

# THE CORNERSTONE – JANUARY 2022

Publisher: SCCW/cr

Volume: No.01

Issue: No.01

A monthly publication compiled by the Second Congregational Church of Warren, Maine

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## PASTOR'S PAGE



## 20 THE YEAR AHEAD 22

*May God make our New Year a happy one!  
Not by shielding us from all sorrows and pain,  
But by strengthening us to bear it, as it comes;  
Not by making our path easy,  
But by making us sturdy to travel any path;  
Not by taking hardships from us,  
But by taking fear from our heart;  
Not by granting us unbroken sunshine,  
But by keeping our face bright, even in the shadows;  
Not by making our life always pleasant,  
But by showing us when people and their causes need us most,  
and by making us anxious to be there to help.  
God's love, peace, hope and joy to us for the year ahead.  
(Unknown author)*

As we leave the old year behind; the good, the bad, the ugly, may we look forward with **optimism**, joy and faith for the NEW that God will bring. I am reminded of Isaiah's words: "This is what the Lord says, 'Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?'" YES! Let us move forward and look at the NEW.

God has great things planned and will reveal to us, in God's time, all the good that lays in store for us. May the past provide us with experience and knowledge, but only as we look ahead with **enthusiasm** and a positive attitude of hope and cheer. There are so many opportunities and possibilities open to us. The start of a New Year is like a blank slate on which to write, or an open door beckoning to us, inviting us. We can jump in wholeheartedly with **confidence** because God is with us.



As the Apostle Paul said "If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things.....in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us"

This is great news for us, forging ahead into life, whatever we encounter. God will give us ALL we need and we are MORE than conquerors!! So, my beloved - we will triumph and conquer fear and doubt this year! And in their place, be filled with God's power and grace -

ONWARD!! *Pastor Bette*



This **Prayer List** is provided to encourage you to keep these special people in your prayers during the week. **If you know an individual you would like added to this list, please talk with the person and get their permission** (*in some instances we know that this may not be possible*).

Larry Scott by Melody  
Vicki & Bob Barrett's son Heath  
Beverly's sister Judy  
Brian Hilt by Patty Ott  
Brenda King's sister Barbara  
Robin's daughter Melissa  
Bob by Sharon Smalley  
Lorraine Strout by Linda K.  
Bill Cutting  
Susan Flaherty by Gayle  
Russ & Sandy Lufkin  
Nola Metcalf  
Walden Chandler  
Kathi Chase friend of Cathy Lawrence

David Chase  
Pat Libby  
Jackie Gushee by Tina  
Connie Heath  
Carol Verdini by Margaret  
Diana's brother Gilbert Dare  
Bradley Miller  
Debbie Collemer's dad Colby  
Wayne Quinn by Robin  
Conner Greeman by Patty Ott  
Jane & Mark Waltz  
Sherry Ladd  
Diana's aunt Jackie  
David Bartlett per Sue Burnell



Jan. 4 Tina Bryant  
Jan. 12 John Black  
Jan. 12 Muriel Knutson  
Jan. 19 Stephen Lombardo  
Jan. 20 Neil Stetson  
Jan. 24 Sherry Ladd  
Jan. 24 Jeremy White  
Jan. 30 Carolyn Damon  
Jan. 31 Niva Poland

Jan. 1 Ryan and Bridget DiPompo



# DATES TO REMEMBER



Bell choir practice weekly beginning  
**January 5, 2022** Wednesdays 10:45 to noon

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**MEETING  
NOTICE!**

**Monthly Council Meeting January 20, 2022 6:30 pm**

**ANNUAL MEETING ... JANUARY 23, 2022** After Church Service

A time for the Congregation to reflect on events of the past year, to plan for the year ahead, to elect leaders and to celebrate our church together. Refreshments will be announced. Please join us.

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**Sunday January 23, 2022**

Becky Ruggieri, Sunday School Super, once again has great plans for our young ones.

Following a message from Rev. Bette during service the children will go to the upper room for a special Bible lesson and fun craft. Know a child, invite them!



***January in January ! January 30th***

After the Annual Meeting on January 23, 2022, the pastor will be on vacation, returning on February 1<sup>st</sup>. On Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, the diaconate will be conducting the entire worship service, with our own **January Peavy** delivering the message. You will NOT want to miss this special day.

