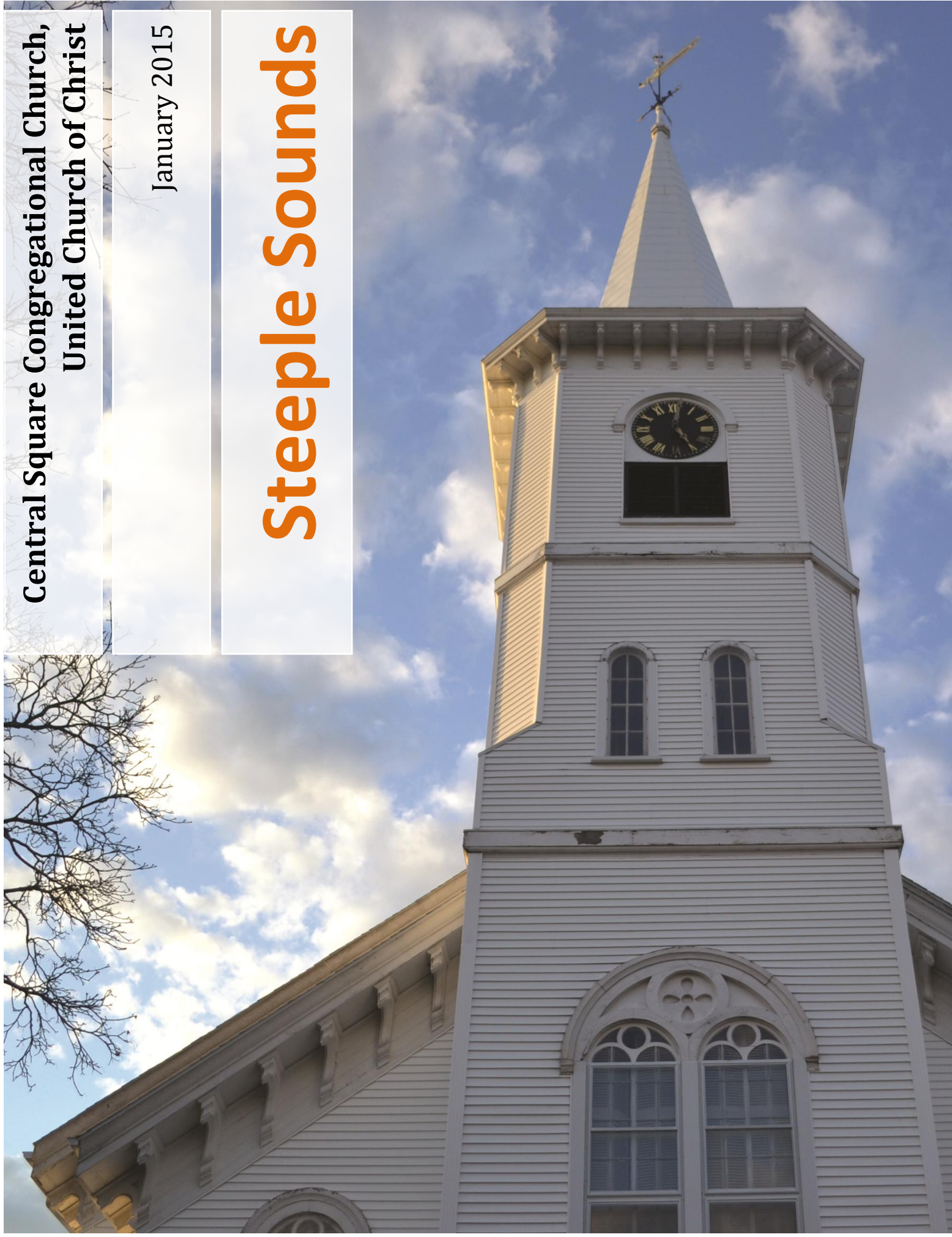


**Central Square Congregational Church,  
United Church of Christ**

January 2015

# Steeple Sounds





## *From the Desk of the Reverend*

I find myself near the end of another year reflecting on the many surprises 2014 brought. As I look back over 2014, the sense that I am left with is that I am both amazed and humbled by the things that God does. I have seen God's presence in a wide variety of moments. In the life and death of beloved members of the church, God was there with us in the silence and the prayers; God was there in the memories and the laughter. God was also there in the faces of the young children that entered our congregation this year, and God was there in their baptisms. God is there when our children mature and go to school. God is there when I visit homes, nursing homes, and hospitals. God is there when I pray and when I write. God is there surprising me and reminding me that miracles still happen.

What blessings, challenges, surprises, and lessons will 2015 bring for us? I do not know. Perhaps we might best experience them as God's people always have; by stillness and prayer. I wonder if discipleship starts with being still and patient and then allowing God to pull us forward through the Holy Spirit. Sometimes we need be active to bring about God's kingdom; sometimes I think we need to just get out of the way of God's working in the world.

I feel I have grown in 2014 as a disciple and spiritual pilgrim. I hope you feel the same way about this past year for yourselves. Whatever may come in 2015 for all of us, corporately and individually, I pray that you may feel God's presence in your lives and God's hand guiding you to a rich full life of discipleship.

A blessed New Year to you!

Peace,

*Rev. Beth*

## *From the Board of Trustees*

Your Trustees have been very busy over the past month maintaining both the physical attributes and financial future of the church building and the parsonage. The Thursday Handymen have made numerous repairs to both buildings and in the process continue to improve our overall energy efficiency.

We will be closing on the refinancing at the end of year, cutting our payment in half and saving \$785/month on the mortgage payment. Special thanks to John Sharland for all his work on this project.

Finally, the 2015 Budget was submitted to the cabinet on December 17<sup>th</sup>. While we still have serious financial issues to address, we also offered suggestions to help expand our revenue streams and to change our fiscal calendar.

These proposals will be presented to the Congregation at the Budget Meeting in January.

On behalf of the Trustees, we hope you had a blessed holiday season and we look forward to a productive 2015.

