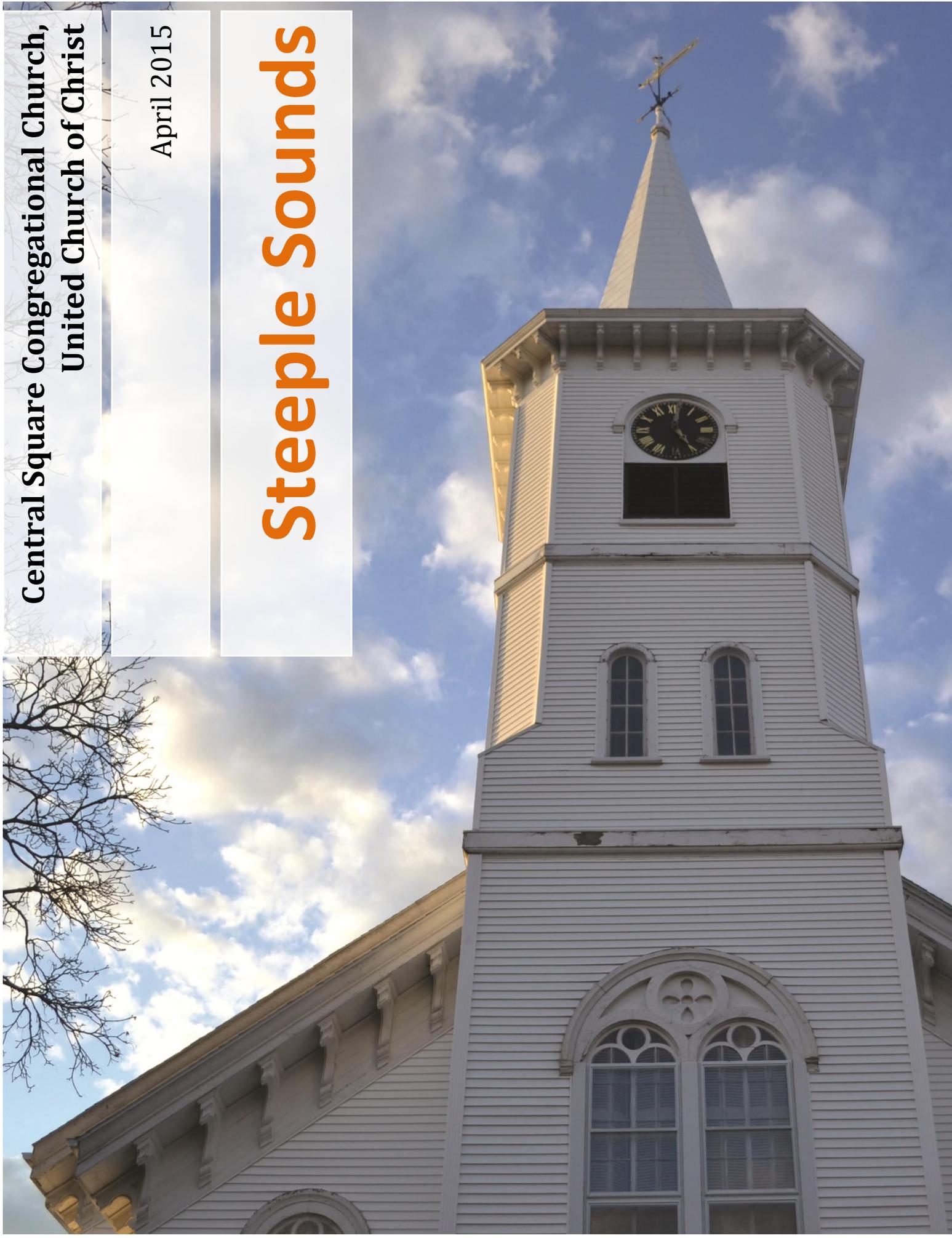


**Central Square Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ**

April 2015

Steeple Sounds



From the Holy Week Worship Team

“But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.”

