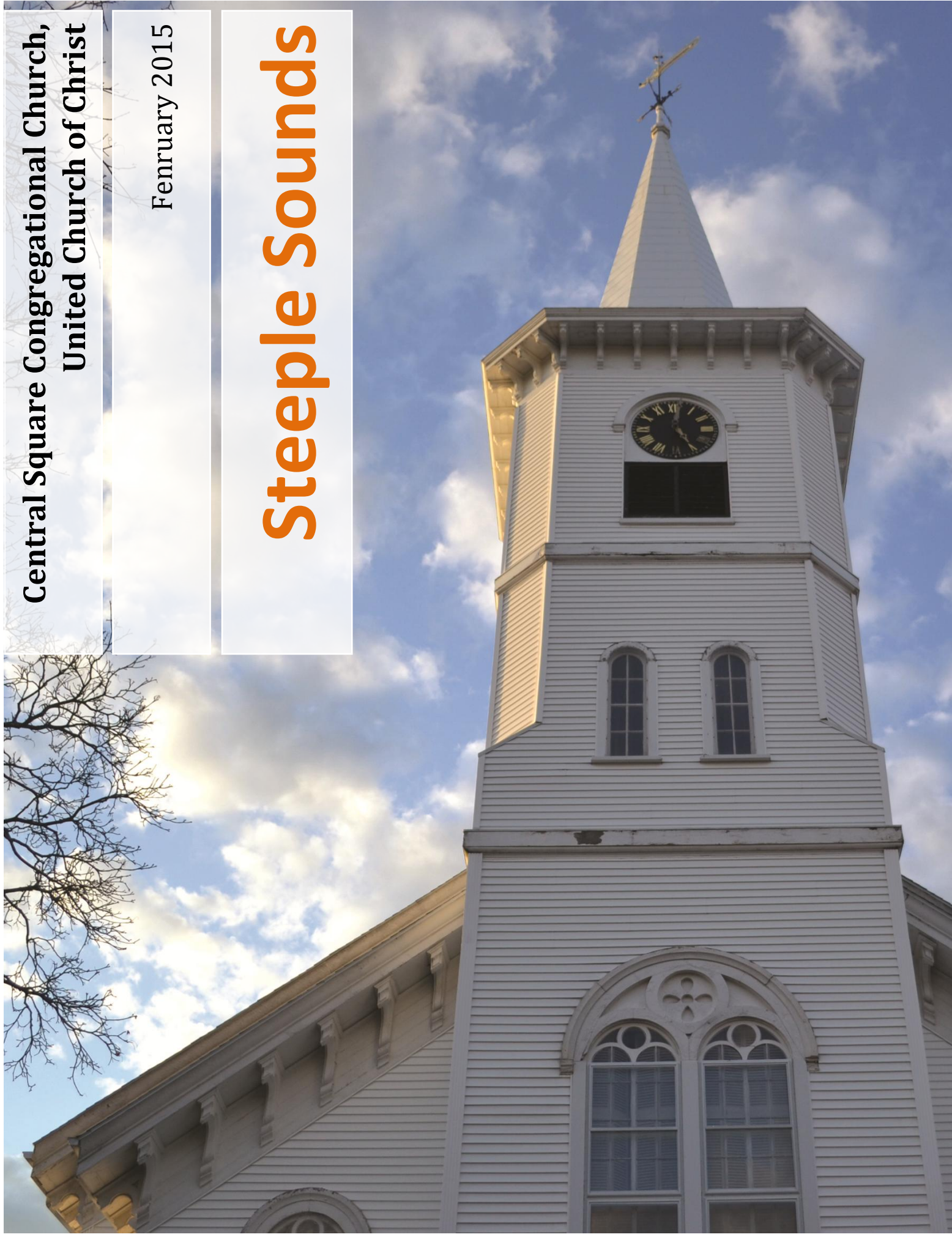


**Central Square Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ**

February 2015

Steeple Sounds





From the Desk of the Reverend

Recently, someone asked me to recommend a Bible. This is a request that comes up every few months and I'm always excited to help. With Valentine's Day around the corner, consider giving the gift of the Gospel to those you love! Here are my recommendations:

4-8 years: Spark Story Bible

By: Patti Thisted Arthur

A fabulous Bible for parents/guardians to read to young children to "spark" excellent faith questions and discussion.

