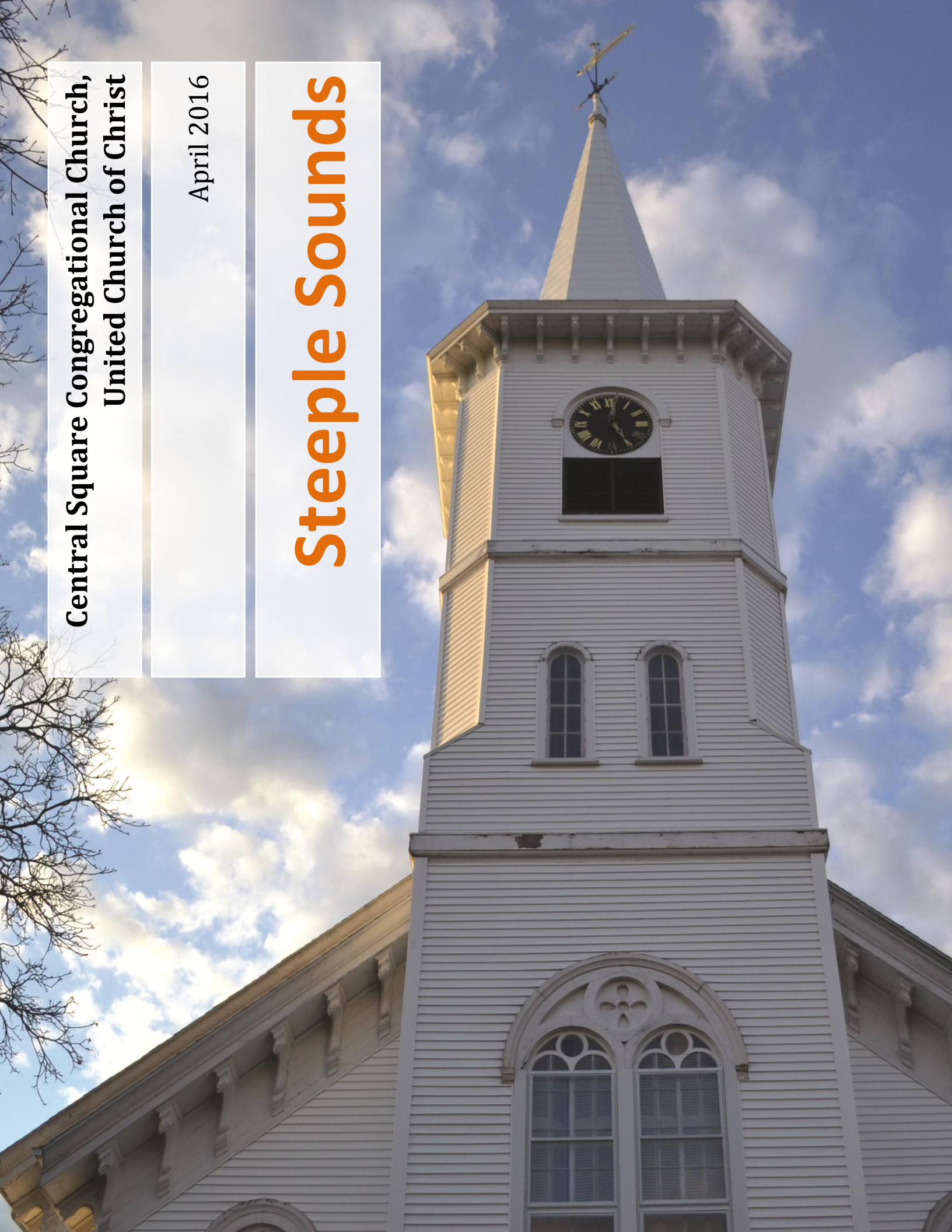


**Central Square Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ**

April 2016

Steeple Sounds



From The Desk of Rev. Beth

When I was 14 years old I had a really phenomenal minister, the Rev. Richard Malmberg. He had an open door policy with all of us in the youth program where we could come and talk with him about anything we wanted. We didn't have to have an "issue" or "agenda". He was just safe, open space to be who we were and talk out whatever was on our minds or hearts. A few years into High School, he moved to New England to begin pastoring at a new church. It was a huge loss for our youth program, but those of us who knew Richard were forever changed.

