

Central Square Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

Steeple Sounds

November 2020

We are a Christian community of people who are reaching out to our neighbors, at home and abroad, sharing our faith and our resources.



From the Desk of Rev. Beth

Rev. Elizabeth Stotts, Pastor

November: A Month for Gratitude and Grief

In November, I often write to you about cultivating a practice of gratitude. As the days grow shorter and we prepare for Thanksgiving, it's a natural time to count our blessings. We have so much to be grateful for, even in the midst of all of the challenges and heartbreak of 2020. This year, though, I also want to encourage you to make time for grief, even as you lean into your gratitude.

As we prepare to observe All Saints Day on November 1, my heart is particularly thinking about those we've loved and lost this past year. Some from COVID, of course, but also others who died for all the other reasons we humans die. I'm sure almost every person who is reading this has loved and lost someone this year. Even if you haven't, I am certain you've loved and lost something this year. Because it's been a year of grief. We've had to give up our regular everyday routines, contact with our loved ones. Grandbabies and great-grandbabies have arrived and maybe we haven't been able to meet them yet. We have elders who are shut up in care facilities who have been isolated for over seven months now. We've lost jobs, homes, dreams for the future, long-anticipated trips, weddings, celebrations, graduations, and more. As we enter the holiday season, many of us are actively pre-grieving our family holiday gatherings and traditions, which will look different this year. Every loss compounds on top of the others and some days it feels like a major triumph just to get out of bed. Some days we don't even make it that far.

Beloveds, if you've not yet taken time to sit with the grief of 2020, I hope you will. I know it can feel scary sometimes to open up space for that pain, so you might even try setting aside a limited amount of time to try it. Light a candle, grab a box of tissues, snuggle a pet. Find stillness in your body and spirit. Breathe in and out, in and out. Allow yourself to honor and name the things and people you've lost this year. It is good to remember. One of the gifts of our faith is that we can take our grief to God: knowing that God is big enough to handle it all, trusting that God will help us find a way through the pain and frustration and anger and resentment. We are not alone in our grief. God is with us. And God accompanies us in our gratitude and grief, in our joy and sorrow, in all that we do. Thanks be to God.

"WHEN YOU MEET SOMEONE DEEP IN GRIEF"

By Patricia McKernon Runkle

Slip off your needs
and set them by the door.

Enter barefoot
this darkened chapel
hollowed by loss
hallowed by sorrow
its gray stone walls
and floor.

You, congregation
of one
are here to listen
not to sing.
Kneel in the back pew.
Make no sound,
let the candles
speak.



Yours in Christ,

Rev. Beth

508-697-6016



Central Square Congregational Church, UCC, of Bridgewater, Massachusetts is an open and affirming church. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Building closure extended until January 3, 2021*

** The building is available to the Bridgewater Food Pantry, 12-step support groups, and small group gatherings under strict guidelines and protocols, by reservation only (see page 3).*

REMOTE WORSHIP ON FACEBOOK AND YOUTUBE

- Use the link on the homepage of www.cscucc.org to access Sunday worship. Click on the COVID-19 update link to access the YouTube link for past services.
- Sunday Worship will continue to be livestreamed from the Sanctuary at 10 a.m. Only the Pastor, the Minister of Music, and the Director of Video Evangelism will be in the building.

BUILDING USERS

- Even if you have a key to the building, **please do not enter the building during this time** unless you are part of a pre-approved building use group, at the time of the approved use. Each one of us that enters is a potential carrier, even if we're not feeling sick. If you are tempted to say, "well, I'm sure that doesn't mean me.", **IT DOES.** If you have any questions or think that you should enter the building for any reason, call the church office at 508-697-6016 (phone is being answered remotely during the shutdown) or send an email to office@cscucc.com.



CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Do you need a meal, a call, a mask, spiritual care, or even just a prayer or a chat? Contact the Pastor, a Deacon, the church office, or a member of our Care Team.

