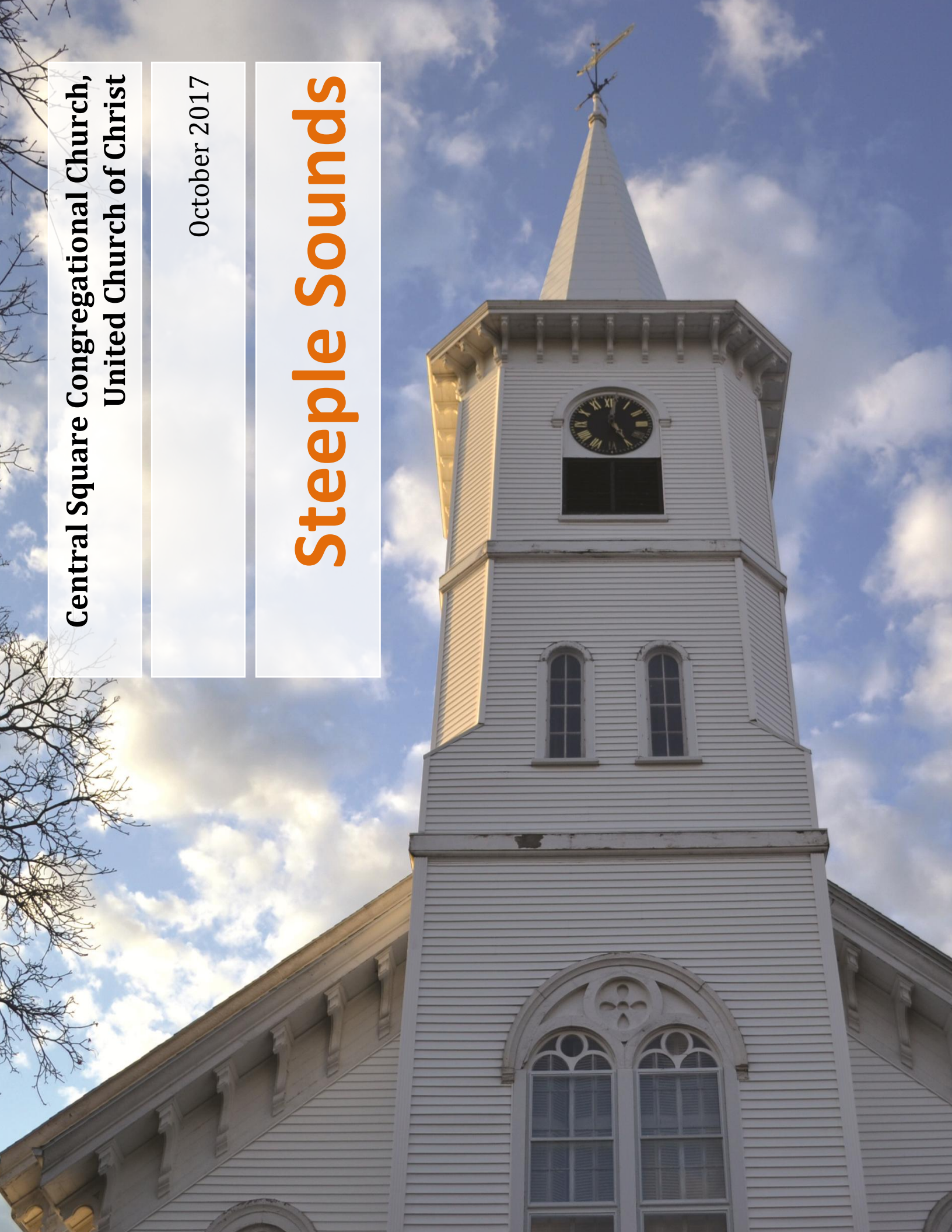


**Central Square Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ**

October 2017

Steeple Sounds



From The Desk of Rev. Beth



*"We clasp the hands of those that go before us,
and the hands of those who come after us.
We enter the little circle of each other's arms,
and the larger circle of lovers whose hands are joining
in a dance,
and the larger circle of all creatures,
passing in and out of life who move also in a dance,
to a music so subtle and vast that no ear hears it except
in fragments."*