Fast forward to 2002. I was 24 years old and beginning my seminary program. I was visiting area churches to find "my" church while in school. One Sunday, as I sat in the third pew to the right, I looked up at the minister as he began the Call to Worship and I internally freaked out. I had inadvertently stepped into Richard's church!



I didn't even realize he had ended up in Massachusetts. After worship I went up to him to introduce myself, thinking he wouldn't remember me, but not only did he remember me, he remembered my stories. That week we had lunch to catch up and over sushi he asked, "Are you looking for part time work by any chance?" Just a few weeks later I began my first job in ministry as a Middle School Youth Minister and Sunday School Teacher.

As my path to ordination progressed, I saw my relationship with Richard change. Over these past 15 years, he has gone from being my minister, to my supervisor, to my colleague, and now, one of my closest friends and extended family member. I've seen his kids grow up. I've seen his ministry and his call change and morph. And above all else, I've seen how not only did he mentor me, but there were so many ways I mentored him. I've realized that true mentorship is not one sided.

A few weeks ago the Diaconate at Central Square Congregational Church, UCC unanimously voted to make 12-year-old David Berard a Junior Deacon. David has a strong faith and a creative mind intent on making meaning of the world around him. Over the past two years we have seen David lead worship, preach, serve communion, hold space for people who have questions about their faith, think abstractly about theological concepts and turn those thoughts into fun and interactive programs. Personally, I see a similar relationship with David that I have with Richard. I see the ways in which I support and mentor David, but I also see how he challenges me in my life & ministry. We at CSCC are truly blessed to have Deacon David as a leader in our midst. Our leaders, our mentors, our ministers' come in all shapes and sizes and ages.



It is my sincere hope that you will take some time this month to think about mentorship. Who have you mentored? Who has mentored you? In what ways did you mentor those who mentored you?

-Rev. Beth

Join us in Worship April 3rd when The Rev. Richard Malmberg will be leading Worship with Rev. Beth!

From the Board of Stewardship



Hebrews 11:1 English Standard Version (ESV) By Faith

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

God is pleased to see his house prosper and grow. Open the pages of the bible and you discover that it is full of encouragement. God wants us to dream big, and then follow those dreams with acts of faith. We act in faith by choosing to act now, even when the future is not certain. Waiting for things to be perfect before taking action does not reflect our faith in God. And certainly, fear of change and growth is contrary to Gods vision.

Central Square Congregational Church is asking us all to take the time to dream about our future. We hope you will take some time and connect to Gods vision for his house. Where would you like to see this house in five years? 10 Years? 20 Years?

With our future in mind, CSCC Stewardship committee is beginning this process by looking at where we are now. We are spotlighting how even now God is changing and improving lives in our church. Through the grace of God we will continue changing lives. But what is your vision of our work? In the face of our ever changing world how do you see Gods house evolving?

Be bold. Dream big. Then act in faith to help bring CSCC to where God intends us to be.

Sunday April 10 is Stewardship Sunday.

Celebrate with us! Act in faith! Enjoy the journey with us as we move with God into our exciting future.

God Bless You!!

CSCC Stewardship Committee

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY: a few changes for 2016

Hello all!

As you know, our fiscal year has changed, which has changed the timing of our budgeting process, which in turn has changed the timing of our Stewardship campaign. We've heard some great presentations by church members in the last few weeks about how our church is CHANGING LIVES. Rich, Brad, Jack, and Rob have given great witness to what we can do as a church with our gifts of time, treasure, and talent.

But along with changing of the schedule for the annual Stewardship campaign, there are some logistical changes as well. Please be aware of the following:

* Unlike in the past, your financial pledge card this year will go directly to the financial team to be input into the membership financial system. No one else will be privy to your financial commitment to CSCC work. We know this is a very personal decision, and a personal commitment, and we want to do everything we can to respect your privacy.

