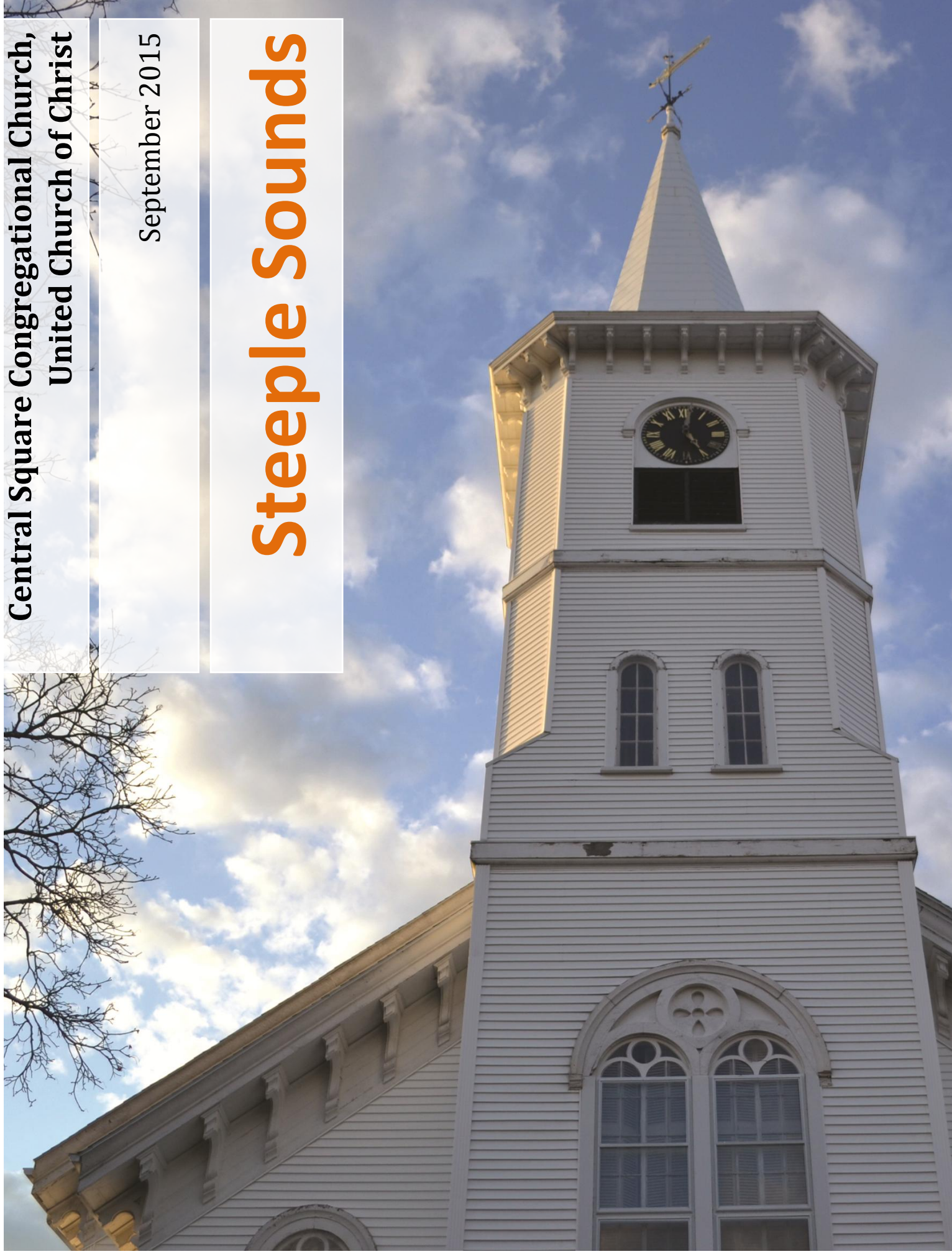


**Central Square Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ**

September 2015

Steeple Sounds



From The Desk of Rev. Beth



What's In Your Backpack?

It's that time of year again, when mailboxes all over receive the celebrated (ok, and maybe to some, dreaded) back-to-school letter, or when our kids go off to college (sniff sniff), or maybe we head back to school ourselves.

Students need supplies to help them make the most of their school days. Pens and pencils with which to write; notebooks and lined paper for taking notes; binders and folders to keep things organized; markers, crayons, and glue sticks for more creative endeavors. We need healthy food and emotional support, as well. Those who lack the right supplies may find

themselves struggling with the tasks set before them, and that interferes with their learning. They need their backpacks filled with the right supplies to help them learn and grow.

