

Steeple Sounds

The monthly newsletter of Central Square Congregational Church, UCC August 2022

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

Dear Friends,

It's 91 degrees outside and disgustingly humid as I write this. Yesterday I went to the hospital for a pastoral care visit and heard that all of the surgeries were being cancelled for the day because the air conditioning in the building wasn't working properly. I imagined the people who were in need of surgery being told they have to wait. I imagined for a moment what it would be like to perform surgery during a heat wave without proper air conditioning. As I walked down the hall toward the elevator, I watched as nurses removed their outer layers and patients fanned themselves with their menus and paperback novels. Air conditioning really is a luxury.

As I drove away from the hospital I began to pray for the workers who labor outside. I prayed that they would stay hydrated and take frequent breaks. I prayed for the young father who stopped by the church earlier in the day to ask for help paying his electric bill. I prayed and prayed and the image of water kept coming back to me.

Water.

Water plays such an important role in our lives and in our faith. Jesus was nurtured in the waters of Mary's womb. He was baptized in the waters of the Jordan River. As his first "miracle", he turned water into wine. The water of his tears fell down his face as he wept for all of creation. Water is a powerful symbol and force. It is also through water that we are made as One People through baptism.

Water.

Friends, please stay hydrated this summer. And as you drink, remember that water is so much more than H_2O .

In Christ,

Rev. Beth







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.

Remote Worship on Facebook and YouTube

Sunday Worship will continue to be livestreamed from the Sanctuary at 10 a.m.

Use the link on the homepage of www.csccucc.org to access Sunday worship, or visit our Facebook page. Past worship services are also available in both places.

Congregational Receptionist

Jennifer "Jenne" Foronjy is originally from the North Fork of Long Island, New York, and found her way to the South Shore of Massachusetts in 2004. She is a long-time career administrator as well as an artist (mixed media) and musician (drums and singing.) She greatly enjoys attending concerts



and volunteering at pop culture conventions, music camps for kids, and animal shelters. Jenne feels her greatest accomplishment and joy has been spending the past 16 years being mom to the most amazing child. She lives quite happily in her adopted home of Bridgewater with her wife, her teen, and also three cats, Spooky, Mabel Bacon and Lars.

Jenne (pronounced "Jen") is the welcoming face in the office Tuesdays through Thursdays, 9a.m. - 1p.m. She can be reached at office@csccucc.com or 508-697-6016.



Tuesday thru Thursday, 9am - 1pm or by appointment Please note the office will be open by appointment only the week of Aug. 15.

Venmo!

We continue to make it easier than ever to contribute to CSCC. The church now accepts donations via Venmo! Aim your phone camera below, or use the Venmo app to send your donation to @cscc-ucc



NOTE: Next Cabinet meeting is Wednesday, August 17, 7pm

Monthly meetings of the church leadership are currently being held in the Fellowship Hall. All church members are also welcome to attend.



The Bridgewater Food Pantry, hosted and supported by CSCC, is open Thursdays, 10am-1pm, and the first Mondays of the month, 6-7:30pm. COVID protocols are in place and adhered to for the safety of all. All Bridgewater residents who are in need of food are welcome. If you are a Bridgewater resident unable to come to the food pantry, but are in need of food, please contact the church office by email or phone (below) and arrangements will be made for you.



CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY Do you need a meal, a call, 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

Deacons **Deb Sorgman** - debsorgman@gmail.com Jae Stotts – jaestotts@gmail.com

CSCC Care Team Carol Chaffee John Scott Phoebe Hogg **Rev. Beth Stotts Bev Mitchell**



Fun and fundraiser!

CSCC folks not only had fun marching in the parade, but the bake sale raise \$147 for the church! Townspeople were also very appreciative that we had our doors open for them to use our restrooms. Thank you to the Stotts family for organizing the events of the day!



Thank you Al Lacerda Photography!

A huge shoutout and thank you to Al Lacerda Photography, for taking FREE family photos on the front lawn of the church on the 4th of July. What a blessing that was to so many families! If you had your picture taken, and want to download it, use the link on the homepage of www.csccucc.org. (Look for the yellow box in the middle of the page.)



Summer Book Study

According to Amazon:

"Desperate for a way to slow down and connect, Kristin put an ordinary picnic table in her front yard, painted it turquoise, and began inviting friends and neighbors to join her. Life changed in her community, and it can change in yours too. Alongside personal and heartwarming stories, Kristin gives you:

• Stress-free ideas for kick-starting your own Turquoise Table

• Simple recipes to take outside and share with others

• Stories from people using Turquoise Tables in their neighborhoods

• Encouragement to overcome barriers that keep you from connecting"

Read this book at your leisure, then join Rev. Beth on Saturday, August 20 at 9:30am to have a lively discussion. It will be held on the front lawn, weather permitting, or inside the church if need be. All are welcome to participate.

