



Steeple Sounds

August 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

Earlier this week I was talking with a congregant about taking a regular spiritual inventory of how they are feeling and doing on their faith journey. I encouraged them to take a moment to notice everything that they are carrying around with them and involved in, both what brings them joy and anxiety/stress, both in terms of the church and life outside of the church. Similar to a body scan where you check in with each part of your physical body, a regular or daily spiritual inventory offers some structure to explore faith. Some of us have had a busy summer at church. Others have relaxed and enjoyed a low key couple of months of summer. Regardless, as we enter the August heat, I hope you will take the opportunity to check in with yourself and your faith.

May God continue to bless you on your journey,

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.

Remote Worship on Facebook and YouTube

August worship services will not be livestreamed, but there will be weekly devotions and worship video available at 10am each Sunday.

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.



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

**Please note that the office will be closed
on August 3, and the week of August 14.**

Next Cabinet meeting is Wednesday, August 16, 7pm

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

This will be the first meeting held under the new structure of governance outlined in the Constitution approved in June.

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. Feel free to put any specific instructions in the transaction description if your donation is for a designated purpose.



**Bridgewater
Food Pantry**
at Central Square
Congregational Church, UCC

**Open Thursdays, 10am-1pm and the
first Monday of the month, 6-7:30pm**

www.cscucc.org/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

Savannah Wells, Jr. Deacon

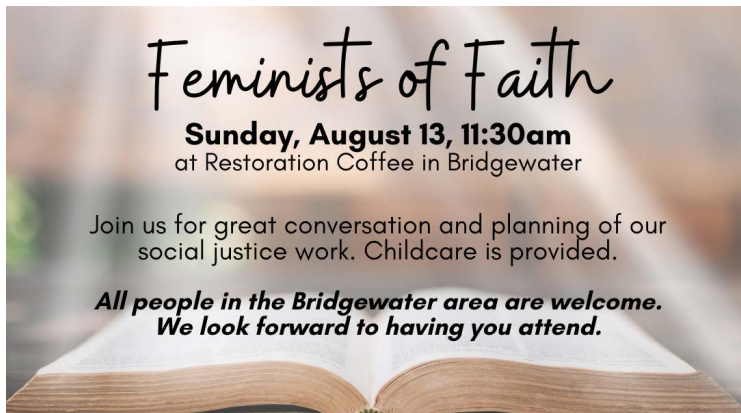
CSCC Care Team

Carol Chaffee

Bev Mitchell

Rev. Beth Stotts

Nina Gabel-Jorgensen



Central Closet Thrift Shop would like to thank all of our volunteers, donors, and most of all our customers. You have all helped to make our shop successful.

More volunteers are needed. Some to sort donations, and some to assist shoppers. We are also still looking for a volunteer to help us with online sales. Please call anyone listed below or the church office for more information.

Donations are always welcomed during shop hours (Wednesdays 10 - 1 and Saturdays 10 - 1). Currently we are accepting new or gently used Fall clothing, footwear, pocketbooks, household items, glassware, jewelry, linens, books, and toys. Please no electronics and limit donations to 20 items per visit.

Watch for special promotions and sales throughout the month of August. Back to school, off to college, or maybe you're starting your Christmas shopping? Check us out first. We think you'll like our prices.

Thanks again from all of us at the Central Closet Thrift Shop,

Connie - 508-697-3405, Jane - 508-697-3602

Lynn - 508-250-8257, Gail - 508-696-7159

Central Square Congregational Church, UCC • August 2023

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



4th of July in Bridgewater!

Big thanks to Hanson Farm and the Hanson family for lending a hand to CSCC folks participating in the 4th of July parade!



During August, our worship services will be outside, weather permitting. On Aug. 6, 13, and 27, bring your breakfast, or a snack and a water bottle, and a chair or blanket, and share community and fellowship with Rev. Beth on the front lawn of the church. Services will not be livestreamed, but a pre-recorded service/devotion will be available at 10am on the 6th, 13th, and 27th.

On Aug. 20, our service will take place at Music Alley. No need to bring a chair, but feel free to again bring breakfast, or a snack and a water bottle. This service will not be livestreamed, but will be available on YouTube for later playback (internet there doesn't allow for a reliable livestream).

