



Steeple Sounds

The monthly newsletter of Central Square Congregational Church, UCC
January 2023

We are a Christian community of people who are reaching out to our neighbors, at home and abroad, sharing our faith and our resources.

From the Desk of Rev. Beth

Rev. Elizabeth Stotts, Pastor

God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." God said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations." -Exodus 3:14-15

When we enter into a new year, we can't help but reflect on the past. We think about the past year; about the struggles and joys, highs and lows. Maybe we hit a major milestone. Maybe we overcame something we never dreamed possible. Or maybe we lost a loved one and are swimming in grief.

Similarly, in the New Year we also tend to set goals for ourselves during this time; set hopes and wishes for the coming year. There are also ways in which we can feel overwhelmed by the possibilities for the future and what may or may not be on the horizon.

While there is rich ore to be mined from self reflection of our past, and in clarifying our desires for the future, I'm drawn to the idea that God identifies as "I AM". God is in the present, active, living. In her meditation on God, Helen Mellicost says, "When you live in the past, with its mistakes and regrets, it is hard. I am not there. My name is not 'I WAS'. When you live in the future, with its problems and fears, it is hard. I am not there. My name is not 'I WILL BE.' When you live in this moment, it is not hard. I am here. My name is 'I AM.'"

In the United Church of Christ, when we talk about a "still speaking God", we are embracing the "I AM" and the idea that each of us has the power, like Moses, to meet God in the present moment and make a difference in the world. As we welcome in 2023, let us live today in partnership, in co-creation with the divine. Jesus calls us to love God and each other with our whole being. Let us live this love right now!

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me;
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Happy New Year!

In Christ,

Rev. Beth



Central Square Congregational Church, UCC, of Bridgewater, Massachusetts is an open and affirming church. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.



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Remote Worship on Facebook and YouTube

Sunday Worship will continue to be livestreamed from the Sanctuary at 10 a.m.

Use the link on the homepage of www.cscucc.org to access Sunday worship, or visit our Facebook page. Past worship services are also available in both places.

Next Cabinet meeting is Wednesday, Jan. 18, 7pm

Monthly meetings of the church leadership are currently being held in the Fellowship Hall. All church members are also welcome to attend.

Venmo!

All types of donations to CSCC are welcome via Venmo. Aim your phone camera below, or use the Venmo app to send your donation to @cscucc-ucc



**Tuesday thru Friday, 9am - 1pm
and by appointment**

CSCC Junior Choir 2022-23!

**Rehearsals at 9:15am:
Jan. 8 - Jan. 15 - Jan. 22**

**Performance at 10am:
January 22**

**Please note: there is no in-person
worship on Sunday, January 1.**

***Streaming service will be available on
YouTube and Facebook.***



Food Pantry

The Bridgewater Food Pantry, hosted and supported by CSCC, is open Thursdays, 10am-1pm, and the first Mondays of the month, 6-7:30pm, except holidays. All Bridgewater residents who are in need of food are welcome.

If you are a Bridgewater resident unable to come to the food pantry, but are in need of food, please contact the church office by email or phone (below) and arrangements will be made for you.



CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Do you need a meal, a call, spiritual care, or even just a prayer or a chat? Contact the Pastor, a Deacon, the church office, or a member of our Care Team.

To contact Rev. Beth, call the church office at 508-697-6016 or email her at csccpastor@hotmail.com

Deacons

Deb Sorgman

— debsorgman@gmail.com

Jae Stotts — jaestotts@gmail.com

CSCC Care Team

Carol Chaffee

Bev Mitchell

Phoebe Hogg

Rev. Beth Stotts



Coins for Kids Church : January 8

Don't forget to bring your spare change for the Coins for Kids Church

collection on the first Sunday of each month! This helps to pay for Kids Church supplies and teaching materials.



**Join us for breakfast on
Sunday, January 15**



Attention all Boards, Committees, Project Coordinators, and Select Officers: Annual Reports Due Jan. 15

Please remember that your annual report is due to the church office no later than January 15. Share your accomplishments and what you worked on in 2022, to record for posterity! If you need a copy of a prior year's report to use as a guide, visit www.cscucc.org and click on "About us / Annual Reports", or contact the church office.