## *From the Board of Stewardship*

### Reflections of a Vision

It's wonderful to think we are starting another year of fun, mission and adventure at Central Square UCC! I have taken my own suggestion and reflected as to what this community means to me and don't mind sharing.

More than anything, I have seen the contagious commitment of our Church members to reach out at any given moment to help someone in need. We offer friendship, counsel and love. This is something many people purport to do, but fewer actual act on it.

I am happy to be part of this and anxious (optimistic) to see what great things we will do in 2015.

*Romans 14: The one who observes the day does it for the Lord. The one who eats, eats for the Lord because he gives thanks to God, and the one who abstains from eating abstains for the Lord, and he gives thanks to God. For none of us lives for himself and none dies for himself. If we live, we live for the Lord; if we die, we die for the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For this reason Christ died and returned to life, so that he may be the Lord of both the dead and the living.*

Mike Bundock, Board of Stewardship member

## News From Growth



### **DINE with WHO???**

Yup, it's time for **Dine with Nine**, or Eight, or Seven! These are potluck suppers enjoyed in each others' homes.

### **Dine When?**

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.

### **Dine on What?**

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 :)

### **What for?**

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 January, and groups will be distributed the first Sunday of February. You may also email Diane Glass at [dglass260@aol.com](mailto:dglass260@aol.com).

*Growth would like to remind you to wear your nametag as a sign of hospitality to our guests!*

### **It's All in the Name!**

*"It is my name. It is pronounced Beekner. If somebody mispronounces it in some foolish way I have the feeling that what's foolish is me. If somebody forgets it, I feel that it is I who am forgotten. There's something about it that embarrasses me in just the same way that there's something about me that embarrasses me. I can't imagine myself with any other name: Held, say, or Merrill, or Hlavacek. If my name were different, I would be different. When I tell somebody my name, I have given him a hold over me that he didn't have before. If he calls it out, I stop, look, and listen whether I want to or not."*

- from **Real Good Church** by Molly Baskett Phinney



**Spread the LOVE and invite someone to church on January 25<sup>th</sup>!** Think of a neighbor, relative, friend, or co-worker and be brave... Extend an invitation! If you need a lead-in, try this: "If you don't already have a church, come to CSCC!" Then tell them what you love about this church. Remember, 80% of people who come to church and stay, come on the elbow of someone who is already here.