* In addition to accepting your annual pledge of "treasure", we will also be welcoming your pledge of time and talent in the coming year. There are so many ways to give, and we all have many God-given talents (some of us even have time!). For all that we do at CSCC to change lives, none of it could be done without the generous pledges of our time and talent, along with our treasure. So please know that we understand that we value ALL of your contributions to God's service, and we welcome your time and talent pledges, large and small.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Diane Sheibley
diane@sheibley.net

IMPORTANT notice about the APRIL Cabinet Meeting:

Please note the change of date – the April cabinet meeting will be on **THURSDAY, APRIL 14**, due to the fact that the normal timing for the meeting is during the school vacation week. Please mark your calendars accordingly.

From the Board of Trustees

The Trustees have been busy with maintenance and repairs of both the church and the parsonage over the past month including securing a contractor for roof repairs. We are currently focused on the budget process and organizing a spring clean up.

Regards,
Tom

From the Board of Outreach

Last month was relatively slow for Outreach. We did have our One Great Hour of Sharing collection and thank you for your generosity.

The Mission Youth dinner seemed to be a great success and we were happy to help out by putting out the place settings.

We are looking forward to our Church World Services Blanket Sunday on April 17th! This is for a great cause and we know everyone will be generous.

Although Warmth in Cold Places has ended, Rob Basler's Brockton homeless are always in need of just about any clothing article, especially socks. My favorite place to shop is Ocean State Job Lot – they have great prices! And no, I am not on their payroll!

Also, please take note of our continual support for Penelope's Place Women's Shelter. Items needed are listed in our weekly bulletin. Boxes for the homeless and Penelope's Place are located in our Church Street entrance.

May God bless you all as we look forward to a beautiful spring.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill O'Neil
Outreach

The office could use a new document shredder!

If you or someone you know has a shredder that they are no longer using or have no need for, please consider donating! Thank you!

News from Growth

Be the Church Items are In! See below for more information on products available, prices, and how to order!

Growth Little League Be The Church Fundraiser



Prices Are Rounded Up
Includes Shipping And \$5
Donation

- T-shirts - S,M,L,XL,2XL,3XL - \$25
- Mugs \$15
- Bag \$28
- Apron \$25
- Bumper stickers \$5

To order contact :
Christine Hoyt
Email
choyt33@verizon.net

Coffee Hour for April is Growth!

Greeters are an important way we can welcome visitors, newcomers, and our church family to worship. You just need to smile, shake a hand, and point people in the right direction. Please consider signing up to be a greeter! *See Christine Hoyt if interested.*

Women's Guild & Fellowship

Come Join Us!



Please join WG&F on Wednesday, April 6th! Our speaker is Janice Reynolds, Terry's sister-in-law. We will be making 23rd Psalm bracelets.

Our cookie bakers for the VA hospital for the month of April are: Ruthie LaBonte - chocolate chip and Ginny Howell - Oatmeal Raisin. Kitchen clean up crew for April is: Thelma Hamel, Diane Glass and Darlene Brown.

We will be finalizing plans this Friday for our Annual Banquet in May. You can reserve a place and pay at our April meeting. Hope to see you on the 6th!

Our business meeting is from 6:30-7:30. The program with Janice will begin at 7:30.

Hope you are all gathering your "rummage" for our Annual Rummage Sale/Luncheon on April 23rd!!

RUMMAGE SALE

DON'T YOU LOVE A SIZZLING SALE?

The WG&F Spring Rummage Sale is just around the corner, and plans are well underway for another SIZZLING SALE. The date is Saturday, April 23, and the time is 9:00-1:30.

Per usual, we are asking for donations of gently used items. Goods may be dropped off at the church on Monday, April 18, Tuesday, April 19, and Wednesday, April 20 during church office hours. The church will also be open on Thursday from 9:00am to 3:00pm, and on Friday from 9:00am to 5:00pm to receive goods--WG&F gals will be "on site" during those times to assist you.

