

S

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. 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

Brigid Murray – Finance Director

Susan Adams – Accompanist

Ben Abbott - Tech & Attendant

SOUTH CHURCH



**“Finding Joy in Hard Journeys:
A Service for Passover”**

**A Unitarian Universalist
Congregation
April 13, 2025**

ARE YOU NEW TO SOUTH CHURCH?

Are you a first-time visitor? Would you like to get more information about this congregation? Scan the QR code to fill out a visitor form or ask an usher for a hard copy!



USHER SIGNUPS ON SUNDAYS

We are looking to round out our group of Ushers for Sunday mornings. We will train you and answer any questions you have! To sign up, visit <https://tinyurl.com/3n8ex2db> or scan the QR code to the right!



POCKET GARDEN TOUR - TEAM LEADERS NEEDED!

The PGT Planning Committee will be meeting between 9-9:45am downstairs on the first Sunday of the month from February through June. If you would like to learn more about this fun fundraising and community building project, or if you already know you want to volunteer, stop by during a meeting. As many of you know, there are many one-and-done volunteer jobs involved in the Pocket Garden Tour (June 13-14). Equally important are the 3 volunteers who manage garden volunteers, 2-3 to scout for next year's gardens, and 1 to do online advertising through Portsmouthnh.com and facebook. Grab a friend or two and dive in! We can train you. Contact Robin at PGT@SouthChurch-UU.org

TAKE ACTION, MAKE CALLS, JOIN US! - THURSDAYS IN APRIL

Join us on Thursdays at noon in April to make calls to our representatives together! Every call counts, together we make a difference, they need our encouragement and they need us to hold them accountable. We will take this action grounded in spirit and community. What is hard to do alone can be rewarding to do together. We will meet on Zoom from 12-12:30pm on Thursdays this month. Contact Rev. Ellen at RevEllen@SouthChurch-UU.org for the Zoom link!

TIME + MERCY DUO - TODAY AT 2PM!

Time and Mercy creates a sacred space by embracing traditional religious music through a range of styles native to gospel, jazz, and the avant garde. Join Mike Effenberger and Chris Klaxton (trumpet) next Sunday at 2pm as they perform together in a variety of contexts and styles. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased on the South Church website or on Portsmouth NH Tickets. www.timeandmercy.com

BELOVED CONVERSATION ABOUT RACE, IDENTITY AND CURRENT TIMES

Join us after Worship on April 27 from 11:30am-12:30pm for a group discussion and reflection on dismantling racism and its connection to what's happening in our world today. The conversation is for anyone who wants to engage in a deeper personal understanding of race and lineage, explore their own beliefs and attitudes, and work for racial justice. Scan the QR code for readings and videos to view beforehand.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

On multigenerational worship days, children remain in the sanctuary for worship. There are activity packs and supplies on shelves behind the last row of pews. On all other Sundays, children and youth are invited to go downstairs following the Time For All Ages, to participate in religious education sessions. Children are also always invited to remain in the sanctuary with their families.

The Nursery is open for children 6 weeks through 3 years.

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 on our Religious Education program, email Director of Children & Family Ministries, Jen Del Deo-Barry, at jendeldeo@southchurch-uu.org

ONGOING GROUPS

Aging with Grace meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 10:00am on Zoom through February. Contact Ingrid at 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

The Shawl Ministry meets on the 3rd Sunday at 11:30am in the Emerson Room. Contact: Jan Marston at jmarston@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

Morning Poems meets every Thursday morning at 7:30am on Zoom. Contact info@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 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 Spiritual Book Group meets on the 2nd Wednesday at 7pm on Zoom. Contact Nancy at bookgroup@southchurch-uu.org

Court Street Yoga meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at Court Street. Check the website for times. 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 in the Emerson Room. For more information, contact Anne Mackin at annemackin2@gmail.com

South Church Folk meets on Thursdays at 7pm in the sanctuary and typically sings during Worship one Sunday per month. For more information, contact Cathy Okhuysen at cathomusic@southchurch-uu.org

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

Comm. On Ministries – committeeonministries@southchurch-uu.org

CALENDAR ^a

Sunday, April 13

9:45am Coming of Age at Court Street
10:00am In Person and Online Worship
11:30am Cancer Support Group
11:45am Parents of Trans/NonBinary Support Group
2:00pm Time + Mercy Concert
4:00pm 7th Grade OWL
4:00pm Senior Youth at Court Street
4:30pm Seacoast Unity Hub

Monday, April 14

6:30am Court Street Yoga
4:00pm Immigrant Support Fund Meeting
6:00pm Fellowship Associate Meeting