We will also have a **Blessing of the Bears** so pick out your favorite stuffed friend and bring it to church for a special blessing! This is for kids young and old.

In preparation of this special day, Growth is collecting bears to sit in the pews (no BIG ones, though, please) and be available to give to anyone you know who could use a special hug from a **Prayer Bear**. These bears may be new or like new. We would like this to be an ongoing ministry throughout the year! Please give your bears to Diane Glass.

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### ***From the Board of Outreach***

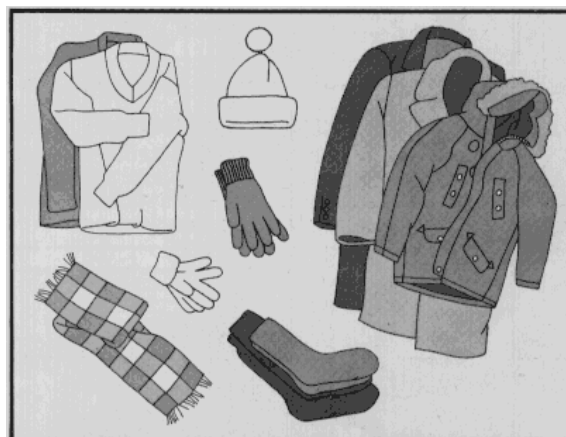
**Our "Warmth in Cold Places" campaign continues throughout December and January.**

We are asking for donations of warm winter clothing to distribute to those in need. Items requested include jackets, hats, mittens, gloves, white cotton socks, wool socks, jeans, flannel shirts, sweatshirts, "hoodies", undergarments, scarves, boots and sneakers. Clothing is needed for men, women and children in all sizes. New and gently used items are needed. We will also accept monetary donations which will be used to purchase new clothing.

Donations may be dropped off in the Narthex or in the hall outside the Church office.

Thank you for your support of this campaign.

The Outreach Committee



## *Women's Guild & Fellowship*

Come Join Us!



Come join the Women's Guild and Fellowship on **Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>** at 6:00 PM in Fellowship Hall for a fun hour of **ZUMBA** with Jen Mangelson (deKoning)!

Its a great way to exercise.....and to help shed those few extra pounds that were gained over the Christmas holiday season! Wear comfortable clothing and sneakers.

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**SAVE THE DATE!**

CSCC Women's Retreat

January 30th at 6pm to January 31st at 3:30 PM at Glastonbury Abbey, Hingham, MA!

All Women of the Church are Invited for a time of faithful study, food and fellowship!



# YOUTH MINISTRY

All Youth programs are open to all youth in grades 7 through 12. Please join us!  
View the Youth Calendar at [cscuccyouth.wordpress.com](http://cscuccyouth.wordpress.com). And follow us on Facebook for the latest news!

## Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup>

### Breakfast Club

**9:00 AM**

All Youth will get breakfast in the Kitchen, then come down to the Youth Room!

**10:00 AM**

Youth will participate in Worship.

## Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>

### Youth Service

**11:30 AM – 1:00 PM**

Youth will be providing and serving lunch before the annual Budget Meeting. This is a great service opportunity! Look for signups via email.

## Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>

**Final Deadline for Youth Mission Trip Deposit!**

### Youth Sunday School

**10:20 AM – 11:15 AM**

Youth will begin in Worship at 10:15 AM, then proceed to Sunday School around 10:20 AM.

## Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>

### Youth Sunday School

**10:20 AM – 11:15 AM**

Youth will begin in Worship at 10:15 AM, then proceed to Sunday School around 10:20 AM.

## Connecting with Youth

This month the youth took a look at the importance and the rewards of confessing our sins as we studied 1 John 1:5-10. Confession is never easy—bringing our darkness to the light. But it's essential on our journey as followers of Christ. The best way to help teenagers engage in this topic with you is to example it for them!

Consider confessing something to your teenager that he or she may not know about you—an area of weakness, something from your old teenage years, or something else along those lines. If you're really bold, confess something you did that you never told anyone. Describe why you held the secret for so long, what you believed would happen if you ever told anyone, and what happens now that the confession is on the table. Be sensible, of course: Don't confess something that might cause your son or daughter to pick up some emotional baggage he or she doesn't need to carry. Still, teenagers long to see their parents as human—and though, because of their youth, they may occasionally abuse those moments we show it, in the long run it's wonderfully transformational in their relationships with us!

Thanks for allowing us to partner with you as one small part in the faith development of your teenager!

Blessings, Your Youth Ministry Team

# News From Sunday School

## Heifer Gift Cards!

Heifer Project International will run through the month of January culminating with the Living Gift Market on Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. During the month of January, I will have available Heifer gift cards that you may purchase as donations for Heifer. I will be in the Fellowship Hall each Sunday after Church.

Faithfully Yours,

Terry Reynolds

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## Congregational Meeting



Please mark your calendar for SUNDAY, **JANUARY 18**, which is the date for the CSCC ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING. It is scheduled for 11:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be served. We will be reviewing the Trustees' 2015 budget proposal as approved by Cabinet. We will also be asking for your vote on two other items of interest to the congregation, so we ask that **as many church members as possible be present to lend your prayerful input and direction**. The details of those other items will be detailed prior to the meeting in keeping with our church bylaws.

Please also mark your calendar for SUNDAY, **FEBRUARY 8**, which is the date for the CSCC ANNUAL MEETING! Please celebrate with us on the great work of our Lord that CSCC accomplishes over the course of a year! Lunch will be served.

### ANNUAL REPORTS:

All boards and committees, please remember that your annual reports are due in to the office **NO LATER THAN January 15**. This is a crucial task for the communication within our church as well as for the documenting for posterity our service and commitment to our community. Please have your reports in on time. (Feel free to submit them early if you'd like.)

## Daily Lectionary Scripture References

### January 2015 (Year B)

**Thurs., Jan. 1**  
Ecclesiastes 3:1-13  
Psalm 8  
Revelation 21:1-6a  
Matthew 25:31-46

**Fri., Jan. 2**  
Psalm 148  
Proverbs 1:1-7  
James 3:13-18

**Sat., Jan. 3**  
Psalm 110  
Proverbs 1:20-33  
James 4:1-10

**Sun., Jan. 4**  
Jeremiah 31:7-14 or Sirach 24:1-12  
Psalm 147:12-20 or Wisdom 10:15-21  
Ephesians 1:3-14  
John 1:[1-9] 10-18

**Mon., Jan. 5**  
Psalm 110  
Proverbs 22:1-9  
Luke 6:27-31

**Tues., Jan. 6**  
*Epiphany of the Lord*  
Isaiah 60:1-6  
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14  
Ephesians 3:1-12  
Matthew 2:1-12

**Wed., Jan. 7**  
Psalm 110  
Exodus 1:22—2:10  
Hebrews 11:23-26

**Thurs., Jan. 8**  
Psalm 110  
Exodus 2:11-25  
Hebrews 11:27-28

**Fri., Jan. 9**  
Psalm 110  
Exodus 3:7-15  
John 8:39-59

**Sat., Jan. 10**  
Psalm 29  
1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12  
Luke 5:1-11

**Sun., Jan. 11**  
*First Sunday after Epiphany*  
Baptism of the Lord  
Genesis 1:1-5  
Psalm 29  
Acts 19:1-7  
Mark 1:4-11