To contact Rev. Beth, call the church office at 508-697-6016* or email her at csccpastor@hotmail.com

** the church phone is being answered remotely during the building shutdown*

CSCC Deacons

Deb Sorgman

— debsorgman@gmail.com

Lynn Pietras — lsypie@aol.com

CSCC Care Team

CentralSquareCareTeam@gmail.com

Carol Chaffee Bev Mitchell

Phoebe Hogg John Scott

Rev. Beth Stotts



Food Pantry

The Bridgewater Food Pantry, hosted by CSCC, will remain open its usual days and times (Thursdays, 10am-1pm, first Mondays of the month, 6-8pm), although with slightly different format to respect COVID precautions.



Thanksgiving Worship Service

An ecumenical Thanksgiving service will be broadcast on BTV several times during the week of November 23. Watch our social media and website for times and the link to use.



Central Square Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

71 Central Square
Bridgewater, MA 02324
(508) 697-6016

www.cscucc.org * office@cscucc.com
Fed ID #04-2254876

Rev. Elizabeth Stotts
Pastor

October 15, 2020

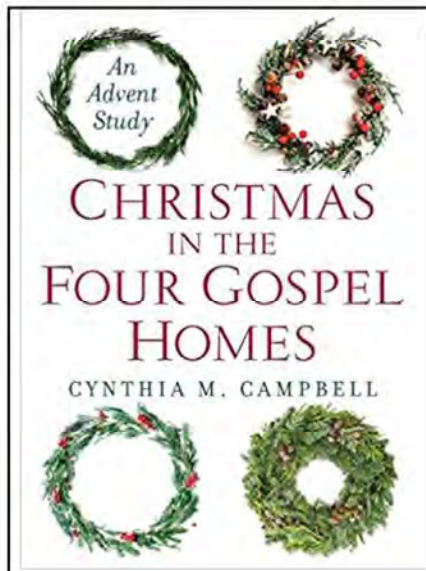
SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS DURING THE TIME OF SPECIAL CHURCH CLOSING DURING THE SPREAD OF COVID19

UPDATED - Beginning today, October 15, 2020, the church building will be opening for groups and meetings of limited size. While the building is still officially closed to the public in general, we will be allowing groups of up to 20 people to reserve Fellowship Hall for meetings on an appointment only basis. **The following are the new required measures that must be adhered to in order to preserve your use of the building. Failure to follow these requirements could result in the revocation of your church key.**

- All meetings must be scheduled through the office (one meeting per day max).
- All groups must use a sign in sheet and each person in attendance must provide their name and phone number or email address in the event contact tracing is needed.
- You must be extremely vigilant in cleaning up after yourself with provided antiseptic cleaning supplies. At the end of the meeting, each group leader will be responsible for cleaning and filling out the cleaning checklist located on the back of the sign in sheet. This must be turned into the office immediately following the meeting.
- You may use Fellowship Hall only. Not the kitchen, or other spaces except the bathroom on the floor where the meeting is taking place.
- The leader should let himself/herself in the Church Street (side) door, then lock it behind them, and unlock the main front door of the church for your attendees to use. At the end of the meeting, all should exit through the front door. The leader should lock it behind them, and then exit through the Church Street door after cleaning.
- Tables will only be available by special request.
- Leave the chairs (and tables if used) set up in the room.
- Again, do not use or enter the kitchen.
- A trash can as well as cleaning supplies and sanitizer will be in Fellowship Hall for use.
- Masks are required at all times. No exceptions.
- Social distancing is also required. No hugging, touching, etc.
- No sharing of food or beverages.
- All group leaders must immediately report any positive cases among their group to the church office so that we can begin the contact trace notification process immediately.

We hope this both provides you with the opportunity to support each other, as well as helps our community in this time of pandemic.

God bless you.