-Wendell Berry (The Larger Circle)

This past Sunday in worship, our Superintendent of the Sunday School, Krissy Cannizzo, had the whole congregation stand in a circle holding hands. Then, she handed me an energy stick and it lit up and made this squealing sound as we held hands. The moment someone let go or separated themselves from the circle, the energy stick went dead. She did this to illustrate the connection and power, the spirit of God that flows through us when we are together.

I have to admit, I got a little choked up as we did this exercise. I often feel the love and connectedness of our congregation, and I see it frequently in how we care for each other. But this exercise brought that feeling to life. Each person in the circle could see how important they are. Each person present could understand, on a visceral level, their part in our community. Each person recognized their role in making the energy/spirit come to life.

This is key to understand in any community, but especially in a community of faith. Religion, faith, and spirituality are very abstract concepts. So we need things that bring those concepts to reality, down to our earthly level. This is why we serve each other. This is why we care for each other by making meals, volunteering in the Sunday School or Food Pantry. This is why we study scripture together. To bring to life the abstract and illustrate how truly connected we all are and our responsibility to the interconnected web of all existence.

I hope you felt the same way in worship on Sunday. If you missed it, take a few minutes to watch the YouTube video. (fast forward to 40 minute mark) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xb_vqI8mm9Y

As the seasons change, may you feel a sense of connectedness to all of creation. And may you find yourself changing too.

In Christ,

Rev. Beth

Fall Sleepover!

6:00 PM October 7th to 9:00 AM October 8th

All Children & Youth (3rd grade and above) are invited to sleepover at the church for a night of games, activities, crafts, movies, Worship and fun!

Worship on Sunday, October 8th is a Jammie Sunday! Kids who sleptover can wear their jammies to Worship, while others can dress down as well.

RSVP by contacting the office at office@cscucc.com or 508-697-6016!

From the Board of Deacons

Thought on World Communion Sunday (by Rev. Doctor Terry Moore)

Sunday, October 1, is World Communion Sunday. It is a great Sunday where Christians around the world come together to celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion. It is like the entire Christian family coming to the family table to share a meal together. God's table.

Each week we join together for worship and we affirm our faith with The Apostle's Creed. We testify that we believe in, "the holy catholic church." The word catholic, with the lowercase c, means universal. We recognize that the church is the body of Christ. We are a part of the body of Christ. We are a part of the larger universal Christian church, the holy catholic church. We are brothers and sisters with our Christian family around the world.

We are in ministry together with the larger church. We are one with churches throughout our community, our country, and our world. We give thanks to God for sister churches in Kenya, Bulgaria, Romania, Costa Rica, and many others.

Holy Communion – sacred oneness. Jesus prayed that the church would be one.

"I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word,²¹ that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.²² The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one,²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me." John 17:20-23 (NRSV)

We are one so that the world may know Jesus Christ.

The Apostle's Creed concludes with affirming the "communion of saints." Saints are those who believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, members of the body of Christ, the church. Holy Communion is a sacred oneness with God and with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

We are the church. We are members of the larger church. We are in ministry together. We come to God's table together on World Communion Sunday. It is a glimpse of the people of God feasting together at God's heavenly banquet.

From the Board of Stewardship



Congregational Polity: What's the Secret?

When attempting to understand Congregational Polity, which is a system of church self-governance, it's important to look back at the origin of congregationalism. Our church roots go back to the mid 1600's in New England. We are descended from Puritan movement of that period. The defining difference between Congregationalist and the other Protestant denominations formed at that time was "church self governance"

While it may appear to be democracy in its simplest form, God has given the government of the church to an ordained ministry and the congregational Polity provides for a system of checks and balances of power over the clergy, lay officers and lay members.