This need doesn't end with graduation, however. As adults, we have spiritual backpacks that need to be filled (no trip to the store required!). In order to learn and grow in our spiritual lives, we need to make sure we have the right supplies for the tasks before us. What might those supplies be? Well, how about a Bible, to learn the stories of our faith ancestors? How about music to uplift and move us? Maybe a good pair of hiking boots or a yoga mat? Or some good chocolate, coffee, tea...? Definitely a "village," "tribe," or "church" of some kind to surround us with support.

Whatever tools you need for the year, bring them to church with you on Sunday, September 13 for the "Blessing of the Backpacks". Children, of course, are encouraged to bring their backpacks to church for a blessing, but what might we adults bring to bless, to help us through our year? Whatever it is, bring it with you to church so that we may honor the new year and the intention we set for it.

In Christ,
~Rev. Beth

P.S. If you want to help with actual school supplies, I'm sure our local schools and teachers would be happy to accept some blessed donations. So please bring any donations you may have with you to church on September 13 as well!

Sunday, Sept.13

Blessing of the Backpacks

(Students bring your backpacks! Adults bring your briefcases, yoga mats, tennis shoes, whatever you would like to bless in your life this year!)

&

Kick-off Sunday!

(Sunday School Begins! Bring your favorite tailgating/game watching snack with you to church to share during coffee hour!)

From the Board of Stewardship



Matthew 6:26: “Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?”

It happens every Saturday at Perkins Park in Brockton at 2:30 in the afternoon. At that time, the local homeless gather outdoors to receive a hot meal. Many within this homeless community are battling addictions and/or mental issues. They live in a community that requires them to watch their backs at all times. Many are victims of theft, rape, and assault. These folks sleep outside in the woods or on the streets. They have no clean clothes, nor is there a shower available to them when they get up in the morning.

On Saturday at 2:30 these children of God assemble and wait patiently for their meal. But the meal is much more than just food. Many of the people assembled at the park are longing for communication, interaction, and support. I have come to understand that sometimes a kind word and reassurance that God is looking out for you can be more sustaining than even hot food to the hungry. Even we, who may not suffer as much as this homeless community, occasionally need to be reminded that we are all God’s children, and that God wants the best for all of us.

With this in mind we pray that you will share your kind words and God’s love everywhere it is needed.

CSCC Stewardship Committee

ATTENTION BOARD AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS!

Here we are again – September! Although Cabinet has taken the summer off from having regular meetings, please plan on attending the first Cabinet meeting of the new year on **WEDNESDAY, SEPT 16**, at 7 PM. It is crucial that all boards and committees be represented, and meetings are open to anyone and everyone that wants to know more about what’s going on at CSCC. See you there! –*Diane Sheibley, CSCC Moderator*

Women's Guild & Fellowship

Come Join Us!



Women's Guild and Fellowship is looking forward to an exciting year of programs, fun, and fellowship!

Our year begins on the first Wednesday of October with our Annual Potluck Supper!

All women of the church are invited to attend our meetings! Friends are always welcome too!

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our first meeting of the year on Wednesday, October 7th at 6:30 PM in Fellowship Hall!

Phoebe and Sandy



OPPORTUNITY IS KNOCKING!!

On Sunday, September 20 and Sunday, September 27, look for the various boards, committees, and groups to have information available on what they do and how you might participate. It's the **OPPORTUNITY FAIR!** *Held both Sundays immediately following Worship in the Fellowship Hall.*

NOTE to board/committees/groups: please have a display ready at both of these times to show off all the cool stuff you do, and how you do it. Show off what you got! Inspire other folks to serve alongside of you in your mission! Give them the opportunity to show off their God-given talents in His service.

Growth Committee

Welcome to our congregation! We're glad to see everyone returning from their summer vacations. We'd love to get together to discuss what you did, who you were with and what you would like to see happen during the upcoming year!

Returning members of the Growth Committee include Christine Hoyt (Co-Chair), Diane Glass and Jane O'Connell. New this year on the Growth Committee are Sheri Turner (Co-Chair), Ashley Hoyt and Sara Terpeny. We are hoping to have fun and find new and interesting ways to let our community know about the wonderful things happening at our church. We would also like to find new ways for current attendees to contribute their gifts and talents to our community.