Advent Book Study

Advent begins on November 29, and Reverend Beth's Advent book study book will be "Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes" by Cynthia M. Campbell. Amazon has this to say about it:

"How might a house look for Christmas based on what each Gospel says about it? In *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes*, beautiful illustrations from architect Kevin Burns reimagine each of the four Gospels as a 'house,' which the church visits at Christmas. In each section, Cynthia M. Campbell reflects on the distinctive perspective of the birth of Jesus or the incarnation offered by each Gospel. Suitable for individual or group study, *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes* creatively reimagines the season and inspires new and exciting reflection for Advent."

Join Rev. Beth on Saturday, December 12 at 10am in the Fellowship Hall for a lively discussion on the book. Reservations are required, and masks and physical distancing, along with the other building use protocols, will be observed. Contact the office for your reserved seat!



Community and Faith

God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost May All Be
One Many Hands Make Light Work Unity Sharing of Ourselves
Honesty Truth Justice Love

What is, Central Square Congregational Church, United
Church of Christ?

Thank you for being part of our community!

Carol Chaffee

CSCC Care Team

Women's Guild & Fellowship

November's Women's Guild meeting will feature Chris Ventura, one of our own guild members. She will be presenting a program with doTerra Essential Oils. "Make Over Your Medicine Cabinet with Essential Oils". She will be giving us helpful ideas on how to boost our immune systems with specific oils instead of all the medicines and remedies we have in our medicine cabinets.

Remember this will be a Zoom meeting and will take place on November 4 at 6:30 p.m. I know a lot of you may not have attended a zoom meeting before but Ellen in the church office will be sending us the information you will need to have in order to "attend" the meeting and I will forward it to all of you. It's pretty easy so don't be discouraged! Especially because I think this will be the "new normal" for some time to come.

Bette deKoning & Sandy Alley

CoPresidents, WG&F



We're delighted to announce our continuing music programs. We are truly honored to have all of these talented musicians sharing their gifts with our community. All services (unless otherwise noted below) will be streamed live at 10am, on our YouTube channel and will be on Facebook live. Feel free to join in the live chat and let us know that you're watching!

November 1st - Soprano Kelley Hollis of Juventas New Music Ensemble performs a special All Saints Day program featuring a world premiere of a new setting of "For All the Saints" by composer Delvyn Case III. The program will also include works by Florence Price, Rosephanye Powell, Samuel Barber, Leonard Bernstein, and Aaron Jay Kernis.

November 8th - Tenor Nate Ramsayer (section leader of the First Parish Church in Lexington, Unitarian Universalist, and member of the Tanglewood Festival Chorus) performs Johann Sebastian Bach's "Mache dich, mein Herze, rein," from St. Matthew Passion.

November 15th - Mezzo-soprano Sarah Heltzel, an opera star who has performed leading roles with Seattle Opera and New York City Opera, performs Gioachino Rossini's "Fac ut portem" from "Stabat Mater."

November 22nd - Our church's own Cameron Shave, teenage trumpet player and composer, will perform a joyful Thanksgiving program.

December 4th, 6:30-8pm - Julia Scott Carey leads a Christmas Carol Marathon fundraiser, performing piano arrangements of beloved Christmas songs. Contact our church office to help our fundraising efforts by pledging a small donation per hymn, or by requesting a carol. All funds raised will support the programs and ministry of our church.

December 6th - Stephanie Riley and Greg Mancusi-Ungaro of the Tanglewood Festival Chorus will perform Christmas duets and excerpts from Handel's Messiah.

December 13th - Trumpeter Cameron Shave returns for a rousing Christmas program.

December 20th - Soprano Rose Hegele, contemporary music specialist and member of the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, along with our church's own 10-year-old Cristianna Ciaramitaro, will perform Christmas solos and duets, including works by Samuel Barber and Benjamin Britten.

A huge shoutout to our Minister of Music, Julia Scott Carey for these musical blessings. None of them would be possible without her considerable efforts and talents.



Did you catch Rev. Beth making Fall paintings with broccoli and apples during the October 18th service? How did yours come out? Remember, you can always go back and watch our livestreamed services on YouTube!

