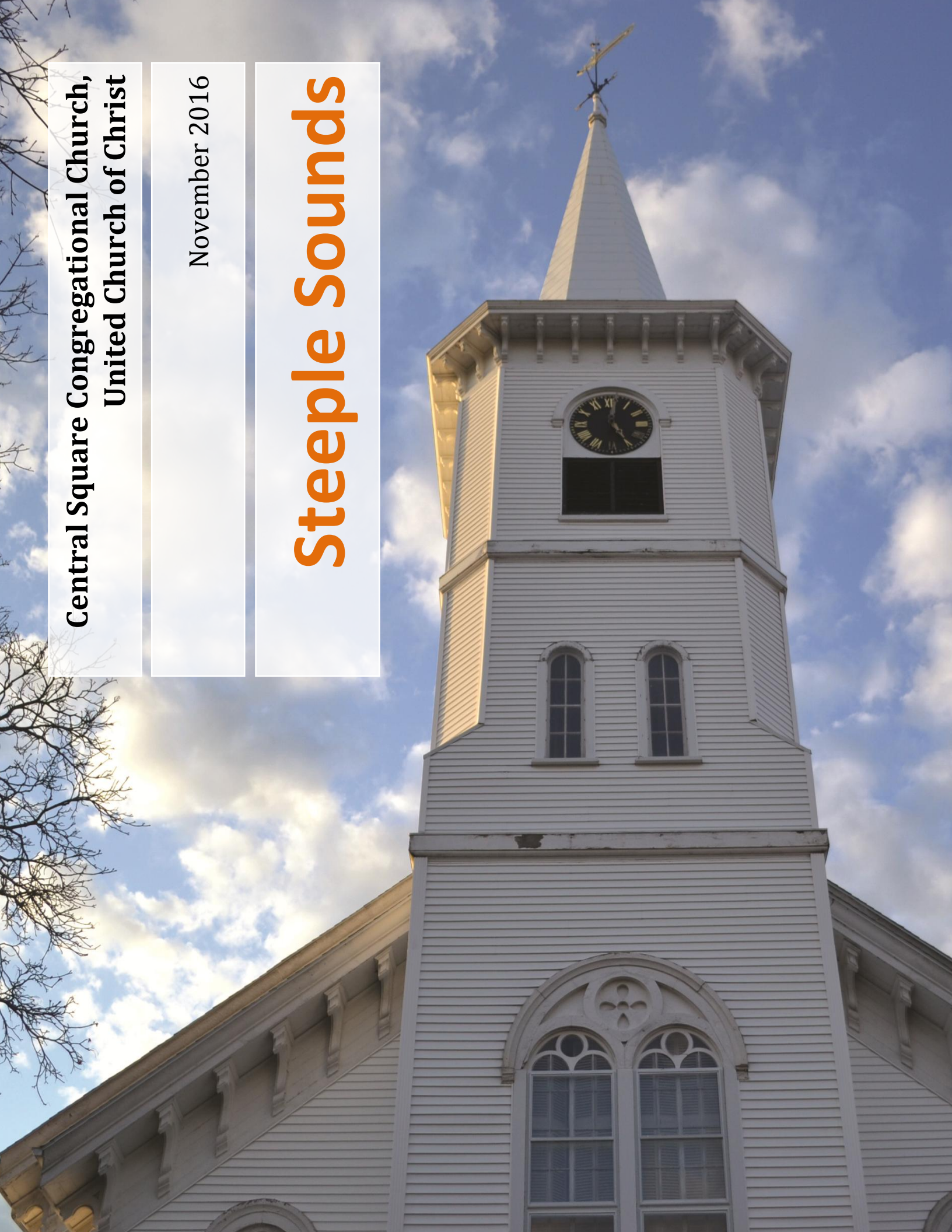


**Central Square Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ**

November 2016

Steeple Sounds



From The Desk of Rev. Beth



*"O give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good,
for the Lord's steadfast love endures forever." - Psalm 136:1*

It's hard to believe that Thanksgiving is just around the corner. This year seems to be moving at light speed. But here we are, November is indeed upon us. It has me thinking about Thanksgiving, my own growing family, and what traditions I want to pass on or create anew.