Communications Coordinator

Diane Sheibley has, with the approval of Rev. Beth and Moderator Anne Malmquist, taken on the role of "Communications Coordinator" for CSCC. You may know Diane as a former Trustee and Moderator, or from the Fair Committee. She is currently also the church Clerk.

Diane feels that the job is a perfect fit, as she spent the majority of her career in magazine publishing, and she has a passion for keeping things organized. She also feels strongly about making sure that CSCC members know what's going on at the church, what the church is doing in the community both locally and beyond, and how they can be more involved in a way that suits their time and talents. It is with these goals in mind that Diane will be involved in the messaging of CSCC on social media, in print, and via email, and constantly striving to ensure the CSCC family feels both included and recognized for all that the church has to offer.

(See her full bio at csccucc.org/about-us)





See next page for a description of the eagle scout project!

amazon.com

Donating to CSCC can be... free! with your help!

Remember that when you shop on Amazon, type "smile.Amazon.com" into your browser rather than just "Amazon.com", then just shop as you normallly would. When you designate Central Square Congregational Church as the charity to benefit from your purchases, the church gets a percentage of all your purchases. It costs you nothing extra. And tell your friends, too, near and far!

Contact the church office at office@csccucc.com or 508-697-6016 with questions or to help you get set up.

- Perfect for:
- back to school shopping
- Christmas shopping
- purchases for work
- all your purchases!

From the Desk of the Sexton

Greetings everyone!

Since the beginning of the COVID pandemic I have completed a few renovation projects within the Church. Most recently I have completed some painting in the Sanctuary.

	I — I
	I — I
	I — I
	I — I
	I — I
	—
	—
	I — I

There is one project that I believe would improve the beauty of the Church sanctuary: the refurbishing of the window shutters on the windows along the sides of the sanctuary. This would require taking down the shutters, then transporting them to my home where I could scrape, sand, and paint them. Then the shutters would need to be transported back to the church and put back into place on the windows.

In order accomplish this I would need at least 2 or more volunteers to assist me in taking the shutters down and transporting them back and forth to the church.

If anyone would be interested in helping me with this project, please contact me. I can go into more detail on my project plan and timeline as well as the specific tasks that I would need assistance with.

If you would be willing to assist me, please contact me by email or phone/text at Sully1950@comcast.net or 339-933-5436.

Thank you in advance.

Rich Sullivan

Sexton



Sunday, September 18, 9:00a.m.

For those of you that remember way back before the pandemic, we used to gather for hot breakfast before worship service on the first and third Sundays of each month. Thanks to the efforts and enthusiasm of Tom Struzik and his trusty crew, we will once again have the privilege of a tasty beginning to our Sundays twice a month, beginning Sunday, September 18.

If you haven't been before, we can't wait to see you there this Fall. If you have been before, welcome back!

The price is right -- pay what you can. And if you can't pay anything, we welcome you all the same. You won't want to miss this! This event is open to the community, so bring your friends! Page 5

Eagle Scout Project

Eagle Candidate:

Nicolas Cannizzo Troop 29, East Bridgewater



Project Beneficiary:

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



Current Donation Area

Proposed Donation Center

Project Description

The goal of this project, working with CSCC UCC, is to renovate their current donation area into a workable donation center. I have worked with the church administration to determine the best applications to create a fully functionable workspace.

The project will begin with the removal of all existing shelves and hooks. The wall will be restored and repainted. The final steps will include installation of new shelving units, cabinets, drawers, counters, backdrop (with universal accessories) and two new, heavy-duty, utility carts to replace the current shopping carts.

This space has been utilized by the church as a donation area for many years. The church congregation and members of the community make weekly "drop offs" of items for those in need to the local food pantry, the women's shelter, and homeless shelter/ministries in our community. The area is also used to collect for world events too. For example, when natural disasters hit like a hurricane, flood or tornado, the church will collect blankets and clothes in this area to aid in relief.

It's an honor to undertake this project, knowing that the result will be help so many amazing organizations.

— Nicolas Cannizzo

Page 6

Have you joined?