Worship Readers!

Worship Greeters!

Worship Ushers!

Kids Church Volunteers!

Contact the church office to sign up for a Sunday, or to be put on the list for occasional service.

No longterm commitments!

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Where is God calling you to use your gifts at CSCC?

Spiritual Engagement Team

Mission: To minister to and engage the local and global community by creating meaningful worship experiences, providing impactful learning opportunities, and supporting the church mission statement.

Examples of current programs and projects:

Kids Church • Bible & Book Studies
Youth Group • Think Tanks
Choirs & Music • Deacons

Property and Finance Team

Mission: To minister to and engage the church resources by creating meaningful care and oversight of the church property and finances, and to support the mission of the church.

Examples of current programs and projects:

Building Renovation Project • Grant Applications
Central Closet Thrift Shop • Dinner Take-outs
Gala Concerts • Stewardship programs
Building Maintenance • Treasurer Duties
Historical Records • Memorials & Gifts
Capital Campaigns • Budgeting
Fundraising • Church Fair



Love. Grow. Serve.

Community Engagement Team

Mission: To minister to and engage the local and global community by creating meaningful community connections and outreach; to provide impactful financial and volunteer resources; and to support the mission of the church.

Examples of current programs and projects:

Bridgewater Food Pantry • Breakfast program
Service trips for all ages • Heifer Project
Website & YouTube Channel
Women's Guild & Fellowship
BBA Membership and Town Activities
Comfort Stations during Town Events
Warmth in Cold Places

Congregational Engagement Team

Mission: To minister to and engage the congregation in creating meaningful opportunities for fellowship, relationships, and parish care; to provide opportunities to develop talent; and to support the mission of the church.

Examples of current programs and projects:

Extravagant Welcome • Steeple Sounds
Care Team • Care Circles
Ushers • Greeters

CSCC Leadership 2023-24

Spiritual Engagement Team Leaders:
Denise Molinari, Deb Sorgman, Eric Stotts

Congregational Engagement Team Leaders:
Carol Chaffee, Kathleen Mosher, Ginny Young

Property & Finance Team Leaders:
Dave Hanson, John Sharland, Mark Sorgman

Community Engagement Team Leaders:
Krissy Cannizzo, Diane Glass, Terry Reynolds

Contact a team leader or the church office if you want more info.

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 – August 2023 (Year A)

Tues., Aug. 1

Psalm 65:8-13
Genesis 30:37-43 Ephesians
6:10-18

Wed., Aug. 2

Psalm 65:8-13
Genesis 46:2—47:12
Mark 4:30-34

Thurs., Aug. 3

Psalm 17:1-7, 15
Isaiah 14:1-2
Philippians 4:10-15

Fri., Aug. 4

Psalm 17:1-7, 15
Isaiah 41:8-10
Romans 9:6-13

Sat., Aug. 5

Psalm 17:1-7, 15
Genesis 31:1-21
Matthew 7:7-11

Sun., Aug. 6

*Tenth Sunday after
Pentecost* Genesis 32:22-31
Psalm 17:1-7, 15
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21

Mon., Aug. 7

Psalm 17:1-7, 15
Genesis 31:22-42
Romans 1:8-15

Tues., Aug. 8

Psalm 17:1-7, 15
Genesis 32:3-21
Acts 2:37-47

Wed., Aug. 9

Psalm 17:1-7, 15
Isaiah 43:1-7
Matthew 15:32-39

Thurs., Aug. 10

Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b
Genesis 35:22b-29
Acts 17:10-15

Fri., Aug. 11

Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b
Genesis 36:1-8
Acts 18:24-28

Sat., Aug. 12

Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b
Genesis 37:5-11
Matthew 16:1-4

Sun., Aug. 13

*Eleventh Sunday after
Pentecost*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28
Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b
Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-33