In my childhood, gathering around the Thanksgiving table was always a sacred tradition in my family. My mom would get out her recipe box and pull the smudged cards with the green bean casserole recipe, or the stuffing recipe, passed down from her own mother. We'd polish off the fancy plates and glasses, and put the leaf in the dining room table. I can picture my brother passing the bowl of creamy mashed potatoes and the plate of savory turkey. I remember how we'd go around the table, listing our many blessings, and offer up thanks to God for our abundance. There was always something so beautiful about Thanksgiving and it remains my family's favorite holiday to this day.

As the years pass by and our lives change, so do our Thanksgiving traditions. But through the myriad of changes, the central theme of "gratitude" remains at the heart of our tradition. Gratitude helps us make space in our lives for new forgiveness, joy, acceptance and hope. As author Melody Beattie says, "It (gratitude) turns what we have into enough, and more...It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend." This year, whether you are anticipating the togetherness of family or a second-helping of stuffing, make your celebration a time of giving thanks to God. May our holiday rituals remind us to always live with a spirit of thankfulness and compassion. May God remind us to "embrace Thanksgiving" not just on one day in November, but each and every day.

Blessings in Christ,

Rev. Beth

From the Board of Trustees

For all our new church members- What are the major responsibilities of the Trustees per the church constitution?

Trustees are responsible for all the business affairs of the church, responsible for the maintenance and care of the church, and are responsible for execution of all personnel contracts.

A major project at the present time includes negotiations with contractors to repair the front of the church and steeple. Prices range from five to fifty thousand dollars. To restore each clock alone in the steeple will cost over three thousand dollars if the church were to have it done.

Trustees are short one member on the six-member board! Can you help?? Contact Gordon Brailsford at gordonwayne@comcast.net if yes!

From the Board of Outreach

Everyone knows how dry it was this past summer. The lawns dried up very early. This meant that we didn't have to mow the grass as often or hire someone to do it.

At Hanson Farm, this dry weather made growing crops very challenging, especially where we had no irrigation. In fact, this was the toughest year we have ever had for growing corn! We lost or had reduced yields on more than 15 acres. At the same time, the dry weather produced near record breaking amounts of pumpkins, squash, and ornamental crops.

This brings me to the Food Pantry at Central Square Congregational Church. I recently found out that the Food Pantry had a case of Girl Scout cookies donated earlier this year. When the food pantry workers showed up the cookies were not there. Jack Melcher, who runs the Food Pantry and is one-hundred percent committed to it, put a post on the Bridgewater Residents Facebook page about the loss. The Food Pantry received several donations, including one from a young girl who donated her allowance which she saved for a long time. She did not want her name known, just wanted to help. She presented her donation to Reverend Beth. These things all prove that something good almost always comes out of not so good situations.

God is Still Speaking
Outreach Committee, David Hanson

Women's Guild & Fellowship

Come Join Us!



The Women's Guild and Fellowship will hold its next meeting on **November 2nd** at **6:30 PM** in the **Fellowship Hall**. We are pleased to announce the Lissa Budge-Johnson will be our guest speaker. Lissa is from the Plymouth County Sheriff's Department and is a very entertaining and informative speaker. Her topic will be Charitable Giving.

Some of the agenda items for the meeting include a wrap up of our very successful Fall Rummage Sale, information about the Christmas boxes for our troops overseas, and the assignment of Secret Pals. Veterans' Day cards for our VA vets and food for the Food Pantry will be collected.

Coming in December – our annual Christmas Communion Service with Rev. Beth.

All women are welcome. Come check us out!