January Book Study

Privilege is a social consequence of our unwillingness to reckon with and turn from sin. But properly stewarded, it can help us see and participate in God's inbreaking kingdom. *Subversive Witness* asks us to grapple with privilege, indifference, and systemic sin in new ways by using biblical examples to reveal the

complex nature of privilege and Christians' responsibility in stewarding it well.

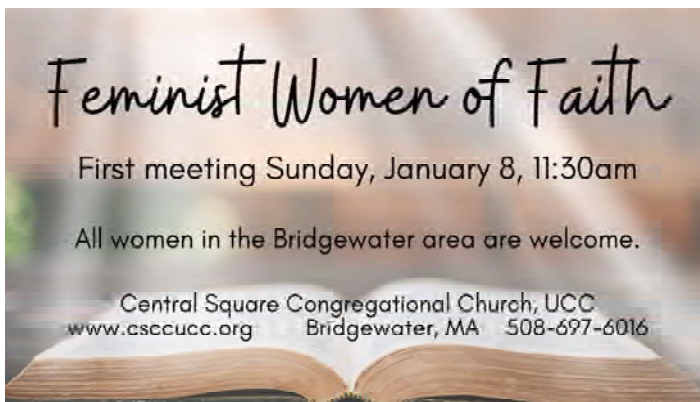
Rev. Beth will lead a book study discussion on Saturday, January 28 at 9:30am for all who are interested. She has several copies in the office for those that are interested in purchasing it.

Women's Guild & Fellowship

The Women's Guild and Fellowship will meet on Wednesday, January 4, 2023, at 6:30 pm.

Our program name for the evening is "Getting to Show You". We're going to find out more about the women in our group. Please bring one memento or keepsake that you treasure, and share a short story about it. After we share our stories, we will have refreshments and our business meeting. Looking forward to seeing everyone after the holidays!

Jane O'Connell, Co-President



The first meeting of this group will be on Sunday January 8th at 11:30 in the fireplace room. I have had a lot of interest expressed for this group and am excited to meet with everyone. The group is open to all women of faith in the Bridgewater area. We will be discussing our gendered experiences in the church, problem solving and deciding on what types of social justice causes we want to promote or start.

Our first meeting will be a brainstorming session where we decide, as a group, what we want this group to be. Don't worry — I do have a framework for us to follow. This group should be about us all, so I didn't want to have a strictly set agenda without getting input from all of you. We will be meeting monthly after church at 11:30 (day to be decided).

Bring your drink, snack, and ideas!

Kathleen Mosher



Central Closet Thrift Shop GRAND OPENING

January 11, 2023 at 10:00

Donations are needed!

Donations are needed and will be accepted the week before (Jan 3 - 6) during office hours. Please drop donations off at our nearly-renovated shop in the fellowship hall.

Starting Jan 11, donations will be accepted during store hours only. Shop hours will be Wed and Sat 10-1.

Items needed:

New or gently used in-season clothing (no stains or rips) and footwear.

Accessories - hats, pocketbooks, scarfs, etc

Jewelry

Linens (no stains)

Housewares (no chips)

Books and DVDs

No electronics

With your help we can make this work.

Thanks in advance,

Connie Chandler, Jane O'Connell, Lynn Pietras, & Gail Wright





Name Tag Project

Marci Langevin will be setting a date for a Sunday in January after church to lead a discussion group on why we are including pronouns on our name tags. Marci works with transgender people and will be able to give valuable insights and science-based information. As an open and affirming church, pronouns on nametags are a very important and meaningful step for us to take as a community. We need to be mindful when someone shares their pronouns, they are exposing themselves in a most vulnerable way. They are saying, "This is who I am. Please don't turn away from me." When we, as an open and affirming community, add our pronouns to our name tags we are saying, "We see and respect you. We join you in sharing our pronouns, so you are not alone." With this in mind please consider the following information as we begin asking you to share your preferred pronouns.

1. We have multiple people in our church community who use pronouns besides she/her and he/him. By the simple act of kindness and understanding involved in including your pronouns on your name tag you are helping to create an inclusive environment. When we all have our pronouns on our nametags no one stands out—we are one in community.

2. Studies have shown that suicide decreases when transgender/non-binary people are treated with respect and dignity. Part of that is easily done by using the pronouns they identify with. We are most familiar with the gender binaries of male or female. Some people know their gender is both male and female or a gender that is different from either male or female. Some people don't identify with any gender and other people find their gender identity changes over time. It is okay if this seems confusing to you. I still grapple with this in many ways. However, the most important thing for us to remember is by using someone's preferred pronouns, we are giving them the respect that everyone deserves.