Congratulations on the baptism of Hadley Marie Becker

Child of Ross and Joanna Becker
Oct. 11, 2020



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

CSCC CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Thank you to all of the people who attended and contributed to the congregational meeting on October 18.

The motion to pay Gale Associates the amounts owed passed, with 26 in favor, 3 against, and 1 abstention.

Holiday Craft Sale!

SATURDAY NOV. 7 * 10AM- 1PM

*** WEATHER PERMITTING ***

Door hangers, table runners, gnomes, yoyo garlands and spool garlands, candle mats, Christmas tree ornaments, handmade creche sets, Christmas and Fall decor

CENTRAL SQUARE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC, FRONT LAWN
71 CENTRAL SQUARE, BRIDGEWATER (ON THE COMMON)

www.cscucc.org 508-697-6016

Masks and distancing required



A pumpkin door hanger, fall and Christmas table runners, a beautifully designed Creche to place under your Christmas tree, decorative jars filled with candy, cork reindeer and snowman to hang on your tree, these are only a few of the items available to you.

On **Saturday, November 7th between 10am and 1pm** look for the Holiday church fair crafters on the front lawn of our church. **In case of rain join us on Sunday, November 8th following church until 2pm.** You will have an opportunity to shop for your fall and Christmas needs and run into some of your church friends you have not seen in a while. We do ask you to wear a facemask and to follow safe distancing.

Oh, did I mention we also have a yo-yo garland and a snowman made of wood to place on your porch or use as a doorstep? We also have... never mind. We will share more later. We look forward to seeing you on the **7th or 8th of November.**

The Holiday Crafters – Mauree Bundock, Connie Chandler, Jane O'Connell, Lynn Pietras, Gail Wright, Ginny Young, and Terry Reynolds



Saturday, Nov. 7
10am – 1pm
* weather permitting *

Carol Chaffee and David Hanson from Hanson Farm have generously offered to set up a Harvest Table featuring cranberries, preserves, popcorn, gourds, squash, ornamental corn, pumpkins and more! Come by and get all of your Fall necessities!

Physical distancing and face masks will be required.

Central Square Congregational Church
71 Central Square, Bridgewater

Hanson Farm

Harvest Table

Sale

Saturday, Nov. 7

10am-1pm

~ weather permitting ~

Featuring—
Cranberries, preserves, popcorn, gourds,
squash, ornamental corn, pumpkins, and more!

Masks and distancing required

Central Square Congregational Church, UCC • November 2020

CHURCH OFFICE: 508-697-6016 • OFFICE@CSCCUC.COM • www.cscucc.org • www.facebook.com/cscuccbridgewaterma

Attic Treasures Yard Sale!

The Attic Treasures Yard Sale is **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31!** Tell your friends and neighbors! (Rain date, Sunday, November 1)



YARD SALE

Central Square Church, on the front lawn

Saturday, Oct. 31, 9am-1pm
 Bag sale starts at 12 * Rain date: Sun, Nov 1
Masks and distancing required

Yard Sale Donations Needed!

We need stuff to sell! Our favorite items: household & kitchen items; clean linens; sports items; puzzles, toys, and games; home décor & collectibles, small tools.

ALSO: **CHRISTMAS-THEMED CLOTHING** (ties, sweaters, dresses, hats...children, adult, and pet) and other holiday-themed items and decorations.

Please, no furniture, electronics, TVs, books, or clothes (except Christmas-themed).

Donation dropoff is **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30**, 12noon-3pm, and 6-7pm. If none of those times work for you, contact the church office for other arrangements.

Pie Sale Fundraiser!



Grab 'n Go!
 At the church,
 along Church St.

**A variety of
 flavors will be
 available!**

Saturday, Nov. 7, 10am – 12noon, \$20 per pie

Grab 'n Go! Come by the side door of the church (on Church St.), and pick up a delicious, homemade pie. Flavor availability will be first come, first serve. Will you take an apple pie home? How about pumpkin? Maybe one of each? *Physical distancing and face masks will be required.*



Saturday, Nov. 7, 7-8pm, Via ZOOM!