Co-Presidents

Lynn Pietras 508-824-0855

Gail Wright 508-697-7159

CHRISTMAS BOXES FOR OUR TROOPS

The Women's Guild and Fellowship is once again collecting items for our troops who are stationed overseas at Christmas. If you would like to contribute to this project, there will be a box in the entry hall where donations will be collected. Below is a list of the most requested items. Also, if you would like to send along a holiday greeting, you may drop those off in the box as well. Thoughts and prayers and notes from home are very appreciated all year long, but most especially during the holidays.

Candy/gum, Shampoo, Deodorant, Hand cream, Tooth brushes and paste, Kleenex packets, Sports items, Laundry pods, Beef Jerky, T-shirts (L- XL), Wash cloths, Mouth Wash, Handi wipes, Cocoa, Batteries (AA & AAA), Pillow cases, Coffee creamers/flavors, Tea, Oatmeal packets, Hand Sanitizer, Dental Floss (not the string kind), Pens/stickies/markers, Dryer Sheets (good as air fresheners), AYR nasal spray, Ramen noodles, Band-aids (children's fun type), Hats (blue/black) (wear under helmets), Lip Balm, Eye glass cleaner, Hand/Foot Warmers, Health Bars, Coffee (regular) and K-cups (regular).



RUMMAGE SALE RESULTS AND THANK YOUS!

Once again we have had a successful rummage sale! Marie, Lori and Bette want to thank the members of the Guild who give so selflessly of their time, labor, donations and love. You are a dedicated and hard-working group of women and we cannot thank you enough for all your efforts.

We also thank the members of the congregation who also put in time and labor to help us out. Clean-up was accomplished in record time because we had so many efficient helpers. We are so pleased to recognize this deepening level of support from the church family.

Also to be thanked are members of the youth mission group. They are a nice group of young people who also helped so much throughout the day, including cleanup. They were a joy to work with.

We are very grateful for all the support and now.... drum roll please: the total is **\$2,633.36**. This is a record for earnings from the rummage sale. This money will allow us to meet our outreach obligations to the church and the community, and this, along with fellowship and friendship, is what Guild is all about.

Rummage Sale Team

“Nametags are friendly and welcoming: wearing one is an act of hospitality.”

- Growth

From Christian Education



Preparing for Advent

Come, help us prepare for the celebration of the birth of Christ by joining together in community. We invite friends, family, children, youth and adults to attend an evening of food, fun, and a spiritual moment. The evening begins with a pot luck supper prepared by our very best cooks, you. Following dinner you will have an opportunity to either help the Deacons with the hanging of greens in the sanctuary while the children, youth and crafty adults create items to decorate your tree and homes for Christmas in the fellowship hall. The highlight of the night is creating a live family advent wreath to take home and light each Sunday before Christmas. During the evening we will have a spiritual moment to set the tone for the Christmas season. So please come join Christian Ed on **Saturday, November 26th from 5:30 until 8:00 p.m.**

Mission Giving

Christian Ed would like to have the children participate in giving over the next few months. In the spirit of giving during the Thanksgiving season Christian Ed is inviting all the children, youth and any adults to participate in an ingathering of food for the needy families of Bridgewater. Bags will be distributed to all the Sunday school children and anyone who would like to participate on Sunday, November 6th. They will be asked to return the bags on Sunday, November 13th. December will be a month of giving of themselves. More information will follow. In January we will once again celebrate Heifer project with sponsorship of an animal, collecting of funds in a Heifer bank and inviting the congregation to participate in the Living Gift Market.

Dates to Remember

Nov. 6	Sunday school – Lesson – God Calls Samuel, ingathering food bags distributed
Nov. 13	Sunday school – Lesson - David is Chosen, ingathering food bags collected
Nov. 20	Sunday school – Lesson – Naaman is Healed
Nov. 26	Advent Workshop – Saturday night 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.
Nov. 27	First Sunday of Advent – Intergenerational Sunday



CSCC Annual Fair : Hometown Harvest!
Friday, November 11, 6:30pm-8:30pm
Saturday, November 12, 9:00am-2:00pm
Turkey supper: 5pm, 6:30pm, or takeout

MARK YOUR CALENDARS, AND TELL YOUR FRIENDS!

