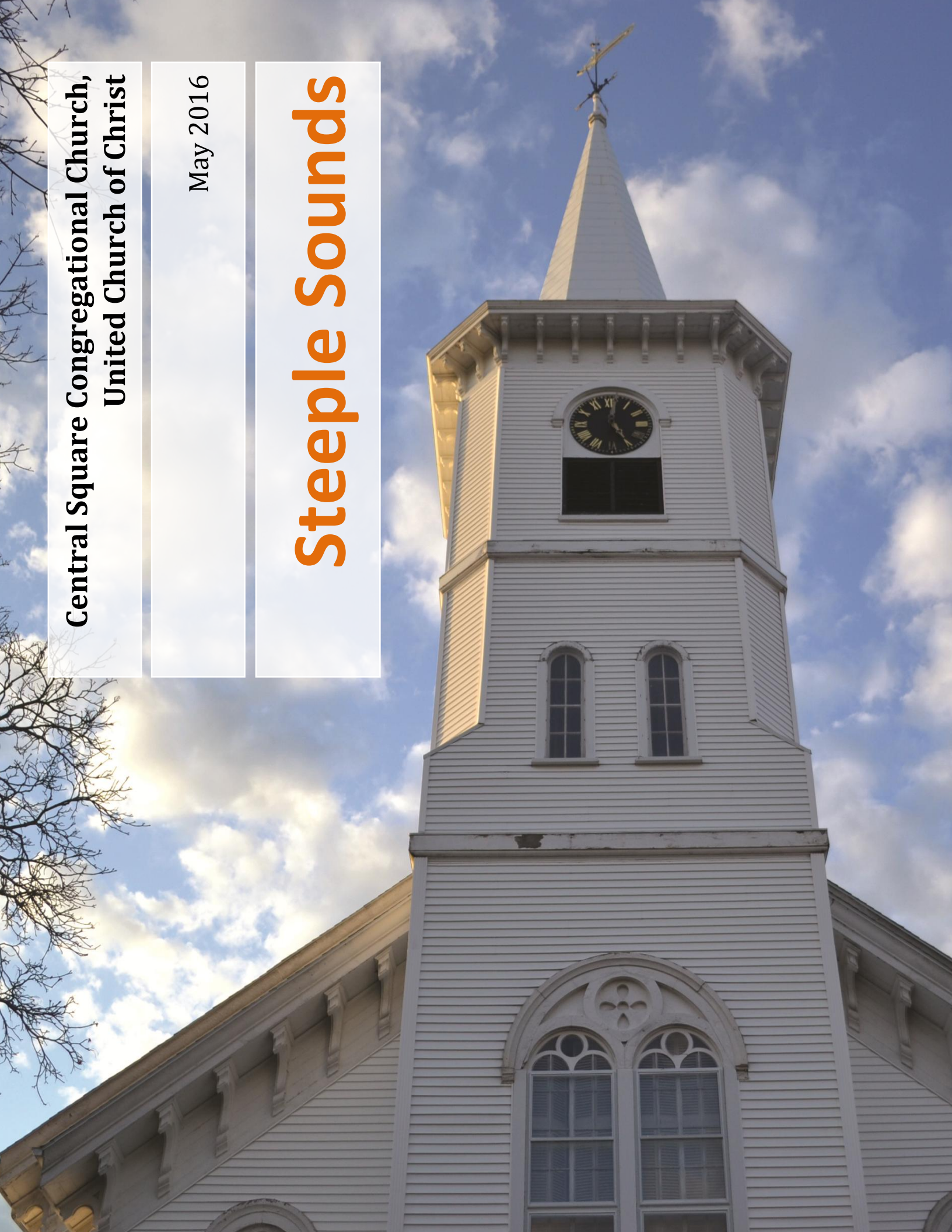


**Central Square Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ**

May 2016

Steeple Sounds



From The Desk of Rev. Beth



As we prepare to celebrate another Pentecost Sunday on May 15, I got to thinking about what it means to be a pentecostal Christian. Certainly the word “pentecostal” comes with all sorts of assumptions and presumptions. We think it has to do with speaking in tongues, loud shouts of alleluias, and dancing in the aisles of the church. We think it has to do with a particular theological position, or a certain style of worship. But at the heart of the word, being a pentecostal Christian in a pentecostal church is really very simple, and boils down to one thing—are we receptive to the holy spirit within and among us? Are we paying attention to where the Spirit might be moving in our church, in our community, and in our world?