We know we can't all gather in the Fellowship Hall and have pie and coffee, and have a nice chat. (And then go up front for another piece of pie of a different kind!)

HOWEVER! We can do what we can do, which is gather online! Contact the church office for an invitation to the ZOOM gathering (you'll need to have the link). Then on Saturday, November 7, cut yourself a piece of your favorite pie, grab a cup of coffee or tea, and log into the Zoom Pie Night. You'll be put into a "breakout" room with half a dozen other folks, to visit and chat... just like on Pie Night at the Fair!

Turkey Dinner Takeout! Thu, Nov 12
 From Boston Tavern, Middleboro Must reserve **NO LATER THAN FRI, NOV 6**



Dinner for Two \$35 Restaurant dining at home!

Turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, vegetable, gravy, cranberry sauce, dessert
 WWW.CSCCUCC.ORG or 508-697-6016
 Pickup at Central Square Congregational Church, Bridgewater

We might not be able to hold our annual turkey dinner inside the building this year, but we can still eat yummy food! Boston Tavern in Middleborough is doing the cooking, and we are doing the eating.

Orders must be received by **FRIDAY, NOV 6**. You can place your order online at cscucc.org, or by calling the church office phone at 508-697-6016, M-F, 9am to 1pm.



Southern New England Conference

United Church of Christ

Living the Love & Justice of Jesus

Daily Lectionary Scripture References -November 2020 (Year A)