Each member has the opportunity, and the responsibility, to participate in the life and governance of their church through their "time, treasure or talent." We refer to this responsibility as Stewardship. Without the active participation of "Stewardship" Gods work and His message through the life of the church becomes jeopardized.

As in the past, your Stewardship team will launch our 2018 Stewardship Campaign during the early months of 2018. However, this year we will attempt to engage with the members of the congregation immediately to discuss Stewardship. We thought we would start at the beginning. A little history lesson of the origins of our denomination and specifically CSCC and our relationship with the United Church of Christ. We thought this would be helpful to the newer members of our church and clarify any questions our more tenured members may have.

You will hear more from your Stewardship team shortly.

From the Board of Outreach

I'm sure most everyone can recall some Outreach moment in their life. One that stands out in mind goes back to when I was in college at U Mass Amherst. Once a week I'd go shopping. I'm in line to pay for what I needed. The cashier rang in my stuff and thinking I had more money than I did, I was almost five dollars short. Before I could decide what not to buy, the person in line behind me handed me or the cashier a five. I tried to tell him that he didn't need to, but he insisted. I tried to get his address so I could pay him back. He said no need – you can do the same for someone else.

Many years have passed since this, and I've had at least two occasions to return the favor. One was the same situation as mine, and the other was at a restaurant when a customer didn't have enough to pay for his meal. Talk about things that make you feel good!

God is still speaking,

David Hanson

From the Music Committee



Musical offerings are off to a strong start this program year at Central Square Congregational Church. What a treat on kick-off Sunday to have a performance by Joshua Collier!

The **Choirs** are currently seeking participants to praise God through song in worship each week. Between Labor Day and Memorial Day, the adult choir rehearses every Sunday at 8 am (with some exceptions for holidays) and then performs during Worship.

The **Children's Choir** rehearses at 9:30 AM on the second and third Sundays of the month, and then performs on the fourth Sunday of the month.

Anyone interested in choir, please contact Julia Scott Carey at Juliascottcarey@gmail.com.

Our new "Score Club" (musical version of a book club) will be under way shortly! We will be studying Leonard Bernstein's dramatic sacred choral work, "Mass." If you would like to participate, check with Julia for a score and a recording of this exciting work. On Sunday, November 12th we will meet after the service to discuss the music together.

Members of the ukulele orchestra had a successful camp this summer. If you're interested in playing with the **Holy Ukes**, please contact Deb Sorgman at debsorgman@gmail.com

News from Growth

Church is not something you go to. It's the family you belong to.

Help is still needed at Bridgewater Autumnfest THIS Saturday, September 30th! If you can help hand out candy & church event flyers for any hour or two, please sign up here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d4ba4ac28a7fd0-autumnfest> or contact Sara Terpeny ASAP!

Greeters - We're finalizing our Greeters schedule for fall. If you're willing to help say "Hello" to people as they come in to church on Sunday, please contact Sara Terpeny at saraterp@gmail.com. This is a great way to get the whole family involved in a simple way to make sure our church is a friendly and welcoming space!

Also, **October coffee hours** are hosted by the Board of Outreach.



Women's Guild & Fellowship **Come Join Us!**



An Open Invitation to the Women of CSCC-UCC: The Women's Guild and Fellowship of CSCC will meet next on Wednesday, November 4th at 6:30 PM in our Fellowship Hall.

November's meeting will feature Liisa Budge-Johnson, who will speak on The Elephant Sanctuary. So mark your calendars and join us on November 4th!

Co-Presidents

Gail Wright (508-697-7159)

Lynn Pietras (508-824-0855)



Fall Rummage Sale Time!

Date: The date is **Saturday October 21st** for the **Fall Rummage Sale and Lunch** sponsored by the WG&F of CSCC, with hours **9:00 AM to 1:00 PM**. This semi-annual event is our primary fund-raiser, allowing us to support the church, charitable organizations, and members of the community, both local and beyond.