9-12 years: NIV Adventure Bible

Richards, Lawrence O. (Editor)

This is known at our church as "The Third Grade Bible". Children receive it as a gift from the church when they are in the Third Grade.

13-18 years: NRSV Student Bible

Yancy, Philip (EDT) / Stafford, Tim (EDT)

This is the Bible we give our confirmation classes and our youth. It includes historical tidbits and age appropriate commentary.

For the Academic (19+): The New Oxford Annotated Bible, NRSV with the Apocrypha

Coogan, Michael D. (EDT) and Brettler, Marc Zvi (EDT)

This version includes maps, diagrams, essays on translation, as well as cultural and historical background.

For the Seeker: Common English Bible for Daily Prayer

A devotional Bible for personal reflection or small group study. Includes resources for strengthening prayer practices, conversing with God, engaging practices from around the world, and much more.

For the Lego Maniac: The Brick Bible (Old and New Testament)

By: Brendan Powell Smith

A book for older children, teens, and adults, the "Brick Bible" portrays the stories of the Bible in comic-book style frames, using Legos.

Peace,

Rev. Beth

News From Sunday School

Keeping Hope in the World

We live in a world where we are saturated with news from here and around the world. Our news sources are multiple whether it be from TV, the computer, our cell phone or just talking to family members or friends. The news can be positive, but unfortunately it is mostly negative. As a result our world today presents its self in a very fearful way. We try to protect our children from being saturated with all this negative information and we think we are doing a good job. Children, though, have a way of being able to focus on multiple tasks at once. They can be playing a video game and at the same time listening to and digesting what they are hearing. They demonstrate through their play how they are coping with the stresses in their lives. So how do we keep our children free from distressful information and feeling calm and safe?

We begin by offering opportunities for conversation. Sitting together at the dinner table affords a time to discuss, as a family, a wealth of topics. My son always wanted to talk while I was driving him somewhere in the car providing a one on one opportunity. Transporting your child and their friends is a wonderful time to hear their conversations and what is on their minds. The important task you have as a parent is to be a good listener. Quite often your child may just want to be heard and not necessarily want to hear a lecture. What do we do with all this information you have gained by your observations and conversations?

Showing your child how to relax and enjoy life is so important to their wellbeing. A good way to begin is by experiencing God's world. Inhaling that first cleansing breath when you first walk outside seems to have a calming effect. A walk in the woods, taking time to recognize all the gifts that nature provides. Going sledding on the new fallen snow can be such a stress reliever especially when your child begins yelling and screaming as she races down the hill. Building a snowman and having your child use his imagination to find all that is needed to give his snowman a personality can give your child such satisfaction. Presenting a different view of the world can make a difference in your child's emotional well-being. It changes the world's image from despair to hope.

Heifer Celebration

This past Sunday the Living Gift Market was such a success. While church was under-way the children experienced such community downstairs in the fellowship hall as they prepared for the event that would take place following church. I saw children lying on the floor drawing pictures to be sold and making signs for their tables. It was such a beehive of activity as all the children were busy preparing and placing out their food to be sold, setting up games to play, and checking out each other's tables. You could feel the excitement build as the children and youth waited for church to finish. The Heifer bank totals for the day were added onto each classes thermometers and the children began to have hope that maybe their lofty goals they had set this year would be reached. I saw many satisfied, happy customers taking home sweets such as sheep cupcakes and bite size chocolate goodies and spicy chicken wings. Others prepared for their Super Bowl guests with purchases of cheese platters and buffalo chicken dip as they visited grades 7 through 12 who were sponsoring Cheeses of the World. Grades 3 & 4 were so excited at the end of the market when they discovered they were only \$13.00 from their goal of buying trees and sheep. Return those banks still at home 3rd and 4th graders. You just might make that goal. Have you ever bowled with a sheep or rode a llama? And speaking of a llama I thing I saw llama poop? What a fun and exciting time for all. **CHILDREN, KEEP RETURNING THOSE BANKS. YOU ARE ALL SO CLOSE TO YOUR GOALS.** Watch next month for class totals and the animals the children were able to sponsor with your help. Thank you all for your support. You helped to make it a wonderfully, successful day. If you would still like to donate there is still time.