Sun., Nov. 1*Twenty-second Sunday after**Pentecost*

Joshua 3:7-17

Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

Matthew 23:1-12

Mon., Nov. 2

Psalm 128

Joshua 4:1-24

1 Thessalonians 2:13-20

Tues., Nov. 3

Psalm 128

Joshua 6:1-16, 20

Acts 13:1-12

Wed., Nov. 4

Psalm 128

Joshua 10:12-14

Matthew 15:1-9

Thurs., Nov. 5

Psalm 78:1-7

Joshua 5:10-12

Revelation 8:6—9:12

Fri., Nov. 6

Psalm 78:1-7

Joshua 8:30-35

Revelation 9:13-21

Sat., Nov. 7

Psalm 78:1-7

Joshua 20:1-9

Matthew 24:1-14

Sun., Nov. 8*Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost*

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Psalm 78:1-7

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Matthew 25:1-13

Mon., Nov. 9

Psalm 78

Joshua 24:25-33

1 Corinthians 14:20-25

Tues., Nov. 10

Psalm 78

Nehemiah 8:1-12

1 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Wed., Nov. 11

Psalm 78

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Matthew 24:29-35

Thurs., Nov. 12

Psalm 123

Judges 2:6-15

Revelation 16:1-7

Fri., Nov. 13

Psalm 123

Judges 2:16-23

Revelation 16:8-21

Sat., Nov. 14

Psalm 123

Judges 5:1-12

Matthew 12:43-45

Sun., Nov. 15*Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

Judges 4:1-7

Psalm 123

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Matthew 25:14-30

Mon., Nov. 16

Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18

Judges 4:8-24

Romans 2:1-11

Tues., Nov. 17

Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18

Exodus 2:1-10

1 Thessalonians 5:12-18

Wed., Nov. 18

Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18

Esther 7:1-10

Matthew 24:45-51

Thurs., Nov. 19

Psalm 100

Genesis 48:15-22

Revelation 14:1-11

Fri., Nov. 20

Psalm 100

Isaiah 40:1-11

Revelation 22:1-9

Sat., Nov. 21

Psalm 100

Ezekiel 34:25-31

Matthew 12:46-50

Sun., Nov. 22*Reign of Christ*

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalm 100

Ephesians 1:15-23

Matthew 25:31-46

Mon., Nov. 23

Psalm 28

Numbers 27:15-23

2 Timothy 2:8-13

Tues., Nov. 24

Psalm 28

Zechariah 11:4-17

Revelation 19:1-9

Wed., Nov. 25

Psalm 28

Jeremiah 31:10-14

John 5:19-40

Thurs., Nov. 26*Thanksgiving Day*

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Zechariah 13:1-9

Revelation 14:6-13

or

Deut 8:7-18 and Psalm 65

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Luke 17:11-19

Fri., Nov. 27

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Zechariah 14:1-9

1 Thessalonians 4:1-18

Sat., Nov. 28

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Micah 2:1-13

Matthew 24:15-31

Sun., Nov. 29*First Sunday of Advent*

Isaiah 64:1-9

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Mark 13:24-37

Mon., Nov. 30

Psalm 79

Micah 4:1-5

Revelation 15:1-8

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NOVEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 10am Worship (online), Communion Sunday, All Saints Day	2 6-8pm Food Pantry open	3	4 6:30 WG&F meeting (via Zoom)	5 10-1 Food Pantry open 7pm Al-Anon	6 Turkey Dinner Reservations Due!	7 10am Pie Sale, Craft Sale, Harvest Table 7pm Virtual Pie Night
8 10am Worship (online)	9	10	11 OFFICE CLOSED	12 10-1 Food Pantry open 5:45pm Turkey Dinner Takeout Pickup	13	14
15 10am Worship (online)	16	17	18 7pm Cabinet (via Zoom)	19 10-1 Food Pantry open 7pm Al-Anon	20	21
22 10am Worship (online)	23 6-7:30pm Thanksgiving Basket Sorting	24 2-5pm Thanksgiving Basket Distribution	25	26 OFFICE CLOSED Food Pantry Closed 7pm Al-Anon	27 OFFICE CLOSED	28
29 10am Worship (online)	30					

CSCC Cabinet Meeting – Minutes
October 21, 2020 *via Zoom teleconferencing*

The virtual meeting was called to order at 7:05.

Cabinet members in attendance: Rev. Beth Stotts, Pastor; Anne Malmquist, Moderator; Denise Molinari, Vice Moderator; Dave Sheibley, Treasurer; Diane Sheibley, Clerk; Lynn Pietras, Board of Deacons; Ed Buckland, Board of Trustees; Bill O'Neil, Board of Christian Outreach; Ellen Crawford, Music Committee; Barbara Morey, History & Memorials Committee; Gail Wershing (Growth)

Also present: Gordon Brailsford (Trustees); Ellen Atherton, Congregational Administrator; Rich Sullivan, Sexton; Paul Holmes, Director of Video Evangelism

Rev. Beth opened the meeting with a prayer.

Rev. Beth did a check-in with everyone's spiritual condition, and encouraged everyone to "check in with yourself" often.

Diane Sheibley did the roll call.

MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER CABINET MEETING

The minutes from the September meeting were reviewed and there were no objections or corrections. Lynn asked for clarification on the PPP loan from the government, and whether that was actually a loan. Dave answered that technically, yes, the program was a loan program, but that it would be forgiven if it was used for payroll. The minutes were approved.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Rev. Beth called attention to her pastor's report. She noted that the Advent book study book was chosen. She attended a workshop on Christmas via Zoom, and hope we can incorporate some creative ways to bring it to life. She proposed working together with other local churches to perhaps, at 7pm on Christmas eve, have people and families light candles, go outside, and sing silent night in true Christmas eve tradition. Worship will be livestreamed as well.

There were 67 pastoral care visits in the last month. Rev. Beth is working with the other local churches on a virtual ecumenical thanksgiving service. And remember, Advent is right around the corner! Begins Nov. 29.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dave Sheibley noted that we're running below budget on revenues, as expected. We're at about \$11,000 under budgeted revenues.

CONGREGATIONAL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Ellen reported on the August fundraiser – the bottle and can redemption project – and noted that a little over \$100 was raised. She also noted that the September online auction was not successful, and we got no sales from it. Luckily, it didn't cost us anything as we only had to pay if we sold something.

