

October 21, 2026

Greetings SBC Family and Friends,

Yesterday was the first day for the Food Share at our church. The weather was beautiful and it was wonderful to see so many folks from Second Baptist to join with the folks from West Suffield there. We know that not everyone can come out on a Tuesday early afternoon, but if you are able to, I would encourage you to come out and help at least once. The main key is being able to lift 25 lbs. But if you can't you might be able to team up with another volunteer that can do the lifting part.

In a community like Suffield or my town of Wilbraham, we often don't see the faces of those who are in need, yet they are there among us. Participating in this Food Share is one way we can respond to the call of scripture to care for those in need. One of the best-known passages about this is Matthew 25:34-40.

"³⁴ Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'"

*Peace and Blessings,
Pastor Jim*

Congregational Meeting - Sunday, October 25 - Immediately after Worship Service
Discussion and vote on proposed By-Law changes for Second Baptist Church.

DONATIONS NEEDED!

- ***Halloween Candy*** - Donate candy to distribute to the trick or treaters on Halloween. Please drop off in the church Welcome Center by Sunday, October 25. Congregants will be at the Common Room entrance on Halloween, October 31, to distribute treats to trick or treaters from 5-7 pm.
- ***Non-Perishable Food for Suffield Housing Authority*** – Let's help our neighbors by restocking their pantry! Please drop off your food in the Welcome Center and it will be delivered at the end of October.

"Christmas in Suffield" Craft Fair - November 7 – 9:00 am-3:00 pm

- **Needed:** Small gift items for **Secret Santa Gift Shoppe** – exclusively for children to shop for their loved ones.
- Need bakers, plants and cuttings
- Costume jewelry can be brought to the church office

- Clean, gently used items for the Attic Treasures can be dropped off in Room 310 in the Sisk Wing
 - People to help set up and clean up
- Contact Sue (860-402-7813) for more information.*

JOB POSTING - Office Manager

Second Baptist Church is looking to hire a new person to take on the role of Office Manager. The person can be a member of the church but does not have to be. The job description is posted on the church's website and can be accessed there. Our hope is to find a person before Laura leaves, so that the new person can learn the position from Laura. Please feel free to share the information with someone you feel might be good for the position. Applications will be reviewed by Pastor Jim, Melissa Bednarz, chair of Deacons, and Nancy Drenzek, interim Moderator.

Upcoming Activities:

- **October 23 - Prayer Shawl Ministry – Parlor – 10:00 am-Noon.** Please contact Jean Rinaldi (randj814@cox.net) or Dee Haggett (860- 466-9478) for more information.
- **October 31 – Trick or Treat – Common Room – 5:00-7:00 pm.** If you or your family are trick or treating on Main Street on Halloween, don't forget to stop at the church for additional treats. Hope to see you!

Prayer List:

Prayer Concerns and News for Church Family and Friends

- Prayers for **Jamie Guilmette** and family on the death his mother, **Jean**, on Sunday night.
- Prayers for **Etienne d'Otreppe** on the death his sister, **Monique**, earlier this week.
- Continued prayers for **David Jones** who is recovering from surgery last week.
- Continued prayers for **Bill Remington** who is recovering from shoulder surgery last week.
- Discernment for **Pastoral Search Committee and the congregation** as we pray and search for a settled pastor.

Prayer Concerns and News for Extended Family and Friends

- Prayers for **Sawyer**, grandson of **Diane Ruckdeschel**, who seriously injured his arm.
- Prayers for **Brian Lowell** (the husband of **Evelyne Battle's** niece) who is dealing with a serious medical issue

Long-term Prayer List

- **Jack**, an acquaintance of **Donna** (daughter of **Gail and Bob Davis**)
- **Signe Wright**
- **Dee Haggett**
- **Allison Santi-Nichols**
- **Jason Harroff and Sheryle Magliozi**, relatives of **Gloria & Bernard Magliozi**
- **Judy, Gail and Bob Davis' daughter Becky's** ex mother-in-law
- **Mardi Newman**
- **Kata Toth** and family, aunt of **Tina Berrien**
- **Scott Thomas**, friend of **Caroline d'Otreppe**
- **Shawna Prajzner**, daughter-in-law of **Ed Prajzner**

- **Missy Moran**
- **DeWayne**, stepson of a friend of **Gail Davis**.
- **Paula**, niece of **Dian Kingsbury**
- **Matt Brown**
- Family concerns for **June Hodges**, including her stepson **Scott**
- **Matt Ruckdeschel**, son of **Diane Ruckdeschel**
- **Ray Schooler**, member of the International Ministries staff at ABC-USA.
- **Dian Kingsbury**
- **Linda Gilbert**
- **Laura Kingsbury**, daughter-in-law of **Dian Kingsbury**
- **Ferry** - friend of **Etienne d'Otreppe**
- **Amber** - **Gail Davis**'s friend's granddaughter
- **Ginny and Don**, sister and brother-in-law of **Gail Davis**.

Prayers for our Country and around the World

I apologize for the abbreviated newsletter this week as I was unexpectedly delayed in getting back to Suffield. Dave and I appreciate the calls, texts, and emails last week as you expressed concern and love following our car accident and the death of Dave's father. ~ Laura

Grace and Peace,

Laura Burnaford
Office Manager