Help: As always, we need lot of volunteers to help with set-up, sales, and clean-up. We look not only to members of the Guild, but to the congregation at large to share in their time and talents, as we will be sorting and arranging on Thursday, Oct 19 and Friday Oct 20, Between 9AM and 3PM. Please contact Lynn Pietras (508-824-0855) or Gail Wright (508-697-7159) if you would like to help out anytime on Thursday, Friday or Saturday.

Items needed: Small furniture- footstools, small end tables, etc., Books- paperbacks only (please no textbooks, encyclopedias, or how to manuals), Gently used clothing, shoes, purses, jewelry, linens, household, items, glassware, and toys

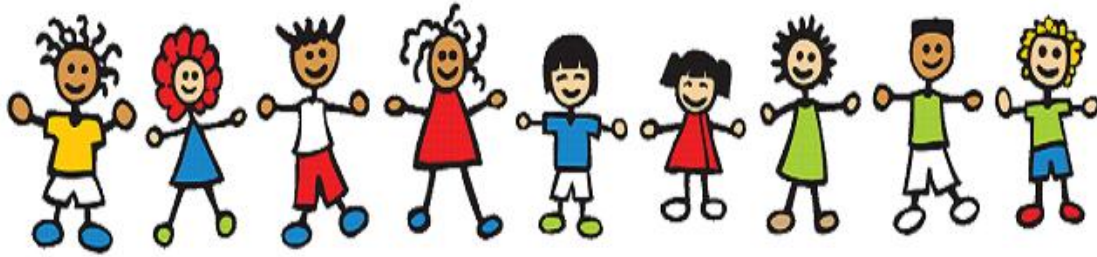
Soup and Sandwich Luncheon will also be available 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM!

Items may be left at the church during regular office hours **beginning Monday, Oct. 16th**. The church will also be open from 9 AM to 3 PM, and 5 PM to 7 PM on Thursday, Oct 19th and from 9 AM to 3 PM on Friday, Oct 21st. Adjustments may be made to those times, so be sure to watch for updates in September and October Bulletins and emails.

Thanks so much for your support in the past as we look forward to another successful sale!

Rummage Sale Committee

News from Christian Education



The board of CE has been busy with transitioning Sunday School to a new, one room school house format. The kids have done some wonderful things, and the format has been well received!

We are looking for both familiar and new faces to help with running pre-planned activities during Sunday School. We have created a sign up genius so you can sign up directly online. Check us out! <https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/10C0C4DAEA728A6F94-sunday>

In our September edition of Steeple Sounds, we recognized all of our local sponsors of our **Golf Tournament**.

Please note the following corrections:

Beth Basler, Realtor at Keller Williams Realty

Yusen Associates

Cole -Yeaton Senior Center given by the Yeaton Family.

Thanks again for your support, as proceeds went directly to the Food Pantry here at CSCC!

PILGRIM DISTRICT WOMEN
Meeting, October 24, 2017
First Trinitarian Congregational Church, UCC
381 Country Way, Scituate, MA

Pilgrim District Women will gather at First Trinitarian Congregational Church, UCC, 381 Country Way in Scituate, gathering at 9:30 for coffee and fellowship. At 10:00 we will meet for devotions, followed by a short business meeting.

The program following will be provided by the Annmarie Galvin, founder of FACTS, an organization in Scituate confronting the substance use and misuse problem that is rampant in our society. She will suggest ways that we as faith communities might become involved to help with the problem.

Please plan to come for the morning and then to have lunch, provided by the ladies of the FTCC. The cost of the luncheon is \$5.00, which can be paid on that day.



THE FAIR IS COMING! THE FAIR IS COMING!

Whether you're going to bake up a storm for the cookie walk and dessert table, knit some baby booties and throw blankets, or just look forward to some holiday shopping, a gourmet Beth Basler Presents lunch, and a delicious turkey supper, **SAVE THE DATE** for the Central Square annual Fair!

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10 AND 11!