Mon., Aug. 14

Psalm 28
Genesis 37:29-36
2 Peter 2:4-10

Tues., Aug. 15

Psalm 28
Genesis 39:1-23
Romans 9:14-29

Wed., Aug. 16

Psalm 28
Genesis 40:1-23
Matthew 8:23-27

Thurs., Aug. 17

Psalm 133
Genesis 41:14-36
Revelation 15:1-4

Fri., Aug. 18

Psalm 133
Genesis 41:37-57
Acts 14:19-28

Sat., Aug. 19

Psalm 133
Genesis 42:1-28
Matthew 14:34-36

Sun., Aug. 20

*Twelfth Sunday after
Pentecost*
Genesis 45:1-15
Psalm 133
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

Mon., Aug. 21

Psalm 130
Genesis 43:1-34
Acts 15:1-21

Tues., Aug. 22

Psalm 130
Genesis 44:1-34
Romans 11:13-29

Wed., Aug. 23

Psalm 130
Genesis 45:16-28 Matthew
8:1-13

Thurs., Aug. 24

Psalm 124
Genesis 49:1-33
1 Corinthians 6:1-11

Fri., Aug. 25

Psalm 124
Genesis 49:29—50:14
2 Corinthians 10:12-18

Sat., Aug. 26

Psalm 124
Genesis 50:15-26 Matthew
16:5-12

Sun., Aug. 27

*Thirteenth Sunday after
Pentecost*
Exodus 1:8—2:10
Psalm 124
Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 16:13-20

Mon., Aug. 28

Psalm 8
Exodus 1:1-7
Romans 2:1-11

Tues., Aug. 29

Psalm 8
Exodus 2:11-15a
Romans 11:33-36

Wed., Aug. 30

Psalm 8
Exodus 2:15b-22 Matthew
26:6-13

Thurs., Aug. 31

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b
Exodus 2:23-24 Ephesians
5:1-6

AUGUST 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<i>Note that August worship services will not be livestreamed. See further details on page 4.</i>		1 9-1 Church office open 6pm Uke camp 7pm Women's NA	2 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Thrift Shop open 6pm Uke camp	3 OFFICE CLOSED 10-1 Food Pantry Open 6pm Uke Camp 6:30pm Church crafters 7pm AI-Anon	4 6pm Uke camp 7pm Uke camp at Music Alley	5 10-1 Thrift Shop open
6 10am Outdoor Communion Worship 7:30pm AA Meeting	7 6-7:30pm Food Pantry Open	8 9-1 Church office open 7pm Women's NA	9 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Thrift Shop open 7pm Property & Finance Team Mtg	10 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 2pm Church crafters 7pm AI-Anon	11	12 10-1 Thrift Shop open
13 10am Outdoor Worship 11:30am Feminists of Faith (Restoration Coffee) 7:30pm AA Meeting	14	15 Sept Steeple Sounds articles due 2pm Church crafters 7pm Women's NA	16 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 10-1 Thrift Shop open 5:30pm Cong Engagement Team 7pm Cabinet	17 10-1 Food Pantry Open 7pm AI-Anon	18	19 10-1 Thrift Shop open
20 10am Outdoor Worship in Music Alley 7:30pm AA Meeting	21	22 9-1 Church office open 7pm Women's NA	23 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Thrift Shop open	24 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 6:30pm Church crafters 7pm AI-Anon	25	26 10-1 Thrift Shop open
27 10am Outdoor Worship 7:30pm AA Meeting	28 6:30pm Women's AA	29 9-1 Church office open 7pm Women's NA	30 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Thrift Shop open	31 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 7pm AI-Anon		