Tuesday, April 15

7:00pm Board of Trustees Meeting
6:30pm South Church Choir
6:30pm Covenant Group

Wednesday, April 16

6:30am Court Street Yoga
6:45pm Mindfulness Course at Court Street

Thursday, April 17

12:00pm 5Calls Zoom
7:00pm South Church Folk

Friday, April 18

6:30am Court Street Yoga
7:00pm Sparks and Flames

Saturday, April 19

5:00pm Families TUUgether

Sunday, April 20

10:00am In Person and Online Worship

BOOK DISCUSSION WITH SENIOR YOUTH - APRIL 27

In April, our book discussion will be in partnership with the Senior Youth on Sunday, April 27 from 4-6pm in person. The youth are preparing for their trip to Baltimore to attend GA where they will be offering a workshop. Each will be reading a book about Baltimore that they may choose individually, and the congregation is invited to join. Please email bookgroup@southchurch-uu.org for a list of books, or choose one related to Baltimore on your own.

DANCING THROUGH CHAOS

The Black Heritage Trail is inviting all to learn the Boots on the Ground line dance, and to join together at the African Burial Ground on June 19th. There are opportunities to learn from Valerie Fagin on May 18 and 25, and June 1 at 15 at 11:30 at South Church. Check your “This Week” email for a link to a tutorial video!

ROOTS SUMMER PROGRAM - AUGUST 11-15

Join us for a week full of fun for kids ages 5 through 12. Play, build community, engage in service projects, and make meaningful connections! Roots runs 9am-3pm, Monday through Friday the week of August 11-15. (Before and after care available for additional cost) Youth ages 12-17 can sign up to be junior helpers/CiT's to offer friendship and support, and to gain developmentally appropriate leadership skills. Learn more at www.southchurch-uu-re.org/roots-summer-program or scan the QR code.



STAR ISLAND RETREAT REGISTRATION OPEN!

The 2025 South Church on Star Retreat is Sunday, July 13th through Wednesday, July 16th and the theme this year is Connection. There will be free childcare available from 9am-12pm, 1pm-2:30pm and multi-age group programming from 4-5pm everyday since we are partnering with other UU churches. The retreat is capped at between 70-80 people so make sure to register soon at www.starisland.org/programs/registration. Information about grants and available discounts can also be found on the site.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRIES REFLECTION CIRCLES

In 2024, the Committee on Ministries held four reflection circles to engage congregants in discussions about worship. These reflection circles were the first in a series we are hosting to practice healthy communication, and deepen awareness and understanding of our shared ministries at South Church/ This approach allows congregants to share their personal experiences in various aspects of our church ministries. Thank you to all who participated in the first round of discussions The Committee learned a great deal through the process and is excited to host another reflection circle in early May focused on Kirsten's sabbatical. This is an opportunity for congregants to share how they experienced Kirsten's time away. Please stay tuned for more information about this opportunity and future reflection circles to come in autumn 2025. Should you have questions in the meantime, please contact the Committee on Ministries at CommitteeonMinistries@SouthChurch-UU.org

ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE *Adir Hu* Susan Adams, piano
Trad., arr. by E. Kalendar

WELCOME Rev. Ellen Quaadgras

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION *Avadim Harinu*, offered by Myra Aaronson
“We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt, now we are free”

LIGHTING THE CHALICE Mitch Pivor 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 Mitch Pivor

*OPENING HYMN #1015 *I Know I Can*

TIME FOR ALL AGES Joanne Piazza

CHILDREN’S RECESSIONAL #413 *Go Now In Peace*

OFFERING INVITATION Mitch Pivor

OFFERTORY *Echad Mi Yodé ‘a Il* Susan Adams, piano
Trad., arr. by E. Kalendar

RESPONSE #1010 *We Give Thanks*

PRAYER & MEDITATION Rev. Ellen Quaadgras

CANDLES OF JOY & CONCERN
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 yellow Pastoral Care card in the pew.

SERMON “Finding Joy in Hard Journeys: A Service for Passover”
Rev. Ellen Quaadgras

APRIL 13, 2025

*CLOSING HYMN #1024 *Spirit Says Do*

EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE Mitch Pivor

BENEDICTION Rev. Ellen Quaadgras

POSTLUDE *Go Down Moses* Susan Adams, piano
African American Spiritual, arr. by Ann buys

During the month of April, our collection will be shared with 350NH. 350NH works to stop the climate crisis by building grassroots support for a just transition to renewable energy and an end to fossil fuel use and expansion. They are a multigenerational movement of people fighting for clean energy, climate justice, and a future where everyone lives free of environmental injustices.

Learn more at www.350NH.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!

Assisted listening devices are available in the rear of the sanctuary

*Please rise if you are willing and able