In the United Church of Christ we like to say that God is still speaking. But how often do we live as if that were really true? How often do we wake up and ask ourselves, “What will the Holy Spirit say to me today? How will God choose to speak to me today?” How would our interactions with others change if we thought that there was a possibility that God’s Holy Spirit was moving and speaking through them? How would our own actions change if we believed that God was actually moving and speaking through us?

To be pentecostal Christians, we must be receptive to the still speaking voice of God all around us. Being a pentecostal church means being a church that pays attention. Not only that, we must be willing to let that still speaking voice guide us and move us in our lives. It means that we not only listen for the voice of the Spirit among us, but that we allow it to move us when we hear it speak. So perhaps the question is, as we approach Pentecost this year, what is the Spirit saying to you? Where is the Spirit moving you? And are you willing to respond? Are you willing to be a pentecostal Christian? Are we willing to be a pentecostal Church? I hope so!

Join us for worship on May 15 as we celebrate Pentecost with the reception of new members to our community, and on May 22 when we will celebrate the sacrament of baptism by welcoming children into the body of Christ.

From the Board of Trustees

One of the most important things that we can do as a church body is to always try to be cognizant of how our communications, or lack of communications, will affect other members of the body. Technology, love it or hate it, has given us many platforms to easily and quickly communicate with each other, as individuals or as individuals to groups, so there are no excuses any more. Over the years, we have had some significant communications issues that have caused much hurt. At one time, about 8 or 10 years ago, we brought in a consultant from Walking in the Way to help us with reconciliation. The cost of the consultant was funded by individual donations from 20 members. Then, after another round of issues that had their roots in communications problems, we wrote and voted a Behavioral Covenant. It's main theme is how to communicate with each other, as individuals and as groups. As I sat here thinking about some very recent issues with lack of adequate communication, I thought about the beautiful words that open our Constitution and ByLaws, seen below. Many parallels can be drawn between these words and our ongoing efforts to better communicate with each other. These words were inspired by God and written by man. Sound familiar?

Article III. Covenantal Relationships

Section 1. As a member of the United Church of Christ (UCC), Central Square Congregational Church will relate to the various expressions of the church in a covenantal manner. It will seek God's will and be faithful to God's mission, attending to its responsibilities in relation to all expressions of the church. Its decisions are made in consultation and collaboration with other parts of the structure, including its Association, Conference and the General Synod. As a member of the Body of Christ, Central Square Congregational Church is called to honor and respect the work and ministry of each other part. It listens, hears and carefully considers the advice, counsel and requests of others. In this covenant, Central Square Congregational Church joins the various expressions of the UCC to seek to walk together in all God's ways.

Section 2. Central Square Congregational Church has, in fellowship, a God-given responsibility for the UCC, its labors and its extensions, even as the UCC has, in fellowship, a God-given responsibility for the well-being and needs and aspirations of its local churches. In mutual Christian concern and in dedication to Jesus Christ, the sole Head of the Church, Central Square Congregational Church shares with the entire UCC in common Christian experience and responsibility.

John Sharland, for the Board of Trustees

From the Board of Stewardship



Stewardship is sometimes joy, and sometimes discomfort. Your stewardship should give you joy.

Malachi 3:7-12: From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts. But you say, 'How shall we return?' Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In your tithes and contributions. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need. I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil, and your vine in the field shall not fail to bear, says the LORD of hosts. ...