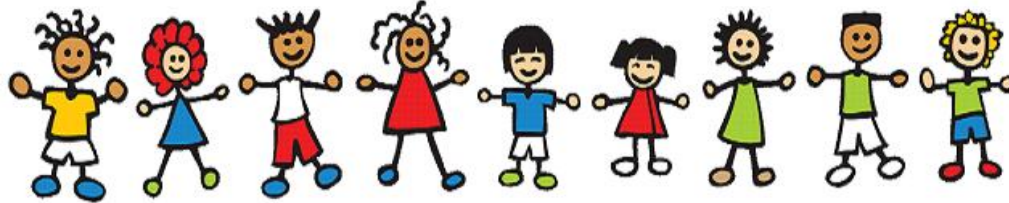
A REMINDER that we can no longer take encyclopedias, dictionaries, text books, or other hard-bound books. We WILL accept paperbacks, children's books, and puzzles.

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year, a monumental project, and we ask that you consider donating time for our organizational efforts on any of the days our "team" is working.

We look forward to seeing you, and don't forget to visit the LUNCH BUNCH in the Fireplace Room on Saturday. Soup will be on!

Marie Nelson, Bette deKoning, & Lori Kelso

From CE



The Sower

Christian Ed has decided to close the Sunday school church year by exploring the parable "The Sower" from the book of Matthew. A parable tells a story and then explains it. It is a story that teaches. We have selected six different mediums to present the parable to the children. "The Sower" will be explored through the medium of music, art, cooking, science, creative drama and lastly Bible skills and games. They will have a different teacher for each medium. Each lesson follows the same format the children experienced last fall. It is still the Spark program, but this is the rotation model. Each lesson gathers all the children together and begins on a lively note by singing songs, the story is briefly introduced, and then the fun begins. The children gather in smaller, age appropriate groups and explore the theme of the story through one of the mediums over a six week period. The goal of this concentrated study of the story is if the child hears the word of God, understands the story, and takes it to heart, then they will share God's teachings.

- Thanks to all who supported the Mission youth by attending the mission dinner. The event raised \$5,600. Thanks to all who helped make this event such a success.
- Once again this year the Sunday school presentation of "Images of Holy Week" was a great hands on learning event for both the children who participated and the congregation who enjoyed the presentation.
- The Sunday school is "Sow" excited about our next learning experience. The children will be learning the story of "The Sower" through a rotation model. Over the next six weeks the children will hear this parable and investigate it through drama, art, science, music, bible study and games, and cooking. The children will then share their knowledge with the congregation on Children's Sunday! Mark your calendar now for June 12th. You won't want to miss the fun!!

Sunday School Calendar

April 3	Sunday school (week 1)
April 10	Sunday school (week 2)
April 17	Multigenerational Sunday (school vacation)
April 24	Multigenerational Sunday (school vacation)
May 1	Sunday school (week 3)
May 8	Sunday school (week 4)
May 15	Sunday school (week 5)
May 22	Sunday school (week 6)
May 29	Multigenerational Sunday (Memorial Day week-end)
June 5	Sunday school (prepare for Children's Sunday)
June 12	Multigenerational Sunday (Children's Sunday)

Daily Lectionary Scripture References April 2016 (Year C)