All of your favorites will be there: Pie! (Friday evening pie & coffee) * The cookie walk (how many different cookies can you fit in your tin?) and other baked goods * Homemade candy and goodies * Hand-made gift items * Holiday items * Jewelry * Attic treasures rummage * Silent auction gift baskets * Beth Basler's amazing luncheon soups * meatball subs * **WALKING TACOS!** * Hanson Farm harvest table * Turkey supper, to eat in or take out.

“How can I help?” If you'd like to lend a hand, bake some cookies, cook a turkey, make an apple crisp, serve some pie, or if you just have questions, feel free to contact any of our fair chairs. If everybody did just one thing, **BOY!**, would it be a fair to remember. And we thank you in advance for your time and talent.

Another important way you can help: **bring your friends!** And post it on **Facebook!** Invite your neighbors! Tell them about the food items and they won't be able to resist... The cookie walk? Chef Basler's fabulous bisque? A turkey supper with generous portions? **Walking tacos???**

Please also note: we encourage anyone coming to the fair to bring one nonperishable food item to contribute to the Bridgewater Food Pantry if they are able. Spread the word!

Contact one of the Fair Chairs with questions:

Carla Jackson, 508-279-3375, carlafivejacs@gmail.com

Denise Molinari, 508-279-6322, denmol@comcast.net

Deb Rucker, 508-279-0772, motherucker40@gmail.com

Diane Sheibley, 508-697-7262, diane@sheibley.net

We'll be taking turkey supper reservations during coffee hours – look for us, email Diane Sheibley at diane@sheibley.net, or contact the church office at 508-697-6016. **Seating is limited**, so make your reservations sooner rather than later. Reservations required for eat-in or takeout.

Remember... November 11 & 12! See you there!

And... TELL YOUR FRIENDS!

Church Fair Needs

It is time to start making candy again! We are looking for cash donations to assist us in purchasing the costly ingredients needed for the fudge and specialty confections that make our table such a "sweet treat"! We are also asking for leftover, packaged Halloween candy to sell at the Fair.

If you would like to make fudge or candy for the Fair, or plan to help us with a cash donation, please contact Debbie Golob at 508-947-2798 or debbiegolob@verizon.net, or Ruthie LaBonte at 508-697-7122 or ruthie.labonte@comcast.net, as soon as possible.

Anyone with leftover Halloween candy may bring it to our table on Friday, November 11th or Saturday, November 12th. We greatly appreciate any and all assistance.

Thank you so much! - Debbie & Ruthie

We are in need of baked goods for the Church Fair!

Please consider making a pie, cookies or bread. We need a variety of pies and cookies for pie night and the cookie walk. All baked goods are welcome!

Please label all baked goods and drop them at the church anytime on Friday, November 11th before 6:30 p.m. (Cookies should be two dozen or more in a ziplock bag.)

Please contact Darlene Brown at 508-822-6743 or darlingsb@verizon.net and let her know what you can make. We need your help to make the fair a success, and thank you in advance for any and all help!

Attic Treasures - Everyone enjoys going upstairs to see all the bargains!

We have a Christmas Table - so please look at home and see if you can donate some Christmas items. We also need toys, dishes, pictures, almost anything! No computers and large appliances, though please.

You can drop off at the church on Wednesday, November 9th and Thursday November 10th between 9 am and 12:30 pm. On Thursday night we will begin setup at 5 pm.

Please call if you have any questions - you can fill a bag for \$1 at noon on Saturday!

- Bev Mitchell (508) 697-2949

So What's New?: An Update From Cabinet

Here are some things heard at the Cabinet meeting...