-Ephesians 4:15-16

This year, we pulled together a team of faithful people to work together to plan Holy Week worship and activities. This team was brought together to form a sort of “think-tank” about how we can really listen to God as we gather during this sacred time of year. As we recall the events of Holy Week; Jesus’ triumphant entry into Jerusalem, the Last Supper with his disciples, his death and resurrection, we’re given an opportunity to re-tell and re-engage in the story in a deeply personal way. At the same time, this story, this series of events is also what brings us together as a community. We are bound together by the very body we remember during Holy Week.

As our Holy Week Worship Team met to plan, we re-told the stories and events of that week of Jesus’ life and we imagined what it must have been like for everyone involved. We asked questions like, “What is the word ‘betrayal’ in Greek? In Hebrew?” and “Who all was there for the Last Supper?” and “What must it have been like to hear and know that your friend was about to be killed?” and “How do we create space that reflects the worship we’re trying to build?” All of our questions and all of our discussion led to planning the events and worship space for Holy Week.

We hope you’ll join us for all of our Holy Week activities and worship opportunities as we build up the body of Christ. If you have any questions, please ask us!

In Christ,

*Rev. Elizabeth Walden
Deacon Anne Malmquist
Jr. Deacon Natalie Mosher
Kevin Compton, 8th Grader
David Berard, 5th Grader
Minister of Music Lin Schuller*



March 28 (10 am) Fireplace Room
Book Discussion *"Breathing Under Water"* by Richard Rohr

March 29 (10 am) Sanctuary
Palm Sunday Worship Service

April 2 (7 pm) Sanctuary
Maundy Thursday Worship Service

April 4 (10 am) Fireplace Room
End of Life Planning and Discussion

April 4 (11:30 am) Fellowship Hall
Dyeing Eggs & Egg Salad Luncheon
(Bring your own hard boiled eggs for dyeing, egg salad sandwiches will be provided)

April 5 (6:30 am) Hanson Farm
Easter Sunday Sunrise Service

April 5 (9:00 am) Fellowship Hall
Breakfast

April 5 (10 am) Sanctuary
Easter Sunday Worship Service

From the Board of Trustees

Your Trustees have been busy dealing with the aftermath of our unprecedented winter. We now have a dedicated person to do snow removal (hopefully which will not be needed until next year!) as required, so those using the Church weekdays will have clear access.

Additionally, John Sharland has been working on upgrading the smoke detectors and ensuring that our fire alarm is working properly. Finally, in our last meeting Gordon introduced the idea of applying for various grants to help us maintain the Church and we are actively pursuing that. We will provide more details as they become available.



As always, your help is welcome; If you have a skill or a trade and you would like to volunteer some time, your gift is encouraged. Please send an email to cscctrustees@gmail.com if you'd like to help out.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees,

Tom Struzik, Chair

From the Board of Stewardship



The Mexican Tetra is a small fish that will eat anything that will fit into its mouth. It lives in small pools that have sandy or rocky bottoms. Another species, the Olm is a small lizard which is found in Europe. The Olm eats snails, insects, and small crabs. These two species are found at opposite ends of the Earth, but they share a common trait. They have undeveloped eyes, and both are totally blind.

If you were able to tell either the Mexican Tetra or the Olm about light and eyesight I believe they would tell you that these things do not exist. After all they have spent their whole life without seeing anything and they do just fine. What we see so clearly with our eyes does not exist in their worlds.

Similarly, the concept of faith and the Holy Spirit does not exist in some people's understanding. And yet we at CSCC have eyes and are believers. Through Jesus our eyes are opened. And through Jesus we are also charged with assisting in the enlightenment of others who may be struggling with their faith.

One place to discover faith and the Holy Spirit is right here at Central Square Congregational Church. We hope that all of you who are reading this today will tell as many people as you can about our church, and invite them to join us on our journey.

God Bless You,

Your CSCC Board of Stewardship

An Update from Cabinet

“What’s the latest from Cabinet?”