Faithfully yours,
Terry Reynolds
Sunday School Superintendent

Congregational Meeting



Central Square Congregational Church, UCC Annual Meeting * SUNDAY, February 8, 2015

TO ALL MEMBERS:

Please be advised that the Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 8, 2015. Following worship, lunch will be served for a free will offering, and the Annual Meeting will follow immediately afterward.

The purpose of the meeting, according to the our **Constitution, Article X, Church Meetings, Section 2: The Annual Meeting of the Church shall be held on the second Sunday of February for the purpose of receiving/hearing reports of all Officers, Boards, Committees and Organizations and to transact any other business that may legally come before it.**

This is a celebration! Please come and let us celebrate together the people and ministry of Central Square Congregational Church, United Church of Christ!

The Cabinet also requests your consideration of some changes to our Constitution and ByLaws. In the most recent revision of the Constitution and ByLaws, there was not sufficient wording to fully address nominations and elections of members of Standing Committees (the Boards are fully addressed). A motion will be made to remedy this oversight. Please see below for specifics.

No other business matters will be voted on, unless presented in writing to the Moderator prior to the meeting. That business will be added to the agenda **ONLY** after an affirmative vote by 2/3 of the attending-voting members.

Proposed changes are underlined.

Constitution

Article VIII Organization and Governance

Section 4

B. The Nominating Committee

3. Shall make a careful study of the requirements of each office to be filled and make an earnest effort to select candidates who are well qualified. The offices to be filled annually include officers, boards and permanent committees; along with two Delegates to represent the church at Association meetings and at the Massachusetts Conference Annual Meeting and one delegate to the Bridgewater Council of Churches.

ByLaws

Article III. Boards of Administration and Permanent Committees

Section 1. All persons serving on the 5 Boards of Administration shall be members of the church. Board members and permanent committee members shall be elected for terms of three years, their terms arranged in such a manner that one-third of them shall be elected each year. Board members and permanent committee members shall be eligible to serve a second consecutive term. After serving a second term, they shall not be eligible for re-election to the same board or permanent committee until after the lapse of one year. The spouse or adult children of ordained staff may serve on any board or committee unless a conflict of interest exists. The term of each Delegate is three years with no second consecutive term.

Section 2. On or before June 15 of each year the boards and permanent committees shall elect a chairperson and secretary to serve through the following May, and shall include the name of the newly elected chairperson and secretary in the Annual Report of the board. Chairs of permanent committees must be members of the church, so as to be eligible to vote at Cabinet meetings.

Section 3. On or before the October Cabinet meeting of each year, each of the boards and permanent committees shall present to the Board of Trustees an itemized budget request to cover the expense of the work charged to it for the coming year.

Section 4. The chairperson of each board and permanent committee (or an appointed representative) shall be present at every meeting of Cabinet and be prepared to report all activities and plans affecting the life of the church.

Section 5. The secretary of each board and permanent committee shall file a copy of the minutes of each meeting with the Moderator and another copy with the Office Coordinator prior to holding the next meeting of the Board.

Section 6. The Chairperson of each board and permanent committee shall submit an Annual Report to the Office Coordinator, not later than January 15 of each year, to be included in the Annual Report of the Church.

Section 7. Chairpersons of each board and permanent committee shall provide orientation for all others at the first meeting of the new term. Newly elected members shall be invited to attend the next scheduled meeting (usually the June meeting) after being elected for the purposes of orientation and elections of officers.

Section 8: The outgoing chair of each board and permanent committee shall provide for reorganization at the June meeting. It should be accomplished by the simple procedure laid out in Roberts Rules of Order for reorganization of small groups.