We are all the stewards of Gods blessings. God has blessed each of us with his word, and also with our church. All of us at CSCC want to expand on the work God is doing through us.

I think each of us should look at the passage above and ask if this passage gives us joy, or if it makes us uncomfortable.

And if the above words makes you uncomfortable, ask God how you can better receive his Joy. He will surely tell you.

God Bless You,

CSCC Stewardship Committee

From the Board of Outreach

As spring and warmer weather are finally here, we get busier with school and family activities. And even though the season has changed, Central Square Congregational Churches mission is still strong. For outreach, May is time to strengthen the church. Your donation will help start and grow new United Church of Christ Churches in our conference. Also, it will help churches start new programs such as Mission Youth Trips that promote, for young families and Youth, that God is still speaking. Sunday May 22nd is Strengthen the Church Sunday at Central Square Congregational Church.

Outreach is excited and happy to welcome Devon Basler to the committee. As everyone knows, Devon is already a big part of Central Square. Welcome Devon!

Sharing our faith and resources,

David Hanson
Outreach



PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS with these important dates!

- * **Sunday, May 15:** Congregational Meeting immediately following service (see details elsewhere in this newsletter)
- * **Wednesday, May 18:** Cabinet meeting, 7pm
- * **Sunday, June 12:** ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING!
- * **Wednesday, June 15:** Cabinet meeting, 7pm
- * **Monday, June 27:** CSCC Golf Tournament!

Women's Guild & Fellowship

Come Join Us!



WG&F has had a busy year. Now it's time for our **annual banquet** to be held at the **Monponsett Inn** on **May 4th**! 6:00 p.m. for cocktails, dinner at 6:30 p.m.! Hope all members have signed up for it and sent in your money to Bev Mitchell.

Also, please bring an item or two for the "kitchen shower" (cleaning supplies, paper towels, dish towels, baggies, paper plates, napkins, etc.)

Thanks!

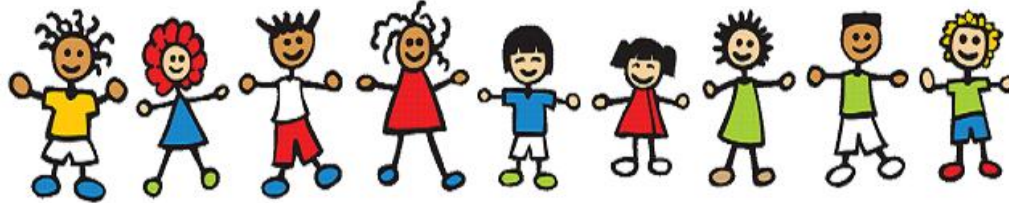
- Phoebe and Sandy

News from Growth

Be the Church Items are In! Please see Christine Hoyt after church or email at choyt33@verizon.net to arrange pick up. Payment is due at time of pick up and checks should be made out to Central Square Congregational Church.

Coffee Hour for the month of May is Trustees.

From CE



Exploring

Sunday school teachers and students have been having fun exploring the curriculum of the parable, “The Sower”, through the rotation model. The classes have been cooking, playing games, and experiencing music and art and at the same time learning the lessons of Jesus. Two weeks into the program and the children have made dirt pudding while focusing on the idea “My heart is good soil for God’s Word. The older students were not keen on trying the “Seed Sower Bars” they had made, but did and loved them. At the same time they learned that the seed of faith is growing in them. While creating flags to tell the story of the parable the first, second and third grades learned – God’s Word bursts from good soil-me! Fourth and fifth graders learned about the parable the Sower through a rap song. Through jump rope and ball games children celebrated growing in God’s word. Pre-schoolers and kindergarten children experienced the Bible story The Sower in a boat outlined on the rug. They have planted seeds discovering the needs of plants and have made a tasty seed snack. The children seem to be happy with the curriculum, well fed, and enjoying the experience. I should mention that your children are meeting with different teacher’s each week. The children and youth have four more weeks to explore The Sower. Here are the dates and areas each grade level will explore.