- Lots of stuff going on for Lent – please check out the website or the Facebook page to hear about all the interesting and inspiring activities. And tell your friends!
- A freezer and/or a new refrigerator are being added to the Food Pantry to be able to accommodate more frozen foods for distribution.
- The Board of Outreach donated \$800 to the mission supper expenses!
- The food pantry is in need of donations after a slow month of February... spread the word!
- There will be chimes as part of the music presentation on Easter Sunday.
- Did you know that the Growth Committee is working on CSCC t-shirts? We’ll keep you posted!
- On May 3rd, we are celebrating our Fire and Police departments during breakfast and service.
- Please note – no announcements during service on Easter Sunday... be sure to get your info of important events to Ellen as soon as possible so that she can print it in the Easter insert.
- The Women’s Guild rummage sale is April 11, featuring Soup’s-On lunch.
- The annual meeting for the Mass UCC Conference is June 12-13. All are welcome! Let Ellen in the office know if you’re interested in attending.
- There’s talk of a fundraising golf tournament to benefit CSCC. If you are interested in helping out, or particularly if you have experience in such things, please contact Diane Sheibley or the church office.
- A request from our regular kitchen folks... if you use something, please put it back where you got it from so the next person can find it. Thank you!
- Mission Supper was a huge success, thanks to so many folks so generous with their time and talent.

Next Cabinet meeting: **Wednesday, April 15**, 7pm. All are welcome!

From the Board of Outreach

The Outreach committee provided assistance for the **Mission Youth Dinner** by setting up tables and chairs on Friday night and helping to put out all the place settings, linens etc. on Saturday morning. Outreach contributed \$800.00 to pay for the food for the dinner so that all proceeds could go directly to funding the Mission Youth activities.



Food Pantry Donations Needed

The food pantry has been relatively slow since early February due mostly to the crazy weather we have experienced! The holiday rush of donations has now come to a crawl and we are getting low on many food items. We could use donations of peanut butter, jelly, canned soup, coffee, tea, juice boxes, apple juice, baking goods, snacks, cereal, baked beans, and pasta sauce. We also have a need for paper towels, toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrushes and other toiletry items.

Sunday, April 12th

Mission Sunday and Blanket Sunday!

Join us for Worship at 10:00 AM in the Sanctuary!

Wearing a nametag is the simplest form of mission. It is the act of sharing your name with a stranger. - Growth

Does our church have a plan for newcomers that have come a few times?

Yes, it is a challenge to get people to come to church for the first time, and often when that is finally accomplished, we think our work is done and the newcomer will settle in and become a disciple. But without an intentional plan, many new people will not grow in faith and will drift away from church. Here are some steps to take the first-time guest all the way on the journey to being a faithful, committed follower of Christ. This is the job of the whole congregation. Share what you have learned with the pastor or any Growth member!

- Follow up on the first and second time visits of a guest with a layperson and then a staff person.
- Have an early conversation with newcomers about where they are on their life and faith journey to begin to know how to connect them appropriately.
- Begin to discover what the new person is interested in/has passion for.
- Train the new person to use his/her gifts.
- Find the appropriate small group, task force, mission team, etc. that will nurture this new person.
- Mentor new person in spiritual disciplines and model the faith.
- Teach this new disciple how to invite and disciple others.

Women's Guild & Fellowship Come Join Us!



Women's Guild will be showing "Bag It" - an environmental awareness film about the handy plastic bags we all receive whenever and wherever we shop on April 1 at 7:30 p.m.

On Saturday, April 11th from 9 AM to 1 PM we are having our Annual Spring Rummage Sale and Luncheon! Items can be dropped off during church office hours during the week after Easter. See below for more information.

Unfortunately, we have also canceled the Veteran's Dinner scheduled for April 14th.



"FELLOWSHIP FURNITURE MAKES A HOUSE A HOME"

(WG&F's Spring Rummage Sale, April 11)

Do you have a table looking for a dining/coffee companion?

Any desks yearning for students?

A chair to welcome a guest?

Homey-hutches (not large) to house your treasures?

Mirror-mirror on the wall? One picture is worth how many words?

Bookcases awaiting literary company?