Section 8: Each board and permanent committee shall meet monthly, with July and August optional. Special meetings may be called at the direction of the chairperson.

Section 9: The boards may appoint sub-committees to carry out specific aspects of their work. The chairperson of such sub-committees shall be a member of the board.

Section 10: Each board and permanent committee shall create and maintain job descriptions, policies and procedures as appropriate. Job descriptions, policies and procedures shall be brought before Cabinet for review and upon approval shall be placed on file with the church office for future reference.

REMINDER! This month's Cabinet meeting is on TUESDAY – yes, TUESDAY – February 17th due to the occurrence of Ash Wednesday on the usual Cabinet meeting date. The meeting will be at 7pm.



Valentine's Sleepover!

6:00 PM Saturday, February 14 – 9:00 AM Sunday, February 15

3rd through 6th graders are welcome!

Sign up through the office by Sunday, February 8th!

There will be dinner, a small worship service, crafts, a movie, activities and games!

The sleepover will end at 9:00 AM, so parents/guardians can meet their kids for breakfast and worship!

Sunday, February 15th at 10:00 AM is Jammie Sunday!

Wear your favorite flannel jammies or sweats to church for a casual and fun worship experience!



RESULTS OF THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING HELD SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2014

On the issue of the 2015 proposed budget, the congregation approved the budget as proposed with the addition of a 3% raise of the minister's salary.

The congregation approved the changing of the fiscal year of the church to July 1-June 30 (it is currently the calendar year).

The congregation approved the use of certain games of chance such as raffles, with the approval of Cabinet for each instance, as a fundraising tool for the church.

Thanks to everyone who attended! We appreciate your time and contributions. And thanks to the youth and youth leaders for a very tasty and plentiful soup and salad lunch.

2015 Mission Dinner

Saturday, March 14

6:00pm



UPSTATE HIDEAWAY

SIT DOWN, RELAX AND ENJOY ALL THE
COMFORTS OF OUR UPSTATE HIDEAWAY

APPETIZER PLATE \$12

Steak on a Stick, Brown Sugar Bites, Corn Chips and Campfire Dip

ENTREES \$18

Upstate Pot Roast with Roasted Root Vegetables *Gluten Free

Cassoulet Chicken with Roasted Root Vegetables

Hideaway Pork Stew with Chorizo

*All Entrees served with Campfire Wedge Salad
with Buttermilk Ranch Dressing topped with Bacon Bits
Hot Water Biscuits and Cornbread with Maple Butter*

SWEET ENDINGS \$5

Some-Mores – Vanilla Ice Cream Topped with S'mores

Pineapple Upside-Down Cake

Indian Pudding *Gluten Free

DRINKS \$2

Coffee, Tea, Bottled Water, Ginger Ale, Cranberry Lemonade

Saturday, March 14, 2015 at 6:30pm

*Thank You For Helping Us Celebrate The Great Mission Work
Our Youth Have Been Doing For The Past 13 Years With Your Support!*

Enjoy! Chef Basler

Daily Lectionary Scripture References February 2015 (Year B)

Sun., Feb. 1
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Psalm 111
1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Mark 1:21-28

Mon., Feb. 2
Psalm 35:1-10
Numbers 22:1-21
Acts 21:17-26

Tues., Feb. 3
Psalm 35:1-10
Numbers 22:22-28
1 Corinthians 7:32-40

Wed., Feb. 4
Psalm 35:1-10
Jeremiah 29:1-14
Mark 5:1-20

Thurs., Feb. 5
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
Proverbs 12:10-21
Galatians 5:2-15

Fri., Feb. 6
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
Job 36:1-23
1 Corinthians 9:1-16

Sat., Feb. 7
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
Isaiah 46:1-13
Matthew 12:9-14

Sun., Feb. 8
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
Isaiah 40:21-31
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
1 Corinthians 9:16-23
Mark 1:29-39