**Mon., Jan. 12**  
Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36  
Genesis 17:1-13  
Romans 4:1-12

**Tues., Jan. 13**  
Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36  
Exodus 30:22-38  
Acts 22:2-16

**Wed., Jan. 14**  
Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36  
Isaiah 41:14-20  
John 1:29-34

**Thurs., Jan. 15**  
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
Judges 2:6-15  
2 Corinthians 10:1-11

**Fri., Jan. 16**  
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
Judges 2:16-23  
Acts 13:16-25

**Sat., Jan. 17**  
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
1 Samuel 2:21-25  
Matthew 25:1-13

**Sun., Jan. 18**  
*Second Sunday after Epiphany*  
1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]  
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
1 Corinthians 6:12-20  
John 1:43-51

**Mon., Jan. 19**  
Psalm 86  
1 Samuel 9:27—10:8  
2 Corinthians 6:14—7:1

**Tues., Jan. 20**  
Psalm 86  
1 Samuel 15:10-31  
Acts 5:1-11

**Wed., Jan. 21**  
Psalm 86  
Genesis 16:1-14  
Luke 18:15-17

**Thurs., Jan. 22**  
Psalm 62:5-12  
Jeremiah 19:1-15  
Revelation 18:11-20

**Fri., Jan. 23**  
Psalm 62:5-12  
Jeremiah 20:7-13  
2 Peter 3:1-7

**Sat., Jan. 24**  
Psalm 62:5-12  
Jeremiah 20:14-18  
Luke 10:13-16

**Sun., Jan. 25**  
*Third Sunday after Epiphany*  
Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
Psalm 62:5-12  
1 Corinthians 7:29-31  
Mark 1:14-20