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We will be continuing the **Taizé worship service** on the LAST Wednesday of the month in pastor's study at 6:30 pm. This is a meditative, quiet worship to just center ourselves, bring some calm, and be open to Spirit. A perfect "midweek" practice to help us through the week. We will **begin again on FEBRUARY 23**, as pastor is on vacation the last week of January. Please join us for this special time

# Christmas Eve Service 2021

Christmas at SCCW was full of light and song. A special thanks to those who participated in making it a joyous occasion for all.



*Photo's courtesy: Hope Creighton*

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## WORDS OF THANKS...

The Deacons would like to thank those who took the time to complete the "Minister's Evaluation" survey. We will finalize the results and present our minister with her annual evaluation this month. It is the 'congregational' way to have your input on important matters of the church. It is equally important for our minister to know that she has our support, as we speak openly about what we would like to see, what works, and even areas that don't work. Respectful communication is vital to her and our success. Thank you again. Diaconate

*Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. Ephesians 4:29*

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## LADIES CIRCLE NEWS:

The Ladies Circle held their last meeting of the year on Monday December 6<sup>th</sup> at the church. After the meeting we enjoyed a catered luncheon of lasagna, salad, and a 'scrumptious' dessert. An exchange of gifts and cards was held after the luncheon and a good time was had by all.

On Sunday December 12<sup>th</sup> we hosted coffee hour after church, which seemed to be a success. We will plan to continue this in the New Year on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month.

We wish all of you a bright and healthy HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

God Bless,  
Carole Starr



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## CARING & SHARING SISTERS NEWS:

We are currently enjoying our winter sabbatical and will resume meetings in March 2022. Caring and Sharing is about Caring and Sharing, if you need anything we are here for support and encouragement.

We have lots of ideas planned for 2022, so keep watching. We wish everyone a blessed, safe and healthy New Year.

*Glory and Joy to you and your loved ones....Carolyn Robinson and all the sisters*

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**Fun Fact:** January (the month) is named after Janus, the ancient Roman god of gates and doors symbolizing endings, beginnings, and transitions. (Our Church will soon have new doors). He's depicted with two heads: one head looking at the past and the other at the future.

**JANUARY FOOD PANTRY  
SUGGESTED DONATIONS**

- 01/02 Canned Mixed Veggies
- 01/09 Pancake Mix
- 01/16 Baked Beans
- 01/23 Spaghetti Sauce
- 01/30 Canned Regular Corn

**BOTTLE DRIVE**

Hello and thanks to everyone who brought in bottles for the month of December. The next two months will benefit the Children's Clothing Exchange. If you need to have your bottles picked up Please call us at 236-4585. Thanks again to everyone who bright in bottles for December.

*From the Bottle Committee*



When did New Year's resolutions originate?

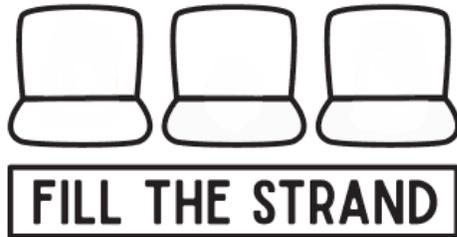
New Year's resolutions have existed since **the early 19th century**, and perhaps as far back as the late 17th century. Not only were people making resolutions 200 years ago, but they were also breaking them and using them as excuses for bad behavior before the New Year, much like today.

*(Source: Google)*

**TOP 10 CHRISTIAN RESOLUTIONS**

- **RECEIVE:** I will rest in God's love and not strive for others' approval.
- **TRUST:** I will trust Him when I'm not sure what's going on.
- **ASK:** I will get help for my spiritual, emotional and practical needs.
- **REST:** I will plan to rest.
- **RELATE:** I will daily spend time reading the Bible, worshipping, praying and whatever else helps me to connect with God.
- **ENGAGE:** I will intentionally invest in friendships, be honest and give and receive support in my church.
- **PRAY:** I will share my prayer requests with others.
- **STEWARD:** I will look after my body by exercising regularly, eating well and sleeping enough.
- **ENJOY:** I will regularly engage in activities which I enjoy.
- **GIVE THANKS:** I will reject the temptation to grumble and give thanks instead.