3. We are an Open and Affirming Church. According to the UCC website this means: "Open and Affirming (ONA) is a public covenant of welcome into their full life and ministry to persons of all sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions." This covenant compels us to do our best by loving our neighbors as ourselves. Our name tags have our names on them, so people know who we are. By including pronouns this does not change that in any way. What it does do is show that we are not only an open and affirming church but we are also a community that truly means, "Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

Contrary to popular belief, transgender people and non-binary people have always existed. This is not something new, a fad, or a way to get attention and stand out. The existence of different ways of experiencing one's gender is not new. What is different is modern society is slowly changing and people are more comfortable showing us who they truly are. Transgender people and the non-binary among us haven't changed, the rest of us have because we have become more educated. The differences in our fellow human beings that we were taught to hate or marginalize because they were sinful or wrong have been shown to be normal and valid. Now that we know better, we must do better. As Martin Luther King, Jr. stated in 1963, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

Peter Scholtes

We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord.

We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord.

And we pray that all unity will one day be restored.

Chorus: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,

Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand.

We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand.

And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.

We will work with each other; we will work side by side,

We will work with each other, we will work side by side,

And we'll guard each person's dignity and save each person's pride.

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,

And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son.

And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one.

Resources for further information:

"Understanding Pronouns" - LGBT Life Center

"Understanding Pronoun Use and Inclusion!", Princeton Gender + Sexuality Resource Center

"A Guide to Understanding Gender Identity and Pronouns", NPR

[Links to these resources, and more info, can be found on our website, under "Events and newsletters", clicking on the January 2023 newsletter link.]

In Community,

Kathleen Mosher



Please Note: Inclement Weather Policy

The Chair of the Board of Deacons (BOD) in conjunction with the Senior Pastor will discuss the need and reason for cancellation of worship service. Upon the decision to cancel worship service the following procedures shall be put into effect:

1. The Pastor will notify the Minister of Music no later than 6am the Sunday morning of the service in question. The Minister of Music will in turn notify the choir.

2. The Pastor will notify the Sexton and other staff, including the Congregational Administrator.

3. The Congregational Administrator will update the office answering machine with the cancellation announcement, notify the appropriate television media, send a general church email & text notification, and update the website and Facebook page.

4. The chair of the BOD will notify the Moderator and Vice Moderator and the other members of the BOD.

The main factors used to decide a cancellation are:

1. Excessive amounts of snow
2. Parking availability (or parking ban)
3. Damage to the church
4. State of Emergency
5. Power Outage

To ensure you receive timely notification of weather issues, be sure you are on our email list as well as our cell phone text message notification list. Contact the office with questions.



Christmas Eve Poinsettias

Given with Love by..... in memory of

Kay Wheeler Julie Lybarger
 The Sheibley Family All our loved ones
 Bev Mitchell Family George H. Mitchell
 Carol Howe My father, Herman Daiker; My mother, Madeleine Daiker; My son, Scott Walker
 Jenne Foronjy Patricia "Patty" Gannon
 The Shave Family Our Shave & Langevin loved ones
 Gail Wershing Frank Wershing; Al & Mary Wilson
 The Ciaramitaro Family Adam & lost loved ones
 Jane O'Connell Loved ones
 The Lyons Family Loved ones
 Bill & Terry Reynolds Loved ones
 The Molinari Family Loved ones
 Ellen Crawford Loved ones
 Troy Hubbell Kelli & Wally
 Diane & Peter Glass Our parents & our nephew Jordan
 Bruce Maclay Mom & Dad
 Gail Wright Scott
 Lynn Pietras Fred & Alice Yeaton
 Anne Chaffee My husband David Chaffee
 Rachel Lawson Janice Lawson, Greta Holmberg & Brad



Thank you to all who donated cookies to the cookie project.

We bagged up over 150 personal cookie bags! Special thanks to Denise Molinari and Diane Sheibley for doing all the bagging and coordinating the event, and to Judy Pino for delivering them to Father Bill's.