Here are some of the ideas we are working on:

- 1.) **Breaking Bread with new attendees and visitors!** If you would please let us know by using the fellowship pad in your pew that you are new here or are visiting and would like a visit, our Growth Committee would love to bring you a tasty treat!
- 2.) **Dine with Nine!** If you would like to get together with other families and enjoy some great food and conversation, this is the group for you! These are potluck suppers enjoyed in each others' homes. The get-togethers happen usually three times over a period of four months and at a time that's convenient for everyone in the group. The host provides the entree and the others provide salad, wine, bread, appetizer and dessert. The host does not have to provide a meat and potatoes kind of meal. A meal of soup, tacos, casserole, or even a lot of appetizers are just as much fun. It's a great opportunity to get to know others in a social setting and you don't even have to talk about church. So, **sign up** any Sunday in September and groups will be distributed in October. You may also email Sheri Turner at ssturner@mindspring.com.
- 3.) **Bridgewater Little League!** We are looking to sponsor a team this upcoming Spring. What a great way to reach out to young families! If you would like to hear more, see Sheri Turner.
- 4.) **Opportunity abounds!** There is an Opportunity Fair on 9/20 and 9/27 after church. Talk to us if you would like more information about helping us to represent Growth. We'd love your input! If Growth isn't your thing, there are plenty of other committees and groups you could contribute your time, talent and resources to! Come by after our worship service.
- 5.) If you would like to purchase one of our new blue Growth Committee T-shirts, let us know. If we have enough orders we can bring in a whole new batch!
- 6.) **Autumn Fest!** Growth will have a table at Autumn Fest. We would appreciate donations of water and snacks to hand out. Who can turn down a free snack and drink? We'd love it if you joined us on 9/26/15 between 8 am and 2 pm. Donations can be given to Christine Hoyt.

If you would like to see what Growth is all about, join us for our monthly meeting on September 13th right after Worship. We will be meeting out in the community at Bruno's Pizzeria in Bridgewater. We'd love to see you there!



YOUTH MINISTRY



The 2015 Youth Mission Trip to Warrensburg, NY was a huge success! Everyone who went was profoundly moved. They did construction, pulled a swing set out of a swamp, painted tables and cleaned a walk in cooler. This time, instead of a big "Mission Sunday", the kids are going to share their experiences with you individually. Natalie Mosher and Ashley Hoyt shared some of their experiences in their inspirational sermons this summer. Others are preparing slide shows and Moments for Mission. Please feel free to ask the kids about their experiences too. Thank you for all you did to make this trip possible and we hope for your continued support as we start to plan for the trip next year.

For information on upcoming Youth programs and events, we invite all parents and Youth to an information session on Sunday, September 20th following Worship.

Christian Education



The Board of Christian Education has been busy planning for the new program year.

- The Special Programs portfolio is busy planning special events related to Christian Education. Watch for these events throughout the year.
- The Faith Journey portfolio team is busy planning opportunities for our youth and members to participate in mission and fellowship programs to help us strengthen our faith together while living God's word.
- The Curriculum portfolio team spent the summer identifying the needs of our Sunday school and exploring how to meet these needs. As a result, we will be rolling out a new curriculum program. The program we chose is called "Activate Faith" from Spark publications. This fall our Sunday school classes will be learning about old testament stories like "The Creation" and "The Ten Commands". We will be holding an information session on Sunday Sept. 20th where parents and church members can hear more about this exciting new program.

We are looking forward to a new year filled with new and exciting faith education opportunities for all ages.

Thanks for all you do,
Denise



There is a urgent need for specific items for the Food Pantry! It would be wonderful if we all good get one or two items and either bring them to church or drop them off at church during business hours. The following is the list for much needed items (although any and all donations are welcome):

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| • Mayonnaise | • Rice pilaf |
| • Boxes of Cheerios | • Cereal in boxes (not bags) |
| • Cans of meat and pasta (like Franco American or Chef Boyardee spaghetti and meatballs | • Cans of baked beans |
| • Cans of cream of mushroom, cream of chicken and broth (all used to make quick dinners) | • Dish soap |
| | • Adult only toothbrushes |
| | • Tissues |
| | • Toilet paper |

There is also a great need for a refrigerator and a freezer! If anyone has one or both they'd be willing to donate, please contact the church office at 508-697-6016.

FUNdraising

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE WANTS TO PICK YOUR BRAIN!

Over the last year and a half the fundraising committee has embarked on several projects that have brought some community money and resources into Central Square Congregational Church, in order for us to continue to provide that same community with meeting space and services. Do you have any ideas for fundraisers that you'd be willing to share and/or do a little research on? If so, we want to hear from you! You needn't join the committee, but perhaps you'd be willing to help out with one specific project. Contact me and we'll chat! -- Diane Sheibley, diane@sheibley.net, 508-697-7262.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE NEEDS A LEADER!