Shoppers may view--and become the owner--of these items at the newest shop, "Fellowship Furniture", to debut at the WG&F Rummage Sale on Saturday, April 11. Weather permitting, this will be an outdoor Canopy Corner event.

Beginning March 1, we will be accepting donations of furniture and certain home decor accessories (mirrors, pictures, etc.) But please remember that 2 or 3 gals generally will be lifting/moving these items, so we cannot accept large weighty pieces. NO ELECTRONICS OR TVS.

Call Marie Nelson, Rummage co-chair, at 508-947-6920, or email at renman.ma@verizon.net to discuss condition, size, and of course "drop-off" of the items you wish to donate. Items for the sale (including all Rummage goods) will be received at the church during the week of April 6.

Note: if your donated item is not sold we will request that you arrange for its removal.



YOUTH MINISTRY

All Youth programs are open to all youth in grades 7 through 12. Please join us!
View the Youth Calendar at cscuccyouth.wordpress.com. And follow us on Facebook for the latest news.

Sunday, March 29th

Palm Sunday Worship

10:00 AM

Worship will feature a presentation by
Children & Youth

11:30 AM

Join Rev. Beth & Deb Sorgman for lunch &
a labyrinth walk!

Sunday, April 19th

Worship

10:00 AM

Youth Fellowship

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Youth will meet in the Youth Room after
Worship.

Thursday, April 2nd

Maundy Thursday Worship

7:00 PM

Sunday, April 26th

Youth Sunday School

10:20 AM – 11:15 AM

Youth will begin in Worship at 10:00 AM,
then proceed to Sunday School around
10:20 AM.

Sunday, April 5th

Easter Sunday

No Breakfast Club –

have breakfast with your church family!

Sunday, May 3rd

Breakfast Club

9:00 AM to 9:50 AM

All Youth will get breakfast in the Kitchen,
then come down to the Youth Room!

Worship

10:00 AM

Worship with Youth participation.

Sunday, April 12th

Youth Sunday School

10:20 AM – 11:15 AM

Youth will begin in Worship at 10:00 AM,
then proceed to Sunday School around
10:20 AM.

Sunday School/Christian Education

Excerpts from *As We Worship, So We Believe* by Elizabeth Sandell

Worship in the New Testament

In the New Testament, the good news is available to everyone, male or female, Jew or Gentile, adult or child. The message was immediately personified by Jesus Christ's birth. In his ministry, Jesus himself directed his followers to bring children to know and praise him. Furthermore, in the New Testament the image of a child continues to be used as a powerful metaphor.

Perhaps most importantly, Jesus Christ was born on earth as an infant, personifying dependency and helplessness. At the birth of Jesus, Scripture records three beautiful songs, each one praising God for bringing Jesus Christ as an infant. Mary's song glorifies the Lord for his mercy toward the humble people (Luke 1:46-55). The angels' song praises God for the birth of a baby, now wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger (Luke 2:14). Simeon's song tells of his wonder and satisfaction upon seeing the child, in whom salvation will be accomplished (Luke 2:29-32).

Later, during his ministry, Jesus became indignant when the disciples tried to keep children away out of fear that they would disturb him. The disciples were blind to the worth of even the youngest ones. Jesus did not just scold adults for forbidding children to approach him; he rebuked them for hindering the children, for neglecting to bring them to himself (Luke 18:15-17).

In the New Testament, too, the image of a child is used as a metaphor for qualities necessary among Christians, particularly trust and receptivity. Jesus Christ said that anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a child will never enter it (Mark 10:13-16). Jesus welcomed spontaneous praise and worship and invited it from little children. As with the Old Testament images of children, how will we be able to understand these New Testament images if the children are not with us?

We Become the *Ekklesia*

The church is designed to be the welcoming community that makes us unique, separate from the world as the worshipping congregation. The Christian church acknowledges together that we are the *ekklesia*, the corporate body of Jesus Christ. The whole family of God is "called out of" the world to be separate from the world in order to worship God. We are to meet in Christian fellowship, to love each other, to learn, to worship, and to nurture others in faith. We model God's design for a community where differences are accepted and affirmed, where individuals feel they belong.