Heifer Project International

Did you know:

1. Goat's milk is more nutrient-dense than cow's milk. Shop your local farmer's market for goat products to try for yourself.
2. Chicken eggs contain choline which helps with brain development. Buy local and make eggs part of your breakfast.
3. Save the bees. Put a shallow container of water in your garden so bees have a place to rehydrate.
4. Plant trees! Not only are they great for the environment, but trees also count as major self-care to improve your mental health.
5. The covid-19 pandemic caused a food harvest and distribution crisis on a scale we've never seen before. Tragically, the number of people living in hunger has **DOUBLED**.
6. Alpaca fiber is almost three times warmer than sheep or any other kind of wool.

These facts and more will be shared with our children in Kids Church during the month of January as they learn about the Heifer Project and how it helps families in need.

During the month of January the children will choose an animal that they would like to fundraise for, learn about their animal (the care and feeding of that animal), learn where the animal will be sent, and plan how to raise money to purchase that animal. They will make crafts and items to sell as well as make food to sell related to that animal. They may even have a few surprises for us.

Save the date for the **Living Gift Market**, the culminating event for Heifer, which will be **Sunday, February 5th**, immediately following worship. We look forward to seeing everyone at the Market!

Terry Reynolds



Informational Meeting January 15th, 11:30am

We are working on starting up middle and high school youth group again. There will be a meeting on January 15th at 11:30 for parents, kids, and anyone who would like to volunteer to help out with the program. If you have any questions please e-mail me at katmosher@comcast.net or text me at 339-832-0263. See you there!

Kathleen Mosher



Save the Date! The Living Gift Market is coming Sunday, February 5!



Central Square Congregational Church, UCC • January 2023

508-697-6016 • OFFICE@CSCCUCC.COM • www.cscucc.org • www.facebook.com/cscuccbridgewaterma



Finding Hope, Peace, Love, and Joy throughout the year!

Is it possible? Well, anything is possible with God, so let's do this!

As I have referenced in past newsletter articles, *The Book of Joy ~ Lasting Happiness in a Changing World*, a book collaborated with the Dalai Lama, Desmond Tutu, and Douglas Abrams, is a resource I keep out, in view, as a reminder to take the time to refresh and renew.

It is an amazing written piece full of smiles and full of sadness, but finding JOY in the daily burdens of our own lives. Starting your day, on the right foot, figuratively speaking, can make all the difference in the world.

Maybe, just maybe —

- *it's a breathing practice, focusing on stress relief*
- *or a morning walk or exercise routine*
- *it could be series of prayers*
- *some journaling of thoughts*
- *maybe it is something that just makes you laugh*

My New Year prayer for you is that find that quiet moment each and every day, to find joy in even the humdrum of life, for it's bound to lighten the load that we all carry.

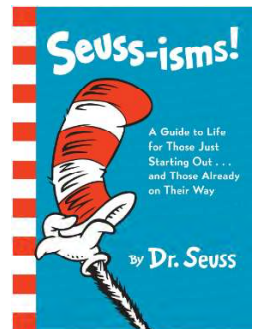
Matthew 11 Verses 28 to 30

"[28] Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. [29] Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. [30] For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. "

New Year Blessings to one and all,
Truly,

Carol Chaffee
Care Team

PS — I have always loved Dr. Seuss and found great joy in reading his books. This one is now in my Amazon Smile cart, waiting for me to finalize my order. I recall, as a family of five, visiting my parents in Shelburne, MA for Thanksgiving and the following day, the city of Springfield, MA, hosted their Christmas Parade. Well, to my delight, many of the themes for the parade for geared toward Dr. Seuss, because the City of Springfield, MA is his birthplace.



January Book Discussion



Saturday,
January 28
9:30a.m.



All are welcome!

Central Square Congregational Church, UCC
71 Central Square, Bridgewater MA
www.cscucc.org



Privilege – (Set Me Free)

For 2023, the Board of Stewardship will be continuing to encourage everyone to come up with ideas to help erase the church deficit. With all the hard work of our church community we have erased almost half of the over \$43,000 needed to balance the budget. I firmly believe we have it in our power to erase all of it within the next year. As I type this, I admit this is a very scary and kind of absurd thing to say. However, I have decided to be brave and admit it. We have the power to erase all the debt within the next year. See, I said it again!

In my past writings I have asked questions that make us think of what the church means to us and what it would be like if we had to close our doors. This is a reality we could face if we are not able to adjust to what a modern-day community needs in a place of worship. We must be brave and look inward to ourselves and our congregation. What more can we do to keep our beloved community thriving? What do you think you could do to help? Stewardship is not just about raising money. It is motivating people to want to help continue the church's growth and look bravely to the future with the belief that we have been around for 200 years and will be around for 200 more.