	May. 1	May. 8	May.15	May.22
Grades 1, 2, 3	Creative Drama	Science	Music	Bible Study & Games
Grades 4 & 5	Science	Cooking	Art	Creative Drama
Grades 6, 7, 8		Science	Art	Creative Drama
Pre-K & K	Choked by Weeds	Eaten by Birds	Land on a Rock	Good Growing

Here is the schedule for the rest of the Sunday School Church year.

May 1, 8, 15, 22	Sunday School classes
May 29	Multigenerational Sunday (Memorial Day Week-end)
June 5	Sunday school – Preparing for Children’s Sunday
June 12	Multigenerational Sunday - Children’s Sunday – (Make your own Sundae)

SUNDAY, MAY 15
CSCC CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
IN THE SANCTUARY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING SERVICE
(approximately 11:15am)

One item of business will be conducted on this day, and it is not expected to be a long meeting.

1. THE SLATE OF 2016-17 NOMINEES FOR BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND OFFICERS WILL BE VOTED ON.

The nominating committee has done wonderful work this season and has the Cabinet's approval to put forth the following slate of nominees:

Kathleen Mosher, Clerk (re-election)
Larry Brown, Treasurer (re-election)
Dave Sheibley, Assistant Treasurer (re-election)

Deb Sorgman, Delegate (re-election)
John Sharland, Delegate (re-election)

Anne Malmquist, Board of Deacons (re-election)
Darlene Brown, Board of Deacons (re-election)
Denise Molinari, Board of Deacons
David Berard, Jr. Deacon

John Sharland, Board of Trustees (re-election)
Jae Walden, Jr. Trustee

Marlene Jacobs, Board of Christian Education (re-election)
Shane Abboud, Board of Christian Education
Lisa Masiello, Board of Christian Education

David Hanson, Board of Outreach (re-election)
Carol Chaffee, Board of Outreach
Rob Basler, Board of Outreach
Devon Basler, Board of Outreach

Elaine Henriksen, Board of Stewardship

Meg McDermott, Growth Committee (1 year term)

Peter Glass, Music Committee (re-election)
Lynne Bates, Music Committee
Sherley Phillips, Music Committee

Diane Sheibley, Church Moderator, would like to offer her heartfelt thanks to this year's Nominating Committee for their efficient work: Deb Sorgman (chair), John Sharland, Denise Molinari, Carla Jackson, Rich Sullivan, and Nancy Winter.

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.



Please join us for a movie matinee of *Still Alice* on Sunday, May 22nd from 2 - 5 p.m. followed by a discussion of Alzheimer's disease and dementia. Refreshments will be served.

Contact Darlene Brown at 508 822 6743 or darlingsb@verizon.net for more info.



Time and Talent Pledges now being accepted!

Not sure who to ask, or who to tell, about how to best use your gifts? Do you have secret talents and a bit of time here and there? Let us know! If you've ever said to yourself... "Well, it's not much, but I could do that!", then fill out your Time & Talent Pledge form today! Find it next in this issue of Steeple Sounds, or on the website at www.cscucc.org!

CSCC Golf Tournament!



Date of event: Monday, June 27

***Time: 8:30am
(registration opens at 7:30am)***

***Olde Scotland Links
695 Pine St., Bridgewater***

Scramble Shot Gun Start

*\$110 Includes golf, cart, buffet lunch banquet
with door prizes • Raffles*

Prizes for closest to the pin & longest drives

Teams of four players

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 508-697-6016

Or email office@cscucc.com • www.cscucc.org

The fundraiser is for the general fund at Central Square Congregational Church, which pays all the building expenses for the church buildings. We're proud that our building is home to many Bridgewater community group meetings (AA, NA, girl scouts, boy scouts, BSU Community Choir, Mommy & toddler playgroups) as well as the Bridgewater Food Pantry. The general fund pays for the electricity, heat, janitorial, maintenance, repairs, and other expenses that allow us to offer the building for those uses.