- * The Deacons are looking to automate their parish care logistics, to make sure they are providing the care to those who need it. They might need some help on the technical end of things. Are you someone that might be able to help?
- * The Trustees have a long list of tasks, little and big, that need to be done around and about our buildings. Contact the Trustees or the church office if you have a skill that could be put to use helping to maintain our spaces.
- * Christian Ed is still in need of a teacher here and there – no long term commitment needed!
- * If you have youth, what might you be looking for in terms of their involvement in the church? Christian Ed may be doing some surveying to find out.
- * Did you know that 25% of the golf tournament proceeds went to the food pantry? Go team!
- * Cabinet approved \$10,000 to be used from the Capital Campaign funds to do necessary structural repairs to the steeple and front of the church building.
- * The Youth Mission Trip is June 25-30, and will be to Queens, NY.
- * December 4th Christmas on the Common will once again be visiting our fellowship hall, and December 18th is the Living Nativity!
- * Dine with 9 groups have been distributed! If you'd like to try it out, contact Diane Sheibley (diane@sheibley.net) or Brad Barnsley (barns4@aol.com) to "guest" at one of the scheduled dinners.
- * Women's Guild is once again doing boxes for soldiers this holiday season
- * Brian Maxfield was appointed to the Music Committee, with the approval of Cabinet
- * Rev. Beth is looking for volunteers for the Advent Think Tank. Contact her if you're interested!

CELEBRATION OF THANKSGIVING

TUESDAY, NOV. 22ND @ 7:00

TRINITY EPISCOPAL

CHURCH

91 MAIN STREET



**THE BRIDGEWATER COUNCIL OF CHURCHES WELCOMES
EVERYONE AS WE GATHER TOGETHER AND SHARE OUR
BLESSINGS WITH ONE ANOTHER.**

“CHOOSING TO BE GRATEFUL”

- ***PARTICIPATION BY MANY IN THE BRIDGEWATER COMMUNITY***
- ***TIME OF FELLOWSHIP AND FOOD FOLLOWING THE SERVICE***
- ***JOIN THE COMMUNITY CHOIR – REHEARSALS ARE ON TUESDAYS,
NOVEMBER 8 & 15 @ 6:00 PM @ TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND
PRIOR TO THE SERVICE, NOVEMBER 22 AT 6:00 PM***
- ***DONATIONS TO BE SHARED WITH THE BRIDGEWATER FOOD PANTRY AND
THE FUEL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM***
- ***PLEASE BRING A DONATION OF A NON-PERISHABLE FOOD***

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

REV. SUSANNAH CURRIE – REVSCURRIE@GMAIL.COM

Daily Lectionary Scripture References November 2016 (Year C/A)

Tues., Nov. 1

All Saint's Day
Psalm 142
Habakkuk 3:1-16
Jude 5-21

Wed., Nov. 2

Psalm 142
Habakkuk 3:17-19
Luke 19:11-27

Thurs., Nov. 3

Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
Zechariah 1:1-17
Acts 22:22-23:11

Fri., Nov. 4

Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
Zechariah 6:9-15
Acts 24:10-23

Sat., Nov. 5

Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
Haggai 1:1-15a
Luke 20:1-8

Sun., Nov. 6

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Haggai 1:15b-2:9
Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21 or
Psalm 98
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
Luke 20:27-38

Mon., Nov. 7

Psalm 98
Haggai 2:10-19
2 Peter 1:16-21

Tues., Nov. 8

Psalm 98
Haggai 2:20-23
2 John 1-13

Wed., Nov. 9

Psalm 98
Zechariah 8:1-17
John 5:19-29
Luke 17:11-29

Thurs., Nov. 10

Isaiah 12
Isaiah 57:14-21
Romans 1:18-25

Fri., Nov. 11

Isaiah 12
Isaiah 59:1-15a
2 Thessalonians 1:3-12

Sat., Nov. 12

Isaiah 12
Isaiah 59:15b-21
Luke 17:20-37

Sun., Nov. 13

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Isaiah 65:17-25
Isaiah 12
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Luke 21:5-19