This leads to my next set of questions for you. What do you think you can do to help us erase the deficit? What do you think you can do to encourage people to join our church? What do you think you can do to help us move forward into the future? Some of the new works and projects we have started in 2022 are: 40-for-\$40k, which will be ongoing as a

starting point for new members to think about tithing; Coins for Kids Church; the Central Closet Thrift Shop; the pronoun project; and the Feminist Women of Faith group. We have restarted breakfast, and are working on getting the middle and high school youth groups started again with an eye on having service trips in the future. The annual church fair and the Women's Guild rummage sales continue with great success. All these efforts pay off by raising money and/or advertising our church community, and giving us a place to gather and have fun.

When you read that list what ideas do you have? What areas do you see that you can help improve? What do you think you can contribute to help us meet the goal of erasing our deficit in 2023? You may not have time to head up your idea. Tell us anyway. There may be someone who does. You may not have more money to give but you may have time to give to help staff an event or help with setup or cleanup. You can add your prayers, kind words, and support. That is meaningful as well.

Facing harsh truths about our deficit does not mean it will break us. It does not mean we should give up or stop striving. We need to face the future with a bravery and faith that nothing is impossible with God and community. We are all a part of stewardship. When we attend church, go to meetings, buy things at the church fair, take communion together and simply gather - that is stewardship. Let's step bravely into 2023 and work toward a deficit-free future.

Kathleen Mosher

"Stewardship is not just about raising money. It is motivating people to want to help continue the church's growth and look bravely to the future."

To find this Lectionary online, visit www.sneucc.org/Lectionary



Southern New England Conference

United Church of Christ

Living the Love & Justice of Jesus

Daily Lectionary Scripture References – January 2023 (Year A)

Sun., Jan. 1

New Year's Day
Ecclesiastes 3:1-13
Psalm 8
Revelation 21:1-6a
Matthew 25:31-46

or

Isaiah 5
63:7-9
Psalm 148
Hebrews 2:10-18
Matthew 2:13-23

Mon., Jan. 2

Psalm 20
Genesis 12:1-7
Hebrews 11:1-12

Tues., Jan. 3

Psalm 72
Genesis 28:10-22
Hebrews 11:13-22

Wed., Jan. 4

Psalm 72
Exodus 3:1-5
Hebrews 11:23-31

Thurs., Jan. 5

Psalm 72
Joshua 1:1-9
Hebrews 11:32-12:2

Fri., Jan. 6

Epiphany
Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

Sat., Jan. 7

Psalm 72
1 Kings 10:1-13
Ephesians 3:14-21

Sun., Jan. 8

The Baptism of Christ
Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17

Mon., Jan. 9

Psalm 89:5-37
Genesis 35:1-15
Acts 10:44-48

Tues., Jan. 10

Psalm 89:5-37
Jeremiah 1:4-10
Acts 8:4-13

Wed., Jan. 11

Psalm 89:5-37
Isaiah 51:1-16
Matthew 12:15-21

Thurs., Jan. 12

Psalm 40:1-117
Isaiah 22:15-25
Galatians 1:6-12

Fri., Jan. 13

Psalm 40:1-11
Genesis 27:30-38
Acts 1:1-5

Sat., Jan. 14

Psalm 40:1-11
1 Kings 19:19-21
Luke 5:1-11

Sun., Jan. 15

Second Sunday after the Epiphany
Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40:1-11
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

Mon., Jan. 16

Psalm 40:6-17
Exodus 12:1-13, 21-28
Acts 8:26-40

Tues., Jan. 17

Psalm 40:6-17
Isaiah 53:1-12
Hebrews 10:1-4

Wed., Jan. 18

Psalm 40:6-17
Isaiah 48:12-21
Matthew 9:14-17

Thurs., Jan. 19

Psalm 27:1-6
1 Samuel 1:1-20
Galatians 1:11-24

Fri., Jan. 20

Psalm 27:1-6
1 Samuel 9:27-10:8
Galatians 2:1-10

Sat., Jan. 21

Psalm 27:1-6
1 Samuel 15:34-16:13
Luke 5:27-3

Sun., Jan. 22

Third Sunday after the Epiphany
Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1, 4-9
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23