Central Square Congregational Church

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, June 27

Olde Scotland Links

695 Pine St., Bridgewater

8:30am (registration opens at 7:30am)

Scramble Shot Gun Start

A portion of the proceeds to benefit the Bridgewater Food Pantry.

Additional proceeds to fund support costs for Bridgewater area outreach efforts of
Central Square Congregational Church.

\$110 per person registration fee includes:

Greens fees, golf cart, buffet lunch, range balls

Contests: M/F Longest Drive, M/F Closest to the Pin, 50/50 on the Green

Lunch-only tickets are available for \$35 each.

Registration Form

Registration deadline: June 15, 2016

Make checks payable to: CSCC

Mail to CSCC, 71 Central Square, Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-6016 ▪ office@cscucc.com

Registrations accepted for individual players or foursomes.

Player name: _____ Phone # _____

Email: _____

Player name: _____ Phone # _____

Email: _____

Player name: _____ Phone # _____

Email: _____

Player name: _____ Phone # _____

Email: _____

Central Square Congregational Church

GOLF TOURNAMENT HOLE SPONSORSHIP

**Monday, June 27
Olde Scotland Links
695 Pine St., Bridgewater**



A portion of the proceeds to benefit the Bridgewater Food Pantry.

Additional proceeds to fund support costs for Bridgewater area outreach efforts of
Central Square Congregational Church.

\$100 per hole



Registration deadline: June 15, 2016

Make checks payable to: CSCC

Mail to CSCC, 71 Central Square, Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-6016 ▪ office@cscucc.com

**YES! We would like to support the Central Square Congregational Church
2016 Golf Tournament as a Hole Sponsor.**

Sponsor Name: _____
as it should appear on course signage – please print clearly

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Daytime phone: _____

Email: _____

Central Square Congregational Church

GOLF TOURNAMENT RAFFLE PRIZE DONATION

Monday, June 27
Olde Scotland Links
695 Pine St., Bridgewater



A portion of the proceeds to benefit the Bridgewater Food Pantry.
Additional proceeds to fund support costs for Bridgewater area outreach efforts of
Central Square Congregational Church.



**Please consider making a donation of a raffle prize or gift basket to
our event!**

Contact us at
508-697-6016 ▪ office@cscucc.com

to arrange pick up, or drop it off at the church office M-F, 9am-1pm no later than
Wednesday June 24

**YES! We would like to support the Central Square Congregational Church
2016 Golf Tournament as a Hole Sponsor.**

Sponsor Name: _____
as it should appear on our thank you list – please print clearly

Item: _____ Value: _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Daytime phone: _____

Email: _____

Daily Lectionary Scripture References May 2016 (Year C)

Sun., May 1
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 16:9-15
Psalm 67
Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5
John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9

Mon., May 2
Psalm 93
1 Chronicles 12:16-22
Revelation 21:5-14

Tues., May 3
Psalm 93
2 Chronicles 15:1-15
Revelation 21:15-22

Wed., May 4
Psalm 93
2 Chronicles 34:20-33
Luke 2:25-38

Thurs., May 5
Ascension of the Lord
Acts 1:1-11
Psalm 47 or Psalm 93
Ephesians 1:15-23
Luke 24:44-53

Fri., May 6
Psalm 97
Exodus 33:12-17
Revelation 22:6-9

Sat., May 7
Psalm 97
Exodus 33:18-23
John 1:14-18

Sun., May 8
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Acts 16:16-34
Psalm 97
Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21
John 17:20-26

Mon., May 9
Psalm 29
Exodus 40:16-38
Acts 16:35-40

Tues., May 10
Psalm 29
2 Chronicles 5:2-14
Acts 26:19-29

Wed., May 11
Psalm 29
Ezekiel 3:12-21
Luke 9:18-27

Thurs., May 12
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Isaiah 32:11-17
Galatians 5:16-25