No contribution of your time and talent is too small. If you are interested in volunteering with baking, turkey serving, pie night, publicity, or just about any other capacity, contact one of "My Fair Ladies": Denise Molinari (denmol@comcast.net, 508-279-6322), Carla Jackson (fourjacs@comcast.net, 508-279-3375), Deb Rucker (motherucker@gmail.com), or Diane Sheibley (diane@sheibley.net, 508-207-2524).

ALSO, if you know any BR high school students who want community service hours by working at the fair, have them contact one of My Fair Ladies as well! Hours are flexible.

Bakers Needed!

On the evening of Saturday, October 21, CSCC will have a vendor table at an event at BR high school, where we'll be distributing information and selling baked goods to raise money for the church. Please consider making a pie, a bread, a cake, some brownies or cookies, or another scrumptious baked good. Contact Diane Sheibley at diane@sheibley.net or 508-207-2524 (call or text) with questions, or to volunteer. **THANK YOU!**
PS – if you would be willing to help at the table that night, 6:30-9:30, please contact Diane!

Candy Needed!

The Fair is always an exciting time in the life of our church. Again this year we will be having **The Candy Table** with all its tempting treats, both familiar and new! Please be sure to stop by, see our amazing display of candy, have a sample and purchase some delectable delights! Because the ingredients necessary for our confections are costly, we rely on all of you to assist us in our endeavor: cash donations help us the most and we never turn down offers of fudge or candy made by you. Please contact Debbie Golob @ 508 947-2798 or Ruthie LaBonte @ 508 697-7122 to let us know if you will be able to help. **Anyone with leftover Halloween candy may bring it to our table on Friday, November 10th or Saturday, November 11th.** We greatly appreciate any and all assistance. Thank you so much! Debbie and Ruthie

Classifieds



Help Wanted! Home Health-Aide Opportunity!

Jean Tobey is in need of a Home Health-Aide. Day and Evening Hours will be available.
For more information or to apply, please contact **James Tobey** at **508-697-1015**.

Safety Assurance for Independent Living

(Brought to you by the Plymouth County Sheriff's Department)
Security, Independence, and Peace of Mind with just a FREE phone call!
Call 800-622-4300 for more information and/or to sign up!

***Do you have a service or a job opportunity that you'd like to offer to the congregation?
Submit your classified ad by emailing office@cscucc.com!***

Daily Lectionary Scripture References October 2017 (Year A)

Sun., Oct. 1
Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32

Mon., Oct. 2
Psalm 42
Exodus 18:1-12
Philippians 1:3-14

Tues., Oct. 3
Psalm 42
Exodus 18:13-27
Philippians 1:15-21

Wed., Oct. 4
Psalm 42
Exodus 19:9b-25
Matthew 9:2-8

Thurs., Oct. 5
Psalm 19
Exodus 23:1-9
Colossians 2:16-23

Fri., Oct. 6
Psalm 19
Exodus 23:14-19
Philippians 2:14-18; 3:1-4a

Sat., Oct. 7
Psalm 19
Exodus 23:10-13
John 7:40-52

Sun., Oct. 8
Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
Psalm 19
Philippians 3:4b-14
Matthew 21:33-46

Mon., Oct. 9
Psalm 119:49-56
Deuteronomy 5:1-21
1 Peter 2:4-10

Tues., Oct. 10
Psalm 119:49-56
Deuteronomy 5:22-6:3
2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Wed., Oct. 11
Psalm 119:49-56
Deuteronomy 6:10-25
John 11:45-57

Thurs., Oct. 12
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Exodus 24:1-8
1 Peter 5:1-5, 12-14

Fri., Oct. 13
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Exodus 24:9-11
James 4:4-10

Sat., Oct. 14
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Exodus 24:12-18
Mark 2:18-22

Sun., Oct. 15
Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exodus 32:1-14
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Philippians 4:1-9
Matthew 22:1-14