From Diane Sheibley, Fundraising Committee Chair

Dear Friends,

One of my goals with setting up this committee a year and a half ago was to get it off the ground, a group of folks who would come together, brainstorm, do some research, and set some wheels in motion for some fundraising and bring some much-needed funding into the church, from the community to support the community work we do. I have been privileged to have been working alongside some great folks on the committee, and I thank them for their service – Darlene Brown, Linda Sharland, and Lynn Pietras.

I'm now ready to pass the reigns so I can work on other projects as Moderator, and we are looking for a successor. I think there many more ideas worth discussing, and more things that we can be successful with, both ones we've talked about and those that we haven't yet discovered or tried. But it's for someone else now to pick up the ball and run with it. It can be quite a fun opportunity!

If you feel called to learn more about this, please contact me at diane@sheibley.net or 508-697-7262. I look forward to hearing from YOU.

Thank you!
Diane

Coffee Hour Schedule 2015 – 2016*

September:	Growth
October:	Fundraising
November:	Outreach
December:	Deacons
January:	Christian Education
February:	Memorials / Stewardship
March:	Women's Guild & Fellowship
April:	Growth
May:	Trustees
June:	Music
July & August:	Volunteers (punch only)

**Please also offer a Gluten Free option (labeled) for our GF friends!*



WHAT DO DENIM, FURNITURE, AND FOOD ALL HAVE IN COMMON?

Autumn is almost here, and the event so many trendy people look forward to at CSCC is approaching!

Organized by the WG&F, the semi-annual Rummage Sale and Soup's On Lunch is scheduled for Saturday, October 24 from 9:00-1:30.

But we need YOU to gather your gently used items for donation to our project--including books, clothing, jewelry, household goods, shoes and bags.

!! BREAKING NEWS!!

Our new shop this Fall is the "DENIM DEN", which will include all things denim for the family. Fall fashion in all of the stores and ads is featuring jeans clothing, but at exorbitant prices!

But not us-- we will have a "one price fits all" policy for the DENIM DEN--unbelievable, but true--no false advertising here.

So, as you are cleaning and re-organizing please keep us in your thoughts for donation of used denim items--imperfect (aka torn) is fine.

Recent NYTimes and on-line ads refer to them as "boyfriend", "seventy's", "skinnies", and "open air" styles.

Of course, all items (except tvs and electronics) are welcomed for donation, and we will again feature the "Fellowship Furniture" area, which was extremely successful last Spring, including tables, chairs, desks, lamps, mirrors, accessories. We will again plan to have the lawn set up for "outdoor living", thanks to your donations.

Goods may be donated at any time (beginning NOW), but the bulk of donations may be left at the church beginning on Monday, October 20.

Please start now to think about "relocating" your unused goods to our sale, ultimately to someone who will treasure them.

You may contact the event co-chairs for further information:

Marie Nelson 508-947-6920 renman.ma@verizon.net

Bette deKoning 508-697-6912 bdekoning8@verizon.net

and our Publicity guru, Lori Kelso 508-697-1587 lorikels@msn.com



The Fair is COMing! The Fair is COMing!

Whether you're going to bake up a storm for the cookie walk and dessert table, knit some baby booties and throw blankets, or just look forward to some holiday shopping and a delicious turkey supper, **SAVE THE DATE** for the Central Square annual Fair!

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13 AND 14!

If you are interested in volunteering with baking, turkey serving, pie night, publicity, or just about any other capacity, contact one of "My Fair Ladies": Denise Molinari (denmol@comcast.net, 508-279-6322), Carla Jackson (fourjacs@comcast.net, 508-279-3375), Deb Rucker (motherucker@gmail.com, 508-279-0772), or Diane Sheibley (diane@sheibley.net, 508-697-7262).

Also, if you know any BR students who want community service hours by working at the fair, have them contact one of My Fair Ladies as well!