So, here we are asking 40 donors to step up and pledge \$20 more a week to plug a \$40,000 hole in our operating budget. **So far, we have 12 40-for-\$40k pledges.** We only need 28 more! Are you able to add your name to this project? If you cannot afford \$20 a week any pledge increase or new pledge is still a huge help. If you are already pledging/giving an amount that is comfortable for you and your family, you are still contributing in an important way. We are grateful to every one of you!

First time pledgers may be wondering: How does pledging work? A bit of background.

• A pledge is a promise.

• Our church and its work are funded entirely by annual pledges and financial gifts from members and friends of this church. The cost to keep us going is \$4,000 per week, bare bones.

• Your pledge/promise to give to this church is your personal decision. If you pledge and your financial situation changes, you can change the amount you pledged -- up or down -- at any time.

• We have no larger church in the background to fill our budgeted needs—or telling us what to do. Each Congregational church operates as its own congregation decides.

We must remember: WE are the church, and we are responsible.

You may go to csccucc.org/giving for more information or to make your first pledge or increase your current pledge. Or use the form on the next page.

May the light of Christ shine on you,

Gail Wershing—for Stewardship

Worship

Sign up for one or more Sundays at csccucc.org/events or contact the church office

Reade

Remember, you need not be a member of the church to pledge! All are welcome!

Pledged funds may be paid weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annually. All pledges are confidential.





ଶ

Worship Ushers!

No longterm commitments!



Page 7





Central Square Congregational Church, UCC 40 for \$40k

□ I am joining **40 for \$40k** by increasing my pledge by \$20/week or more

□ I am joining **40 for \$40k** by making a new pledge of \$20/week or more

Name(s):	
Address:	
City:	State:Zip:
Phone:	Email:
FOR CHANGES:	
I/we pledge to	increase my/our annual giving to CSCC as follows:
\$	more D per week D per month D other:
FOR NEW PLEDGES:	
I/we pledge to	my/our annual giving to CSCC to be:
\$	per week 🛛 per month 🖓 other:
I/we will be making m	y contributions by:
	put in the offering plate (if cash, put in an envelope with your name for recordkeeping)
Personal check maile	d or dropped off with the office
• •	y bank's online bill pay (<i>I will go online with my bank and set this up)</i> account withdrawal by CSCC) — please send an authorization form
Signed:	Date:
 Drop it in the offer Put it in the "Treas Mail it to the churc Or scan it and email it to treas 	urer" mailbox at the church h (CSCC, Attn: Financial Secretary, 71 Central Square, Bridgewater, MA 02324) pasurer@csccucc.com
All pledges are kept confide	ntial.

Southern New England Conference United Church of Christ Living the Love & Justice of Jesus

Daily Lectionary Scripture References – August 2022 (Year C)

Mon., Aug. 1 Psalm 60 Hosea 11:12–12:14 Colossians 3:18–4:1

Tues., Aug. 2 Psalm 60 Hosea 13:1-16 Colossians 4:2-6

Wed., Aug. 3 Psalm 60 Hosea 14:1-9 Luke 12:22-31

Thurs., Aug. 4 Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23 Isaiah 9:8-17 Romans 9:1-9

Fri., Aug. 5 Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23 Isaiah 9:18—10:4 Acts 7:1-8

Sat., Aug. 6 Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23 Isaiah 1:2-9, 21-23 Matthew 6:19-24

Sun., Aug. 7 *Ninth Sunday after Pentecost* Isaiah 1:1, 10-20 Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23 Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 Luke 12:32-40

Mon., Aug. 8 Psalm 11 Isaiah 2:1-4 Hebrews 11:1-7

Tues., Aug. 9 Psalm 11 Isaiah 24:1-13 Hebrews 11:17-28

Wed., Aug. 10 Psalm 11 Isaiah 24:14-23 Luke 12:41-48

Thurs., Aug. 11 Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19 Isaiah 2:5-11 Hebrews 10:26-31 Fri., Aug. 12 Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19 Isaiah 3:1-17 Hebrews 10:32-39

Sat., Aug. 13 Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19 Isaiah 3:18-4:6 Matthew 24:15-27

Sun., Aug. 14 Tenth Sunday after Pentecost Isaiah 5:1-7 Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19 Hebrews 11:29–12:2 Luke 12:49-56