Mon., Jan. 23

Psalm 27:7-14
Judges 6:11-24
Ephesians 5:6-14

Tues., Jan. 24

Psalm 27:7-14
Judges 7:12-22
Philippians 2:12-18

Wed., Jan. 25

Psalm 27:7-14
Genesis 49:1-2, 8-13, 21-26
Luke 1:67-79

Thurs., Jan. 26

Psalm 15
Deuteronomy 16:18-20
1 Peter 3:8-12

Fri., Jan. 27

Psalm 15
Deuteronomy 24:17-25:4
1 Timothy 5:17-24

Sat., Jan. 28

Psalm 15
Micah 3:1-4
John 13:31-35

Sun., Jan. 29

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12

Mon., Jan. 30

Psalm 37:1-17
Ruth 1:1-18
Philemon 1-25

Tues., Jan. 31

Psalm 37:1-17
Ruth 2:1-16
James 5:1-6

JANUARY 2023						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 10am Worship (online only) 6:45pm AA Meeting	2 6:30pm Women's AA	3 9-1 Church office open 7pm Women's NA	4 9-1 Church office open 6:30pm Women's Guild & Fellowship	5 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 5pm Girl Scouts #64997 and #62521 7pm AI-Anon	6	7 Sanctuary reserved
8 EPIPHANY 9:15 Jr. Choir Rehearsal 10am Communion Worship (in person and online) 10am Coins for Kids 10am Kids Church 11:30am Feminist Women of Faith Group 5pm Girl Scout #82722 6:45pm AA Meeting	9 6:30pm Women's AA	10 9-1 Church office open 7pm Outreach mtg 7pm Women's NA	11 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Central Closet Thrift Shop open 7pm Trustees mtg	12 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 5pm Girl Scouts #70833 7pm AI-Anon	13 2:30pm Girl Scouts #66212	14 10-1 Central Closet Thrift Shop open
15 9am Breakfast 9:15am Jr. Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship (in person and online) 11:30am Youth Program Mtg 6:45pm AA Meeting	16 4:30pm Daisies #64998 5:30pm Girl Scouts #66204 6:30pm Women's AA	17 9-1 Church office open 7pm Women's NA	18 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Central Closet Thrift Shop open 7pm Cabinet mtg 7:30pm BSU Choir	19 9-1 Church office open 10am CSCC staff mtg 10-1 Food Pantry Open 5pm Girl Scouts #64997 and #62521 7pm AI-Anon	20	21 10-1 Central Closet Thrift Shop open
22 9:15am Jr. Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship (in person and online) 10am Kids Church 10am Jr. Choir Performance 5pm Girl Scouts #82722 6:45pm AA Meeting	23 4:30pm Daisies #64998 6:30pm Women's AA	24 9-1 Church office open 6pm Lions Club meeting 7pm Women's NA	25 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Central Closet Thrift Shop open 7:30pm BSU Choir	26 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 5pm Girl Scouts #70833 7pm AI-Anon	27 2:30pm Girl Scouts #66212	28 9:30am January book study discussion 10-1 Central Closet Thrift Shop open
29 10am Worship (in person and online) 10am Kids Church 6:45pm AA Meeting	30 5:30pm Girl Scouts #66204 6:30pm Women's AA	31 9-1 Church office open 7pm Women's NA				