Fri., Apr. 1 Psalm 150 1 Samuel 17:19-32 Acts 5:17-26	Mon., Apr. 11 Psalm 121 Ezekiel 1:1-25 Acts 9:19b-31	Thurs., Apr. 21 Psalm 148 Ezekiel 2:8-3:11 Revelation 10:1-11
Sat., Apr. 2 Psalm 150 1 Samuel 17:32-51 Luke 24:36-40	Tues., Apr. 12 Psalm 121 Ezekiel 1:26-2:1 Acts 26:1-18	Fri., Apr. 22 Psalm 148 Daniel 7:13-14 Revelation 11:15
Sun., Apr. 3 <i>Second Sunday of Easter</i> Acts 5:27-32 Psalm 118:14-29 or Psalm 150 Revelation 1:4-8 John 20:19-31	Wed., Apr. 13 Psalm 121 Isaiah 6:1-8 Luke 5:1-11	Sat., Apr. 23 Psalm 148 Daniel 7:27 Revelation 11:16-19
Mon., Apr. 4 Psalm 122 Esther 7:1-10 Revelation 1:9-20	Thurs., Apr. 14 Psalm 23 Ezekiel 11:1-25 Revelation 5:1-10	Sun., Apr. 24 <i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i> Acts 11:1-18 Psalm 148 Revelation 21:1-6 John 13:31-35
Tues., Apr. 5 Psalm 122 Esther 8:1-17 Revelation 2:8-11	Fri., Apr. 15 Psalm 23 Ezekiel 20:39-44 Revelation 6:1-7:4	Mon., Apr. 25 Psalm 133 1 Samuel 20:1-23, 35-42 Acts 11:19-26
Wed., Apr. 6 Psalm 122 Esther 9:1-5, 18-23 Luke 12:4-12	Sat., Apr. 16 Psalm 23 Ezekiel 28:25-26 Luke 12:29-32	Tues., Apr. 26 Psalm 133 2 Samuel 1:4-27 Acts 11:27-30
Thurs., Apr. 7 Psalm 30 Isaiah 5:11-17 Revelation 3:14-22	Sun., Apr. 17 <i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i> Acts 9:36-43 Psalm 23 Revelation 7:9-17 John 10:22-30	Wed., Apr. 27 Psalm 133 Leviticus 19:9-18 Luke 10:25-28
Fri., Apr. 8 Psalm 30 Isaiah 6:1-4 Revelation 4:1-11	Mon., Apr. 18 Psalm 100 Ezekiel 37:15-28 Revelation 15:1-4	Thurs., Apr. 28 Psalm 67 Proverbs 2:1-5 Acts 15:36-41
Sat., Apr. 9 Psalm 30 Genesis 18:1-8 Luke 14:12-14	Tues., Apr. 19 Psalm 100 Ezekiel 45:1-9 Acts 9:32-35	Fri., Apr. 29 Psalm 67 Proverbs 2:6-8 Acts 16:1-8
Sun., Apr. 10 <i>Third Sunday of Easter</i> Acts 9:1-6 [7-20] Psalm 30 Revelation 5:11-14 John 21:1-19	Wed., Apr. 20 Psalm 100 Jeremiah 50:17-20 John 10:31-42	Sat., Apr. 30 Psalm 67 Proverbs 2:9-15 Luke 19:1-10



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April calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 Easter Sunday 6:30 Sunrise Svc - Hanson 10 Worship 7:30p AA-FH	28 7p NA-FH	29 8:30 Play Groups - MR	30 7p CE - MR 7p Trustees-FR 7:30p BSU Choir - ST	31 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	Apr 1 7p Al-Anon- MR	2
3 9 Breakfast - FH 10 Communion 10 Worship 2p Bear Den - MR 7:30p AA-FH	4 6p Food Pantry - LL 6:30p Girl Scouts - MR 7p NA-FH	5 8:30 Play Groups - MR 6:15p Brownies - FH 7:30p Stewardship - MR	6 6p Girl Scouts - LL 6:30p WG&F - FH 7:30p BSU Choir - ST	7 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	8 7p Al-Anon- MR	9
10 10 Worship 11:30 Growth - FR 2:30p Wolf Den - LL 7:30p AA-FH	11 6:30p Girl Scouts - MR 7p NA-FH	12 8:30 Play Groups - MR 7p Outreach - FR	13 Thomas Jefferson's Birth 7p Deacons - FR 7:30p BSU Choir - ST	14 9 Staff Mtg - FR 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Cabinet-MR 7p Al-Anon - FH 7:30p Pack Com Mtg - MR	15 7p Al-Anon- MR	16
17 9 Breakfast - FH 10 Worship 7:30p AA-FH	18 7p NA-FH	19 8:30 Play Groups - MR	20 6p Girl Scouts - LL 7:30p BSU Choir - ST	21 10 Food Pantry - LL	22 9 Rummage Sale Prep - F 7p Al-Anon- MR	23 9 Rummage Sale - FH
24 10 Worship 2p Bear Den - MR 2:30p Wolf Den - LL 7:30p AA-FH	25 7p NA-FH	26 8:30 Play Groups - MR 6:15p Brownies - FH	27 7p CE - MR 7p Trustees-FR 7:30p BSU Choir - ST	28 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	29 7p Al-Anon- MR	30 12p Red Hat Tea Party - F 7p BSU Concert - ST/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

Congregational Administrator: Ellen Atherton – office@csccucc.com

Sexton: Rich Sullivan

Minister of Music - Lin Schuller

Accompanist - Julia Scott Carey

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