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

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Difference	Annual Budget
Income				
Regular Pledges	134,892	135,000	(108)	135,000
Unpledged Offerings	15,394	10,000	5,394	10,000
Plate Offering	672	2,500	(1,828)	2,500
Kid's Church	378	0	378	0
Total • Pledges / Offerings	151,337	147,500	3,837	147,500
Special Collections				
MACUCC Fellowship Dues	1,141	2,000	(859)	2,000
Total • Special Collections	1,141	2,000	(859)	2,000
Fundraisers/Events Revenue				
Breakfasts	295	0	295	0
Church Fair	9,416	7,500	1,916	7,500
Central Closet Thrift Shop	7,094	0	7,094	0
Concert/Special Event	1,870	0	1,870	0
Misc Fundraisers	1,173	5,000	(3,827)	5,000
Total • Fundraisers/Events Revenue	19,849	12,500	7,349	12,500
Facility Usage Income				
Non Profit Bldg Use	3,224	3,000	224	3,000
Private Bldg Use	360	500	(140)	500
Food Pantry support	700	0	700	0
Total • Facility Usage Income	4,284	3,500	784	3,500
Miscellaneous Income	212	1,000	(788)	1,000
Total Income	176,823	166,500	10,323	166,500
Expenses				
Total • Senior Minister Expenses	112,550	110,150	(2,400)	110,150
Total • Support Staff Expenses	46,447	49,960	3,513	49,960
Total • Office Expenses	9,801	8,900	(901)	8,900
Total • Church Building Costs	36,229	31,884	(4,345)	31,884
Operating Committees				
Christian Education	895	750	(145)	750
Church Growth	610	1,000	390	1,000
Deacons	1,180	1,000	(180)	1,000
Music (Materials/Substitutes)	385	600	215	600
Stewardship	0	350	350	350
Outreach	2,020	2,025	5	2,025
Total • Operating Committees	5,091	5,725	634	5,725
MACUCC Fellowship Dues	2,700	2,700	0	2,700
Pilgrim Assn Fellowship Dues	215	200	(15)	200
Miscellaneous Expenses	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses	213,033	209,519	(3,514)	209,519
Net income (loss)	(36,210)	(43,019)	6,809	(43,019)
Transfer from Investments	32,741	43,019	10,278	43,019
	(3,469)	0		0

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

Cash balances	
Operating account	1,966
Money Market	25,920
Minister's Discretionary account	98
Outreach account	1,084
Capital Campaign account	2,184
PayPal account	237
Venmo account	46
Total cash balances	<u>31,535</u>

Endowments investment fund	
Protected principal	135,513
Unrestricted funds, beginning	47,918
Deposits (withdrawals)	0
Gain (loss) for month	<u>7,405</u>
Unrestricted funds, ending	<u>55,322</u>
Total value 6/30/2023	<u>190,835</u>
Parsonage investment fund	
Beginning balance	48,569
Deposits (withdrawals)	0
Gain (loss) for month	<u>1,778</u>
Total value 6/30/2023	<u>50,347</u>
Total investments 6/30/2023	<u>241,182</u>

Food Pantry account balance May 31, 2023	14,560
Donations	187
Expenses	<u>(1,899)</u>
Food Pantry account balance June 30, 2023	<u>12,848</u>

	Giving Comparison					
	2021 Month	2022 Month	2023 Month	2021 YTD	2022 YTD	2023 YTD
Jan.	13,532.33	10,029.82	10,307.95	13,532.33	10,029.82	10,307.95
Feb.	11,754.66	6,562.91	9,713.95	25,286.99	16,592.73	20,021.90
March	11,538.00	13,355.24	9,535.31	36,824.99	29,947.97	29,557.21
April	13,129.33	11,808.31	15,149.70	49,954.32	41,756.28	44,706.91
May	11,279.57	14,476.24	21,938.88	61,233.89	56,232.52	66,645.79
June	13,469.24	11,304.13	8,696.40	74,703.13	67,536.65	75,342.19
July	13,048.91	16,505.70		87,752.04	84,042.35	
Aug.	10,053.72	9,586.37		97,805.76	93,628.72	
Sept.	10,624.57	9,379.22		108,430.33	103,007.94	
Oct.	15,581.54	15,615.55		124,011.87	118,623.49	
Nov.	12,400.72	9,164.75		136,412.59	127,788.24	
Dec.	10,377.35	15,622.72		146,789.94	143,410.96	



1821-2021

Central Square Congregational Church, UCC

71 Central Square
Bridgewater, MA 02324 • www.cscucc.org



Church Administration

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

Office Manager: Jennifer Foronjy, office@cscucc.org

Sexton: Rich Sullivan

Minister of Music: Julia Scott Carey, juliascottcarey@gmail.com

Director of Video Evangelism: Paul Holmes

Treasurer: David Sheibley, treasurer@cscucc.org

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!

Shopping on Amazon and feeling generous? Check out the CSCC Wish List, and drop an item in your cart for us! Visit www.cscucc.org/giving for the link to our Amazon wish list.

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Bridgewater, MA 02324

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