturday, August 19
8:00pm  Acoustic Nomads Concert

Sunday, August 20
10:00am  Online and In Person Worship

LOOKING FOR CIRCLE SUPPER HOSTS

Your Fellowship Associates are excited to once again organize Fall Circle Suppers and we need some warm and welcoming congregation members to volunteer to host! Please email Dot Mason (dotmason@yahoo.com) or Ginny Scease (ginnyandrew@comcast.net) with your day, time, and location availability, as well as many people you can host. These are potluck style meals and once we secure dates/locations, we will have signs ups for those who can attend meals during Social Hour in August. We are looking to have you host a meal in September/October! To sign up online, visit https://tinyurl.com/Circle-Suppers

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

The Committee on Ministry (CoM) provides support and advice as needed to the Minister and Director of Lifespan Ministries, and develops channels for congregation-wide reflection and feedback on the ministries at South Church. We are Mitch Pivor, Joanne Holman, Andrew Scease, Susan Dewhirst, Carol Cameron-Sears, and Kimberly Green. We are currently exploring the development of “feedback groups” for the 23-24 church year. These will help us reflect together on the collaborative leadership model and our shared ministry. If you are interested in learning more about the work of the CoM, please reach out to a Committee Member or email committeeonministry@southchurch-uu.org

PASTORAL ASSOCIATES - WE CARE!

The Wider Network of Care (WNC) is our super power at South Church! The WNC is a group of people who have signed up to help out with meals, rides, cards, pet care, etc when one of us needs a helping hand, and also to support the families of congregants who have died by providing a reception after their Memorial service. When we each do our small part, our pieces come together to create a warm quilt that wraps a congregant in love and care in times of need. Have you signed up yet? Fill out the card in your pew and drop it in the collection plate! Or email the Pastoral Associates at pastoralcare@southchurch-uu.org
ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE  
Cloud Music
Written and played by Jonny Peiffer

WELCOME
Kirsten Hunter

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Kirsten Hunter

INVOCATION
We Are by India.Arie Simpson

LIGHTING THE CHALICE
Kirsten Hunter and Bret Newbury

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
Bret Newbury

OPENING HYMN
What Must Be Done by Greg Greenway (insert)

TIME FOR ALL AGES
Kirsten Hunter

CHILDREN’S RECESSIONAL #413
Go Now In Peace

OFFERING INVITATION
Bret Newbury

OFFERTORY
Both Sides Now
Jonny Peiffer, piano
By Joni Mitchell, arranged by Yukie Smith

RESPONSE #1010
Oh, We Give Thanks

PRAYER & MEDITATION
Kirsten Hunter

CANDLES OF JOY AND CONCERN
We find that taking time to acknowledge our sorrows and joys brings us release, support, strength, and joy. We invite you to take a moment and reflect on a joy or concern you are holding. If it is something you want us to know about, please take a moment and write your concern on the Pastoral Care blue card in the pew. When you come to the table to light your candle, place your card in the basket and we will be in touch with you. If you would like your prayer concern named aloud during the service, please be in touch with the office or Rev. Ellen by Friday.

SERMON  “The Gift of Searching”
Kirsten Hunter

CLOSING HYMN #1008
When Our Heart Is In a Holy Place

EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE
Bret Newbury

AUGUST 13, 2023

BENEDICTION
Kirsten Hunter

POSTLUDE  I Can See Clearly Now
Jennifer Leyden and Jonny Peiffer
By Johnny Nash

During the month of August, our collection will be split and shared with both Wabanaki Reach (www.wabanakireach.org) and The Cowasuck Band of the Pennacook-Abenaki (www.cowasuck.org)

Wabanaki Reach seeks to build a broader and stronger community of people who understand the long term impact of the generational harms done to Indigenous people since first contact and who are committed to transforming the present day systems that provide advantages to the dominant culture.

The Cowasuck Band of the Pennacook-Abenaki People provides education and services intended to preserve the life, history, culture, language, and traditions of the Abenaki.

Donating to South Church, or to our monthly Shared Plate recipient is now easier than ever! 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!

Assisted listening devices are available in the rear of the sanctuary.

We are deeply grateful to the many staff and volunteers whose often unseen efforts make our Sunday services possible. Many thanks to Jennifer Leyden, Tim Dullea, Kevin Leahy, Ben Abbott, our custodian, greeters, ushers and everyone else who has lent a hand this week!