Children Complete the Family of Faith

When worship happens in the fellowship of faith, it becomes a celebration of belonging and participating in that community. We need children with us to complete the family of faith, to make it all that Jesus envisioned for the church. When we begin to include children, we also begin to be open to everyone, as Jesus commanded: the children, the poor, the powerless, the foreigners, the sinners. With a view of worship that includes children in significant ways, our words and actions communicate meaningfully with many different kinds of people, and we truly become a community.

FUN!-draising at Central Square!

FUNdraising

Just a few notes from our Fundraising Committee. A reminder that our goal is to bring in funds from the greater Bridgewater community (and beyond) to help keep the lights and the heat on, and support all the other functions that allow our building to be such a great resource for the community at large.

Upcoming events:

Tentative : Merchant/vendor fair, Saturday, May 9

Just in time for Mother's Day! Mark your calendar as we'll be firming this date up soon.

Whether you're a crafter, a home-based or small business, or even a bigger local business or service provider, a vendor table will only cost you \$35. Limited number of tables available!

Spread the word and contact Diane Sheibley at diane@sheibley.net or 508-697-7262 if you're interested. Everybody else, get ready to shop!

Golf Tournament : We're considering sponsoring a golf tournament as a church fundraiser. Here's the catch... it truly takes a village for such an undertaking. We think it will be BIG FUN, but it will require a good number of volunteers both beforehand and on the day of the event. But it potentially could raise a fair amount of money for the operating budget. WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO HELP? If we can really rally behind this, it will be both fun and a blessing to our church. You needn't be "on the committee" if that's too much of a commitment; lots of little individual roles are important, too. Or perhaps just committing to the day of the event is all you can offer.

We ask that each and every one of you consider doing just a bit for this project, or plan on having a fun day in the sun on the course or at one of the 'side events' on the date. IT WILL LIKELY BE LATE SUMMER. And no skills required! Just the willingness of spirit. It's a time and talent opportunity!

We cannot move forward with this endeavor unless we feel we have your support. So please contact Diane Sheibley at diane@sheibley.net or 508-697-7262 if you think you can be a part of this event. If we don't get a comfortable level of volunteerism, we'll likely skip it for this year and perhaps consider it again in the future.

Daily Lectionary Scripture References April 2015 (Year B)

Wed., Apr. 1

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 70
Hebrews 12:1-3
John 13:21-32

Thurs., Apr. 2

Maundy Thursday
Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Fri., Apr. 3

Good Friday
Isaiah 52:13—53:12
Psalm 22
Hebrews 10:16-25 or Hebrews 4:14-16
John 18:1—19:42

Sat., Apr. 4

Holy Saturday
Job 14:1-14 or Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24
Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16
1 Peter 4:1-8
Matthew 27:57-66 or John 19:38-42

Sun., Apr. 5

Easter
Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-43
John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8

Mon., Apr. 6

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Genesis 1:1-19
1 Corinthians 15:35-49

Tues., Apr. 7

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Genesis 1:20—2:4a
1 Corinthians 15:50-58

Wed., Apr. 8

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Song of Solomon 3:1-11
Mark 16:1-8