Fri., May 13
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Isaiah 44:1-4
Galatians 6:7-10

Sat., May 14
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
2 Kings 2:1-15a
Luke 1:5-17

Sun., May 15
Day of Pentecost
Acts 2:1-21 or Genesis 11:1-9
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21
John 14:8-17 [25-27]

Mon., May 16
Psalm 48
Joel 2:18-29
1 Corinthians 2:1-11

Tues., May 17
Psalm 48
Ezekiel 11:14-25
1 Corinthians 2:12-16

Wed., May 18
Psalm 48
Numbers 24:1-14
Luke 1:26-38

Thurs., May 19
Psalm 8
Proverbs 3:13-18
Ephesians 1:17-19

Fri., May 20
Psalm 8
Proverbs 3:19-26
Ephesians 4:1-6

Sat., May 21
Psalm 8
Proverbs 4:1-9
Luke 2:41-52

Sun., May 22
Trinity Sunday
Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31
Psalm 8
Romans 5:1-5
John 16:12-15

Mon., May 23
Psalm 124
Proverbs 7:1-4
Ephesians 4:7-16

Tues., May 24
Psalm 124
Proverbs 8:4-21
Ephesians 5:15-20

Wed., May 25
Psalm 124
Daniel 1:1-21
Luke 1:46b-55

Thurs., May 26
Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15
Proverbs 13:1-12
Romans 5:12-6:2

Fri., May 27
Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15
Proverbs 15:1-9
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Sat., May 28
Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15
Isaiah 30:8-17
John 16:1-4a

Sun., May 29
Sirach 27:4-7 or Isaiah 55:10-13
Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15
1 Corinthians 15:51-58
Luke 6:39-49

Mon., May 30
Psalm 1
Jeremiah 24:1-10
1 Corinthians 16:1-12

Tues., May 31
Psalm 1
Jeremiah 29:10-19
1 Corinthians 16:13-24



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May calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
May 1 9 Breakfast - FH 10 Communion 10 Worship 11:30 Teachers Mtg - FR 7:30p AA-FH	2 6p Food Pantry - LL 6:30p Girl Scouts - MR 7p NA-FH	3 8:30 Play Groups - MR 7:30p Stewardship - MR	4 6p Girl Scouts - LL 6:30p WG&F - Banquet Off-	5 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	6 7p Al-Anon- MR	7
8 Mother's Day 10 Worship 11:30 Growth - FR 7:30p AA-FH	9 7p Golf Com Mtg - FR 7p NA-FH	10 8:30 Play Groups - MR 6:15p Brownies - FH 7p Outreach - FR	11 7p Deacons - FR	12 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH 7:30p Pack Com Mtg - MR	13 7p Al-Anon- MR	14
15 9 Breakfast - FH 10 Worship 11:30 CE Event - LL 11:30 Election Mtg - FH 2p Bear Den - MR 7:30p AA-FH	16 6:30p Girl Scouts - MR 7p NA-FH	17 8:30 Play Groups - MR	18 6p Girl Scouts - LL 7p Cabinet-MR	19 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	20 7p Pack 35 - FH 7p Al-Anon- MR	21
22 10 Worship 7:30p AA-FH	23 7p NA-FH	24 8:30 Play Groups - MR 6:15p Brownies - FH	25 7p CE - MR 7p Trustees-FR	26 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	27 7p Al-Anon- MR	28
29 10 Worship 7:30p AA-FH	30 Memorial Day 7p NA-FH	31 8:30 Play Groups - MR	Jun 1 6p Girl Scouts - LL	2 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	3 7p Al-Anon- MR	4

*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

Treasurer: Larry Brown treasurer@csccucc.com

Office telephone: (508) 697-6016

Fax: (508) 697-8010

Website: www.csccucc.org

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