**HAPPY, HEALTHY AND SAFE NEW YEAR TO ALL**



**Monday, January 17, 2022**  
**9:00am-2:00pm**  
**The Strand Theatre, Rockland**

AIO Food and Energy Assistance is excited to host its second ***FILL THE STRAND*** food and funds drive on **Monday, January 17 at the Strand Theatre** in Rockland, which is also Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and recognized as a National Day of Service. Our goal is to fill every seat in the historic theater with bags of food and funds to support AIO's programs. In 2021 our first *Fill the Strand* event we raised more than \$27,000 in support, filling the theater seats nearly 3 times. Our goal is to raise \$30,000 at this second event.

We invite you to help us reach our goal and fill every seat in the theater! You can help by hosting your own mini food and fund drive within your family, workplace, neighborhood or group. The food and funds collected will go directly to AIO's Food Assistance, Energy Assistance, Weekend Meal, and Diaper Assistance Programs.

Monetary donations are welcome – and in fact your dollar goes further since AIO can purchase food through partners at a competitive price. You can sponsor a bag at \$25, which will fill one seat in the theater. You can do so by making a donation online at our [website](#), mail a check or come visit us at the Strand on January 17 between 9:00am-2:00pm.

We are also collecting non-perishable food with a current expiration date (no glass please). We would be grateful for donations of the most needed items including:

- ready rice pouches
- macaroni and cheese and pasta
- cereal & oatmeal
- pop-top canned foods and Chef Boyardee meals
- single serving lunch items; kid-friendly snacks
- 100% juice boxes
- shelf stable milk
- snacks (granola bars, peanut butter crackers, 6-pack raisins).

Food collection sites have been established at area businesses, including **Allen Insurance & Financial** offices (Rockland and Camden), **The Strand Theatre**, **First National Bank** (Rockland branches), and **AIO Food and Energy Assistance** (Rockland).

For more information about the event and how you can participate please visit our website, [www.aiofoodpantry.org/s](http://www.aiofoodpantry.org/s) or contact event coordinator Leila Murphy, [leilamurph@yahoo.com](mailto:leilamurph@yahoo.com).

**We look forward to seeing you at the Strand Theatre on January 17!**

## JANUARY MEETINGS

- **Missions**  
*January 5, 12:00noon*
- **Diaconate**  
*January 5, 6:30pm*
- **Pastoral Relations**  
*January 9, after Service*
- **Trustees**  
*January 13, 6:30 pm*
- **Council Meeting**  
*January 20, 6:30 pm*
- **Annual Meeting**  
*January 23, After Service*

## From the office...

- Current office hours are Wednesday and Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.
- Newsletters are mailed and emailed once a month on or near the first of the month.
- Information to be put in the newsletter is due ON or BEFORE the 28<sup>th</sup> of each month.
- If you need a newsletter mailed to you, please contact the office. Each month there will be printed copies available as well.



Visited our website recently?

Everything you could possibly want to know is within its pages. We encourage you to visit often.

### MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 20 at 6:30 PM

Lots happening at SCCW. You are encouraged to attend the Council Meeting. After January annual meeting bi-monthly Council Meetings will resume.

If you have information you would like to add please don't hesitate to contact the office.

[www.SECONDCONGREGATIONAL.org](http://www.SECONDCONGREGATIONAL.org)

We are also on Facebook

### ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY JANUARY 23<sup>RD</sup> AFTER SERVICE

### YEAR END REPORTS ARE DUE ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 17<sup>TH</sup>

It's greatly appreciated if you could email them to the office as soon as possible

### NOTICE FROM TREASURER:

As the year ends, I will be doing end of year finances. By IRS regulations, I will be sending out tithing letters. Also, envelope boxes are here. I have a few left if anyone would like to use them, it is a good way to let me know if you would like some money to go to Missions, Maintenance, Memorial, etc., please let me know at 691-8089 or email [treasurer.sccw@tds.net](mailto:treasurer.sccw@tds.net)

--Pat



<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>
12/05	58	\$3048.00
12/12	67	1983.00
12/19	46	1105.00
12/26	35	1828.00