Mon., Aug. 15 Psalm 74 Isaiah 5:8-23 1 John 4:1-6

Tues., Aug. 16 Psalm 74 Isaiah 5:24-30 Acts 7:44-53

Wed., Aug. 17 Psalm 74 Isaiah 27:1-13 Luke 19:45-48

Thurs., Aug. 18 Psalm 71:1-6 Jeremiah 6:1-19 Hebrews 12:3-17

Fri., Aug. 19 Psalm 71:1-6 Jeremiah 6:20-30 Acts 17:1-9

Sat., Aug. 20 Psalm 71:1-6 Jeremiah 1:1-3, 11-19 Luke 6:1-5

Sun., Aug. 21 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm 71:1-6 Hebrews 12:18-29 Luke 13:10-17 **Mon., Aug. 22** Psalm 10 Jeremiah 7:1-15 Hebrews 3:7-4:11

Tues., Aug. 23 Psalm 10 Jeremiah 7:16-26 Revelation 3:7-13

Wed., Aug. 24 Psalm 10 Jeremiah 7:27-34 Luke 6:6-11

Thurs., Aug. 25 Psalm 81:1, 10-16 Jeremiah 11:1-17 1 Peter 3:8-12

Fri., Aug. 26 Psalm 81:1, 10-16 Jeremiah 12:1-13 1 Peter 4:7-11

Sat., Aug. 27 Psalm 81:1, 10-16 Jeremiah 2:1-3, 14-22 Matthew 20:20-28

Sun., Aug. 28 *Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost* Jeremiah 2:4-13 Psalm 81:1, 10-16 Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 Luke 14:1, 7-14

Mon., Aug. 29 Psalm 58 Jeremiah 2:23-37 Hebrews 13:7-21

Tues., Aug. 30 Psalm 58 Jeremiah 3:1-14 Titus 1:1-9

Wed., Aug. 31 Psalm 58 Jeremiah 3:15-25 Luke 14:15-24

Revised Common Lectionary Daily Readings, copyright © 2005 Consultation on Common Texts. <u>commontexts.org</u>. Used by permission. This resource may be reproduced by congregations for their own worship and educational activities. Provided by the Southern New England Conference, UCC

SATURDAY	Q		<mark>ເ</mark>	9:30am Summer book study with Rev. Beth	27	
FRIDAY	Ŋ		2	6	20	
122 THURSDAY	9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 6:30pm Church Crafters 7pm Al-Anon	I VACATION	9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 7pm Al-Anon	1.8 10-1 Food Pantry Open 6:30pm Church Crafters 7pm Al-Anon	9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 7pm Al-Anon	
AUGUST 2022 SEDAY WEDNESDAY THURS	9-1 Church office open	REV. BETH ON VACATION	9-1 Church office open	7pm Cabinet meeting	9-1 Church office open	9-1 Church office open
- AUG	9-1 Church office open 7pm Women's NA		9-1 Church office open 7pm Women's NA	7pm Women's NA	9-1 Church office open 7pm Women's NA	30 9-1 Church office open 7pm Women's NA
MONDAY	 6-7:30pm Food Pantry Open 6:30pm Women's AA 		10am Church Crafters 6:30pm Women's AA	15 Steeple Sounds submissions due 6:30pm Women's AA	10am Church Crafters 6:30pm Women's AA	6:30pm Women's AA
SUNDAY			7 10am Worship (in person and online) 6:45pm AA Meeting Rev. Beth on vacation	14 10am Worship (in person and online) 6:45pm AA Meeting	21 10am Worship (in person and online) 10:45-11:30am Bottle & Can dropoff 6:45pm AA Meeting	28 10am Worship (in person and online) 6:45pm AA Meeting

Central Square Congregational Church, UCC •August 2022 508-697-6016 • OFFICE@CSCCUCC.COM • www.csccucc.org • www.facebook.com/csccuccbridgewaterma

