



The Steeple

November 2020



FROM OUR PASTOR

Have you ever noticed that someone who **predicts** a certain candidate will win an election is also **for** that candidate? It's not always true, but it seems to be most of the time. Predicting can be a political activity. People like to be on the side of the winner, and if you predict confidently that Candidate X will surely win, I may want to get on that bandwagon so I can feel good when the results come in.

Maybe you've also noticed something else: someone who complains that a pastor is too political is also someone who is on the opposite side of the political fence from that pastor. When people perceive that a pastor's political views are different from their own, **that's** when they're likely to say something like, "The church is for religion, not for politics."

That affects how we see Jesus, too. He spoke of heavenly things, not earthly matters, some say. He was a spiritual leader; Jews who thought he was interested in political power profoundly misunderstood him. Well, that's what we've heard, and that's what I thought about Jesus, too—until I started to look into the ancient writings more closely. A more complicated picture emerged. I'll tell you how it looks **now** (without getting down into the weeds). embrace bold steps; to assist God to invade, rather than leave it to the angels.

So—political? Yes, in saying that the world is not as it should be, especially regarding income inequality. But not if you mean advocating a revolution. (And talk of holding an election would have sounded strange in that time and place.) Also, Jesus **probably** believed that once the angels rounded up the bad guys and the Son of Man condemned them, Jesus himself would be installed as the king of Israel. But he didn't say that to very many people.

So what about us? Are we supposed to separate religion and politics? Or are we supposed to integrate them? My guess is that Jesus didn't see them as two different spheres. He was deeply concerned about earthly realities. He believed that when God's name was hallowed, God's will would be done on earth as it is in heaven. How we try to make that happen, absent an angelic invasion, is hard to figure out. So much depends on the circumstances of time and place. But I believe we are invited to see the world as Jesus saw it and to embrace realistic prospects for acting accordingly.



WORSHIP UPDATE

It is now too cold to worship outside in our parking lot so starting this Sunday, November 1, the service will be live on Zoom. This is the information you need to join in the Zoom service. If you have any question or problems you can contact Mark Hudgik , call or text 413 474-0079.

**You are invited to this Sunday's Service
at 10:00 a.m on Zoom**



Topic: Sunday Service 11/01/20

Time: Nov 1, 2020 10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

NOTE: You will be muted upon entry to the service. This is to prevent spurious noises such as dish washing, barking dogs, etc. during the service. You can un-mute yourself if you'd like to speak, such as during Joys and Concerns or other appropriate times.

Please test your device prior to the service in order to minimize any delays.

Test

[Click here to join Sunday morning's service.](#)

Meeting ID: 878 6521 8969

One tap mobile <https://www.shutterstock.com/image-vector/stay-work-home-video-conference-illustration-1691557579>
+13017158592,,87865218969# US (Germantown)
+13126266799,,87865218969# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

- +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)



Meeting ID: 878 6521 8969

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdCVLvTyHj>



Yes, there is SECRET SANTA

This year the Christmas Wish Tree will not be decorated with 'Wish Cards' from the children but you can get one or more card(s) from Ann if you would like to shop for a child. On each card will be a child's name and their wish.



Our church will once again help families by purchasing and wrapping gifts for them. I know someone is always asking you to give, but what better reason than for a child.

Last year we helped forty children have a happy Christmas.

The deadline to donate money is December 1. If you would like to shop or wrap, contact Ann at 695-1212 or email the church. We will be wrapping on December 8.



If you know of a family who will go without gifts, give their information to Ann. Names and all information will be kept confidential.

A NO BAKE-BAKE SALE

Sunday, November 15th

Reason: To raise money for the Methodist's Women's Mission Projects and Pledges

Who can Participate: Everyone!

How: Mail a donation to

UMWomen
30 Carew St.
So. Hadley MA 01075



Why: To help support the UMW missions.

There are mammoth Georgia pecans for sale. for \$8.

Call Ann 695-1212 and she will get them to you.

CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS



PRAY FOR: Carol Brunelle, Carol Szulc, Eunice Mittler, Harry Thomas, Beth Dietz, Pauline Kiakis, Samantha Snopek, Adele Reynolds, Bev Pead & Family, Doug & Dee Brooksbank, Frank Hudgik, Dave Fanaras, Tom Deren, Tim O'Donnell, Vinnie Deitner, Darlene Dout, Stafford Bent, Tom O'Dea

CASSEROLES

Ten casseroles were delivered in October to Kate's Kitchen. Casseroles will be delivered at 9:30 a.m. on November 30. If you need your casserole picked up call Ann 695-1212 and make arrangements for your casserole to be picked up curb side.