Treasurer's Report
November 30, 2022
Fiscal Year July 2022 - June 2023

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Difference	Annual Budget
Income				
Regular Pledges	53,297	56,589	(3,292)	135,000
Unpledged Offerings	6,724	4,192	2,532	10,000
Plate Offering	292	1,048	(756)	2,500
Church School	59	0	59	0
Total • Pledges / Offerings	60,372	61,829	(1,457)	147,500
Special Collections				
MACUCC Fellowship Dues	60	838	(778)	2,000
Total • Special Collections	60	838	(778)	2,000
Fundraisers/Events Revenue				
Golf Tournament	0	0	0	0
Breakfasts	282			
Church Fair	8,312	3,144	5,168	7,500
Misc Fundraisers	840	2,096	(1,256)	5,000
Total • Fundraisers/Events Revenue	9,435	5,240	3,913	12,500
Facility Usage Income				
Non Profit Bldg Use	935	1,258	(323)	3,000
Private Bldg Use	0	210	(210)	500
Total • Facility Usage Income	935	1,467	(532)	3,500
Miscellaneous Income	127	419	(292)	1,000
Total Income	70,928	69,793	1,135	166,500
Expenses				
Total • Senior Minister Expenses	46,451	46,172	(278)	110,150
Total • Support Staff Expenses	18,578	20,942	2,364	49,960
Total • Office Expenses	4,479	3,731	(748)	8,900
Total • Church Building Costs	9,463	13,365	3,902	31,884
Operating Committees				
Christian Education	642	314	(327)	750
Church Growth	365	419	54	1,000
Deacons	603	419	(183)	1,000
Music (Materials/Substitutes)	245	252	7	600
Stewardship	0	147	147	350
Outreach	769	849	79	2,025
Total • Operating Committees	2,624	2,400	(224)	5,725
MACUCC Fellowship Dues	0	1,132	1,132	2,700
Pilgrim Assn Fellowship Dues	0	84	84	200
Miscellaneous Expenses				
Total Expenses	81,595	87,826	6,231	209,519
Net income (loss)	(10,666)	(18,033)	7,367	(43,019)
Transfer from Investments	10,000	18,033	8,033	43,019
	(666)	0		0

Treasurer's Report
November 30, 2022
Fiscal Year July 2022 - June 2023

Cash balances	
Operating account	2,412
Money Market	30,853
Minister's Discretionary account	68
PayPal account	0
Outreach account	621
Capital Campaign account	1,604
Total cash balances	<u>35,558</u>

Endowments investment fund	
Protected principal	135,513
Unrestricted funds, beginning	34,651
Deposits (withdrawals)	0
Gain (loss) for month	10,042
Unrestricted funds, ending	<u>44,693</u>
Total value 11/30/2022	180,206
Parsonage investment fund	
Beginning balance	66,482
Deposits (withdrawals)	
Gain (loss) for month	4,356
Total value 11/30/2022	<u>70,838</u>
Total investments 11/30/2022	<u>251,044</u>

Food Pantry account balance October 31, 2022	24,408
Donations	5,511
Expenses	<u>(4,066)</u>
Food Pantry account balance November 30, 2022	<u>25,853</u>

Giving Comparison						
	2020 Month	2021 Month	2022 Month	2020 YTD	2021 YTD	2022 YTD
Jan.	10,230.00	13,532.33	10,029.82	10,230.00	13,532.33	10,029.82
Feb.	10,030.33	11,754.66	6,562.91	20,260.33	25,286.99	16,592.73
March	10,672.86	11,538.00	13,355.24	30,933.19	36,824.99	29,947.97
April	14,962.00	13,129.33	11,808.31	45,895.19	49,954.32	41,756.28
May	13,017.66	11,279.57	14,476.24	58,912.85	61,233.89	56,232.52
June	16,806.33	13,469.24	11,304.13	75,719.18	74,703.13	67,536.65
July	9,191.00	13,048.91	16,505.70	84,910.18	87,752.04	84,042.35
Aug.	8,192.66	10,053.72	9,586.37	93,102.84	97,805.76	93,628.72
Sept.	11,465.00	10,624.57	9,379.22	104,567.84	108,430.33	103,007.94
Oct.	8,213.83	15,581.54	15,615.55	112,781.67	124,011.87	118,623.49
Nov.	8,571.66	12,400.72	9,164.75	121,353.33	136,412.59	127,788.24
Dec.	14,686.00	10,377.35		136,039.33	146,789.94	



1821-2021

Central Square Congregational Church, UCC

71 Central Square
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Church Administration

Pastor: Rev. Elizabeth Stotts, csccpastor@hotmail.com

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Sexton: Rich Sullivan

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Director of Video Evangelism: Paul Holmes

Treasurer: David Sheibley, treasurer@cscucc.com

Office telephone: (508) 697-6016

Facebook pages: facebook.com/cscuccbridgewaterma (main page),
facebook.com/groups/801550253194149 (youth page)

Instagram: [@centralsquarechurch](https://instagram.com/centralsquarechurch)

Steeple Sounds submissions deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication.

Amazon Shopping!

Remember that when you shop on Amazon, use "smile.Amazon.com" rather than just "Amazon.com", and designate Central Square Congregational Church as the charity to benefit from your purchases. It costs you nothing extra! Contact the church office with questions.

Central Square Congregational Church, UCC
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Bridgewater, MA 02324

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