Treasurer's Report June 30, 2022 Fiscal Year July 2021 - June 2022

	YTD	YTD		Annual
	Actual	Budget	Difference	Budget
Income			(40.047)	
Regular Pledges	124,953	138,000	(13,047)	138,000
Unpledged Offerings	13,628	4,500	9,128	4,500
Plate Offering	1,042	1,000	42	1,000
Total · Pledges / Offerings	139,623	143,500	(3,877)	143,500
Special Collections		_		
MACUCC Fellowship Dues	3,124	0	3,124	0
Total · Special Collections	3,124	0	3,124	0
Fundraisers/Events Revenue				
Golf Tournament	0	7,200	(7,200)	7,200
Breakfasts	0			
Church Fair	8,327	7,000	1,327	7,000
Misc Fundraisers	3,453	5,000	(1,547)	5,000
Total · Fundraisers/Events Revenue	11,780	19,200	(7,420)	19,200
Facility Usage Income				
Non Profit Bldg Use	3,936	1,800	2,136	1,800
Private Bldg Use	0	850	(850)	850
Total · Facility Usage Income	3,936	2,650	1,286	2,650
Miscellaneous Income	1,380			
Total Income	159,844	165,350	(5,506)	165,350
Expenses				
Total · Senior Minister Expenses	111,119	110,180	(939)	110,180
Total · Support Staff Expenses	48,227	48,266	39	48,266
Total · Office Expenses	10,346	8,300	(2,046)	8,300
Total · Church Building Costs	44,617	29,800	(14,817)	29,800
Operating Committees				
Christian Education	0	750	750	750
Church Growth	533	1,000	467	1,000
Deacons	1,457	1,000	(457)	1,000
Music (Materials/Substitutes)	684	600	(84)	600
Stewardship	0	350	350	350
Outreach	3,511	4,339	828	4,339
Total · Operating Committees	6,186	8,039	1,853	8,039
MACUCC Fellowship Dues	2,700	2,700	0	2,700
Pilgrim Assn Fellowship Dues	215	200	(15)	200
Miscellaneous Expenses			()	
Total Expenses	223,410	207,485	(15,925)	207,485
let income (loss)	(63,566)	(42,135)	(21,431)	(42,135)
Transfer from Investments	40,000	42,135	2,135	42,135
Transfer from Capital Campaign funds	2,800	,	_,	,
	(20,766)	0		0
	(20,700)			<u> </u>

Treasurer's Report June 30, 2022 Fiscal Year July 2021 - June 2022

Cash balances Operating account Money Market		2,229	
Restricted	29,615		
Unrestricted	775		
omestneted	115	30,390	
Minister's Discretionary account PayPal account		1,098	
Outreach account	4.04.4		
Includes paid pledge set-aside	1,914		
Food Pantry	27,818		
		29,732	
Capital Campaign account		1,204	
Total cash balances		64,653	
Endowments investment fund Protected principal Unrestricted funds Total value 6/30/2022 Income (Loss) YTD FY 2022	135,513 <u>37,305</u> (28,697)	172,818	
Parsonage investment fund	(28,097)		
Principal parsonage sale	60,314		
Income (Loss) on investment	18,773		
Total value 6/30/2022	10,775	79,087	
Total investments 6/30/2022		251,905	
		231,905	
Food Dontry Dolongo May 21, 2022			20.010
Food Pantry Balance May 31, 2022 Donations			28,816
			688
Expenses			(1,686)
Food Pantry Balance June 30, 2022			27,818
Giving Cor	nparison		

Giving Comparison						
	2020 Month	2021 Month	2022 Month	2020 YTD	2021 YTD	2022 YTD
Jan.	10,230.00	13,532.33	10,029.82	10,230.00	13,532.33	10,029.82
Feb.	10,030.33	11,754.66	6,562.91	20,260.33	25,286.99	16,592.73
March	10,672.86	11,538.00	13,355.24	30,933.19	36,824.99	29,947.97
April	14,962.00	13,129.33	11,808.31	45,895.19	49,954.32	41,756.28
May	13,017.66	11,279.57	14,476.24	58,912.85	61,233.89	56,232.52
June	16,806.33	13,469.24	11,304.13	75,719.18	74,703.13	67,536.65
July	9,191.00	13,048.91		84,910.18	87,752.04	
Aug.	8,192.66	10,053.72		93,102.84	97,805.76	
Sept.	11,465.00	10,624.57		104,567.84	108,430.33	
Oct.	8,213.83	15,581.54		112,781.67	124,011.87	
Nov.	8,571.66	12,400.72		121,353.33	136,412.59	
Dec.	14,686.00	10,377.35		136,039.33	146,789.94	



Central Square Congregational Church, UCC 71 Central Square Bridgewater, MA 02324 • www.csccucc.org



Church Administration

Pastor: Rev. Elizabeth Stotts, csccpastor@hotmail.com Congregational Receptionist: Jenne Foronjy, office@csccucc.com Sexton: Rich Sullivan Minister of Music: Julia Scott Carey, juliascottcarey@gmail.com Director of Video Evangelism: Paul Holmes Treasurer: David Sheibley, treasurer@csccucc.com Office telephone: (508) 697-6016 Facebook pages: facebook.com/csccuccbridgewaterma (main page), facebook.com/groups/801550253194149 (youth page) Instagram: @centralsquarechurch 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 71 Central Square Bridgewater, MA 02324

FIRST CLASS MAIL