Thank you to Carol Deren for delivering the casserole for the past six months. We wish Carol and her husband Tom a safe and health winter in Florida.

STEEPLE LIGHTING

The Steeple is lit during the month of November in memory of my parents, Dennis & Mary Louise Stark, and honor of my mother, Lois Felsentreger by Ann & Alan Felsentreger.



If you would like the steeple lit for one month, the fee is \$25.00. More than one person/family may participate. You can light the Steeple in celebration, honor or memory of someone.

PRAYER

Shepherd Lord

based on REV 7:13-17

Shepherd Lord we need You:
We are lost, stumbling down
unfamiliar roads wearing our face
masks over our eyes.

We seem to be unable to tell the
difference between Truth and
Untruth.

Our ears are blocked by the ranting
and shouting of the crowds around
us.

Light is Darkness and Darkness is
Light in the words of our leaders
1000 of our Brothers and Sisters die
each day in this nation alone because
we will not listen to those who know
how to protect us.

Our Leaders serve themselves rather
than us. We cannot find our Way.

Shepherd Lord, we need You.

Come Lord. Lead us to safety.
Wash our eyes that we may see
clearly again.

Quiet the Sounds of raging voices so
that we may hear you again

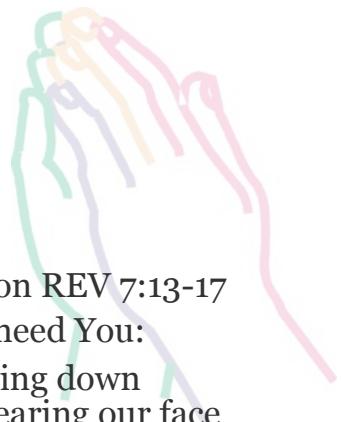
Take our hands as we stumble and
lead us back to safe and stable
ground.

Wrap us in your Love and carry us
through these days.

Lord God, Lord Jesus, Shepherd
Lord, Come to us Holy One, we need
You.

Be with us.

*Written by Rev. Richard Swan
retired elder from Gilford, NH.*



GROUP GAME

Thanksgiving Word Search

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

F J P Y I G P R A Y E R S M Y S R R G E
Y G G N G B R C H U R C H B R G E Y O K
E L B A T O U A A G E R F E G N T L B A
T R E S S E D U T Z R E V B N I H I B B
Y W N C T N T F Z I L O G I I S G M L G
Y A D S R U H T C L T R D C V S U A E A
P H Q O M M S W O F A U E X I E A F J P
P V C N V E O W E V I P D B G L L X E K
R U C G V U S L Y X E G N E M B M D S V
F D M R N H T D G S L V O N F E V P U L
X E A P I I Y T I N U M M O C X V I S P
H H A P K I R A J T I C E R C Q K O D I
K F L S V I R E Z J F R H Q H T C R N P
R X D D T P N A H R X C A R R U U W P V
N K R Y T R A D I T I O N H I M G O I J
T U R K E Y E E E D A R A P S S O R E I
F N I T C N N V O R Q G C T T P T S L A
I T L X G D Q B O I K B I I I E C H T G
P M U A S B D W T L F C Y C A K H I W A
Y U M V T L Q G A E K Y W Q N I U P R M

Word Bank

AUTUMN	FEAST	GOD	LEFTOVERS	PRaise	TRADITION
BAKE	FELLOWSHIP	GRATITUDE	LOVE	PRAYERS	TURKEY
BLESSINGS	FRIENDS	GRAVY	NAP	PUMPKIN	WORSHIP
CHRIST	GATHERING	HARVEST	NOVEMBER	SHARING	YUM
CHRISTIAN	GIVING	JESUS	PARADE	TABLE	
CHURCH	GOBBLE	LAUGHTER	PIE	THURSDAY	

All are welcome! Join us for worship or join in one of our missions.

South Hadley Methodist Church
30 Carew Street
South Hadley MA 01075



Rev. Peter Milloy: 413-310-5027 Worship Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Church office: 413-532-0500

e-mail: churchoffice@thesteepleinthefalls.org

web site: www.thesteepleinthefalls.org

Dr. Heather Reichgott, Minister of Music

Ann Felsentreger, Secretary

Neighbors Helping Neighbors: 413-437-7593



SOUTH HADLEY METHODIST CHURCH
30 Carew Street
South Hadley, Massachusetts 01075-2705

Return address service requested.