Mon., Nov. 14

Psalm 76
Isaiah 60:17-22
Ephesians 4:25-5:2

Tues., Nov. 15

Psalm 76
Isaiah 66:1-13
1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1

Wed., Nov. 16

Psalm 76
Isaiah 66:14-24
Matthew 23:37-24:14

Thurs., Nov. 17

Luke 1:68-79
Jeremiah 21:1-14
Hebrews 9:23-28

Fri., Nov. 18

Luke 1:68-79
Jeremiah 22:1-17
1 Peter 1:3-9

Sat., Nov. 19

Luke 1:68-79
Jeremiah 22:18-30
Luke 18:15-17

Sun., Nov. 20

Reign of Christ
Jeremiah 23:1-6
Luke 1:68-79
Colossians 1:11-20
Luke 23:33-43

Mon., Nov. 21

Psalm 117
Jeremiah 30:1-17
Revelation 21:5-27

Tues., Nov. 22

Psalm 117
Jeremiah 30:18-24
Revelation 22:8-21

Wed., Nov. 23

Psalm 117
Jeremiah 31:1-6
Luke 1:1-4

Thurs., Nov. 24

Thanksgiving
Deut. 26:1-11
Psalm 100
Philippians 4:4-9
John 6:25-35

Fri., Nov. 25

Psalm 122
Genesis 6:1-10
Hebrews 11:1-7

Sat., Nov. 26

Psalm 122
Genesis 6:11-22
Matthew 24:1-22

Sun., Nov. 27

First Sunday in Advent (Year "A")
Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalm 122
Romans 13:11-14
Matthew 24:36-44

Mon., Nov. 28

Psalm 124
Genesis 8:1-19
Romans 6:1-11

Tues., Nov. 29

Psalm 124
Genesis 9:1-17
Hebrews 11:32-40

Wed., Nov. 30

Psalm 124
Isaiah 54:1-10
Matthew 24:23-35



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November Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 10 Worship 7:30p AA-FH	31 Halloween 7p NA-FH	Nov 1 8:30 Play Groups - MR 6:15p Girl Scouts - FH 7:30p Stewardship - MR	2 6p Girl Scouts - LL 6:30p WG&F - FH 7:30p BSU Choir - ST	3 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	4	5 Youth Leaf Raking
6 Daylight Saving Time end 10 Communion 10 Worship 11:30 Growth - FR 5p Webelos - MR 7:30p AA-FH	7 6p Food Pantry - LL 7p NA-FH	8 Election Day 8:30 Play Groups - MR 4p Brownies - LL 7p Deacons - MR 7p Outreach - FR	9 6p Girl Scouts - LL 6:30p Girl Scouts - FH 7:30p BSU Choir - ST	10 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Al-Anon - LL 7p Teachers Mtg - FR	11 Church Fair Prep - FR/FH Office Closed Veterans Day	12 9 Church Fair - FH/FR
13 10 Worship 4p Tiger Den - LL 7:30p AA-FH	14 7p NA-FH	15 8:30 Play Groups - MR 6:15p Girl Scouts - FH	16 6p Girl Scouts - LL 7p Cabinet-MR 7:30p BSU Choir - ST	17 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	18 5p Webelos - MR 6:30p Pack 35 - FH	19
20 10 Worship 11:30 M-Uke-Sicians - FR 7:30p AA-FH	21 7p NA-FH	22 8:30 Play Groups - MR 4p Brownies - LL	23 10 Food Pantry - LL 6p Girl Scouts - LL 6:30p Girl Scouts - FH	24 Thanksgiving Day 7p Al-Anon - FH	25	26 5p Advent Workshop - ST/F
27 10 Worship 7:30p AA-FH	28 7p NA-FH	29 8:30 Play Groups - MR	30 6p Girl Scouts - LL 7p CE - MR 7p Trustees-FR 7:30p BSU Choir - ST	Dec 1 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	2 6p Webelos - MR	3

*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: Rich Sullivan

Minister of Music - Lin Schuller

Accompanist - Julia Scott Carey

Treasurer: Larry Brown treasurer@cscucc.com

Office telephone: (508) 697-6016

Fax: (508) 697-8010

Website: www.cscucc.org

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