Mon., Oct. 16
Psalm 97
Exodus 32:15-35
Jude 17-25

Tues., Oct. 17
Psalm 97
Exodus 33:1-6
Philippians 3:13-4:1

Wed., Oct. 18
Psalm 97
2 Kings 17:7-20
John 6:25-35

Thurs., Oct. 19
Psalm 99
Exodus 33:7-11
3 John 9-12

Fri., Oct. 20
Psalm 99
Exodus 31:1-11
1 Peter 5:1-5

Sat., Oct. 21
Psalm 99
Exodus 39:32-43
Matthew 14:1-12

Sun., Oct. 22
Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exodus 33:12-23
Psalm 99
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

Mon., Oct. 23
Psalm 63:1-8
Exodus 40:34-38
Revelation 18:1-10, 19-20

Tues., Oct. 24
Psalm 63:1-8
Numbers 12:1-9
Revelation 18:21-24

Wed., Oct. 25
Psalm 63:1-8
Numbers 13:1-2, 17-14:9
Matthew 17:22-27

Thurs., Oct. 26
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Deuteronomy 31:14-22
Titus 1:5-16

Fri., Oct. 27
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Deuteronomy 32:1-14, 18
Titus 2:7-8, 11-15

Sat., Oct. 28
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Deuteronomy 32:44-47
John 5:39-47

Sun., Oct. 29
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Deuteronomy 34:1-12
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 22:34-46

Mon., Oct. 30
Psalm 119:41-48
Numbers 33:38-39
James 2:8-13

Tues., Oct. 31
Psalm 119:41-48
Exodus 34:29-35
James 2:14-26



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October Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Oct 1 9 Breakfast - FH 10 Communion 10 Worship 11:30 Opportunity Fair - FH 12p Confirmation Orientation 7:30p AA-FH	2 6p Food Pantry - LL 7p NA-FH	3 7:30p Stewardship - MR	4 4:30p Girl Scouts - LL 6p Girl Scouts - LL 6:30p WG&F - FH 7:30p BSU Choir - ST	5 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	6	7 6p Fall Sleepover - FH
8 10 Worship 7:30p AA-FH	9 Office Closed Columbus Day (regional) 7p NA-FH	10 6p Girl Scouts - FH 7p Deacons - FR 7p CE - LL 7:30p Outreach - MR	11 6p Girl Scouts - LL 7:30p BSU Choir - ST	12 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Growth - FR 7p Al-Anon - FH	13	14
15 9 Breakfast - FH 10 Worship 11:30 Mission Youth - LL 7:30p AA-FH	16 7p NA-FH	17	18 4:30p Girl Scouts - LL 6p Girl Scouts - LL 7p Cabinet-MR 7:30p BSU Choir - ST	19 Rummage Sale Prep - FH 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Al-Anon - ST	20 Rummage Sale Prep - FH	21 9 Rummage Sale - FH
22 10 Worship 7:30p AA-FH	23 7p NA-FH	24 6p Girl Scouts - FH	25 6p Girl Scouts - LL 7p Trustees-FR 7:30p BSU Choir - ST	26 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Al-Anon - FH	27	28 Pack 35 Haunted House
29 10 Worship 7:30p AA-FH	30 7p NA-FH	31 Halloween	Nov 1 4:30p Girl Scouts - LL 6p Girl Scouts - LL 6:30p WG&F - FH 7:30p BSU Choir - ST	2 10 Food Pantry - LL 7p Growth - FR 7p Al-Anon - FH	3 5:30p Lighthouse Presentation	4 Mission Youth Leaf Raking



Central Square Congregational Church is now a member of the Bridgewater Business Association!

Church Administration

Pastor: Rev. Elizabeth Walden Stotts – csccpastor@hotmail.com

Congregational Administrator: Ellen Atherton – office@cscucc.com

Sexton: Rich Sullivan

Minister of Music: Julia Scott Carey

Superintendent of Sunday School:

Krissy Cannizzo maximus202@comcast.net

Treasurer: Larry Brown treasurer@cscucc.com

Office telephone: (508) 697-6016

Website: www.cscucc.org

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