Thurs., Apr. 9

Psalm 133
Daniel 1:1-21
Acts 2:42-47

Fri., Apr. 10

Psalm 133
Daniel 2:1-23
Acts 4:23-31

Sat., Apr. 11

Psalm 133
Daniel 2:24-49
John 12:44-50

Sun., Apr. 12

Second Sunday of Easter
Acts 4:32-35
Psalm 133
1 John 1:1—2:2
John 20:19-31

Mon., Apr. 13

Psalm 135
Daniel 3:1-30
1 John 2:3-11

Tues., Apr. 14

Psalm 135
Daniel 6:1-28
1 John 2:12-17

Wed., Apr. 15

Psalm 135
Isaiah 26:1-15
Mark 12:18-27

Thurs., Apr. 16

Psalm 4
Daniel 9:1-19
1 John 2:18-25

Fri., Apr. 17

Psalm 4
Daniel 10:2-19
1 John 2:26-28

Sat., Apr. 18

Psalm 4
Acts 3:1-10
Luke 22:24-30

Sun., Apr. 19

Third Sunday of Easter
Acts 3:12-19
Psalm 4
1 John 3:1-7
Luke 24:36b-48

Mon., Apr. 20

Psalm 150
Jeremiah 30:1-11a
1 John 3:10-16

Tues., Apr. 21

Psalm 150
Hosea 5:15—6:6
2 John 1-6

Wed., Apr. 22

Psalm 150
Proverbs 9:1-6
Mark 16:9-18

Thurs., Apr. 23

Psalm 23
Genesis 30:25-43
Acts 3:17-26

Fri., Apr. 24

Psalm 23
Genesis 46:28—47:6
Acts 4:1-4

Sat., Apr. 25

Psalm 23
Genesis 48:8-19
Mark 6:30-34

Sun., Apr. 26

Fourth Sunday of Easter
Acts 4:5-12
Psalm 23
1 John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18

Mon., Apr. 27

Psalm 95
1 Samuel 16:1-13
1 Peter 5:1-5

Tues., Apr. 28

Psalm 95
1 Chronicles 11:1-9
Revelation 7:13-17

Wed., Apr. 29

Psalm 95
Micah 7:8-20
Mark 14:26-31

Thurs., Apr. 30

Psalm 22:25-31
Amos 8:1-7
Acts 8:1b-8



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April calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 10 Worship 11:30 Youth Adventure! 2:45p Webelos 1 - FH 4p Tiger Den - LL 4p Wolf Den - MR 7p AA-FH	30 7p NA-FH	31 8:30 Play Groups - MR	Apr 1 6p Girl Scouts - Nursery 6:15p Daisys - LL 6:30p WG&F - FH 7:30p BSU - ST	2 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Mens AWOL - LL 7p Pack Com - MR 7p Al-Anon - FH 7p Worship - ST	3 7p Al-Anon- MR	4
5 Easter Sunday 6:30 Sunrise Svc - Hanson 9 Breakfast - FH 10 Communion 10 Worship 7p AA-FH	6 6p Food Pantry - LL 7p NA-FH	7 8:30 Play Groups - MR 6p Daisys - FH 7p CE - MR 7:30p Stewardship - FR	8 7p Deacons - FR 7:30p BSU - ST	9 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Mens AWOL - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	10 9 Rummage Prep - FH 6p Kids of the Kingdom - L 7p Al-Anon- MR	11 9 Rummage Sale - FH
12 10 Worship 11:30 Growth - FR 2:45p Webelos 1 - FH 4p Tiger Den - LL 4p Wolf Den - MR 7p AA-FH	13 Thomas Jefferson's Birth 7p NA-FH	14 8:30 Play Groups - MR 7p Outreach - FR	15 6:15p Daisys - LL 7p Cabinet-MR 7:30p BSU - ST	16 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Mens AWOL - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	17 7p Al-Anon- MR	18
19 9 Breakfast - FH 10 Worship 11:30 Youth Group - LL 7p AA-FH	20 7p NA-FH	21 7p Cabinet - MR	22 7:30p BSU - ST	23 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Mens AWOL - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	24 7p Al-Anon- MR	25
26 10 Worship 4p Daisys - LL 4p Wolf Den - MR 7p AA-FH	27 7p NA-FH	28 8:30 Play Groups - MR 6p Daisys - FH	29 7p Trustees-FR 7:30p BSU - ST	30 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Mens AWOL - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	May 1 7p Al-Anon- MR	2 12p Red Hat Group - FH

*This calendar is subject to change at any time. For the most up to date calendar at all times, please visit cscucc.org.

Church Administration

Pastor: Rev. Elizabeth Walden – csccpastor@hotmail.com

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Sexton: Dave Terpeny

Minister of Music - Lin Schuller

Accompanist - Julia Scott Carey

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