**Mon., Jan. 26**  
Psalm 46  
Genesis 12:1-9  
1 Corinthians 7:17-24

**Tues., Jan. 27**  
Psalm 46  
Genesis 45:25—46:7  
Acts 5:33-42

**Wed., Jan. 28**  
Psalm 46  
Proverbs 8:1-21  
Mark 3:13-19a

**Thurs., Jan. 29**  
Psalm 111  
Deuteronomy 3:23-29  
Romans 9:6-18

**Fri., Jan. 30**  
Psalm 111  
Deuteronomy 12:28-32  
Revelation 2:12-17

**Sat., Jan. 31**  
Psalm 111  
Deuteronomy 13:1-5  
Matthew 8:28—9:1



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# January Calendar

<div> <div>Today</div> <div>&lt; &gt;</div> <div>January 2015</div> </div> <div> <div>Day</div> <div>Week</div> <div>Month</div> <div>7 Days</div> <div>Agenda</div> <div>More ▾</div> <div>⚙ ▾</div> </div>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>28</div> <div>10 Worship</div> <div>7p AA-FH</div>	<div>29</div> <div>7p NA-FH</div>	<div>30</div>	<div>31</div> <div>New Year's Eve</div> <div>New Year's Eve</div>	<div>Jan 1</div> <div>New Year's Day</div> <div>New Year's Day</div> <div>7p Mens AWOL - LL</div> <div>7p Al-Anon - FH</div>	<div>2</div> <div>7p Al-Anon- MR</div>	<div>3</div> <div>3:45p Webelos 2 - FH</div>
<div>4</div> <div>9 Breakfast - FH/Kitchen</div> <div>10 Communion</div> <div>10 Worship</div> <div>3:30p Wolf Den - MR</div> <div>7p AA-FH</div>	<div>5</div> <div>6p Food Pantry - LL</div> <div>7p NA-FH</div>	<div>6</div> <div>8:30 Play Groups - MR</div> <div>7p CE - FR</div> <div>7:30p Stewardship - MR</div>	<div>7</div> <div>10 WG&amp;F - FH</div> <div>6p Girl Scouts - Nursery</div>	<div>8</div> <div>10 Food Pantry - LL</div> <div>7p Mens AWOL - LL</div> <div>7p Pack Com - MR</div> <div>7p Al-Anon - FH</div> <div>7p Mens AWOL - LL</div>	<div>9</div> <div>6p Kids of the Kingdom - L</div> <div>7p Al-Anon- MR</div>	<div>10</div>
<div>11</div> <div>10 Worship</div> <div>10:20 Youth Program - LL</div> <div>11:30 Growth - FR</div> <div>4p Tiger Den - LL</div> <div>7p AA-FH</div>	<div>12</div> <div>7p NA-FH</div>	<div>13</div> <div>8:30 Play Groups - MR</div> <div>6p Daisys - FH</div> <div>7p Outreach - FR</div>	<div>14</div> <div>6:15p Daisys - LL</div> <div>7p Deacons - MR</div> <div>7:30p BSU - ST</div>	<div>15</div> <div>10 Food Pantry - LL</div> <div>7p Mens AWOL - LL</div> <div>7p Al-Anon - FH</div> <div>7p Mens AWOL - LL</div>	<div>16</div> <div>6p Pack 35 - FH</div> <div>7p Al-Anon- MR</div>	<div>17</div>
<div>18</div> <div>10 Worship</div> <div>11:15 Budget Mtg - FH</div> <div>11:30 Youth Group - LL</div> <div>7p AA-FH</div>	<div>19</div> <div>Martin Luther King Day</div> <div>7p NA-FH</div>	<div>20</div> <div>8:30 Play Groups - MR</div>	<div>21</div> <div>6p Girl Scouts - Nursery</div> <div>7p Cabinet-MR</div> <div>7:30p BSU - ST</div>	<div>22</div> <div>10 Food Pantry - LL</div> <div>7p Mens AWOL - LL</div> <div>7p Al-Anon - FH</div> <div>7p Mens AWOL - LL</div>	<div>23</div> <div>6p Pack 35 - FH</div> <div>7p Al-Anon- MR</div>	<div>24</div> <div>3:45p Webelos 2 - FH</div>
<div>25</div> <div>10 Worship</div> <div>2:45p Webelos 1 - FH</div> <div>3:30p Wolf Den - MR</div> <div>4p Daisys - LL</div> <div>7p AA-FH</div>	<div>26</div> <div>7p NA-FH</div>	<div>27</div> <div>8:30 Play Groups - MR</div> <div>6p Daisys - FH</div>	<div>28</div> <div>6:15p Daisys - LL</div> <div>7p Trustees-FR</div> <div>7:30p BSU - ST</div>	<div>29</div> <div>10 Food Pantry - LL</div> <div>7p Mens AWOL - LL</div> <div>7p Al-Anon - FH</div> <div>7p Mens AWOL - LL</div>	<div>30</div> <div>7p Al-Anon- MR</div>	<div>31</div>

\*This calendar is subject to change at any time. For the most up to date calendar at all times, please visit [cscucc.org](http://cscucc.org).

Church Administration

**Pastor:** Rev. Elizabeth Walden – [csccpastor@hotmail.com](mailto:csccpastor@hotmail.com)

**Congregational Administrator:** Ellen Atherton – [office@cscucc.com](mailto:office@cscucc.com)

**Sexton:** Dave Terpeny

**Minister of Music** - Lin Schuller

**Accompanist** - Julia Scott Carey

**Treasurer:** Larry Brown [treasurer@cscucc.com](mailto:treasurer@cscucc.com)

**Office telephone:** (508) 697-6016

**Fax:** (508) 697-8010

**Website:** [www.cscucc.org](http://www.cscucc.org)

Rev. Walden's Office Hours:

Tuesday 10 AM – 2 PM

Wednesday 10 AM – 1 PM

**\*1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

**at the Better Bean**

Thursday 10 AM – 2 PM

Rev. Walden is always available by appointment. Please use her email or cell phone to schedule with her outside of the posted office hours. Thank you.

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