Ellen reported that most of the calls that come in to the office are still asking about the food pantry. She has also been spending her time on assisting Rev. Beth and the care team, and keeping up with online work like updating the website and Facebook and the database. She has put out hand sanitizer and wipes in every room through the church in anticipation of more meetings taking place. She noted that the stand-alone hand sanitizer stations were rather pricey, but it would be nice to have some around and convenient. If anyone knows of a source for cheaper ones, please let her know.

BUILDING REOPENING TASK FORCE

Lynn and Ed reported that the task force finished phase one of their job, and are recommending that we reopen the building to small group meetings (20 people or fewer), with strict protocols and requirements. Groups would also need to have all attendees noted on the Contact Trace Signin sheet, and complete a cleaning checklist when they are done.

continued...

They will leave it up to the sexton as to whether he wants to remove all unused chairs (the ones beyond the 20 max allowed) to another room so that they are not used, as well as perhaps the tables. Discussion ensued about the possibility of the Sunday night AA group resuming meetings, but they are a very large group. The guidelines also say that tables can only be used with special permission, and it was determined that Ellen will handle that permission when they call to schedule the meeting. A trash can will be put in the fellowship hall, and Rich will handle removal of the trash from the room.

Diane Sheibley moved to accept the proposed policy and guidelines, and Ellen Crawford seconded. The vote was unanimous to approve.

HISTORICAL CHURCH BUILDING COMMITTEE PROJECT

Barbara Morey noted that she had very good news. The town financial committee has approved the \$200,000 grant that the CPC recommended, and the town council voted unanimously to approve it as well. A week from tonight the CPC will meet and tell us when the funds will be available to us. Barbara will talk to them about the deed restriction that is required of the deal, namely that we cannot sell the building unless we pay back the grant amount. There is a fee associated with the deed restriction, and it was mentioned that we should see if the town is going to pay for that. Barbara has informed Gale Associates of the progress, and that work likely won't be starting until after January 1.

Barbara also reported that the grant writer continues to apply for additional grants, and that the committee is also working on sending letters to local businesses soliciting donations. The grant writer's fees are being funded by targeted donations and sales of donated items. He is working in 10-hour increments (at \$40/hour).

Gordon noted that the next step is for the town to draw up a grant agreement. The congregation should likely need to approve the deed restriction. He noted that the Trustees need to work very closely with Barbara and the HCBC on the actual work to be done as there are many details of the work, and financial decisions in the choices. We need to make sure we also have a procedure in place for processing/approving Gale Associates invoices. Barbara offered to invite several reps from Gale Associates to a conference call to talk about process and answer questions.

"CHURCH FAIR"

Diane Sheibley noted the fundraising events taking the place of the church fair this year:

- Yard sale on the front lawn of the church on Saturday, Oct. 31. Donation items can be brought to the church on Friday, Oct. 30. Rain date is Sunday, Nov. 1.
- Pie sale, craft sale, Hanson Farm harvest table (all outdoors) on Saturday, Nov. 7, weather permitting.
- Turkey Dinner Takeout, catered by Boston Tavern in Middleboro, on Thursday, Nov. 12. Preorders are required. Preordering deadline is Friday, Nov. 6.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Diane noted that the deadline for the November steeple sounds was passed, but items can still be accepted in the next day or two.
- Rev. Beth noted that All Saints worship will be celebrated on Sunday, Nov. 1. She has the list of loved ones that were lost this year, but if you have anyone you'd like added to the list, just let her know.
- Bill O'Neil (Outreach) noted that the Thanksgiving baskets for those in need will be happening this year as usual, with COVID-safe protocols in place. Distribution is the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. They expect to give out 60-80 turkey dinner baskets.
- Rich Sullivan (sexton) noted that he has not had to order cleaning supplies in quite some time, but is nearing the time he needs to do so, especially with the building opening up to small group meetings. He will keep the expense as low as he can.
 - o He also noted that a box was delivered to the church and put inside the side door, but it doesn't belong to the church. It's someone else's along Church St., possibly the apartment building across the street. Ellen will look into it tomorrow

Rev. Beth closed the meeting with a benediction. The meeting adjourned at 8:20.