Mon., Feb. 9
Psalm 102:12-28
2 Kings 4:8-17, 32-37
Acts 14:1-7

Tues., Feb. 10
Psalm 102:12-28
2 Kings 8:1-6
Acts 15:36-41

Wed., Feb. 11
Psalm 102:12-28
Job 6:1-13
Mark 3:7-12

Thurs., Feb. 12
Psalm 50:1-6
1 Kings 11:26-40
2 Corinthians 2:12-17

Fri., Feb. 13
Psalm 50:1-6
1 Kings 14:1-18
1 Timothy 1:12-20

Sat., Feb. 14
Psalm 50:1-6
1 Kings 16:1-7
Luke 19:41-44

Sun., Feb. 15
Transfiguration of the Lord
2 Kings 2:1-12
Psalm 50:1-6
2 Corinthians 4:3-6
Mark 9:2-9

Mon., Feb. 16
Psalm 110:1-4
Exodus 19:7-25
Hebrews 2:1-4

Tues., Feb. 17
Psalm 110:1-4
Job 19:23-27
1 Timothy 3:14-16

Wed., Feb. 18
Ash Wednesday
Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12
Psalm 51:1-17
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Thurs., Feb. 19
Psalm 25:1-10
Daniel 9:1-14
1 John 1:3-10

Fri., Feb. 20
Psalm 25:1-10
Daniel 9:15-25a
2 Timothy 4:1-5

Sat., Feb. 21
Psalm 25:1-10
Psalm 32
Matthew 9:2-13

Sun., Feb. 22
First Sunday in Lent
Genesis 9:8-17
Psalm 25:1-10
1 Peter 3:18-22
Mark 1:9-15

Mon., Feb. 23
Psalm 77
Job 4:1-21
Ephesians 2:1-10

Tues., Feb. 24
Psalm 77
Job 5:8-27
1 Peter 3:8-18a

Wed., Feb. 25
Psalm 77
Proverbs 30:1-9
Matthew 4:1-11

Thurs., Feb. 26
Psalm 22:23-31
Genesis 15:1-6, 12-18
Romans 3:21-31

Fri., Feb. 27
Psalm 22:23-31
Genesis 16:1-6
Romans 4:1-12

Sat., Feb. 28
Psalm 22:23-31
Genesis 16:7-15
Mark 8:27-30



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February Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Feb 1 10 Communion 10 Worship 11:15 Living Gift Market - F 3:30p Wolf Den - MR 7p AA-FH	2 6p Food Pantry - LL 7p NA-FH	3 8:30 Play Groups - MR 7p CE - FR 7:30p Stewardship - MR	4 6p Girl Scouts - Nursery 6:30p WG&F - FH 7:30p BSU - ST	5 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Mens AWOL - LL 7p Pack Com - MR 7p Al-Anon - FH 7p Mens AWOL - LL	6 7p Al-Anon- MR	7 3:45p Webelos - FH
8 10 Worship 10:20 Youth Program - LL 11:15 Annual Mtg - FH 11:30 Growth - FR 2:45p Webelos 1 - FH 4p Daisys - MR 7p AA-FH	9 7p NA-FH	10 8:30 Play Groups - MR 7p Outreach - FR 7p Daisys - FH	11 6:15p Daisys - LL 7p Deacons - MR 7:30p BSU - ST 7:30p Teachers Mtg - FR	12 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Mens AWOL - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	13 6p Kids of the Kingdom - L 7p Al-Anon- MR	14 Valentine's Day 6p Valentine Overnight - FH
15 10 Worship 11:30 Youth Group - LL 7p AA-FH	16 Presidents' Day (Washing) 7p NA-FH	17 7p Cabinet - MR	18 7p Worship - ST	19 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Mens AWOL - LL 7p Mens AWOL - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	20 7p Al-Anon- MR	21
22 10 Worship 3:30p Tiger Den - LL 3:30p Wolf Den - MR 7p AA-FH	23 7p NA-FH	24 8:30 Play Groups - MR 6p Daisys - FH	25 7p Trustees-FR 7:30p BSU - ST	26 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Mens AWOL - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH 7p Mens AWOL - LL	27 7p Al-Anon- MR	28

*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

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