Daily Lectionary Scripture References September 2015 (Year B)

Tues., Sept. 1
Psalm 144:9-15
Song of Solomon 5:2—6:3
1 Peter 2:19-25

Wed., Sept. 2
Psalm 144:9-15
Song of Solomon 8:5-7
Mark 7:9-23

Thurs., Sept. 3
Psalm 125
Proverbs 1:1-19
Romans 2:1-11

Fri., Sept. 4
Psalm 125
Proverbs 4:10-27
Romans 2:12-16

Sat., Sept. 5
Psalm 125
Proverbs 8:1-31
Matthew 15:21-31

Sun., Sept. 6
Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23
Psalm 125
James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17
Mark 7:24-37

Mon., Sept. 7
Psalm 73:21-28
Proverbs 8:32—9:6
Hebrews 11:29—12:2

Tues., Sept. 8
Psalm 73:21-28
Proverbs 11:1-31
Hebrews 12:3-13

Wed., Sept. 9
Psalm 73:1-20
Proverbs 14:1-9
Matthew 17:14-21

Thurs., Sept. 10
Psalm 19
Proverbs 15:1-17
Hebrews 11:17-22

Fri., Sept. 11
Psalm 19
Proverbs 19:24-29
James 2:17-26

Sat., Sept. 12
Psalm 19
Proverbs 21:1-17
Matthew 21:23-32

Sun., Sept. 13
Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Proverbs 1:20-33
Psalm 19 or Wisdom 7:26—8:1
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38

Mon., Sept. 14
Psalm 73:21-28
Proverbs 22:1-21
Romans 3:9-20

Tues., Sept. 15
Psalm 73:21-28
Proverbs 25:1-28
Colossians 3:1-11

Wed., Sept. 16
Psalm 73:21-28
Proverbs 29:1-27
John 7:25-36

Thurs., Sept. 17
Psalm 1
Proverbs 30:1-10
1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Fri., Sept. 18
Psalm 1
Proverbs 30:18-33
Romans 11:25-32

Sat., Sept. 19
Psalm 1
Ecclesiastes 1:1-18
Matthew 23:29-39

Sun., Sept. 20
Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Proverbs 31:10-31
Psalm 1
James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37

Mon., Sept. 21
Psalm 128
Proverbs 27:1-27
James 4:8-17

Tues., Sept. 22
Psalm 128
Ecclesiastes 4:9-16
James 5:1-6

Wed., Sept. 23
Psalm 128
Ecclesiastes 5:1-20
John 8:21-38

Thurs., Sept. 24
Psalm 124
Esther 1:1-21
Acts 4:13-31

Fri., Sept. 25
Psalm 124
Esther 2:1-23
Acts 12:20-25

Sat., Sept. 26
Psalm 124
Esther 3:1-15
Matthew 5:13-20

Sun., Sept. 27
Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22
Psalm 124
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50

Mon., Sept. 28
Psalm 140
Esther 4:1-17
1 Peter 1:3-9

Tues., Sept. 29
Psalm 140
Esther 5:1-14
1 John 2:18-25

Wed., Sept. 30
Psalm 140
Esther 8:1-17
Matthew 18:6-9



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September Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 10 Worship 7p AA-FH	31 7p NA-FH	Sep 1 7:30p Stewardship - MR	2	3 9 Staff Mtg - FR 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH 7p Teachers Mtg - FR	4 7p Al-Anon- MR	5
6 10 Communion 10 Worship 7p AA-FH	7 Labor Day 6p Food Pantry - LL 7p NA-FH	8 8:30 Play Groups - MR 7p Outreach - FR	9 7:30p BSU Choir - ST	10 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH 7:30p Pack Com Mtg - MR	11 7p Al-Anon- FH	12
13 10 Worship 11:30 Growth - offsite 7p AA-FH	14 7p NA-FH	15 8:30 Play Groups - MR	16 7p Cabinet-MR 7:30p BSU Choir - ST	17 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	18 7p Al-Anon- MR 7p Pack 35 - FH	19
20 9 Breakfast - FH 10 Worship 11:30 CE Event - LL 11:30 Opportunity Fair - FH 7p AA-FH	21 7p NA-FH	22 8:30 Play Groups - MR	23 6p Wedding Reh - ST 7p Deacons - FR	24 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	25 6p Wedding - ST	26 Town Autumnfest
27 10 Worship 11:30 Opportunity Fair - FH 7p AA-FH	28 7p NA-FH	29 8:30 Play Groups - MR	30 7p CE - MR 7p Trustees-FR 7:30p BSU Choir - ST	Oct 1 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	2 6p Pack 35 Open House - 7p Al-Anon- MR	3

*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

Congregational Administrator: Ellen Atherton – office@cscucc.com

Sexton: Dave Terpeny

Minister of Music - Lin Schuller

Accompanist - Julia Scott Carey

Treasurer: Larry Brown treasurer@cscucc.com

Office telephone: (508) 697-6016

Fax: (508) 697-8010

Website: www.cscucc.org

*Central Square Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
71 Central Square
Bridgewater, MA 02324*