Treasurer's Report
 September 30, 2020
 Fiscal Year July 2020 - June 2021
 25% thru Fiscal Year
 Based on FY 2019-2020 Budget

	YTD	Budget	% of Budget
Income			
Regular Pledges	27,559	138,000	20%
Unpledged Offerings	1,290	4,500	29%
Plate Offering	0	1,000	0%
Total · Pledges / Offerings	28,849	143,500	20%
Special Collections			
MACUCC Fellowship Dues	0		
Total · Special Collections	0		
Fundraisers/Events Revenue			
Golf Tournament		7,200	0%
Breakfasts			
Church Fair		7,000	0%
Misc Fundraisers	126		
Total · Fundraisers/Events Revenue	126	14,200	1%
Facility Usage Income			
Non Profit Bldg Use	160	1,800	9%
Private Bldg Use	50	850	6%
Total · Facility Usage Income	210	2,650	8%
Miscellaneous Income	280		
Total Income	29,464	160,350	18%
Expenses			
Total · Senior Minister Expenses	27,867	107,029	26%
Total · Support Staff Expenses	12,462	48,266	26%
Total · Office Expenses	2,810	8,300	34%
Total · Church Building Costs	4,287	29,800	14%
Operating Committees			
Christian Education	165	750	22%
Church Growth	123	1,000	12%
Deacons		1,000	0%
Music (Materials/Substitutes)	110	600	18%
Stewardship		350	0%
Outreach	866	4,339	20%
Total · Operating Committees	1,264	8,039	16%
MACUCC Fellowship Dues		2,700	0%
Miscellaneous Expenses			
Pilgrim Assn Fellowship Dues	215	200	107%
Total Expenses	48,904	204,334	24%
Net income (loss)	(19,440)	(43,984)	44%
Music expenses reimbursed by Pierce Fund		17,131	
Transfer from Investments	7,700	26,853	
	(11,740)	0	

Treasurer's Report
 September 30, 2020
 Fiscal Year July 2020 - June 2021
 25% thru Fiscal Year

Cash balances		
Operating account		4,472
Money Market		
Restricted	27,998	
Unrestricted	724	
		<u>28,722</u>
Fair account		16
Minister's Discretionary account		616
Outreach account		
Includes paid pledge set-aside	2,676	
Food Pantry	32,688	
		<u>35,364</u>
Capital Campaign account		5,706
Total cash balances		<u><u>74,895</u></u>
Endowments investment fund		
Protected principal	135,513	
Unrestricted funds	85,503	
Income YTD FY 2021	12,214	
Total value 9/30/2020		<u>233,231</u>
Parsonage investment fund		
Principal parsonage sale	89,677	
Profit (Loss)	18,720	
Total value 9/30/2020		<u>108,397</u>
Total investments 9/30/2020		<u><u>341,627</u></u>
Anniversary Committee expenses	3,950	

Central Square Congregational Church
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Church Administration

Pastor: Rev. Elizabeth Stotts, csccpastor@hotmail.com
Congregational Administrator: Ellen Atherton, office@cscucc.com
Sexton: Rich Sullivan
Minister of Music: Julia Scott Carey, juliascottcarey@gmail.com
Director of Video Evangelism: Paul Holmes
Treasurer: David Sheibley, treasurer@cscucc.com
Office telephone: (508) 697-6016
Facebook pages: facebook.com/cscuccbridgewaterma (main page),
facebook.com/groups/801550253194149 (youth page)
Steeple Sounds submissions deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication.

Amazon Shopping!

Remember that when you shop on Amazon, use "smile.Amazon.com" rather than just "Amazon.com", and designate Central Square Congregational Church as the charity to benefit from your purchases. It costs you nothing extra! Contact the church office with questions.

Central Square Congregational Church, UCC
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Bridgewater, MA 02324

FIRST CLASS MAIL